KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday 08 August 2024 | Srinagar | Vol. 27 | Issue: 186 | Pages: 12 | Price: ₹3

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Srinagar Faces 2nd Hottest July Ever

Agencies

Srinagar: With no major wet spell in sight, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has recorded the second hottest July month this year in the history with average temperatures settling at 26.6 degree Celsius. However, the temperatures across Kashmir and a few parts of Jammu division continued to settle above normal temperature.

An Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng while sharing the details of previous month temperatures stated that it was the second hottest July in Srinagar's history.

The average temperatures recorded in July 2024 were 26.6 degree Celsius, falling short by only 0.1 degree Celsius compared to the hottest July of 1944, he said, adding that this July saw an average daytime temperature of 33.0 degree Celsius.

He further shared that the average minimum temperatures in July 2024 were 20.2 degree Celsius, compared to 20.6 degree Celsius in 2022 and the all-time high of 20.7 degree Celsius in 1944.

Moreover, | More on P10

WAOF ACT CHANGES

Women, Non-Muslims On Boards; Council Can't Claim Land

KO Web Desk

New Delhi: Amid the hue and cry over 'curtailing' of powers of the Waqf Board, particularly by Muslim outfits, a contentious bill to amend 44 sections of the Waqf Act of 1995 - including changing it to ensure representation of non-Muslim individuals and Muslim women in central and state Waqf bodies - is likely to be tabled in the Lok Sabha on Thursday, news reports quoting official sources said on Wednesday.

The BJP-led NDA government is all set to introduce more than 40 amendments to the Act, by bringing two Bills in the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament.

Another bill will be introduced to abolish a 1923 Waqf Act. Copies were given to Lok

Sabha members Tuesday night ahead of its introduction. The amendment will also rename the 1995 law as the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act.

The overall goal is to better manage Waqf properties, which refer to land set aside, under Islamic law, for religious or charitable purposes.

New Waqf Proposals

The Central Waqf Council

and state Wagf Boards must have two women on the board.

The Council will now consist of a Union Minister, three MPs, three representatives of Muslim organisations, and three Muslim law experts. It will also include two exjudges, either the Supreme Court or a High Court, four 'people of national repute' and senior union government officials.

At least two of these should

be women.

Incidentally, these alterations required the creation of a non-Muslim category for the Council and Boards since MPs and government officials cannot be nominated for bodies on religious basis.

Under the new law notice is required before registering any property as Waqf. Further, this registration must take place on a centralised website. | More on P10

Representation of Muslim women

and non-Muslims on Waqf bodies

Separate board for Bohras and

Aghakhanis

here at 10 am after their departure from New Delhi at 8 am.

After their arrival, the commission would commence meetings with representatives of different political parties from 11:15 am to get their feedback on the polls. "The commission would meet representatives of different recognised state and national political parties," chief electoral officer of J&K, PK Pole said.

J&K POLLS

ECI To Visit

J&K Today Observer News Service

Srinagar: A high-level team

of the Election Commission

of India (ECI) is arriving here Thursday morning to review

preparedness for the much-

awaited assembly polls in

Jammu & Kashmir, which is

without an elected government

The full commission compris-

ing chief election commissioner

Rajiv Kumar and election com-

missioners Gyanesh Kumar and

Dr Sukhbir Singh Sandhu will

reach here tomorrow morn-

ing to interact with different

The ECI team would reach

for over six years now.

stakeholders.

The poll body would meet representatives | More on P10

NEW WAQF PROPOSALS

Board Composition

prominent tourist destinations

are witnessing congestion due

is a dire need to divert both for-

eign as well as domestic tour-

ists towards virgin and offbeat

destinations across the country

In reply to a query that most

of the offbeat destinations in Kashmir especially Bangus and

Dodhpathri lack proper infra-

structure, mobile and road

connectivity, he said, "We have

asked all states including J&K

to come up with | More on P10

including J&K," he said.

"Keeping this in view, there

to the huge rush of tourists.

- 2 women on Central Waqf Council and state Wagf Boards
- Union Minister, 3 MPs, 3 Muslim organization representatives
- 3 Muslim law experts, 2 exjudges, 4 'people of national repute,' and officials
- Non-Muslim category for MPs and government officials

Property Registration

- Notice required before registering property as
- Registration on centralized
- District Collector or deputy to survey properties
- High Court appeal within 90 days of Board's decision

Section 40 Omission

- Removes Board's power to classify properties
- Authority transferred to District Collector
- Donations Only practicing Muslims
- can donate property Only legal owner can make donation decision

Dispute Resolution

- Protection and assurance of Waqf property not women's inheritances considered if antecedents **Broad-Based Representation** disputed
- Officials to investigate and report for record adjustment
- **Use of Funds**
- Funds to be used for welfare of widows, divorcees, and

Includes representation for Shias, Sunnis, Bohras, Agakhanis, and OBCs

No Alliance For J&K **Assembly Polls: Dr Faroog**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said his party will not enter into a pre-poll alliance with any other party for the Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We will not enter into any alliance, totally not," Abdullah told reporters here.

The NC chief's comments came on the eve of the Election Commission's (EC) visit to Jammu and Kashmir to review the preparations for the polls.

Led by Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, the EC officials will meet the representatives of political parties to

get their feedback on conducting the polls.

Abdullah said the poll panel

will talk to the parties and then consult the Centre, before finalising the election dates.

"Whether the dates are announced or not, the EC is coming here. They will talk to everyone, then | More on P10

Tourism Minister: 'High Time To Open Offbeat Places In J&K'

Says Popular **Tourist Destinations** Witnessing Congestion

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Praising the beauty of Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister for Tourism and Culture Gajendera Singh Shekhawat Wednesday said that prominent tourist destinations are witnessing congestion and efforts are afoot to promote and showcase offbeat destinations now. He was quick to add that the Centre is committed to provide all-out support to improve road and mobile connectivity besides establishing a proper infrastructure at all virgin tourist destinations.

Talking to reporters of sidelines of an event at the International Convention Centre (ICC) on the banks of Dal Lake here, the Union Minister said that there is no denying the fact that known and

Road Accidents In J&K Killed 8,965 People In 5 Yrs

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Over the past five years, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a total of 28,172 road accidents, resulting in 8,965 fatalities and 36,615 injuries, according to recent figures disclosed by the Government of India.

