

Kashmir Reels Under Fresh Suicide Surge

Over A Dozen Cases Recorded In A Month

Agencies

Srinagar: A video of a woman who committed suicide by jumping into river Jhelum is going viral on social media. Many similar videos of people ending their lives by jumping into the water bodies have alarmingly emerged on social media platforms for the last few days.

As per details, last month, the valley recorded 43 drowning cases out of which more than a dozen were suicide attempts, said an official from State Disaster Response Force.

The valley is witnessing a steep rise in suicide cases, even as the experts and religious scholars call for identification and counselling of persons with mental ailments.

"This year so far there has been a number of drowning cases. As per the data available with us 40 such incidents occurred last

» Experts Blame 'Copycat Effect'

» Call For Mental Health Awareness

month and out of them more than a dozen were suicide cases" he said.

Even the National Crime Record Bureau also highlights the spike in the suicide cases in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) report, Jammu and Kashmir accounted for about 30 percent of all suicides in India in 2022.

Dr. Yasir Ahmad Rather Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, IMHANS, GMC

Srinagar said that 90 percent of suicide cases have underlying mental health issues. [| More on P6](#)



ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL CRIME RECORD BUREAU (NCRB) REPORT, Jammu and Kashmir accounted for about 30 percent of all suicides in India in 2022."

I-Day Celebrations

Attendance Of Employees Mandatory: Govt

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Friday directed its employees stationed in Jammu city and Srinagar to attend the main Independence Day celebrations, 2024, at the Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar or Maulana Azad Stadium, Jammu, as part of their official duty.

Independence Day is an important national event and all government employees are duty-bound to participate in commemorating such an important turning point in the nation's history, the general administration

department said in an order.

"... all officers or officials in the Union Territory stationed in Srinagar/Jammu are enjoined upon to attend the main function of the Independence Day celebrations, 2024, at the Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar or Maulana Azad Stadium, Jammu, as part of their official duty," the order stated.

"Any absence shall be only permissible with prior permission of their immediate superior, it added. The department "advised" all [| More on P6](#)

Proliferation of Pseudo-Journalists, Unauthorized SM Portals HC Issues Notice To J&K Govt On Contempt Plea

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has issued notice to authorities on a contempt plea filed by an NGO in connection with the mushrooming of news portals without following due procedure of law.

The notice was issued by a division bench of Chief Justice (acting) Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta after hearing counsel for Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Forum, a non-governmental organisation.

In June 2022, the High Court had left it open for the government to take decision with regard to regulating and controlling the social media news channels, networks, pages and portals in Jammu and Kashmir.

Disposing of the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed



by the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Forum through its General Secretary M. M. Shuja in 2021, the court had asked the government to consider representation by the NGO with regard to regulating and controlling the social media network and take appropriate action expeditiously.

"The petitioner may

submit a detailed representation and suggestions regarding regulating and controlling the social media network to the Principal Secretary Information Department in the manner in which he wants social media news channels to be permitted and regulated," the court said, adding, "In the event,

the petitioner so submits the representation and the suggestions, the Government and the Principal Secretary, Information Department would be free to consider the same and take an appropriate action most expeditiously as may be permissible in law," the court had said.

In 2021, Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Forum had filed the PIL, seeking directions to the government to designate a regulatory authority for grant of permission to the social media news channels, networks, pages and portals.

It had also sought a direction not to allow any social media news network, agency, page or portal to function without proper license and permission.

In the PIL the Forum had submitted that every person by "hanging [| More on P6](#)

EVERY PERSON BY HANGING A CAMERA AND HOLDING A MIKE poses himself as a journalist irrespective of the fact whether he is authorized and permitted to work as a journalist."

'Terrorist Goes Missing From Kashmir' High Alert Sounded In Jammu

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A high alert has been sounded in the Jammu region after Yasir Bhat, a Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist, went missing from his residence in South Kashmir's Kulgam district.

Officials say Bhat, who was out on bail, was involved in a grenade attack at the Jammu bus stand in March 2019, which resulted in the death of one civilian and injuries to 28 others. The police are putting up posters of the accused across the city.

"We have put up posters of the accused involved in the grenade attack at the Jammu bus stand in 2019. He went missing after being granted bail, prompting the police to take

this step," a police officer said.

Two people, including a teenager, were killed and 32 others were injured in a grenade attack by suspected terrorists near a crowded bus stand on March 7, 2019.

The accused, identified as Yasir Bhat, was a juvenile when he carried out the blast at the bus stand.

Bhat, an operative of the Hizbul Mujahideen, was tasked by the District Commander of Hizbul Mujahideen in Kulgam, Farooq Ahmed Bhat alias Omar for throwing the grenade, police officer said. Bhat went missing after being released on bail.

"We appeal to the public to provide any information about him so that [| More on P6](#)

2 AR Battalions To Be Moved To J&K

Two battalions of the Assam Rifles (AR) will be moved from Manipur to Jammu and Kashmir for counter-terror operations, sources have said. The move is routine as the military works to deploy forces including the AR in a most efficient manner for neutralising terrorists in the Union Territory, sources said. The paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) which is under the Home Ministry will take over security duties in the locations in Manipur where the two AR battalions comprising approximately 1,500 [| More on P6](#)

SC Says No Major Breach In NEET-UG

Raises Concerns Over NTA's Exam Conduct

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday said it cannot order holding of NEET-UG 24 afresh as no sufficient material is on record at present to indicate a systemic leak or malpractice compromising the integrity of the examination.

It also expanded the remit of the Centre-appointed panel headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chief K Radhakrishnan constituted to review the functioning of the National Testing Agency (NTA), which holds the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) (NEET-UG), and recommend examination reforms.

The top court said since the remit of the panel has been expanded, the committee

would submit its report by September 30 on various measures to rectify deficiencies in the examination system.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra gave detailed reasons for its July 23 order refusing to cancel the controversially-ridden NEET-UG 24 examination.

"...sufficient material is not on record at present which indicates a systemic leak or systemic malpractice of other forms.

The material on record does not, at present, substantiate the allegation that there has been a widespread malpractice which compromised the integrity of the exam. To the contrary, an assessment of the data indicates that there are no deviations which indicate that systemic cheating has [| More on P6](#)



HC Summons DC Ganderbal In Criminal Contempt Case Warns Him Of 'Coercive Proceedings' If He Fails To Turn Up

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Friday issued notice to Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal on a contempt proceeding initiated against him following a reference by Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) of the central Kashmir district.

A Division Bench of Justice Atul Sreedharan and Justice Sanjeev Kumar also directed the Deputy Commissioner to appear in person before it on ensuing Monday (August 5) at 11:00 am "sharp", and warned him of "coercive proceedings" if he failed to turn up in the court.

Last month, a court in Ganderbal issued show-cause notice to Deputy Commissioner Shyambir as to why a reference be not made to the High Court of J&K and Ladakh for initiating contempt proceedings against



him in terms of Contempt of Courts Act.

The court, Sub-judge Ganderbal, passed the order against the Deputy Commissioner for allegedly not complying with its order in a civil suit and attempting to "personally attack" him "by manipulation and fabrication".

"This is a reference made under Section 15(2) of the Contempt of Courts Act 2015 made by the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ganderbal in Criminal Reference against Mr. Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal," the Division Bench of the High Court said and issued notice to

the "contemnor, Mr Shyambir".

"The contemnor shall appear in person before this Court on Monday i.e., 5th August 2024 at 11:00 am sharp," the court said.

Any attempt by him to avoid service of summons or his non-appearance shall be viewed seriously by this Court, the Division Bench said, warning that the Court shall resort to "coercive proceedings" to secure his presence. The Court also requested R. A. Jan, senior counsel, to assist it as an amicus. "His consent be sought by the Registrar Judicial of this Court."

Last month, the court of Sub-judge Ganderbal noted that a preliminary enquiry was initiated against the contemnor Mr Shyambir and in the first instance, he was asked to a show-cause as to why a reference be not made to High Court of J&K and Ladakh [| More on P6](#)

Over 66 Tons of Drugs Seized In J&K In 3 Yrs: Centre

Agencies

Srinagar: The union government on Friday informed the Rajya Sabha that as much as 66595 kilograms of drugs under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act were seized in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in the three years.

Replying to a query, Minister of State (MoS) Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai in a written reply informed that in 2020, 26111.483 kg Opium Based Drugs, 1001.316 kg of Cannabis-Based Drugs, 247 kg of Psychotropic Substance, 40890.11 litres of Medicinal Preparations, and 1.554 kg of other drugs were seized in Union Territory.

In 2021, 19930.958 kg Opium Based Drugs, 2066.401 kg of Cannabis-Based Drugs,



0.018 kg of Cocaine, 8.65 kilograms of Psychotropic Substance, 76.387 litres of Medicinal Preparations, and 76.387 kg of other drugs were seized in Union territory Jammu and Kashmir, he said. In 2022, 15326.701 kg of Cannabis-Based Drugs, 11.169 kg of Psychotropic Substance, [| More on P6](#)

Crypto Fraud Case ED Launches First-Ever Search In Ladakh

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: In its first ever raids in the Union Territory of Ladakh, the Enforcement Directorate on Friday conducted searches as part of its money laundering probe linked to a cryptocurrency fraud case in which investors lost more than Rs 7 crore worth of deposits, officials said.

The agency's zonal office here raided at least six premises in Leh town of Ladakh, Jammu in J-K and Sonapat in Jammu in the case against A R Mir and others.

It is alleged that 2,508 investors deposited more than Rs 7.34 crore in a fake cryptocurrency business in the name of "Emollient Coin Limited". They, however, did not get any returns or [| More on P6](#)

ElitePlus
DENTAL & DERMA CENTRE

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

PICO LASER AT ELITE PLUS

BOOK APPOINTMENT

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



NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

ATTENTION PLEASE

I Mohammad Iqbal Mir S/o Mohammad Qasim Mir Resident of Gariend Kallan Budgam Kahmir (UT of J&K) that I am working in Army (Jammu & Kashmir light infantry). In records the name of my mother was wrongly entered as Rehana Akhter while actual Name is Rahmi. Now I want its correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard should be communicated in writing to the Concerned Authority within a period of 7 days.

Mohammad Iqbal Mir
S/o Mohammad Qasim Mir
R/o Gariend Kallan Budgam.
Cell: 7780813992

mcb

NOTICE

I MOHAMMAD TAHSEEN SHEIKH F/o AAIRA TAHSEEN R/o:- Mirza Kamil Sahib Hawal Srinagar -190011 want to correct my daughter's Mother's name in her School Record Studying 4th class in RADIANT PUBLIC SCHOOL, MALLABAGH SRINAGAR From RABIA To RABIA MAJEED which needs to be corrected as per Aadhar. In this regard, if anybody has any objection he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Principal RADIANT PUBLIC SCHOOL, MALLABAGH SRINAGAR within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Researchers Lay Roadmap For Mitigating Methane Emissions, Call For Urgent Action

Press Trust Of India

Methane emissions, which are rising rapidly, need to be tackled immediately, even as the world is focused on addressing carbon dioxide, which primarily drives climate change, according to a study that outlined a roadmap in the direction.

However, despite methane being the second most potent greenhouse gas, only about two per cent of the global climate finance goes towards cutting its emissions, the largest sources of which are agriculture, fossil fuels and decomposition of landfill waste, the researchers noted.

"The world has been rightly focused on carbon dioxide, which is the largest driver of climate change to date," said Drew Shindell from Duke University, lead author of the study published in the journal 'Frontiers in Science'.

"Methane seemed like something we could leave for later, but the world has warmed very rapidly over the past couple of decades, while we've failed to reduce our CO2 emissions. So that leaves us more desperate for ways to reduce the rate of warming rapidly, which methane can do," said Shindell.

The authors called for immediate action, "following the Global Methane Pledge (GMP) to reduce methane emissions by 30 per cent from their 2020 level by 2030." Launched at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, or COP26, held in Glasgow, UK, the GMP includes 158 participant countries as of March 2024.