In a written statement

to the Rajya Sabha, Union

Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Jairam Gadkari provided a break-down of the data. The figures show that in 2018, the region recorded 5,978 accidents with 984 deaths and 7,845 injuries.

5,796 accidents with 996 fatalities and 7,532 injuries. In 2020, there were 4,860 accidents, leading to 728 deaths and 5,894 injuries. The

The following year, 2019, saw



Accident Data (2018-2022)

- 2018: 5,978 accidents,
- 996 deaths, 7,532 injuries. **2020:** 4,860 accidents,
- 728 deaths, 5,894 injuries.
- 774 deaths, 6,972 injuries. 2022: 6,092 accidents, 805 deaths, 8,372 injuries.

5,452 accidents, resulting in 774 fatalities and 6,972 injuries. The most recent data for 2022 shows 6,092 accidents, which led to 805 deaths and

- 984 deaths, 7,845 injuries. 2019: 5,796 accidents,
- **2021:** 5,452 accidents,

year 2021 saw an increase of

To tackle road safety challenges, the ministry said it has implemented several measures, including the Road Safety Advocacy Scheme, which provides financial support for road safety awareness campaigns and programs. National Road Safety Month/ Week is observed annually to promote road safety aware-

ness, the minister added. Gadkari said the ministry is working on establishing Institutes of Driving Training & Research (IDTRs), Regional Driving Training Centres (RDTCs), and Driving Training Centres (DTCs) at various state and district levels across

the country. "Several vehicle safety initiatives have also been introduced, such as mandatory airbags | More on P10

'Holding Polls No Favour To People'

ational Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday attacked the BJP over its claims of a "new and prosperous" Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370 and alleged that the situation on the ground was the complete opposite. "I am compelled to ask | More on P10

RR Swain Appointed J&K DGP Till Sept 30



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The ministry of home affairs has appointed RR Swain as director general of police, Jammu and Kashmir, till September 30.

Swain had been holding the additional charge of the post

of DGP. "With the approval of the competent authority, RR Swain, IPS (AGMUT: 1991), at present holding the additional charge of the post of director general of police, Jammu and Kashmir, is hereby appointed to the post of director general of police, Jammu and Kashmir, with effect from the date of assumption | More on P10



A young man carries a basket filled with freshly baked bread in the interiors of Dal Lake. Pix Abid Bhat

Open Invitation For Everyone: Div Com

Independence Day Function

Srinagar: The divisional administration Kashmir has announced an open invitation for the people to participate in the Independence Day function and said that a record-breaking number of five lakh Amarnath Yatries paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine this year.

Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri in a detailed conversation said that 15 August is the biggest festival, the preparations for the celebrations are in full swing.

"The main function will be held at Bakshi Stadium in which everyone is invited. The people need to come along with the Identity cards and must visit early to get the proper seats," he said, adding that the people are quite enthusiastic this year to attend the function.



Regarding Amarnath Yatra, the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, stated that it is more than a pilgrimage as it has been helping the people to earn their livelihood.

"This year, the figure is nearlv 5 lakh, which is a new record. The credit goes to one and all. It is because of the people that such an atmosphere was ensured. We have got better feedback than last year," he said.

Furthermore, the Divisional Commissioner | More on P10

Man Dies In Police Custody In Reasi

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A 25-year-old man allegedly died by hanging inside a police station after he was detained in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said.

The death of Anmol Dogra, a resident of the Mathyal village in Katra, triggered protests by his family following which Sub-divisional Magistrate Piyush Dotra ordered an inquiry, the officials said.

Puran Chand, father of Dogra, said his son died in the custody of Katra police station after he was picked up for questioning in connection

with a case last week. Demanding a magisterial probe into the incident, he questioned how his son managed to arrange a rope to hang himself in the lockup.

The body of the deceased was handed over to his family after | More on P10



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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office of the Chief Executive Officer, **Tourism Development Authority Gulmarg,**

Email-Gulmarggda@gmail.com

E-Bid Document (Auction ID:) Out-sourcing of Dormitory Hut Near Hotel Ashokaat Gulmarg on "As Is Where Is Basis" at Gulmarg through GeM Portal for a periodof05-years.

No: GDA/F-159/2024/ Dated /08/2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K Union Territory, E- Auction are invited online through GeM Portal for Outsourcing the "Dormitory Hut Near Hotel Ashoka at Gulmarg on" AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", for a period of 05-years. The details are a sunder:

S.No	Particulars	Date/ Amount	Remarks
1.	PO(Pre- Qualification) Submission Start Date	08.08.2024=10:00AM	Nil
2.	PO(Pre- Qualification) Submission End Date	16.08.2024 =10:00AM	Nil
3.	PO(Pre-Oualification) Assessment Date & Time	19.08.2024 = 04:00PM	Nil
4.	EMD Start Date	20.08.2024 =10:00AM	Nil
5. 6.	EMD End Date	27.08.2024 = 04:00PM	Nil
6.	EMD (Bid Security) Amount	Rs.5,00,000/- (Five	To be pledged
		Lacs Only)	in favour of
			Accounts Of-
			ficer Gulmarg
			Development
			Authority
7.	Bid Submission/Auction Start Date	28.08.2024=12:00PM	Nil
8.	Bid Submission/Auction End Date &Time	29.08.2024 =01:00PM	Nil
9.	Reserve Bid Amount	Rs. 50,00,000/-(Fifty	Per year with
		lac Only)	10% escalation
		iac only /	for each succes-
			civo voar

The e-auction has been finalized by the Outsourcing Committee under the Chairmanship of Director Tourism, Kashmir, Reliable/resourceful and experienced agencies/persons, who fulfill the FLIGIBILITY CRITERIA (PRE QUALIFICATION) detailed as under shall only be eligible to participate in the E-Auction process. PRE -QUALIFICATION(PQ)CRITERIA (TO BE UPLOADED ON Gem-PORTAL)

The bidder shall have to upload Certificate of Registration for Hotel or Restaurant if any duly issued by the Tourism Department under J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act and/or Relevant qualification (Degree/ Diploma/Certificate Course) in the Hospitality sector and/or having experience in the Hospitality sector with documentary Proof be uploaded

The bidder shall have to upload a Character Certificate from the concerned Additional Dy. Commissioner (ADC) or Police Station. The validity of character certificates shall have to be Six months from the date of issuance.

The bidder shall have to upload Self-attested PAN Card & Aadhar Card.

The bidder shall have to upload self-attested GST Registration Certification on the name and title of bid.

Specific Condition: The bidder participating in the e-bid process must apply in his name or the firm duly registered in his

name. There is no scope what so ever of executing any partnership deed in the outsource deed. The minimum reserve bid has been fixed at Rs.50.00lacs(fifty Lacs)per annum with 10% escalation for each successive year, there after to be deposited before the start of every year.

The interested parties should compulsorily visit & inspect the asset before participating in the e-bidding process and the physical position of the asset. As such, no claim of any deficiency, addition, alteration, rectification

in the asset would be entertained during/after bidding process. Eligible persons shall be allowed to participate in the e-bidding process only after uploading of relevant documents mentioned in the Eligibility Criteria and EMD in the shape of CDR, amounting to Rs. 500000/- (five lacs) pledged in favour of Accounts Officer Gulmarg Development Authority.

The successful bidder shallhaveto deposit 100% of the approved bid amount for the 1styear within a period of Seven daysafter the culmination of bidding process otherwise the claimshallget forfeited.

That the successful bidder shall has to pay all the taxes i.e GST & SGST Labourcess Income Tax and other taxes in vogue at his own. The bid amount received by the department is excluding the taxes mentioned above. Overstay period of 1st 10 days will be charges @10000/-per day and there after @20000/-per day for a period of further 10 days, subsequently legal action will be initiated against the occupant.

The contract shall be awarded for one year in the first instance and renewal of the same shall be subject to depositing of rentals for the each successive yearin advance including 10% compound escalation, within 07days fromthedateofcompletion of each year satisfactorily. The department is in its right to cancel the contract. In case the successful bidder fails to complete the term of contract, or leaves the contract half way or

the contract is cancelled due to any disqualifications/nonpayment of advance rent the CDR shall beforfeited. 10. The safety, security and upkeep of the assetshall be soler esponsibility of outsourcee during the periodofcontract

The out-sourcingcommittee reserves the righttorejectany orall thee-bids without assigning any reason

thereof. 12. The successful biddershall have to charge rates for various allotted services asper approval of the De-

partmen t from time to time.

The electric/water consumption charges shall be payable by the outsourcee. 13. The bidder should not be employee of any Govt. Deptt. or a Public Secto rundertaking

The successful bidder shall have to execute an agreement with the department on non-Judicial Stamp Paper regarding adherence to the instruction/terms and conditions asmay be prescribed by the Department during the course of the contract period. The bidder shall have to bear all the costs and expenses for executing the agreement/license deed.

16. The successful bidder shall have to provide the catering facilities for the full period of lease and not on seasonal basis only

liquid waste etc. And meet other requirements of pollution control/protection of environment. 19 The successful bidder shall have to handover the property to the Authority after completion of contract period

with the list of inventory, received by him at the timeofallotment/takingover 20. The licensee shall not make any alterations or additions to the space/unitallotted, without seeking proper per-

mission from the competent authority of the department. 21. The successfulbidder shallarrange on hisownall necessary stationery, staff oranyother requirements for provid-

ing efficient services to the clients. 22. The Licensee shall provide necessary uniform & name plates to the staff working in the premises & shall be

responsible for any act of the staff member for which, he shall be liable for criminal/civilaction under rules/lawifany 23. The Watch and ward of the property, maintenance of lawns and other subsidiaries and landscape if any is the

sole responsibility of the licensee. No departmental employee will be posted/stationed at thesiteforthis purpose. 24. The rates to be charged on account of various catering items and other activities to be carriedinthe premises willbeapproved by the licensor.

25. Defaulters shall not be allowed to participate in the E-auction process.

26. The equipment shall be eco-friendly, and the same can be installed only after obtaining proper approval form the Authority. Allottee in command is directly responsible for the safety of clients and the ground staff and the agency shall ensure first aid equipment at the site.

27. The licensee shall not inanycase, sub-let the premisesto any other party. Itshallvacatethe premises allottedonthe expiry of allotment. However in casethepartyintendstovacate thepremises beforetheexpiry period, he/she shall have to deposit the full amount of the successive year and has to give three months advance notice for the same And during this period, it shall carry on with the allotted arrangement on the terms and conditions as prescribed. 28. The successfulbiddershallhavetoprovide services to the best satisfaction of tourists/locals. The bidder shallhave to ensurethatthereisn'tanycomplaint of misbehavior with the visitors/locals or by any of the staff member employed by the bidder in this regard. In case any complaint is received, action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against the bidder and necessary penalty will be imposed.

29. In caseofany negligence in running theserviceorcompliant pertaining tobad performance, the contract shall be terminated without any notice by the department.

30. The allotted premises shall be inspected periodically by the departmentally authorized officers and in case the services of the licensee are not found satisfactory, the contract shall beliable for cancellation without any notice. 31. Any damage caused to the Government property at the site willinvite penalty amounting to double the cost of damage or replacement of the same whatever the case may be, asper assessment to be made by the Engineering WingoftheTourism Department.

32. The applicants/ tendered should not be working in any Government Department or a Public Sector undertaking. 33. The Department shall reserve the rightforusing the space for any purpose or function or event, as it may deem fit andnofee shallbechargedbythelicenseeinthis regard.

34. The successful bidder will have to abide by all the orders/communications issued by Department from time totimeduring theperiodof contract as may necessitateinlight of publiclawandorder, security and incase of anyother 35. The Successful bidder shall have to ensure liaison with the duty staff of Tourism Deptt. working at the site if any

forthematterspertaining to the services in the allotted asset.

36. The successful bidder shall ensure arrangements of furniture, electricity back up and availability ofstandardcrockery/cutlervinthe unit.on hiso wn.