The authors laid out three critical imperatives for action -- "reduce, coordinate and incentivise" -- which could be achieved by sat-



ellite data, reported methane emissions, and knowledge of how various abatement measures interact with market forces.

Foremost, the course needs to be changed and methane emissions be reduced through "stronger policy-led action" targeting all major drivers, along with greatly reducing CO2 emissions rapidly, the authors said.

Secondly, efforts should be coordinated to tackle methane and carbon dioxide emissions, as only cutting carbon dioxide won't stop warming quickly enough, while only cutting methane just delays global heating, they said.

However, the authors added that net zero methane emissions is not the target, owing to abatement challenges for some sources and its short lifetime.

Nevertheless, since methane and CO2 each contribute to warming, slashing methane emissions is

important both for its own sake to ensure that trajectories consistent with the 1.5 degrees Celsius- or 2 degrees Celsius-temperature goals of Paris Agreement are feasible and for removing carbon dioxide from the air, the scientists said.

Thirdly, we need to incentivise and enforce methane abatement, they said.

"We show that both technological abatement options and systemic and behavioral choices must be addressed to reduce methane emissions," the authors wrote.

Citing examples of India and China (both non-GMP countries), the study authors said mitigating methane emissions in the fossil sector is both large and low in cost, as are reductions in landfill methane in India.

The results suggested that the two non-GMP countries have the potential to achieve major methane reductions with limited finan-

cial burdens, they said.

With every tonne of methane emitted to be estimated to cause USD 470-1700 in damage, the authors described addressing these emissions as a "life-saving, cost-effective measure." If the human health-damaging effects of methane emissions on air pollution are considered, the true cost could be up to USD 7,000 per tonne, they said.

"The most important mitigations are the (options available) across all sectors that aren't too expensive, because we really need to do everything to reach climate targets such as 1.5 or 2 degrees Celsius warming," Shindell said.

"Controlling methane from only one sector wouldn't be enough. We need a broad portfolio of actions," Shindell said, adding that the benefits of methane mitigation nearly always outweighed the net costs.

Office of the District Social Welfare Officer-Srinagar

Nodal Officer-One Stop Centre Srinagar

Old sectt. Srinagar-190001, Phone No 0194-2478817 email: dswo.sch@gmail.com

Re-Advertisement Notice

Subject:- Advertisement for posts in respect of One Stop Centre (OSC) for Women Srinagar.

Reference (1): Administrative Department Minutes of Meeting issued vide No. SWD-SH/2/2022, dated: 08.03.2022 and Mission Director SRCW regarding salary for One Stop Centre issued vide no: JKRCW/7/2020 dated: 02.03.2021

Reference (2): Management Sub-Committee- Srinagar minutes of meeting issued vide No. DSWSOS/Sch/2022/487 dated: 29.06.2022 Reference (3): Mission Shakti Scheme implementation guidelines issued vide DO No.: WW-23/1/2021-WW dated: 14.07.2022.

Reference (4): Advertisement issued vide no. DSWSOS/Estt/2023/3368-69, dated: 26-12-2023.

Reference (5): DDOS/Dev/3952/2024, dated: 20-07-2024.

a) Opening date of receipt of application forms:- 02.08.2024

b) Closing date of receipt of application forms:- 22.08.2024

Applications are invited on prescribed format from eligible candidates for below mentioned posts purely on temporary/contractual basis on consolidated honorarium as per guideline/ norms of the scheme, subject to satisfactory performance, continuation of scheme and funding from the government.

The candidates must be a resident of District Srinagar and must possess Domicile Certificate issued by the competent authority on format prescribed for the purpose on or before the last date of submission of application form in accordance with notifications issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India vide S.O.1229(E) dated: 31.03.2020 and S.O.1245(E) dated: 30.04.2020 read with the General Administration Department, Government of J&K's vide S.O.166 dated: 18.05.2020 respectively.

The posts are advertised for the hiring of staff regarding management of One Stop Centre (OSC)

Table with 5 columns: S. No, Name of the post, No. of posts, Eligibility, Consolidated Monthly Honorarium. Posts include Security Guard/Night Guard and Multipurpose Staff.

Criteria for Short-Listing / Selection for the posts:

- Academic Qualification:- 60- Points (on Pro-rata Basis)
Retired Military/Para-Military Personnel 10 points will be given as preference for their ex-service experience.
Viva-Voce: 30 points
Candidates shall be shortlisted based on the merit of their educational qualification points in the ratio of 1:5 i.e. 5 candidates for one post.

Terms and conditions:-
1. Applicant must be a Domicile of the Union Territory of J&K and resident of District Srinagar.

- 2. Applicants should be medically fit for field visits in different blocks / wards of District Srinagar.
3. The engagement being a temporary/contractual arrangement is terminable if the performance is not satisfactory as assessed by the District Level Committee headed by the District Magistrate/District Development Commissioner.
4. The engagement shall be initially for a period of one year, further continuation will be on the basis of performance assessed by District Level Committee headed by District Magistrate/ District Development Commissioner

Forms complete in all respect along with self- attested copies of qualification/ experience must reach in the office of the District Social Welfare Officer Srinagar (Block C, Old Secretariat- Jahangir Chowk Srinagar) by or before 22-08-2024 4:00 PM.

- Documents to be attached with the application form:-
1. Self-Attested copies of all Academic/Technical qualification certificates.
2. Self-Attested copy of Date of Birth Certificate.
3. Self-Attested copy of Domicile Certificate and Aadhar Card/ other Address proof
4. Experience Certificate from recognized / registered Civil Society Organization / Institution/ recognized / registered in the relevant field.

Sd/ (District Development Commissioner) Srinagar

No:-Dswos/Sch/2024/788-93 DIPK-3958/24 Dated :-02-08-2024

Application for the post of One Stop Centre (OSC) in District Srinagar

Advertisement Notice No: _____ Dated _____

Write in Capital letters with blue/black ball point pen.

- 1. Post Applied for: _____ District: _____
2. Name of the applicant: _____
3. Father/Mother/Spouse Name: _____
4. Gender: _____
5. Permanent Residential Address: _____
6. Present/ Mailing Address: _____
7. Contact/ Mobile Number: _____
8. Date of Birth (As per Matriculation Certificate)- _____
9. Age on 01.01.2024: _____ Years _____ Days _____
10. _____

Table for Educational Qualification (Matriculation onwards) with columns: Exam, Year, Board/ Institution, Total Marks, Marks Obtained, Percentage of Marks, Remarks.

Table for Experience with columns: Post Held, Organization, Period, Nature of Duty.

11. Brief description of the experience/ knowledge in the relevant field

12. Documents attached:

- I) II)
III) IV)
V) VI)

Dated: _____ Place: _____ Signature of the Applicant

DECLARATION

I _____ S/O: _____ D/O: _____ W/O _____

R/O: Tehsil: _____ District: _____ Do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the entities made herein above in the application form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed therein. I undertake that if any misrepresentation of facts or concealment of any information in the application is found at any stage, my candidature/ selection shall be liable to be cancelled without given notice to me.

I, further declare that I have carefully read the description of the post, qualification, method of selection and other terms and condition s and have no objection in this regard.

DIPK-3958/24 dated: 02-08-2024 Signature of the Applicant

Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NIT No- 24 of RnB-Sopore of 2024-2025 e-tendering DATED 31.07.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

Table with 8 columns: S.No, Name of Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. in Lacs), Cost of T/ DOC (In Rupees), E/Money, Time for completion of work, Time & Date of Opening of Bid, Class of Contractor, M.H of Account.

Project Authority: CE PWD (R&B) Kmr.
Position of funds: Available
Position of AAA/ TS /Accorded

1. 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 detail's can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

Table with 3 columns: S.No, Date of issue of tender Notice, Period of downloading of bidding documents.

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan/ CDR (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/ Maintenance Period.

3(b) Geotech Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photograph before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x21 cm to be provided.

6.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
All other terms, conditions shall remain as per e-NIT No.02 of 2024-25 issued under endorsement No:1189-98 dated 08.06.2024.

21. If the contractor/HMPO quotes rate for any item of work in his tender as free of cost at the time of tendering process, his tender shall be rejected out rightly.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K,UT, No: 2628-37 DIPK-3919/24 Dated: 02.08.2024

Executive Engineer, R&B Division Sopore

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of general public that I Batoola Bano D/o Ghulam Rasool Bhat has been married to Mr. Younis Ali Parry S/o: Mohammad Jaffar Parry R/o: Jawaharpura due to my marriage with Mr. Younis Ali Parry my aadhar has been changed from Khanpeth Pattan to R/o: Jawaharpura now I want to update my husbands name and new aadhar in my bank account for which I am issuing this public notice if anybody has any objection, same may be reported within 7 days after that no objection will be accepted.

Applicant Name: Batoola Bano W/o Younis Ali Parry R/O Jawaharpura Cell: 7889934359 bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, We, Rifat Mir D/o Manzoor Ahmad Mir R/o, Safakadal Malik Sahab & Farah Manzoor D/o Manzoor Ahmad Mir R/o Safakadal Malik Sahab, Kashmir intend to apply for the Department of Tourism for Registration of our proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "JUST MINE TRIP" Situated at Karan Nagar Near National School, Srinagar Kashmir under Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, We will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate Qualification Certificate, Pan card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department, Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000) Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs together Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/ Bank/ Organizations etc for objection, if, any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration, TRC Srinagar, Kashmir (e-mail id: dtdreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local Newspaper/ newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained and the case shall be processed under rules. fko

Arz namayish
Munawwar: درخواست منجانب شوکت احمد انگر ولد محمد رمضان انگر ساکن کیمپ 294 سربھنچن برادر جرائی OBC بن تحت SRO 294 بن خود
اشہد ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ ذیل صورت میں سالانہ ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ انگریزیشن کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں بنواری حالت سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالانہ واقعی انگریزیشن سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سالانہ پاپائیل میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کسی بھی ترک کنونٹیشن کی ہے سالانہ کیمپ پڑھیں افراد پر مشتمل ہے
محمد رمضان انگر ولد حبیب اللہ لوہار 55 سال
طیبہ بیگم زوجہ محمد رمضان گھریلو کام 53 سال
شوکت احمد انگر ولد محمد رمضان سرکاری ملازم 34 سال
عادل رمضان لوہار زرعی تعلیم 26 سال
افت رمضان زخموں 24 سال
رشید جمیل زوجہ شوکت احمد گھریلو کام 30 سال
محمد شائف ولد شوکت احمد شیرخوار 02 سال
سالانہ فکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کیمپ کی ہموار آمدنی 54428 روپیہ تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی کو کسی کو کوئی مزہ یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشورہ اخبار سائنس کے نامہ انداز سے مندرجہ پتہ پر اعتراض و دلائل حد کو دفتر ای وقت کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے یہ معاہدہ کوئی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تاجب تحسینیلدار FKO

Div Com Reviews Progress On Greater Srinagar Sewage

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Friday convened a meeting to review progress of construction of drainage system under comprehensive sewage scheme for Greater Srinagar, JnNURM.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com directed the PHE Department for shifting of the underlying pipeline in the Hawal area so that NBCC shall start the work on the remaining segment of sewer drainage. He also directed the laying of a sewage network in a 90 feet area of Soura. Besides, Div Com directed PDD to provide the electricity connection to STPs to make these plants functional.

Div Com also instructed NBCC to construct storm water

& sewerage drains separately in Ellahi Bagh to avoid any issue during intense rainfall.

The meeting also discussed rehabilitation of 16 Shopkeepers from Soura area. During the discussion it was informed that a DPR of Rs 1.5 cr has been prepared and shall be approved by UED.

In view of the Swachhata Pakhwada campaign, Div Com directed officers to conduct cleanliness drives for clean surroundings & healthy environment. Meanwhile, he asked R&B to conduct Swachhata drives at Badyari Bridge, Dalgate Bridge and other important places.