37. The offer shouldbe unconditional. The conditional offers will be rejected outrightly.

38. During the contract period the maintenance of the asset/area, watch and ward as well as upkeep and daily cleaning/sweeping shall be the sole responsibility of the successful bidder.In caseof any default/complaint,the licensorshallbeatlibertytotake appropriate measures including engagement of another agency for operating theassetat the riskandcostofthe licensee

39. That in case any dispute arises between the executants the same will be referred to the Arbitrator. The Administrative Secretary Tourism shall be the Arbitrator and his decision shall befinal and binding on both the parties. 40. If any minor repairs of the Departmental assets such as electrification, sanitary maintenance etc are to be done, these will be carried out by the licensee at his own cost after proper permission from this Authority

No:-GDA/F-80/2024-25/ DIPK-NB-1235/24 Dated: 07/08-2024

Chief Executive Officer Tourism Dev. Authority Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

Office Of The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora

Tele/fax: 01933/295537; Email Id: phemechsouth@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM

Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electro-Mechanical works to be executed at water supply scheme Hiller Shahabad under Languishing/IKIDFC.
Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electro-Mechanical works to be executed at water supply scheme Manzgam Sheikpora (Sanigund) under NRDWP.

This Office ENIT No.: 14 of 2024-25 Dated: 02-08-2024 issued vide No.: JSD/MDSA/3289-93 Dated:

In modification of above mentioned eNIT issued by this office, the following amendments in the SBD are

Before dispatch from the works of the OEM, the electro-mechanical equipment shall be inspected by a third-party inspection agency i.e. M/S CEIL/Rites/etc New Delhi. The charges for the inspection shall be borne by the Department. However, the Firm (Bidder) shall make payment to the Inspection Agency (in case of 3rd Party Inspection) which shall

shall make payment to the Inspection Agency (in case of 3rd Party Inspection) which shall subsequently be reimbursed by the Department. The successful tenderer shall intimate the Department and the Inspecting Agency/Authority in advance regarding the readiness of the equipment for dispatch and shall furnish test certificates.

It shall be responsibility of the suppliers to tie up with the third party nominated for inspection and get necessary inspection of the material done within the delivery period. Any delay on the part of the third party shall not be entertained as an excuse for timely supply of material/execution of work.

The product/ material at site shall be inspected by Assistant Executive Engineer concerned or any other official(s) of the department designated by the concerned Executive Engineer. Any modifications to the works as specified in the specifications considered to be necessary for smooth and trouble-free operation of the equipment by the Department or the third party inspection agency, the firm shall have to execute the same without any extra cost, to the best satisfaction of the department.

the department.

The firm shall as such keep the department informed about arrival of material at site. It shall be obligatory on the part of the firm to rectify the defects pointed out by the AEE, if any, and also to incorporate any modification within the scope of work which may be deemed necessary for better performance/finish and workmanship. The firm upon demand by the department or its representative shall rectify or replace defective unsuitable equipment.

The Department reserves the right to nominate its representative for inspection of the goods at the works of the supplier/ manufacturers. As such the department at all reasonable times shall have access to the works and to the site and to all workshops and places where work is being executed and where material/ manufactured articles and machinery is being obtained.

In case of Sub-Station and power/feeder lines, the firm shall have to obtain a clearance.

In case of Sub-Station and power/feeder lines, the firm shall have to obtain a clearance certificate from the concerned inspection Division of the Power Development Department.

The list of electromechanical equipment in which third party inspection from CEIL/RITES is to carried on

1) DG Set ≥ 40KVA

2) Pumping Unit (Horizontal and Vertical) ≥ 40 HP
 3) Valves > 200 mm

4) Pipes of all dia

5) HT Transformers ≥ 250KVA

6) Voltage Stabilizers ≥ 150KVA

7) Iron Removal Plants
For items other than those manufacturers test certificate shall have to be provided. Inspection by QCPD:

The Pipe material has to be got inspected/verified from QCPD Division as per Circular issued by Chief Engineer Kashmir Jal Shakti (PHE) Department vide No.: PHE/MISC/15330-63 Dated: 05/08/2023 unless revoked.

2. Third Party Monitoring:

The allotted works shall be subject to check by the third party monitoring agency appointed by the Department in Kashmir. The agency shall check the quality of works executed by the agencies, quality of materials used for construction and quality of machinery installed in each scheme. The TPIA's role shall be that of an assistant to the Employer's Representative for the purpose of monitoring and evaluation of the performance of the Contract during the Contract

No:- MDSA/3459-61 Dated: 07/08/2024 DIPK-4323/24

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division South Awantipora

Dated: 06-08-2024

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) **Division Tangmarg.**

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (MACADAM WORKS)

NIT No: 21 / R&B of 2024-25

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 sand other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	Cost of T/	Earnest	Time of	M.H of	Class of	Project
		(Rs. In	Doc. (In	money (In	comple-	Account	Contractor	Authority
		Lacs)	Rupees)	Rupees)	tion			
	of Upper Batoo link road taking off from Ziran	7.25		14500/-	10 days	UT Sector		R&B Deptt.
	Haiihal road				1	1	1	

Position Of AAA:-Accorded Position of T.S:-Accorded Position of funds:committed

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

<u> </u>	
Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-08-2024
Period of downloading of bidding documents	08-08-2024
3 Bid submission Start Date	08-08-2024
4 Bid Submission End Date	19-08-2024 4:00 PM
5 Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	20-08-2024 11:00 AM
. 5 , ,	

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (Dated between bid submission start date and bid submission end date) with NIT No. . Serial No. and name of work to be deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender inviting authority)

All the bidders must upload Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority) (The Date of earnest money/Bid security should be between the Bid Submission start date and Bid submission End date, otherwise bids shall be rejected).

The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @ 5% of contract value in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority) as per rule-171 (I) of GFR 2017. The earnest money/ Bid security @2% shall be released to the successful bidder only on receipt of Performance Security @ 5% of Contract value which shall be released after successful completion of DLP /maintenance period.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov. in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority).

The earnest money/ Bid security in favour of unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of original Treasury Challan.

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 day s from the date of opening of Technical bids

The earnest money shall be for feited.lf:-

Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the speci-

fied time limit. iii. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract. 41. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form) and detailed NIT

issued vide this office NIT No. 01 and 02 of 2024-25.

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/1931-41

DIPK-4335/24 Dated: 07-08-2024

sd/-**Executive Engineer** Technical Officer R&B Division Tangmarg.

AN URGENT APPEAL

(My Daughter Needs Liver Transplant)

I would like to appeal all the generous, kind hearted people that my daughter Seerat Gul R/O Nowgam, Tehsil Sumbal is suffering from Wilson's disease with partial HTN with recurrent ascites and SBP.

The patient needs liver transplant as recommended by doctors. The liver transplant estimate is about Rs 40 lacs as certified by Apollo Hospital, New Delhi.

Subsequently I request general public, who are bestowed with means and sense of charity and empathy to provide me assistance so that I can save the precious life of my daughter.

> Mushtaq Ahmad Najar F/o Seerat Gul R/o Nowgam Sumbal A/C No: 0729-0420-000-0089 J&K Bank Cell No: 9622428470

از نیابت پلہائن

عنوان: _ درخواست منجانب مشارق فیاض ومهیب فیاض اولا دان فیاض احمر حجام ساکنه پلبالن تخصیل پین بمرادا جرائی OBC سر نفیکیٹ بذمرہ حجام

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معامله مندرج بعنوان الصدر ميں سائل نے ايك درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹفيكيٹ بذمرہ حجام پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس ہے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی تجام ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل پلہالن تحصیل پیٹن میں ر ہائش پذیر ہے۔ سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پرمشتمل ہے فياض احمد حجام ولدغلام محى الدين زميندارى 52 سال گھریلوکام 50سال شارك فياض ولد فياض احمد زيرتعليم 20سال ىهېيب فياض ولد فياض احمر ___ 19 سال س طرح سے کنبہ 4افراد پر مشتملے کنبہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی 11400رویے تک ہے ۔

رنفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراءکرنے میںاگر کہا گرکسی مخض کو کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعدمشتہر اخبارسات دن کےاندراندرآ پنے عذریاعتراض ودالت هذاکودفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں _بعد گزرے میعاد کو پی عذر یاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

ز نیابت پین

از نیابت پین

عنوان: درخواست منجانب اشفاق فیاض ولد فیاض احد نجار ساکنه پیژن مخصیل پیژن بمراد اجرائی OBC سرٹفیکیٹ بذمرہ نجار

اشتہار ہرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹفیکیٹ بذمرہ نجار پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکل واقعی نجار ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ اور سائل پیٹن تحصیل پیٹن میں ر ہائش پذیر ہے سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پر شتمل ہے فيإض احمرنجار ولدحبيب الله اشفاق فياض ولد فياض احمه اقراءفياض دختر فباض احمه اس طرح سے کنیہ 4 افراد پر شتملے کنیہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی 6000رویے تک ہے ۔ سر تفییکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کشخص کو کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خیارسات

ميعاد کو بي عذرياعتراض قابل قبولنہيں ہوگا۔

دن کے اندراندرآ یے عذریاعتراض ودالت ھذاکودفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے

عنوان: درخواست منجانب زبير حسن ولدغلام حسن حجام ساكنه ماموستخصيل پين بمرادا جرائی OBC سرٹفیکیٹ بذمرہ حجام اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجة عنوان الصدريين سائل نے ايك درخواست بغرض OBC سرُفيكيث بذمرہ تجام پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس ہے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی حجام ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ اور سائل ماموسے تحصیل پیٹن میں ر ہائش پذیر ہے سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پر شمل ہے

غلام حسن حجام ولد مز دوري دلشاوه ببيكم زوجه غلام حسن

س طرح سے کنبہ 4افراد پر مشتملے کنبہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی10000رویے تک ہے۔ برٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراءکرنے میں اگر کہا گرکسی مخص کو کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہر

اخبارسات دن کےاندراندرآ بینے عذر یاعتراض ودالت هذا کودفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں _ بعد گزر ہے میعاد کو پی عذریاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔



LAND SINKING IN RAINWARI

Residents Demand Release Of Expert Committee Report

SRINAGAR: The locals from Khwajapora, Rainawari Srinagar on Wednesday urged the authorities to publicize the report finalized by the expert committee to

ascertain the details about land sinking and also suggest remedial measures.

Speaking to the news agency-KNO, the locals from the area said they have requested the authorities to publicize the report prepared by the expert committee to ascertain the details and suggest remedial measures concerning their houses, which developed cracks on June 17.

"Our houses developed cracks on June 17, and since then, we have been waiting for officials to release their version on it. Despite an expert committee being formed, which was supposed to present its report within a week, it has now been more than two months, and no report has been issued," said Muneer, a local from the area.

He added that they continuously visit officials regarding this matter of land sinking but are only being asked to run from pil-

lar to post. "We have visited officials from the Srinagar administration many times, but we are only asked to meet different officials, and no infor-

mation is being shared with us regarding the expert report," he said.

In this regard, when KNO tried to contact ADC Srinagar Syed Ahmad Katariya, he said they had finished the report and submitted it to the Divisional Commissioner for further action. "We have completed the primary investigation and have submitted the expert committee report to the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir. Once any guidelines are issued from there, we will forward them to the concerned parties," he said.

Scattered Garbage Plagues Parimpora Fruit Market

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Valley's central fruit complex Parimpora in Srinagar is grappling with severe hygiene issues and scattered garbage, affecting the health of traders and visitors alike.

Several fruit and vegetable traders voiced their concern and said the valley's central fruit Mandi complex was struggling in maintaining the basic hygiene and disposal of garbage.

Highlighting the 'inadequacy' of the Horticulture department's efforts to maintain cleanliness, traders said nodal agency-- Horticulture department's planning department was not seriously maintaining the hygiene and disposal of garbage from the complex.

You see the hygiene level, the rotten smell is everywhere in the complex. The Horticulture department's planning department outsources its cleanliness but that contract has already ended," stated a senior member from fruit growers association.

Both vegetable and fruit traders expressed their embarrassment, saying that when outside buyers and sellers visit the complex, they encounter piles of garbage and the foul odor of decaying produce.

'There is some agency lifting the garbage, but it is not up to the mark. We are paying good money for the cleanliness and hygiene of the complex," a fruit dealer lamented.