The meeting was attended by the Senior Officers of R&B, PHE, NBCC, PDD, UED besides other stakeholders including local representatives.



HMT Industrial Area Waste Water Flows Into Residential Colonies

SICOP Officials Unmoved, Residents Aghast

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Residents in low lying areas near Zainakote Industrial Estate are facing a health hazard as SICOP authorities have failed to stop flow of waste water emanating from local units into nearby residential areas.

Residents accused the Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (SICOP), which manages Zainakote Industrial Estate, of willfully ignoring their pleas for redressal of their problem.

Although the Managing Director SICOP and other higher-ups of the administration were informed about the issue, the aggrieved residents alleged that no measures were taken in this regard so far.

Residents at HMT are now more at risk of health problems as a result of the direct discharge of contaminated water from the Industrial Estate into the residential areas. "We sought assistance from higher-ups, including the Managing Director SICOP, but the issue has not been addressed," Ashfaq Hussain, a resident of Lane No 5, Rose Avenue, told Kashmir Observer.

The authorities, he claimed, have never bothered to visit the

affected area to know the plight of the people, who are more likely to experience serious health issues, in case the polluted water emanating from the Industrial Estate HMT is not blocked forthwith.

"The polluted water from Industrial Estate enters our homes with an unbearable stench, leaving us to wriggle like a fish out

of water, yet who cares? They don't really care about the issues people face, or else they wouldn't have allowed the residential area to become a cesspool of waste," Mohammad Yasir, another resident of the same locality said.

Manager Estates, SICOP Bilal Ahmad, admitted there is a problem revealing that the flow has been "internally diverted to some other place" fifteen days ago. "We have taken some measures during a meeting chaired by MD SICOP and a strategy vis a vis perma-

“The authorities, he claimed, have never bothered to visit the affected area to know the plight of the people, who are more likely to experience serious health issues, in case the polluted water emanating from the Industrial Estate HMT is not blocked forthwith”

nent solution will be chalked out within the next twenty days. Rest the flow has been stopped and the residents face no issues as of now," the official claimed.

However when Kashmir Observer confronted him with the live footage of the inundated Lane No 5, Rose Avenue, he promised to depute a team for

inspection instantly to have the first hand appraisal of the situation. But the residents contacted Kashmir Observer late in the night saying no one had visited the area till late in the night. Residents alleged that SICOP has so far taken ad-hoc measures by diverting waste water from one colony to another in order to buy time.

Dr Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, promised early action when he was apprised of the situation.

Demand For Kulfi, Ice Creams, Lassi Surges In Srinagar Amid Heatwave

Agencies

Srinagar: As Kashmir continues to grapple with scorching heat, the Kulfi sellers, yogurt based drink (Lassi), Ice-cream sellers and juice vendors in Srinagar are witnessing a surge in the sales.

The intense heat has driven locals to seek out refreshing treats, with ice cream carts, juice stalls, Lassi shops and Kulfi sellers bustling with increasing customer footfall activity.

In Srinagar's Bohri Kadal area in downtown, Kulfi sellers are particularly busy on one side of a brief road stretch, serving a frozen creamy brown colour ice cream mixed with long noodles to a steady stream of customers eager to cool down.

Shabir Ahmad, a Srinagar resident while enjoying the ice cream in a bowl told the news agency—KNO that whenever he visits Bohri Kadal or Fateh Kadal, he ensures he cherishes a couple of famous Matt Kulfi bowls.

"To beat the heat and let it cool, I often come to Bohri Kadal and Fateh Kadal to

have Matt Kulfi. I prefer them over cold drinks," he said.

The scene is no different at the Lassi sales points, especially near the DC office in Srinagar and in Koker Bazar, where people form long lines to fetch a glass of the refreshing yogurt-based drink (Lassi).

Touseef Ahmad, a Medical Representative from Srinagar said that he often takes Lassi these days and comes from Karan Nagar to Shaheed Gunj to get relief from blistering hot weather.

Softy and ice cream sellers on the famous residency road in Srinagar too said that they are witnessing a spike in sales, saying most of the consumers prefer shakes and ice creams to beat the heat this summer.

Meanwhile, juice vendors across Srinagar are also experiencing a boom in sales with the majority of them selling a range of juice flavors mixed with basil seeds (Babri Beol).

Notably, these stalls and spike in their sales have emerged in the backdrop of scorching heat with people in need of hydration, who are being offered a variety of fresh chilled juices, ice creams and yogurt based drinks.

Laila Majnu Movie Re-Released In Srinagar's INOX

Agencies

Srinagar: As a loving memento for movie enthusiasts in the Valley, a Bollywood film "Laila Majnu" was re-released in a theatre in Srinagar on Friday.

According to the news agency—KNO, present at today's event was acclaimed filmmaker Imtiaz Ali.

Directed by Sajid Ali and Starring Avinash Tiwary and Triptii Dimri, the movie originally hit theatres in 2018 but didn't

achieve significant box office success.

It was re-released today at INOX multiplex here in Srinagar and saw love and a handsome crowd.

Sajid Ali expressed his excitement about the re-release, noting the film's deep connection with Kashmir. "Money can't buy people, but love can," Ali said while sharing about the emotional core of the film.

He added that the story, set against the backdrop of Kashmir, aims to resonate with the local audience by

portraying the authentic essence of the region and its youth.

Avinash Tiwary, who plays the lead role, shared his enthusiasm, stating, "We tried to make it authentic, and it's a story of soil, of its youth, and we tried to cast locals."

Sharing details about the re-release, the team crew said the idea for the re-release stemmed from the fans themselves, surprising the director and demonstrating the enduring popularity of the film among Kashmiris.

+91-7051609500 +91-9419909500

Office Of The Principal Vishwa Bharti Women's College Rainawari, Srinagar – 190003

website:- <http://vbcollege.edu.in>; principalvbc@hotmail.com; vbcollege@hotmail.com

No.-VB/WC/Admissions-Non-CUET/653
Date:- 31/07/2024

Admission Notification

It is notified for information of all those candidates who have not registered themselves with CUET (Non-CUET) for admission to undergraduate courses in 1st and 2nd semester Batch 2024, that admission is open right now, interested candidates can visit the college admission section during working hours, and access the college website <http://vbcollege.edu.in>.

The admission criteria is as per norms set by affiliated Kashmir University which is 45% for general category and 40% for reserved categories.

List of the Major and Minor subjects is enclosed.

DIPK-3926/24
dated: 02-08-2024

Principal
V. B. Women's College
Rainawari, Srinagar.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Awantipora

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
Single Cover System
E-NIT No: Fresh-23/EEA/RNB/Of 2024-25/3084-94 Dated: 01/08/2024

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

SN	Nome of Work	Adv. Cost (incl. GST) (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (days)	M.H OF Ac-count	Class Of Contactor
1	Renovation/Restoration of Auditorium at BHSS Bhajwani Tral. (Civil Part only)	1.95	200/-	2% of Adv cost	30 working days	Hr. Edu.UT Capex Budget 2024-25	DEE

Position of AAA:Accorded- vide No: 160-DSEK of 2024 Dated: 01/07/2024.
Position of funds: - Available
Project Authority: DSEK

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	01/08/2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	02/08/2024
3	Bid submission Start Date	02/08/2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	22/08/2024 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	23/08/2024 at 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora.

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora, (tender receiving authority).

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

2.1 The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora within 07 (Seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee (bid security) should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e., Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. All Bidders shall to quote the rates in BOQ including GST. GST @ 18% or as admissible will be added separately at the time of issuance of Allotment by the allotting authority.

DIPK-3975/24
dated: 02-08-2024

sd/-
Head Draftsman

sd/-
Technical Officer

sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Awantipora

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
SHEIK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 4: 08
ZUHUR 12:37
ASR 5: 30
Magrib 7:34
ISHA 9: 06

HIJRI CALENDAR
27 Muharram
1446

This Day In History

- 1940 - Lithuanian SSR is accepted into USSR
- 1941 - German troops conquer Rostavl USSR
- 1944 - Allied troops under Lt-Gen Joseph Stilwell take Myitkyina, Burma
- 1960 - Niger gains independence from France
- 1967 - 45,000 US soldiers sent to Vietnam
- 1970 - Hurricane "Celia" becomes most expensive Gulf storm in history
- 1972 - British premier Edward Heath proclaims emergency crisis due to dock strike
- 1972 - U.S. Senate ratifies the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.
- 1973 - Flash fire kills 51 at amusement park (Isle of Man, UK)
- 1975 - 500 drown when 2 river boats collide & sink in China's West River
- 1975 - Louisiana Superdome is dedicated
- 1981 - 13,000 Air Traffic Controllers (PATCO) begin their strike; US President Ronald Reagan offers ultimatum to workers: 'if they do not report for work within 48 hours, they have forfeited their jobs and will be terminated'
- 1984 - Bomb attack on Madras India airport, 32 killed
- 1985 - Train crash at Flaujac, France: 35 killed
- 1987 - Discovery in Orbital Processing Facility is powered up for STS-26
- 1990 - Radio Kuwait resigns air, due to Iraqi invasion
- 1990 - US announces commitment of Naval forces to Gulf regions
- 1994 - 1st Jordanian plane to fly over Israeli airspace (King Hussein pilot)
- 2001 - US President George W. Bush signs into law the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act (ILSA) Extension Act of 2001
- 2004 - The pedestal of the Statue of Liberty reopens after being closed since the September 11, 2001 attacks.

From KO Archives

Leave Constitution, Talk Humanitarian: PM

Observer News Service

Srinagar - The prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, today asked all the militant groups in Jammu and Kashmir to come forward for talks with the Centre. While rejecting the possibility of Pakistan's involvement in the peace process initiated with the Hizbul Mujahideen, he, however, made a significant departure from the oft-imposed rider of holding talks within the frame work of Indian constitution.

"Our doors are open. I appeal to all militant groups and organisations, which believe in peace, to join the centre's efforts for peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue," Vajpayee told media persons here after leading a delegation of major political parties at Pahalagam.

Asked whether Pakistan would be invited to form part of the peace process, Vajpayee said, there is no question of Pakistan's involvement." Holding Islamabad responsible for the killings, he said the absence of unequivocal condemnation by Pakistan makes it all the more a suspect Pakistan must come clean as its silence on the massacres would further affect the bilateral dialogue process.

Asked whether the talks would be strictly within the framework of the constitution, Vajpayee said, "Leave the constitution. Talks should be held on humanitarian considerations that violence is stopped and no more blood is shed."

To a question whether lapses in security led to the killings, he said the government would order an internal inquiry to find out the reasons behind the orgy of violence. Vajpayee was accompanied by union ministers George Fernandes and Mamata Banerjee, Congress President Sonia Gandhi and her party colleague Ghulam Nabi Azad, Mulayam Singh Yadav (Samajwadi Party), Somnath Chatterjee (CPI-M), K Yerran Naidu (TDP) and Kanshi Ram (BSP). Vajpayee, who was accompanied by Jammu and Kashmir governor G.C. Saxena and chief minister Farooq Abdullah, termed as ridiculous allegation by Pakistan about the involvement of Indian security forces in the killing and rejected the possibility of instituting a judicial inquiry on the issue. The involvement of Pakistan-based Lashker-e-Taiba have been proved beyond doubt other than Hizbul-Mujahideen being unhappy over the peace process initiated by the centre.

Maintaining that Islamabad must unequivocally condemn the massacres, Vajpayee made it clear that violence and peace talks cannot go together. Nothing can be achieved through killings. He said if General Musharraf continued to maintain silence, then the future of resumption of bilateral parleys would become even more difficult. To a question on the issue of autonomy, Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, who was present the Vajpayee's press conference, said we are talking with the centre on the issue.

(Kashmir Observer, August 03, 2000)

Assassination in Tehran and Its Implications

Haider Abbas

The Political Bureau Chief of Palestinian Hamas, Ismael Haniyeh was assassinated in Tehran, the capital of Iran, on July 31, after he had attended the swearing-in ceremony of Iran's new President Masoud Pezeshkian. He was the chief interlocutor of ceasefire talks, from Hamas side and Israel, which are at war since October 7, 2023, and since then, Israel has killed more than 50,000 Palestinians and has reduced the whole of Gaza and Rafah into rubble. Qatar, Egypt, Russia and China have condemned the killing. India, till August 1, had maintained silence. Nitin Gadkari represented India at the inaugural ceremony in Tehran.

His death is a colossal damage to the reputation of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and a message to the entire Iranian establishment. Iran has blamed Israel for it. His bodyguard Wasim Abu Shaaban was also killed. He was staying in an IRGC facility, the top most Iranian security agency, attached to the President's compound. The attack on such a place is akin to killing someone in a Blair House! The US President Guest House.

Immediately after the killing of Ismael Haniyeh, Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu, who has just returned from the US, convened a three hours 'security-meeting' and thereafter boasted, in his address to the nation, that Iran's proxies have been given a crushing-blow. He did not name Ismael Haniyeh. Iran is now very deeply embarrassed by such an extraordinary security lapse but will it try to go for a full-scale war with Israel, as Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatullah Sayyid Khamenei has threatened Israel for a 'harsh-punishment'?

Haniyeh's funeral prayers were led by Ayatullah Khamenei and joined by thousands on Tehran streets. The US, however, has denied its role in the killing. Iran had already been nursing the assassination of its last President Ibrahim Raisi, purportedly killed after his helicopter crashed, on May 19, which too is believed to have been the handiwork of an Israeli sabotage?



Now the question is how could Israel do it, that too right in Iran's capital? The hazy details firstly were that a long range, precision missile, was launched from another country, in the early hours, which scripted the death of Haniyeh. But that all has been rubbished as a report in The New York Times on August 1, has informed that a bomb had been fitted in the same room, used quite often by Haniyeh on his visits to Iran. This is to definitely fuel a question if there are moles in the Iranian establishment, working for Israel, which is most likely, as unless there is an insider, a job of this propensity just cannot be possible. Palestinian Islamic Jihad Chief Ziyad Al-Nakhalah, was next door, and remained unhurt. This clearly shows that the target was well planned Haniyeh. The bomb was detonated through a remote.

There is no more room left to disbelieve that Iran had ever been rendered sterile, since way back from 2007, when the Israeli Stuxnet-cyber malware, was implanted by the Israel intelligence Mossad and US intelligence CIA, through their assets, inside Iran's nuclear weapons programme. There is a whole list of Iran's nuclear scien-

“
How things would unfold is what the world is watching with bated breath, as one spark is now enough to ignite the whole region into a conflict which has every potential to change into a third-world-war

tists to have been killed by Mossad operatives in all these last twenty years, the prime most being Mohsin Fakhrizade, through limpid bombs attached to their cars etc. Only a few years back Israel exfiltrated the whole Iran's nuclear programme, from an extremely well-guarded facility in Central Iran. It is no won-

der, out of these infiltrators, US and Israel are together in a campaign that Iran is only a few weeks behind to become a nuclear state.

It is also to be taken into account that this killing had come only within hours when Israel claimed it had killed Hezbollah's top military commander, Fuad Shukur, in an airstrike on a south Beirut suburb, Lebanon, but surprisingly Israel did own this killing. Fuad Shukur is considered to be number-two in Hezbollah hierarchy and had been a US and Israel target for long. He was wanted by the US FBI for his role in the 1984 Barracks bombing of Beirut, which killed 241 US soldiers. Israel through it also did try to placate the US to seek more of its unstinted support in its war against Palestine. Israel outright 'no claim' for Haniyeh death is also for the fact that he was heading the team of negotiators towards the ceasefire talks over Gaza. Is his death now an end to any further negotiations between Israel-Hamas?

In case there is now to be an Iranian attack on Israel, apart from Iraq, Houthis from Yemen, from Syria and Lebanon and vice-versa from Israel are underway, it cannot be discounted that Iran is sur-

rounded by around 40 US military underground military facilities and bases located in neighboring countries. If a full-blown war is to be spearheaded, Iran will most likely be getting backed by its most trusted friend Russia and also its ally and partner China. Iran's supply of its cost-effective drones to Russia in its war against NATO and US led Ukraine, has won a far greater trust from Russia.

How things would unfold is what the world is watching with bated breath, as one spark is now enough to ignite the whole region into a conflict which has every potential to change into a third-world-war. How Benjamin Netanyahu will feel the heat, can be assuaged just by the first half of July, according to Haaretz, The Shin Bet, Israel internal security agency, has purchased a 'Finnish-made anti-drone defense system to protect Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. It claims that the Israeli War Ministry ordered the Airforce system produced by Finnish company Sensofusion. The Airforce system uses radio frequency sensors to identify the location of a drone and its operator, and can electronically intercept it either bringing it down or taking control of the drone itself. The system is equipped with a continually updating database of the main commercially-made drones, and provides 10 square kilometers of coverage.'

As for Iran, unless there is a 'massive' clean-up in its backyard, such incidents will never stop. It hadn't been that long when on June 23, IRGC Intelligence Chief Hussain Taeb was removed, inform Axios and General Hussain Salami replaced him. But what did he do? Embarrassed Iran to no further ends!

How and what happens, all along as US elections are also underway, until November 4, is all yet to be seen.

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

The writer is a former UP State Information Commissioner and a political analyst

To Preserve Democracy, Tax the Rich

Kaushik Basu

While there are many ways to measure economic inequality, key metrics consistently show that disparities are getting worse. According to a recent United Nations report, 71% of the world's population now live in countries where inequality has increased.

Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg points out that the country is facing the same demographic problem as almost all advanced economies.

Unsurprisingly, this includes India and China. A recent paper by Thomas Piketty and his co-authors shows that the income share of the top 1% in India has risen to its highest level since 1922, the earliest data that they have, when the country was still under British colonial rule.

At the same time, global inequality remains extremely high. While billionaire wealth has reached unprecedented levels, the World Bank estimates that 712 million people worldwide survive on less than \$2.15 per day.

Future generations will likely be shocked that we have tolerated such extreme levels of inequality, just as we are horrified by our ancestors' acceptance of slavery. But as David Hume argued in the eighteenth century, moral imperatives ("ought") cannot be derived from objective facts ("is"). In other words, problems like inequality cannot be resolved through science or reason alone. Instead, we must highlight their moral implications to persuade people to act.

Two key aspects of global inequality deserve particular attention. First, economic disparities are set to worsen both within and across countries. As technological advances like artificial intelligence reduce demand for human labor, working-class households around the world could become increasingly impoverished. Meanwhile,



those who own the machines and run the largest corporations are expected to amass unprecedented power and wealth. The United States – home to nearly 38 million people living below the poverty line despite being one of the world's richest countries – provides a glimpse into this bleak future.

Second, extreme inequality poses a mortal threat to democracy, enabling billionaires and moneyed interests to influence elections, capture traditional and social media, and shape public perceptions. Regrettably, judging by social-media chatter and trolling, some of the strongest opposition to progressive taxation and redistributive policies comes from the poorer segments of society, largely owing to misinformation and manipulation.

The toxic combination of extreme inequality and AI-powered misinformation is also a factor fueling pressure on liberal democracies and the rise of authoritarian forces around the world. By enabling a few wealthy individuals to wield dis-

proportionate influence, today's global economy increasingly marginalizes and disenfranchises much of the world's population.

To be sure, misguided attempts to reduce inequality also carry significant risks. For example, trying to achieve perfect egalitarianism would be unwise, because some disparity is necessary to create incentives. Similarly, concentrating all wealth in the hands of the state, as the Soviet Union did, would lead to mismanagement of demand and supply and, ultimately, cronyism.

Instead, what we really need is a progressive tax system that redistributes incomes from the rich to the poor while preserving incentives. Fortunately, there is significant scope for such measures. In my recent book Reason to Be Happy, I propose a tax regime that I call the "accordion tax," which aims to narrow the income gap by taxing high earners and transferring the revenue to those with lower incomes.

While this model essentially functions as a progressive tax system, its strength lies in its micro structure. Beyond a certain point, the super-rich no longer seek to earn more to buy things. Simply put, after the fifth yacht, the sixth is merely a status symbol aimed at outdoing other wealthy individuals.

By taxing all incomes above a certain threshold and transferring this money to those earning below it, governments could reduce inequality without harming incentives. The richest person will remain the richest, and the second-richest person will work just as hard to reach the top. But the incentives of the middle and working classes, whose members work primarily to make ends meet rather than try to surpass their neighbors, will remain intact.

Although the accordion tax could act as a powerful tool for reducing inequality at the national level, today's globalized economy poses significant implementation challenges. If a government taxes high incomes too aggressively, it risks triggering capital flight.

Thus, reducing global inequality requires multilateral agreements. While the US is well-positioned to lead this effort, its ability to do so depends on the outcome of November's presidential election. Vice President Kamala Harris, the presumptive Democratic nominee, offers hope for greater distributive fairness. By contrast, a victory for former President Donald Trump will likely cause inequality to worsen. We can only hope that American voters make the right choice.

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

Watching Kashmiri Weddings on YouTube With my Grandmother

We can't help but notice how drastically Kashmiri weddings have changed now and how we have incorporated so many alien traditions into them



Sakhra Riyaz

Over the past few weeks, my grandmother and I have developed a new hobby: watching Kashmiri wedding documentaries on Youtube together. Every evening, we sit in the living room with some noon chai, and set up the TV so we can watch the videos. We see the beautifully filmed weddings, and then exchange many comments and reactions. It is something that we enjoy, and brings us closer. But there is a catch: we can't help but notice how drastically Kashmiri weddings have changed now and how we have incorporated so many alien traditions into them. From the choice of music to the attire of the bride and groom, there are so many aspects that have been influenced by other cultures.

Let's start with the choice of music. Bollywood music is used in the majority, if not all, of these

wedding documentaries as the backdrop for the video narration. Songs such as "Mud Ke Na Dekho Dilbaro" from the movie Raazi, "Sajda" from My name is Khan, and "Kun Faya Kun" from Rockstar being among the most popular. While there is nothing intrinsically wrong with Bollywood music, I feel that we missed an opportunity to instead use traditional Kashmiri songs. I also do not want to generalize because most weddings still have Kashmiri songs, but perhaps as a result of easy exposure to other cultures, there are a lot more Hindi songs used than in the past.

Another trend is the use of the "phoolon ki chadar", or a canopy of flowers under which brides walk during their entrance, inspired by Pakistani traditions. Similar to this, is the practice of wearing floral garlands during the Malmaenz or Haldi, which is again borrowed from Paki-

stani weddings. While all these are beautiful traditions, they are not originally ours. It shows how we have incorporated new practices from other cultures into our weddings.

Third, and one of the most noticeable changes is in the wedding attire. The traditional Kashmiri dresses are being replaced by heavy lehengas inspired by Indian and Pakistani fashion. In fact, a recent study in 2019 noted how in a Kashmiri wedding around "13.86% of resources are spent on clothes and cosmetics" alone. Many families even hire the best of the "make-up artists" and the bride and groom's wedding dress is often "custom designed by some reputable designer". Although this seems like just a change in clothing, it is actually a significant shift away from persevering our culture by wearing a traditional dress. It reflects a shift in society as a result of global exposure and the desire



I believe it is more important for a small place like Kashmir to preserve its unique wedding practices. Weddings are one of the most vital expressions of a society's culture, so we should not let Kashmiri trends fade and instead it is our responsibility to keep them alive

to modernize.

My grandmother often talks about her own wedding when we watch these videos. She talks about how things used to be—simpler, and also more rooted in our culture. She mentions how a woman would wear a simple tilla or embroidered pheran on her big day along with traditional jewelry pieces like the "Kasaba," a type of headgear, neckpieces such as "Halqaband" which we hardly see anymore. These items are not just accessories; they are symbols of our history and traditions, and we need to promote them through weddings.