In response, a senior officer from the Planning Department of Kashmir's Horticulture Department while speaking to KNO assured that measures are being taken to address the issue.

The officer revealed that a tendering process is underway, and the problem should be resolved within the next two weeks. "As of now, there is a temporary arrangement for lifting garbage in the Fruit Complex Parimpora, with over 100 vehicles being used for the purpose," the officer stated.

The senior officer added that due to some technical issues, they were not able to flout the tender but that the process will be done in the next few days.

Fruit and vegetable traders said that the situation underscores the need for more effective waste management solutions to safeguard the health and wellbeing of those working and those visiting the valley's fruit complex.

DC Srinagar Chairs DLIC Meet On HADP



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A meeting of District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) on Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) was today held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat here at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner, who is also the Chairman of District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) approved fresh 620 applications of various projects under HADP for establishment of Income Generating Units by progressive farmers/beneficiaries in Srinagar District.

The fresh 620 cases approved today include 509 applications of Agriculture, 10 applications of Horticulture, 60 applications of Animal Husbandry, 17 applications of Sericulture Department, 24 applications of sheep Husbandry.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of all the line Departments about the implementation of HADP in

The DC emphasized the importance of these projects in achieving sustainable Agricultural growth.

He instructed all the line Departments to achieve physical and financial targets well in time.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir, GM DIC, Hamida Akhtar, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad, Chief Agriculture Officer, Manohar Lal, the meeting was attended by Officers of line Departments and other concerned.

CS For Pacing Up Dal, Nigeen **Lake Conservation Works**



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today held a meeting of Housing and Urban Development Department (H&UDD) to take appraisal of the progress made on works to develop the twin lakes of Dal and Nigeen here.

Those who were present included Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; VC, LCMA; besides other concerned officers of the Department.

Dulloo while having appraisal of the ongoing projects for beautification and conservation of Dal and Nigeen Lakes impressed upon the concerned to ensure further acceleration in the works initiated for conservation and development of the Dal and Nigeen lakes.

He stressed on taking the tendering process to a logical conclusion so that the work on these illustrious projects would be taken in hand and completed within the specific timeframes.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to also advise the Department to take assessment of all the demands and concerns taken up by the Dal dwellers and those by Houseboat owners here. He enjoined upon the concerned to consider them on merits and resolve all the genuine ones without any delay.

The Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur gave a detailed account of the projects under progress and those in the pipeline to make Dal and Nigeen lakes among the most beautiful and developed lakes in the country.

She gave out that the commercial production of NAFED project for biomethanation of weeds has started from June this year. It was further added that the plant has a capacity

of 70000 MT with supply of 2600 tons of waste supplied till now.

Regarding other projects like installation of Musical fountains it was revealed that DPR has been prepared and administrative approval is currently sought from the finance

department to float tenders. As far as the works like installation of high jet fountains and Ferris Wheel inside Dal Lake, establishment of Amusement Park near Shalimar Canal under PPP mode it was given out that the consultations with National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaB-

> **BESIDES THE MEETING WAS INFORMED THAT 5 MORE CLUSTERS OF CASCADE AERATORS** WITH 1300 NOZZLES/ **FOUNTAINS** at an

estimated cost of Rs 8.71 crore are being set up in the Northern Foreshore area under CAPEX to enhance oxygenation of Dal waters and add beauty to the lake.

FID) are going on which are shortly making a visit to the city to finalize the Terms of Reference (ToR) for these projects.

Besides the meeting was informed that 5 more clusters of cascade aerators with 1300 nozzles/fountains at an estimated cost of Rs 8.71 crore are being set up in the Northern Foreshore area under CAPEX to enhance oxygenation of Dal waters and add beauty to the lake.

The meeting also took appraisal of the status of the project Integrated Management Plan for conservation of Dal Nigeen Lake Ecosystem funded under PMDP. It was added that the RFP for PDMC was floated on 19th of June and the project is expected to be completed by 2027.

The meeting was informed that 605 houseboats out of total tourism registered 888 in Dal lake are being connected through a floating Type of Sewerage Network at a cost of Rs 6.5 Cr.

About the development of eco hamlets it was given out that one namely Kachri Mohalla has been completed at Rs 4.33 Cr. Moreover 28 internal hamlets are being taken up under the PMDP project for development. The scope of works includes sewerage treatment (4-5MLD), beautification, slope stabilization, eco parks, catchment area management etc.

About dredging work, the meeting was apprised that 140,000 cubic meters of silt has been removed from the settling basin during the last two years besides shoreline dredging of 1.5 km has also been done for the first time in Nishat Basin.

As far as the deweeding of the water surface is concerned it was divulged that out of 4, Gagri Basin and Nigeen basins are clear. Lokut Dal will be done by 15th August and Hazratbal by 31st August this year. It was added that the open expanse of Dal Lake has been extended to more than 20.3 sq km for the first time making the view of Dal more attractive for tourists.



Government of Jammu and Kashmir DEPARTMENT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT J&K OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE-URI

Tele/Fax: 244212 National Highway Lagama Uri Email: supdtt.itiuri1@gmail.com

Industry Partner (PPP)-NHPC Ltd

SELECTION LIST NOTIFICATION ITI URI

The Provisional Selection list (Round one) of the candidates who have submitted Online applications for seeking admission to various trades of this Institute viz Computer Operator & Programming Assistant (Normal & Self Finance), Stenographer & Secretarial Assistant, Sewing Technology, Plumber, Welder, Electrician (Normal) and Mechanic Motor Vehicle (PPP) for the session 2024-25-26 compiled by the IT Cell of J&K Board of Technical Education/Department of Skill Development is available on httns://itiadmissions.jkdsd.in

The selection list is based on the marks obtained by the candidates in the minimum qualifying examination and various reservation guidelines of the Department of Skill Development The selected candidates of "Round one" are advised to complete all the admission formalities by 17-08-2024 along with the prescribed admission fee, the selected candidate will have to deposit the following documents in original at the time of admission.