Further, another factor to consider is the huge financial impact of these new trends on wedding budgets. Kashmiri weddings are already very expensive, with research highlighting how around 75% of the Muslim population spends between 8 lakh-20 lakh on a single wedding. The new traditions, such as designer out-

fits and extravagant decor will only increase these costs.

Although it can be argued that weddings evolve with time, I believe it is more important for a small place like Kashmir to preserve its unique wedding practices. Weddings are one of the most vital expressions of a society's culture, so we should not let Kashmiri trends fade and instead it is our responsibility to keep them alive.

While documenting Kashmiri weddings using videos on YouTube is a great way to preserve our traditions and connect generations, like my grandmother and I, incorporating more Kashmiri wedding traditions and rituals would make it even better. This way, we could help keep our heritage alive and also allow the world to see and experience the beauty of our wedding culture.

The author is a student from Georgetown University

Impact of Heat Wave on Children

Mohammad Hanief

Climate change is raising global temperatures and causing historic heat waves. More countries are facing hotter days more frequently, with more intensity and for longer periods. The heat stress caused by exposure to heat waves can negatively affect health and well-being, especially for infants and young children.

In East Asia and the Pacific, around 243 million children are currently exposed to hotter and longer heatwaves than previous generations, putting their health and their education at risk. Children face significant health and developmental risks, including dehydration, heat exhaustion, and heatstroke, with prolonged exposure to such high temperatures putting children at risk of long term health issues.

Extreme heat waves can have serious impacts on health in several ways. These events often occur during the summer months and can vary in intensity & duration depending on various factors such as geographic location, climate patterns, & weather conditions.

Higher daily peak temperatures and longer, more intense heat waves are becoming increasingly frequent globally due to climate change. India too is feeling the impact of climate change in terms of increased instances of heat waves which

are more intense in nature with each passing year, and have a devastating impact on human health thereby increasing the number of heat wave casualties.

Population exposure to heat is increasing due to climate change. Globally, extreme temperature events are observed to be increasing in their frequency, duration, and magnitude. Between 2000 and 2016, the number of people exposed to heatwaves increased by around 125 million.

While the effects of heat may be exacerbated in cities, due to the urban heat island (UHI) effect, the livelihoods and well-being of non-urban communities can also be severely disrupted during and after periods of unusually hot weather.

Heatwaves can burden health and emergency services and also increase strain on water, energy and transportation resulting in power shortages or even blackouts. Food and livelihood security may also be strained if people lose their crops or livestock due to extreme heat.

Cases of heat-related illness are rising with average air temperatures, and experts say almost half of those getting sick are children. The reason is twofold: Children's bodies have more trouble regulating temperature than those of adults, and they rely on adults to help protect them from overheating. Parents, coaches, and other



caretakers, who can experience the same heat very differently than kids do, may struggle to identify a dangerous situation or catch the early symptoms of heat-related illness in children. Children are more at-risk during heatwaves as their body weight contains more percentage of water. During heatwaves – Dehydration is quick to occur as the body loses more water than the intake. Since children's sweat glands are not fully developed, this will lead to some trouble in regulating body temperature as compared to adults. Another reason for children being at more

risk during heatwaves is their body size.

Extreme heat poses unique risks at different stages of childhood. For example, babies and young children under age 5 are the most at risk of increased heat-related mortality and morbidity, while adolescents are more likely to experience exertional heat-related injuries.

Extreme heat can have serious effects on children's health, mental well-being, education and even nutrition. Heat stress can lead to heat strokes and diarrhoea caused by dehydration. It can lead to an increased risk

of chronic respiratory conditions, organ dysfunction like kidney failure, and chronic issues due to congenital defects.

Heat waves make droughts worse, adding to crop failure and threatening children's access to food and water. Food insecurity caused by heat waves has severe impacts on child nutrition.

Heat waves are linked to lower school attendance. High air temperatures and lower hydration are known to affect children's ability to concentrate. These can impact overall school achievements. High temperatures are linked

to increases in mental health problems in children and adolescents. Heat can lead to high stress and poor sleep. These in turn can make episodes of depression and post-traumatic stress disorder more likely to occur.

Our mental health is a fundamental part to our overall health and well-being. As a parent, you play a huge role in supporting your child's mental well-being. Nurturing and loving care build a strong foundation, helping your child to develop the social and emotional skills they need to lead a happy, healthy and fulfilled life.

Heat Waves with longer duration pose more risks for children as they spend more time outdoors than adults for – sports and other activities – putting them at greater risk for heat injury.

Heat-related illnesses occur when exposure to high temperatures and humidity, which can be intensified by physical exertion, overwhelms the body's ability to cool itself. Cases range from mild, like benign heat rashes in infants, to more serious, when the body's core temperature increases. That can lead to life-threatening instances of heatstroke, diagnosed once the body temperature rises above 104 degrees, potentially causing organ failure.

Experts emphasize that drinking plenty of water, avoiding the outdoors during the hot midday and afternoon hours, and taking it slow when

adjusting to exercise are the most effective ways to avoid getting sick.

Children's bodies take longer to increase sweat production and otherwise acclimatize in a warm environment than adults' do, research shows. Young kids are also more susceptible to dehydration because a larger percentage of their body weight is water.

Population ageing and the growing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, dementia, renal disease and musculoskeletal disease) means that populations are becoming more susceptible to negative heat impacts. Cities are not being designed to minimize the accumulation and generation of urban heat, with a loss of greenspace and inappropriate housing materials (for example, metal roofs) that amplify human exposure to excess heat.

Overall, heat waves pose significant risks to human health and well-being thereby highlighting the importance of taking preventive measures and staying informed during periods of extreme heat. By taking above mentioned preventive measures, you can reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses and stay safe during these times.

The author can be mailed at m.hanief@gmail.com X (Twitter): @haniefmha

Kashmir Reels

He said if addressed the person can be prevented from taking such a drastic step.

"It (suicide) has symptoms and such persons mostly suffer from severe depression due to various reasons including financial issues, domestic violence, relationship failure or even academic pressure. Because of the mental illness, the person is not able to cope up with the stress and they take a life-ending step," he said.

Dr Yasir claimed the increasing suicide rate depicted prevailing mental issues within the society.

Dr Yasir said the suicide case shows multiple warning signs before taking the life-ending step. "The person prefers to spend time in isolation, depressed with connection with society. His or her social media handles too show signs of his mental health," he said.

Dr Yasir said one of the strong reason for recent spikes in suicide can be explained by copycat phenomenon.

"Someone who died because of suicide suddenly is all over news, their whereabouts, situations are discussed, which somewhere can trigger an imitative behaviour in a person who shares a similar situation. Those who are struggling with mental health issues may start having stronger suicidal ideations after listening or seeing reports of suicide," he said.

Dr Yasir said the society particularly the parents and religious scholars can play an important role in combat increasing suicides.

"The religious scholars and leaders have a good influence on people. They can raise awareness and discuss such topics in the backdrop of religion. Similarly, parents and teachers too can counsel the children," he said.

Kashmir's grand mufti Nasir-ul-Islam said that parenting as well as raising mass awareness can prove beneficial in restricting such evils.

"Parenting is the most important aspect here. A parent has to check whether his son or daughter is going through any mental issues. They can sit together and resolve it. Parents have to develop a close connection with a child," he said.

Mufti Nasir ul Islam said the mass awareness can equally restrict the cases of suicide in Kashmir.

"An awareness regarding the consequences of suicide also needs to be spread within the society. Such topics should be discussed so that every person gets educated and restrains from taking such a step even if his life is disturbed," he said. (KNO)

HC Issues Notice

a camera and holding a mike poses himself as a journalist irrespective of the fact whether he is authorized and permitted to work as journalist." Such "pseudo-journalists", the Forum said, have not only "tarnished" the image of real journalists but they also resorted to "blackmailing of government officers, contractors and politicians."

The petitioner had further stated that it was obligatory upon the authorities to scrutinize the credentials and antecedents of every person holding any direct or indirect position in any media house, media channel and / or social media group and identify the Government employees so that they are made to choose either their employment in the government or in the media house.

ECI To Visit

electoral officer, state police nodal officer and central forces coordinator to discuss preparations for the polls.

According to sources, the Commission will also hold meetings with chief secretary Atul Dullo, director general of police RR Swain and deputy commissioners and senior superintendents of police of all 20 districts here.

On August 10, the Commission is expected to review preparedness for the polls in Jammu and would hold a media briefing there before returning to New Delhi.

Jammu & Kashmir is without an elected since June 19, 2018 when BJP withdrew support to Mehbooba Mufti-led government, citing "deteriorating" security situation in the erstwhile state. The last assembly election in J&K was held in 2014.

On December 11, 2023, the Supreme Court had directed the poll-body to conduct J&K Assembly polls by September 30, 2024

SC Says No Major

taken place," the court said in a detailed order.

CJI Chandrachud, writing on behalf of the bench, said the information before the court at this stage does not show that the question paper was disseminated widely using social media or the internet, or that the answers were being communicated to students using sophisticated electronic means which may prove difficult to trace.

"The students who were beneficiaries of the leak at Hazaribagh and Patna are capable of being identified. The CBI investigation reveals the number of students who are the beneficiaries of the malpractice at Hazaribagh and Patna at this stage. This leads us to conclude that it is possible to separate the beneficiaries of malpractice or fraud from the honest students. This being the case, the court cannot direct a re-exam," the bench said.

The bench said the purpose of assessing whether the sanctity of the exam has been vitiated at a systemic level was to facilitate and encourage a proportional response.

"If it is possible to separate the tainted candidates from the untainted ones, there would be no justification to cancel the exam. This is because honest candidates would be made to suffer without reason due to the actions of some unscrupulous candidates. It is also important for the response to malpractice to be proportionate. Ordering a re-test would disrupt the academic schedule for the year," it said.

The CJ, in the 63-page detailed order, was also critical of the conduct of the NTA.

The order said while the various issues the court dealt with do not lead to the conclusion that the integrity of the NEET was vitiated at a systemic level, "the manner in which NTA has organised the exam this year gives rise to serious concerns."

It said a body such as the NTA, which is entrusted with the immense responsibility of conducting highly important competitive exams, cannot afford a misstep, take an incorrect decision, and amend it at a later stage.

"All decisions must be well-considered, with due regard to the importance of the decision. Flipflops are an anathema to fairness," the bench said.

The bench said it is cognizant of the fact that national-level exams with participation of tens of lakhs of students require immense resources, coordination, and planning.

"But that is precisely the reason for the existence of a body such as NTA. It is no excuse to say that the exam is conducted in myriad centres or that a large number of aspirants appear for the exam. NTA has sufficient resources at its disposal. It has adequate funding, time, and opportunities to organise exams such as the NEET without lapses of the kind that occurred this year," it said.

The bench flagged multiple lapses on the part of the NTA, including security breach at an examination centre in Hazaribagh in Jharkhand, where the rear door of the strongroom was opened and unauthorised people were permitted to access the question papers, transport of question papers by e-rickshaws and wrong distribution of question papers among candidates.

It said when the results were declared, 67 aspirants had clinched a perfect score of 720/720. After the removal of compensatory marks awarded to them and the conduct of a re-test for 1563 candidates, the number of aspirants who had obtained full marks dropped to 61, and later to 17 following the recomputation of marks due to revision of the answer key, it said.

"The intervention of the Court, reports by the media, and representations by candidates ensured that these changes were made in the interests of fairness and justice. However, the system adopted by NTA should be such that just outcomes are reached even when these external catalysts are not present. The system must be such as to inspire public confidence," the order said.

The top court directed the NTA to ensure that all concerns highlighted by the court in its judgment are addressed and requested the seven-member committee headed by former ISRO chairman K Radhakrishnan to keep these issues in mind while making its recommendations.

Over 23 lakh students took the NEET-UG 2024 held on May 5 for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses.

High Alert Sounded

he can be rearrested," the officer added.

The police suspect that he may have joined terrorist ranks in Kashmir.

Earlier on July 27, the Jammu and Kashmir Police had released sketches of three terrorists responsible for the recent terror attacks in the Doda district, including the ambush that left an army officer and three soldiers dead in the Urarbagi area of Doda forest on July 16.

The police also announced a reward of 5 lakh for information leading to the capture of each terrorist. The trio, the police said, are moving into the upper reaches of Doda and Dessa.

2 AR Battalions

soldiers were stationed, sources said.

The remaining AR battalions in Manipur will continue to stay on for the dual roles of counter-insurgency and border-guarding, sources said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month chaired a review meeting to assess the security situation in J&K after a spate of terror attacks. He was given a full overview of the situation at the meeting where National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Home Minister Amit Shah were present.

Outside of J&K, the AR is among the most experienced counter-insurgency forces, sources said, adding the deployment of AR soldiers will help boost anti-terror ops in J&K.

The AR - 'Sentinels of Northeast' - is under the administrative control of the Home Ministry and operational control of the army. It guards the 1,600-km-long Indo-Myanmar border, of which nearly 400 km is in Manipur, where it also functions as the primary counter-insurgency force making its task a dual-role one.

There are some Border Security Force (BSF) battalions in Manipur, but they are not specifically tasked with guarding the Indo-Myanmar border.

Former AR Director General Lieutenant General PC Nair (retired) on July 27 had termed as "stupid reports" allegations that the AR has been "favouring one community and not the other" in ethnic violence-hit Manipur, where the valley-dominant Meitei community and nearly two dozen tribes known as Kukis - a term given by the British in colonial times - who are dominant in some hill areas of Manipur, have been fighting since May 2023.

Lt General Nair, who retired this week after four decades of service, had said that to call the AR biased towards

a particular community was "nothing but rumours" spread by some people with a hidden agenda.

"... From the first day, the Assam Rifle has maintained a neutral stand [in Manipur]. All these narratives that have been coming are agenda-driven. It makes me laugh when I read some of these stupid reports saying the Assam Rifles is favouring one community, not favouring the other. These are nothing but rumours, falsehoods, preposterous," Lt General Nair had said.

Lieutenant General Vikas Lakhera on Thursday took charge as Director General of the AR. He has extensive experience of planning and executing counter-insurgency and counter-terrorist operations in J&K and the north-east region.

He is a recipient of Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal, Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card, and two Army Commander Commendation Cards.

A retired top-ranking army officer said some people with a hidden agenda are spreading disinformation that all of AR is being moved out of Manipur.

"The AR is a professional force and can be deployed anywhere across the country depending on the security needs. The current situation in Jammu and Kashmir is such that AR's role is needed there. The AR is not some district commissioner or official who people can bully or hold protests against to be removed as per their whim," the retired officer, requesting anonymity.

The AR on its website says the force remains deployed in some of the most remote and underdeveloped areas and provides security to locals. It has grown substantially over the years from 17 battalions in 1960 to 46 battalions at present.

Doda Residents

district. Besides checking the movement of vehicles in and around major towns of the district, the Jammu and Kashmir police has now asked the public to give details of tenants in the nearest police stations.

Earlier giving details about tenants was a regular affair and many people weren't adhering to this. But now police are regularly informing the public through different mediums to provide details of their tenants to the police.

In this regard, a police vehicle installed with a public address system today moved through different areas of Bhandarwah town and asked the public to provide these details so that the police are aware about who is residing where.

On June 11, the first terror act was witnessed in Chattergala area of Bhandarwah and after that the terror activities shifted to Gundoh and upper reaches of Doda and still few terrorists are hiding. Even though the Doda police released the sketches of three terrorists active in the Dessa area of Doda, they are still not traceable.

Moreover, police have also asked shopkeepers and traders to install CCTV cameras inside and outside their shops for security purposes and not adhering to the guidelines will invite legal action against them.

Attendance Of

administrative secretaries, heads of departments, managing directors or chief executives of public sector undertakings to ensure that all officers or officials working under their administrative control and stationed in Srinagar and Jammu attend the functions.

ED Launches

currency back, and these funds were laundered by the business' promoters to purchase land assets in Jammu.

The money laundering case stems from a March 2020 FIR registered in Leh and some other complaints filed in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir (J-K) against Mir and Ajay Kumar Choudhary.

Police in Leh in their FIR stated that an inquiry was conducted by a committee formed by the local district magistrate against Mir and his agents who were running the "fake" cryptocurrency business (Emollient Coin Limited) from an office located at the Anjuman Moin-ul-complex, opposite SNM Hospital, in Leh.

The committee sealed this office during inquiry on charges of "cheating many innocent individuals by assuring them to double their investment", according to the FIR.

The accused lured people of the UT of Ladakh and some other places to purchase "Emollient Coin" using cash or transferring money into bank accounts, according to Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials.

The depositors were also duped in the name of "Bitcoins" with the assurance of returns up to 40 per cent with a lock-in period of 10 months, the probe agency said.

Investors were dished out a commission of up to seven per cent of the investment made by the people on their reference in the business, thereby forming a multi-level marketing chain, the ED found.

A total of 2,508 people invested Rs 7,34,36,267 in the investment plan offered by Mir and the company (Emollient) floated by him that was incorporated in September 2017 and had its registered office in London. A man, Henry Maxwell, living in the UK capital, was its director.

The company had two promoters in India -- Naresh Gullia and Channi Singh. The company was "deliberately" dissolved in March 2019, and Mir along with Choudhary launched a real estate business and acquired lands in Jammu from the funds generated by the fake cryptocurrency trade, according to the ED.

Over 66 Tons

956.1 liters of Medicinal Preparations, and 184.4 kg of other drugs were seized in Jammu and Kashmir, the MoS informed.

The government of India has taken several measures to coordinate with international agencies and neighbouring countries to deal with cross-border drug trafficking. Some of which are Director General Level Talks being organized with neighbouring countries such as Myanmar, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Singapore, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, etc., to resolve various issues on drug trafficking having international implications, he said.

A high-level dedicated group has been created in the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) to analyze drug trafficking through maritime routes, challenges, and solutions (Maritime Security Group - NSCS). The Indian Coast Guard has been empowered under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, for making interdiction of narcotic drugs in coastal and high seas, he said--(KNO)

HC Summons

for initiating contempt proceedings in terms of Contempt of Courts Act.

The sub judge has also accused Shymabir of launching an inquiry into land owned by him as "revenge" for the order regarding a land acquisition matter, in which the petitioners (two locals of the Ganderbal district) approached the court saying they were not compensated by the government after it acquired land from them, even though a decree in this regard was issued in their favour in 2022.

In January this year, the court had directed the Deputy Commissioner to compensate the petitioners. In an order dated June 21, the court said that the DC had not acted on the January order, and directed that his and other officials' salaries be withheld.

In the latest order, issued on July 23, the court said that his previous order "didn't go well with Deputy

Commissioner Ganderbal, namely Mr Shyambir, who attempted to personally attack the Presiding Officer (the sub-judge) by scandalising him and weakening him by manipulation and fabrication, and for this purpose, he called a meeting immediately after the order and conspired with some other officers/officials of the district to implicate the Presiding Officer of the court for passing a lawful order against the judgment-debtors".

The court accused Shyambir of launching a vindictive investigation to "implicate" him in a false case. "Out of the steps decided to be taken by the contemnor Deputy Commissioner against the Presiding Officer, one step was to frame the Presiding Officer in any fabricated incident, and if this is not possible, to trace out if there is any property in the name of the judge anywhere," the July 23 order said.

The court said DC Shyambir found out that he had two kanals of land in Ganderbal, and that the DC "misused his official machinery and devoted time in tracing out the documents of the property, which the Presiding Officer lawfully holds". After this, "as a first attack" on the judge, the sub-judge said a patwari visited his land thrice under the DC's direction. He said the patwari told the caretaker of the land that the DC Shyambir had constituted "a team for demarcation of the land of the judge" as the judge had "passed the order against the Deputy Commissioner and other higher officers".

"The committee constituted for demarcation is clear abuse of the official position as neither the Presiding Officer moved any application for demarcation nor any notice was ever given to the presiding officer for any intended so-called demarcation of land in his possession for the last more than 15 years," the court had noted.

In fact, the court said, there does not exist any dispute at all regarding the land. "The Committee was called to submit a report within two days and most of the members of the committee are from different jurisdictions having no authority to demarcate the land outside their jurisdiction."

In fact, the court said, this committee was constituted by DC to "manipulate the spot position to demonstrate the land purchased and in possession of the Presiding officer (judge) as Khascharai, against the recorded and settled spot position." The committee has been constituted by the Deputy Commissioner-Shyambir with oblique and mala fide motives and evil intention in reaction to a lawful order passed by the Presiding Officer, the court said.

"Till the time order was passed, there was no problem with the contemnor as regards the land of the Presiding Officer but after passing of the judicial order in execution petition, the contemnor started misusing his position rendering him liable not only for contempt but criminal proceedings under Prevention of Corruption Act for abuse of the official position for ulterior motives."

The order also said that as the DC may "try to implicate the judge in some false and frivolous", he has been issued a notice to explain why he should not be referred to the High Court for criminal contempt.

"Such an act on the part of the Deputy Commissioner/Contemnor, on the face of it, amounts to criminal contempt as the same is aimed at scandalizing the Judge who passed a judicial order and it has the potential to lower down the authority of this court as the Deputy Commissioner, by abuse of official position, wants to demonstrate the mighty powers he enjoys to lower the authority of the Court," the court said, adding, "Therefore, in the larger interest of the institution and to maintain the public trust, faith and confidence of the people in the independence and sanctity of the judicial institution, this court deems it appropriate to proceed in accordance with The Contempt of Courts Act, 1971."



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 27 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



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Army, BSF Top Brass Review Security Preparedness Along LoC



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Ahead of Independence Day, top brass of Army and Border Security Force (BSF) reviewed security preparedness along Line of Control and International Border in Jammu on Friday. The Army Commander Northern Command Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar accompanied by senior military officers visited Rajouri sector along Line of Control, while Y B Khurania, Special Director General (Western Command) Chandigarh reviewed security scenario of the Jammu International Border.

The visit of top officers came a day after BSF killed a Pakistani intruder along International Border in Samba sector and Army discovered a terrorist hideout by recovering huge quantities of arms and ammunition.

"Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar, Army Commander Northern Command accompanied by GOC White Knight Corps visited Ace of Spades Division along the Line of Control in Rajouri Sector to review the Operational situation. The Army Commander commended the operational readiness of the formation and exhorted all ranks to maintain the high state of professionalism," said a defence spokesperson.

Y B Khurania, IPS, Special Director General (Western Command) Chandigarh, arrived at the BSF Jammu Frontier for a two-day visit to review the security scenario of the Jammu International Border. He was received by IG DK Boora and other senior officers of the Jammu Frontier. IG BSF gave a detailed presentation to the SDG BSF, covering all the critical aspects of border security and domination along the IB of

Jammu. The SDG chaired a security review meeting attended by IG BSF Jammu, IG BSF Kashmir and senior officers of Jammu Frontier, focusing especially on the security situation in the Jammu region. During the visit, he interacted with the Jawans and praised them for performing their duties with dedication and professionalism.

Earlier, security forces convened multi-agency meetings to finalized the arrangements for further fortification of security apparatus in Jammu region, which recently saw rise in terror incidents. Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone, Anand Jain, convened a high-level meeting with officials from CAPF, Intelligence agencies, Police, Security wing, and Civil administration. The meeting focused on reviewing and fortifying the security arrangements in Jammu district.

"The ADGP focused on fortifying security in Jammu district, the meeting saw inputs from CAPF, Intelligence agencies, Police, Security wing, & Civil administration," police in a social media post informed.

Meanwhile, the Government in parliament said that 14 security personnel and 14 civilians were killed up to 21 July this year in J&K while in 2023, 30 security forces and 14 civilians were killed in terror related incidents.