- Qualification & Marks certificate of the qualifying examination.
- 2. Domicile Certificate / Permanent Residence certificate.
- 3. Discharge certificate from the institution last attended.
- 4. Category Certificate (Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe / Ex-Serviceman/Physically Handicapped/Economically Weaker Sections)

Apart from these documents a candidate has also to submit:(i)Affidavit from Judicial First class Magistrate as per prescribed format (ii) Attested copy of Aadhar card (iii)Three Passport size Photographs. Important:

- The selection list is based solely on the basis of information uploaded on the portal http://itiadmissions.ikdsd.org by the
- 2. Although due care has been taken to weed out any erroneous data structured on the submitted information and available documents, discrepancies in the selection list may have crept in owing to the poor graphic quality of the uploaded testimonials, delayed or non-submission of printed copies of documents by the applicants and unsuccessful atlempts of communication with some candidates vis-avis clarification of their qualification credentials.
- The selection list is unallered and is as received from the IT Cell of J&K BOTE.
- 4. The validity of selection of a candidate is subject to the authentication of the requisite Original documents which will be scrutinized and verified thoroughly by a verification committee constituted for the purpose.
- 5. Any fraudulent and misleading attempt or submission of forged /scanned/fake document will invite instantaneous legal action. Selection list is also available in the Trainings section of ITI Uri. 6
- Selected candidates have the option of up-gradation to the preference of their choice and will have to submit an application on prescribed format to this effect in the Institute.
- 8. Candidates who fail to submit the requisite category certificate will forfeit any claim for consideration in the selection list and will instead be placed in General category of merit list.
- 9. All the courses are full time with a minimum compulsory attendance of Eighty percent (80%) required to appear in the final examination.
- 10. Candidates shall not be allowed to abandon the course midway except under certain medical conditions/special circumstances. 11. Candidature of Ex-trainees having completed their training course after August 2022 can be considered only in trades having poor
- 12. Any genuine grievance or objection may be submitted in writing to the undersigned or at itiuriadmissions2024@gmail.com before the closing date of operating the Round One selection list.

No:ITI/Uri/Trgs/2024/120-23 Date: 06/08/2024

DIPK-4332-24 DT: 07/08/2024 Superintendent Govt. ITI Uri

- 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: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

RAILWAYS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 OAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS FAJR 4:13 **ZUHR** 12:37 ASR 5:27 Magrib 7:30 **ISHA** 9:00

This Day In History

- 1220- Sweden is defeated by Estonian tribes in the Battle of Lihula
- 1303- Crete earthquake strikes with estimated magnitude of 8, triggering a major tsunami that damaged the Lighthouse of Alexandria and swept ships 2 miles inland in Egypt
- 1509- Emperor Krishnadeva Raya is crowned, marking the beginning of the regeneration of the Vijayanagara Empire in Southern India
- 1549- Henry II of France declares war on England and orders the siege of Boulogne

1567- Duke of Alva's army enters Brussels, Belgium

in Uraniborg, Denmark, when built becomes the

- 1570- Peace of Saint-Germain-and-Laye, more freedom for Huguenots 1576- Cornerstone laid for Tycho Brahe's observatory
- world's most advanced research institution 1605- The city of Oulu, Finland, is founded by Charles IX of Sweden.
- 1647- The Irish Confederate Wars and Wars of the Three Kingdoms: Battle of Dungans Hill - English Parliamentary forces defeat Irish forces. 1700- Denmark & Sweden sign peace treaty
- 1703- Vienna-based newspaper Wiennerisches Diarium (later called Wiener Zeitung) prints 1st edition; publishes daily for almost 320 years
- 1709- 1st known ascent in hot-air balloon, Bartolomeu de Gusmao (indoors) 1758- British troops occupy & plunder Cherbourg
- 1786- Jacques Balmat and Michel Paccard are 1st to climb to top of Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in Western Europe 1814- Peace negotiations begin in Ghent, Belgium
- 1816- Bavaria joins Holy Alliance 1831- Battle of Hasselt - Dutch army drives out
- **Belgians** 1853- Russian fleet appears at Nagasaki, Japan 1854 Smith & Wesson patents metal bullet cartridges
- 1863- American Civil War: Tennessee's "military" Governor Andrew Johnson frees his personal slaves. Celebrated as a holiday by Tennessee African Americans (early 20th century)
- 1864-Comet C/1864 N1 (Tempel) approaches within 0.0964 AUs of Earth 1864- Union troops/fleet occupy Fort Gaines,
- Alabama 1868- Earthquake destroys the city of Arica, Chile 1876- Thomas Edison is granted the patent for
- Autographic Printing (US Patent 180,857) 1911- The millionth patent is filed in the United States Patent Office by Francis Holton for a tubeless
- vehicle tire. 1914- Montenegro declares war on Germany 1918- World War I: The Allies launch the Hundred Days Offensive, beginning with the Battle of Amiens
- where 500 tanks and 10 Allied divisions attacked German lines 1919- Treaty of Rawalpindi, British recognise
- Afghanistan's independence 1922 Pirates set record of 46 hits in a doubleheader (against Phillies)
- 1940-31 German aircraft shot down over England 1944- US 15th Army corps occupies Le Mans
- 1945- US, USSR, Britain and France sign Treaty of London which sets down procedures for the Nuremberg war trials of Nazi leaders
- 1945- USSR declares war against Japan in WW II 1947- Pakistan's National Flag is approved. 1949- Bhutan, land of Dragon, becomes an
- independent monarchy 1983 - Military coup in Guatemala, Dictator and former General Efraín Rios Montt flees
- 1984 Future 5-time America's Cup winner Russell Coutts of New Zealand wins the Finn Class sailing gold medal at the Los Angeles Olympics 1985 - Japan launches Planet A, a probe to Halley's
- comet 1986 - Altaf Hussain's address at Nishtar Park
- Karachi, announcing the establishment of the MQM political movement. 1988 - Angola, Cuba & South Africa sign cease fire
- treaty 1988 - Discovery of most distant galaxy (15 * 10 ^ 12
- light yrs) announced 1988 - Russian troops begin pull out of Afghanistan
- after 9 year war 1988 - Ceasefire between Iran & Iraq takes effect
- after 8 years of war 1989 - US space shuttle STS-28 launched 1989 - New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange
- resigns after 5 years on a no confidence issue
- 1990 Iraq annexes Kuwait as its 19th province

UK Braces For Day Of Unrest Amid Fears Of 100 More Far-Right Riots

Virginia Pietromarchi

Al Jazeera

Liverpool, United Kingdom – The United Kingdom is bracing for another day of unrest with more farright race riots reportedly planned in several cities.