As per the data, 146 people (91 security personnel and 55 civilians) were killed in 228 terror incidents and 189 encounters or counter-terror operations in the erstwhile state in 2018. "There were 1328 organized stone pelted incidents and 52 organized hartals in 2018 but there were no such incidents in 2023 and 2024—(KNO)

Day After Heavy Rainfall, Scorching Heat Grips Kashmir Again



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amidst the forecast of intermittent light to moderate rains, the scorching heat has once again gripped Jammu and Kashmir on Friday a day after the heavy rainfall was recorded at multiple places in the Union Territory. Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, is the only station where a heat wave was recorded today.

In Qazigund, the mercury settled at 33.0 degree Celsius, which was 5.0 degree Celsius above normal temperature.

Most stations across J&K recorded a maximum temperature above 30 degree Celsius with Srinagar, the summer capital of J&K recording 33.4 degree Celsius.

Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination, recorded a maximum temperature of 28.8 degree Celsius while in Kupwara, the mercury settled at 33.1 degree Celsius.

Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 31.8 degree Celsius and 21.8 degree Celsius respectively.

However, Jammu city has recorded a maximum temperature of 35.1 degree Celsius while in Banihal, the mercury settled at 30.2 degree Celsius.

Batote, Katra and Bhaderwah stations recorded a maximum temperature of 27.7 degree Celsius, 32.0 degree Celsius and 31.7 degree Celsius respectively.

Moreover, the weatherman

IMD Issues Severe Weather Warning

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Due to the inclement weather forecast by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) Srinagar Station, there is a possibility of rainfall, flash floods, cloudbursts, mudslides, and landslides between August 1 and 10.

The district administration Srinagar has advised the general public, especially those residing on the left and right banks of River Jhelum, its tributaries and Nallahs, and the upper reaches of Tehsil North and Panthachowk, to refrain from venturing in and around these water bodies.

The advisory aims to ensure the safety of residents during this period of adverse

weather conditions. The Tehsildars of Tehsil North and Panthachowk are informed to activate the zonal committees of upper reaches in case of flash floods, landslides, and cloudbursts, and to monitor the situation regularly until the weather improves.

"Further, tourists, local Shikara Wallas, sand miners, and those using boat crossing points at Dal Lake, River Jhelum, and other water bodies are advised not to attempt crossing without verifying the condition and situation of these water bodies. The general public can contact the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) Srinagar at +911942502254 and Police Control Room Srinagar at 9419411619/01942477567 for any information," it further reads.

here has predicted generally cloudy weather till August 04 with possibility of spells of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Kashmir division and most places of Jammu division.

From August 05 to 07, a spell of rain and thundershower are expected at scattered places of Kashmir division and widespread places of Jammu division.

Pertinently, the district administration Srinagar issued advisory in wake of the inclement weather conditions, asking the people to refrain from venturing in and around the water bodies—(KNO)

Furthermore, the MeT has issued an advisory, saying that intense showers for brief period with possibility of flash floods, cloud bursts, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over vulnerable places of J&K and heavy rainfall at few places of Jammu division during next four days and isolated heavy rain over Kashmir division for the next two days.

Further, the MeT has issued an advisory, saying that intense showers for brief period with possibility of flash floods, cloud bursts, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones over vulnerable places of J&K and heavy rainfall at few places of Jammu division during next four days and isolated heavy rain over Kashmir division for the next two days.

Cleanliness & Painting Competition Organised On Second Day Of Swachhta Pakhwada

BUDGAM: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) in Budgam organized a district-wide cleanliness and painting competition on the second day of the Swachhta Pakhwada. This event, held under the able guidance of Director YSS, Subash Chander Chibber, saw active participation from both government and private schools across the district.

The Swachhta Pakhwada, a fortnight-long cleanliness drive, aims to inculcate the values of cleanliness and environmental consciousness among the youth. The event on the second day witnessed an overwhelming response from students who showcased their creativity and commitment towards maintaining a clean and green environment.

Director YSS, Subash Chander Chibber, expressed his satisfaction with the enthusiastic participation and highlighted the importance of such initiatives in fostering a sense of responsibility among the younger generation. "Our goal is to inspire the youth to take ownership of their surroundings and understand the

impact of cleanliness on overall well-being. The active participation and creativity displayed by the students today are truly commendable," he said.

The cleanliness and painting competition was designed to engage students in activities that promote environmental awareness. Participants were tasked with cleaning their school premises and surrounding areas, followed by a painting competition where they depicted themes related to cleanliness and environmental conservation.

The event also provided a platform for students to express their artistic talents. The paintings, judged on creativity, relevance to the theme, and overall impact, reflected the young minds' understanding and interpretation of the need for a clean environment.

Winners of the competition were awarded certificates and prizes, recognizing their efforts and encouraging them to continue their endeavors in promoting cleanliness. The event concluded with a pledge by all participants to contribute towards a cleaner and greener future.

Department of Handicrafts & Handloom Acts Against Fraudulent Handicrafts Dealer

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir acted in response to a complaint from a tourist who reported for being sold a machine-made carpet falsely advertised as handmade at an exorbitant price of INR 2,27,000. The payment was made directly to the shopkeeper via electronic transfer.

Upon receiving the complaint, the Department immediately ceased operations of the shop involved, Craft India, located at Ram Kunzar. The shop is owned by Mursaleen Ahmad Yattoo Son of Ghulam Rasool Yattoo, resident of S.D Colony, Sanat Nagar. Additionally, the shop has been blacklisted by the Department for its fraudulent practices.

Further investigation revealed that the shop had failed to issue a proper GST bill to the customer. Conse-



quently, the matter has also been referred to the Sales Tax Department for further action. The Department has seized the consignment from the shop and is currently exploring the possibility of a nexus between shopkeeper and taxi driver involved in such deceptive activities.

This action follows a recent meeting held with prominent dealers and showroom owners from the Srinagar-Narbal-Tangmarg-Gulmarg tourist corridor on 9th July, 2024. During this meeting, stakeholders were strongly urged to avoid malpractices and the misbranding of handmade products. Specifically, a warning was issued against selling and marketing machine-made merchandise under the guise of handmade goods.

Department reiterates its commitment to upholding the integrity of Kashmir's handicrafts and handloom sector. All stakeholders are advised to strictly adhere to the rules governing the sector. Any deviations or malpractices will be met with stringent actions to protect the interests of genuine artisans and preserve the authenticity of Kashmir's rich heritage.

J&K Bank Inaugurates New Premises Of City Branch In Poonch



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As part of its infrastructure upgrade programme, J&K Bank today threw open the spacious and sufficiently equipped new-premises of its Poonch City Branch and Cluster Office Poonch for public at Kamsar near main market area in Poonch.

District Development Commissioner (Poonch) Yasin M. Choudhary (IAS) inaugurated the new premises along with Zonal Head (Rajouri) Satish Kumar in presence of Cluster Head (Poonch) Aehajaz Ahmed, District Officers, Ex-Municipality Chairman, District Horticulture Officer and Bank officials amid a gathering of valuable customers, senior citizens and local businessmen.

Expressing hope that the branch will further improve the economic wellbeing of the people of the area, Deputy Commissioner thanked the bank for establishing state-of-the-art premises in District Poonch. "I hope the bank would lay emphasis on the government sponsored schemes to provide employment opportunities to the rural youth besides extending digital products and services to the people at large so that they can avail maximum benefit from its services", he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Bank's Zonal Head said, "As customer convenience remains top priority of the Bank's Leadership, today we dedicate this new premises to the people of Poonch. He apprised the gathering about various schemes of the bank and urged the people to avail the benefits of Bank's

products and services that have been tailored to meet their financial and banking requirements.

Those present on the occasion appreciated the efforts of the bank and assured their full cooperation. Cluster Head, Poonch Aehajaz Ahmed presented the Vote of Thanks.

Meanwhile, the Bank opened an Extension Counter yesterday at Government Medical College (GMC) Baramulla. The new touch-point will provide convenient banking services to the hospital's administration, doctors, medical students, and the broader clientele.

The extension counter was inaugurated by Associate Professor & Head of the Department of Pharmacology Dr Shakeel-ur-Rehman and Chief Accounts Officer Mohd. Shafi Wani in the presence of Cluster Head Sheikh Mohammad Muzafer amid a gathering of valuable customers, departmental heads, doctors, local residents and the visitors.

Expressing his gratitude Dr Shakeel-ur-Rehman said, "We sincerely thank J&K Bank for making banking services more accessible to our medical community. This initiative will significantly benefit our doctors and medical students, facilitating their financial transactions right here within the hospital premises."

On the occasion, Cluster Head highlighted the Bank's commitment to serve the people. The participants appreciated the Bank's efforts and extended their support for all measures aimed at the convenience and well-being of the people.

Rs 1 Cr Lost: Kashmir Couple's Crushing Addiction

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A couple from south Kashmir has spent nearly one crore rupees on drug addiction, but they are now seeking to overcome their dependence and are undergoing treatment.

Initially, the man was a drug addict, and later his wife became involved due to his influence.

Sameer (name changed) recounted that he started as a smoker but later befriended a drug addict, which led him into addiction.

"Once I became fully involved, I started selling my belongings to purchase drugs. At the same time, I got married," he said. "At first, I hid my addiction from my wife, but eventually, she found out and began asking me about it. I used to tell her that it was just a medicine that kept me tension-free."

Sameer said his wife unknowingly began using the same drug to alleviate her own stress, and soon both were deeply entrenched in addiction.

His wife Sumaiya (name changed), said, "Once I got fully involved, I sold everything, including my ornaments, land, and

other belongings, just to manage my drug use."

She added, "I would sell things, and my husband would manage drugs for both of us."

After exhausting their resources and spending around Rs 80 lakh to one crore on addiction, they began to regain clarity after being counselled by their parents and relatives. This made them visit an Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) for help.

Both expressed initial scepticism about their ability to overcome their addiction, but with proper guidance, counselling and treatment at the ATF, they have successfully begun to recover.

A doctor at ATF treating the couple told KNO that while the woman has almost fully recovered and is under observation, the man is still undergoing treatment but is adhering to it rigorously.

He said anyone can break free from addiction with the right treatment and support from family and society. "Many individuals do not seek treatment due to social stigma," the doctor said. He urged society to eliminate these stigmas and support those in need—(KNO)

Dilapidated Condition Of Pakherpora-Yousmarg Road Irk locals, Tourists

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The dilapidated condition of the vital Pakherpora-Yousmarg road is causing huge inconvenience to the commuters and residents here, who have demanded macadamization of the stretch. The residents along with tourists visiting a famous tourist spot Yousmarg said that the road is giving a tough time to the commuters due its bad condition.

They said that the road is full of potholes, especially from Kanidajan crossing to Yousmarg, which pushes the common masses to the wall.

Mohammad Abbas, a local tourist said that Yousmarg has good tourism potential and the flow of tourists is increasing with each passing day but they are suffering due to the bad condition of the road.

He said the government must upgrade the facilities so that it can attract more tourists, adding that the pivotal road must be macadamized at an earliest so that people visiting there won't face any problems and locals can earn their livelihood.

Yasir Ahmad, a local resident said that the road, connecting various localities and supporting tourism, is in shambles, adding that large potholes, uneven surfaces, and drainage issues have made the journey hazardous, particularly during the rainy season.—(KNO)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER HYDRAULIC DIVISION URI
email: exenhuri@fckashmir.com, urihydraulic@gmail.com

Sub: e-NIT No. 02/Hyd/Uri of 2024-25 Dated:- 11/07/2024 issued under endorsement No:- HDU/CC-02/1096-1116 Dated:- 11/07/2024.

CORRIGENDUM-II

Please read following rectifications:-

- "Sqm" instead of "Cum" shown against item No: 07 and 08.
- "MT" instead of "Cum" shown against item No: 12.1 and 14.1.
- "Cum" instead of "MT" shown against item No: 14.5 and 14.6. of work No. 01 of e-NIT No. 02/Hyd/Uri of 2024-25 Dated:- 11/07/2024 issued under endorsement No:- HDU/CC-02/1096-1116 Dated:- 11/07/2024.

All other terms/conditions and stipulation as contained in the e-NIT shall remain unaltered/unmodified.

NO: HDU/CC-02/Enit-02/1309-29 (Er. Irfan Ahmad Dar)
DATED:01/08/2024 DPK-3922-24 Executive Engineer,
DT: 02-08-2024 Hydraulic Division Uri

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P) DEPARTMENT KASHMIR
Tel:0194-2474234 Fax:2482032 email:kashflori@rediffmail.com

Subject: - Extension Notice No. 01.

In view of no response, the Bid Submission end/ opening date (Online) of technical/financial bid in respect of e-NIT No. 21 of 2024 dated:-10.07.2024 invited by this office under endorsement No.DFK/GS-740/851-54 Dated:-10.07.2024 with regard to "Outsourcing of Entry ticketing system of Lidder View Park, Pahalgam" is hereby extended as per details given below:-

1. Bid Submission End date & time	14.08.2024	up to 02:00 PM
2. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	17.08.2024	at 02:00 PM

Other terms & conditions shall remain same as laid down in the concerned e-NIT.

No:-DFK/GS-740/1009-12 Sd/
Dated:01.08.2024 DPK-3940-24 Accounts Officer,
DT: 02-08-2024 DT: 02-08-2024 (Member Secretary)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY-KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXTENSION OFFICER, PUBLICITY WING- GOW KADAL SRINAGAR

Short Term Sealed Tender Quotations are invited from registered Decoration dealers of Kashmir Division for Illumination/ Decoration of Directorate building Gow Kadal Srinagar with Tri colour on front/ left and right side w.e.f 13/08/2024 to 15/08/2024 (three days) with installation of front stage for unfurling the National Flag on the occasion of "Independence day 15th August 2024. The said quotations should deliver to this Office within 05 days from the publication of this notice.

DIPK-3978-24
DT: 02-08-2024

India-Sri Lanka First ODI Ends In A Dramatic Tie

Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: India and Sri Lanka were engaged in a thrilling tie in the first ODI of the three-match series here on Friday.

Composed fifties by Dunith Wellalage and Pathum Nissanka helped Sri Lanka reach a decent 230 for 8 after opting to bat.

The total was better than what it looked on the board due to conditions which are heavily loaded in favour of slow bowlers. Wellalage's 67 not out off 65 balls had seven fours and two sixes in it.

Nissanka made 56 off 75 balls.

Left-arm orthodox spinner Axar Patel (2/33 in 10 overs) and wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav (1/33 in 10 overs) were economical while seamers Shi-



vam Dube, Arshdeep Singh and Mohammed Siraj also chipped in with a wicket apiece. In last 20 overs, 118 runs were scored.

Chasing, skipper Rohit Sharma made 58 off 47 balls, while Axar Patel (33) and KL Rahul (31) also chipped in with contributions but couldn't finish off the game.

Charith Asalanka (3/30) and Wanindu Hasaranga (3/58) were the pick of the bowlers for the hosts.

Brief Score:

Sri Lanka: 230 for 8 in 50 overs (Pathum Nissanka 56, Dunith Wellalage 67 not out, Axar Patel 2/33, Kuldeep Yadav 1/33).

India: 230 all out in 47.5 overs (Rohit Sharma 58; Charith Asalanka 3/30, Wanindu Hasaranga 3/58).

Short TAKES

OLYMPICS: Bhaker Qualifies For 25m Pistol Final, Eyes 3rd Medal



Indian shooter Manu Bhaker kept herself on track for a hat-trick of Olympic medals, coming up with one of her most memorable performances in her favourite event, the 25m sports pistol, as she booked a place in the final placed second at the Chateauroux shooting range here on Friday.

She has already made history by becoming the first Indian athlete to win two bronze medals in one edition of the quadrennial showpiece and can add to her aura if she wins a third medal on Saturday.

Harmanpreet Brace Helps India Stun Australia 3-2 In Men's Hockey

India stunned Tokyo Games silver medallist and their biggest nemesis Australia 3-2 here on Friday to finish their pool engagements on a high having already qualified for the quarterfinals of the men's hockey competition at the Paris Olympics.

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh (13th, 32nd) struck a brace en route to his sixth goal in the tournament, while Abhishek gave India the lead in the 12th minute.

Australia's goals were scored by Tom Craig (25th) and Blake Govers (55th).

After Reaching Semis, Indian Archers Finish 4th In Mixed Team Event

The Indian recurve mixed team of Ankita Bhakat and Dhiraj Bommadevara produced an excellent performance but fell short of a podium finish at the Paris Olympics on Friday.

The American duo of Brady Ellison and Casey Kaufhold won the bronze medal match 6-2 after India lost to South Korea in the semi-final, who went on to win their second consecutive gold in the event, while Germany took the silver medal.

Hollywood Star Tom Cruise To Close Paris Olympics Ceremony

Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise is expected to make an appearance at the closing ceremony of the Paris Olympics on August 11.

The action star, known for blockbusters such as "Mission Impossible" series, "Top Gun" and "Edge of Tomorrow", will reportedly perform a stunt at the event as the Olympics flag is handed over to the 2028 games host city, Los Angeles, reported Deadline quoting a well-placed source.

"Expect a major Hollywood production," the publication said quoting the source.

2024 Paris Olympic Medals Tally

Team	1	2	3	00
1 China	13	7	7	27
2 United States	9	17	15	41
3 France	9	11	11	31
4 Great Britain	9	8	8	25
45 India	0	0	3	3

Junior Football Nationals: J&K Girls Win 8-0, Boys Draw 1-1



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing Junior National Football Championship for Dr. B.C. Roy Trophy 2024-25 being played at Nagaon, Assam, for boys, and Belgaum, Karnataka, for girls, J&K put in some gritty performances in their recent matches.

On Friday, the J&K junior boys team went head to head against Madhya Pradesh and were held to a 1-1 draw. The team is coming off three straight wins in the com-

petition and will be looking to reach the later stages of the tournament. J&K junior boys captain Aazim scored the lone goal for the team.

Meanwhile, the J&K junior girls team trounced Andaman & Nicobar 8-0.

"A huge round of applause for our dedicated coaches, management, and selectors including Miss Arpita Mahajan, Manager, Mr. Bilal Maqbool, Coach, Mr. Aasif Rasool, Assistant Coach and Dr. Seerat, Physiotherapist," the J&K Football Association said in a statement.

Downtown Heroes Defeat Indian Air Force 2-0 In Durand Cup

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Downtown Heroes FC's Liberian striker Darius Snorton Perwood scored two goals to help his team secure a 2-0 win over Indian Air Force FC in the 133rd Durand Cup on Friday at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (Salt Lake Stadium) in Kolkata.

Playing in rainy conditions, Snorton opened the scoring for the Heroes in the 29th minute. The Srinagar club went into half time 1-0 up and held on to the slender lead with some nerves attached. Snorton came up trumps in the 84th minute to seal the tie for Downtown Heroes, earning the Hilal Parry-coached team three crucial points.



The 21-year-old forward from Liberia, signed by the Heroes on July 20, was awarded player of the match award for his brace. Snorton can also play as a winger and previously played for NEROCA FC and was on trial for East Bengal FC.

Interestingly, Downtown Heroes will next play Indian football giant East Bengal in their third game of the 2024 Durand Cup. The game will be held on August 7 and only a win can take the Heroes in the next round of the competition.

'Swachhta Pakhwada': Cycle Rally Held In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, in collaboration with District Administration Srinagar, organized a cycle rally and a short marathon on Friday from SKICC to the famous Nishat Gardens.

"The primary objective of this event was to raise awareness about the importance of cleanliness and to instill a sense of responsibility towards maintaining a clean environment among the citizens and so-

ciety," the DYSS said in a statement.

The flag-off ceremony was attended by Chief Planning Officer Srinagar Fayaz Ahmed in the presence of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Srinagar Gulam Hassan Lone, Zonal Physical Education Officers, and other senior officials of the Department YSS.

Over 200 students representing all sports zones of District Srinagar participated in the cycle rally and walkathon. Before the flag-off ceremony, a pledge of 'swachhta' was administered to all participants.

Principals Inaugurate Cricket Tournament In Anantnag

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: DYSS' District Level Cricket Tournament was on Friday inaugurated at the Sports Stadium Dooru in a grand ceremony led by principals of three government schools of Anantnag.

Principal Tariq Ahmad from BHSS Doru and Mohammad Mahmood from GHSS Qazigund opened the event.

The tournament has various institutions of the district participating. The presence of the Zonal Physical Education Officer Doru, the District Activity Incharge, and the District Media Coordinator added to the significance of the occasion.

The inaugural match was a thrilling encounter between HSS Hakura and HSS Arhama, in which toss was won by HSS Hakura and after electing to



bowl, the opponents scored 144 runs. Maran Tariq scored unbeaten 45 runs. Chasing the target, HSS HSS Arhama was restricted to 104 runs, despite brilliant performance from Rouf Farooq who scored 45 runs.

At another venue of HSS

Bhijbehra, the tourney was inaugurated by Principal HSS Bhijbehra.

The District Level Cricket Tournament will determine the players who will represent Anantnag at UT Level cricket Tournament, scheduled from August 18 in Anantnag.

Boxer Apologizes For Not Shaking Imane Khelif's Hand After Olympic Fight

Agencies

PARIS: Italian boxer Angela Carini came to the 2024 Paris Olympics aiming for a medal to honor her late father and coach, who died shortly after she participated in the Tokyo Games three years ago.

But Carini's performance in Paris lasted just 46 seconds Thursday before she abandoned her bout against Algerian opponent Imane Khelif, with a spot of blood on her trunks.

Even though Carini said she wasn't making a political statement about Khelif, who was disqualified from last year's world championships after failing an unspecified gender eligibility test, the move reopened debate about Khelif's status.

Afterward, a still-tearful Carini said she quit because of the pain from Khelif's opening punches, adding that her nose bled afterward.

"My face and nose were hurting," Carini said, according to the Italian sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport. "I couldn't breathe anymore. I thought about my family, I looked at my brother in the stands and I went to my corner to retire. ... I've never been hit with such a powerful punch."

Carini added that it wasn't a pre-meditated move.

"All this controversy makes me sad," Carini said. "I'm sorry for my opponent, too. ... If the IOC said she can fight, I respect that decision."

Carini was apologetic for not shaking Khelif's hand after the bout.

"It wasn't something I intended to do," Carini said. "Actually, I want to apologize to her and everyone else. I was angry because my Olympics had gone up in smoke. I don't have anything against Khelif. Actually, if I were to meet her again I would embrace her."



Who is Imane Khelif?

Khelif was disqualified from the 2023 world championships after failing an unspecified gender eligibility test, and her presence at the Paris Olympics has become a divisive issue.

Khelif is an accomplished amateur who won a silver medal at the International Boxing Association's 2022 world championships. The same governing body disqualified her from last year's championships shortly before her gold-medal match because of what it claimed were elevated levels of testosterone.

The 25-year-old entered the ring at the North Paris Arena to a chorus of cheers, but the crowd was confused by the bout's sudden end. Khelif, who fights again Saturday, didn't speak to reporters.

What happened in Carini's fight against Khelif?

Carini exchanged a few brisk punches before abandoning

her bout — an extremely rare occurrence in Olympic boxing. Carini didn't shake Khelif's hand after the referee formally raised it. She cried in the ring after sinking to her knees.

Her actions sparked a discussion far beyond Paris about whether Khelif should have been allowed to compete after failing an unspecified gender eligibility test from the now-banned International Boxing Association. Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni discussed the issue with IOC president Thomas Bach during a meeting in Paris on Friday.

The IOC has repeatedly defended Khelif's right to compete this week.

"Despite our requests to have certainties and guarantees, both for the safety of our athlete and for the regularity of the competition, they've confirmed that (Khelif) is within these parameters," Italian Olympic Committee president Giovanni Malagò said.