Activists monitoring farright communications fear that on Wednesday, racist mobs could target dozens of locations. They say solicitors and advice groups which support migrants across the country – as well as immigration centres - could be attacked.

Police, who say 100 gatherings are planned, are preparing for more violence after several days of unrest which has already seen more than 400 people arrested.

Counter-protesters are organising in an attempt to outnumber the agitators, a tactic that has worked in a small number of cities

Stand Up to Racism, one of the main organisers, called on Britons to "mobilise to defend immigration lawyers, refugee charities and asylum support centres".

The group said agitators have listed the sites that they plan to target.

Screenshots of a far-right WhatsApp chat that has circulated among affected communities, which has been seen by Al Jazeera, showed a list of immigration and refugee centres in at least 10 locations. "No more immigration. 8pm. Mask up," text accompanying the list reads.

Hope not Hate warned that in addition to pre-advertised events, "there is a chance that the current tensions may result in further disturbances occurring spontaneously in towns and cities across the UK"

Muslims, migrants and refugees, and ethnic minority groups are on edge

Hashem, 30, plans to attend a counterprotest to protect an asylum centre in downtown Liverpool from "thugs"

"People are being attacked in their own country and this is unacceptable," said Hashem, who withheld his surname, fearing a far-right backlash.

"We were born and raised here and we will not be cornered by fascists ... we are going to show that this behaviour is not welcomed here." he told Al Jazeera.

Muslims in the northern city, as in dozens of others, are reeling from the worst bout of violent xenophobia in years.

The riots began in Southport after three girls were killed in a stabbing attack in the coastal town on July 29. Agitators online had suggested the stabbing suspect was a Muslim and a migrant, increasing anger among some Britons who falsely believe immigration is to blame for most deadly crimes.

Pakistanis Rise Against Ruling 'Elites', Anger Boils Up At **Every Corner Of The Country**

Agencies

Islamabad: In almost every corner of Pakistan, anger at the ruling elite is nearing a boiling point.

Thousands have protested soaring electricity bills just outside the capital, Islamabad. In a major port city in the southwest, dozens have clashed with security officers over what they described as forced disappearances of activists. In the northwest, protesters have admonished the country's generals for a recent surge in terrorist attacks.

The protests over the past few weeks reflect frustration with Pakistan's shaky, five-month-old government and with its military. The unrest threatens to plunge Pakistan back into the depths of political turmoil that has flared in recent years and that many had hoped would subside after the February general election.

Pakistan's leaders are confronted with a monsoon of problems. The economy is suffering its worst crisis in decades. Anger at an election widely viewed as manipulated by the military remains palpable. Militant violence has roared back after the Taliban's return to power in neighbouring Afghanistan. And Pakistani politics are more polarised than ever, with the country's most popular political figure sitting in jail after a bitter rift with the military.

The administration of the current Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, has struggled to establish its legitimacy and has been criticised as little more than a front for the military.

office in 2022, Pakistan's generals have wielded an increasingly heavy hand to quash dissent. A national firewall has been installed to censor Internet content. the social media platform X has been blocked, security forces have arrested political opponents in droves, and generals have been installed in key positions in the civilian government.

said Zahid Hussain, a political analyst in Islamabad, referring to the old power-sharing dynamic between civilian and military leaders. "This arrangement is military rule with civilian facade.

acterisation of their relationship with the military and sought to remind the public that dealing with the storm of challenges will take time. They have stressed that the economy in particular is on the path to recovery. Inflation lowered interest rates, and government officials are expected to hammer out the details of a new bailout from the IMF in the coming months.

a positive outlook" and is "getting stable," said Aqeel Malik, an adviser to the Prime Minister on law and justice. "We have only been in power for a few months," he added. "We don't

Since Sharif first came into

"It's more than hybrid rule,"

Government officials have shed back against that charis easing, the state bank recently

"The economy is showing have a magic wand.



Majority of US citizens oppose deploying troops to 'defend Israel': Poll

Washington: More than half of the US population say they do not support sending US troops to "defend Israel" from an attack from the Resistance Axis. according to a public opinion survey conducted by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs between 21 June and 1 July.

The survey found that 55 percent of US citizens opposed sending US troops to defend Israel if its neighbors attacked it, while 41 percent supported doing so. Support for deploying US troops to West Asia rose to 42 percent when respondents were asked their opinion over an attack

The poll was conducted among 1,056 US adults and has a margin of error of plus or

minus 3.2 points. The data was collected before Israel's twin strikes last week that assassinated top Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr in Beirut and Hamas politburo chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

This latest poll marks the lowest share of popular support in the US for deploying troops to defend Israel since the Chicago Council began asking the question in 2010.

Despite growing discontent about Washington's involvement in Israel's genocidal war, on Wednesday, US officials confirmed that about a dozen F/A-18 fighter jets from the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier to an undisclosed US base in West Asia "to help defend Israel from possible attacks by Iran and its proxies.'

A squadron of F-22 fighter

jets is also headed to the same base from their home station in Alaska. The roughly dozen warplanes are expected to arrive in the coming days, the official, who spoke anonymously to discuss troop movements, is quoted as saying by Arab News.

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin recently ordered additional deployments of warships and aircraft to West Asia as part of Washington's plans to protect Israel against the anticipated retaliation from the Resistance Axis.

Despite the high level of support and cooperation granted to Israel by Washington since the start of the genocidal war in Gaza, the two countries do not have a formal pact that obligates the US to come to Israel's defense, or

Yahya Sinwar: New Hamas Leader, Also Referred As "Dead Man Walking"

Agencies

Palestinian Territories: After a career in the shadows, spent in Israeli prisons and the internal security apparatus of Hamas, Yahya Sinwar has emerged as leader of the Palestinian group in the middle of a full-blown war.

Sinwar, who until now was the movement's Gaza chief, replaces Ismail Haniyeh, whose killing in Tehran last week sent tens soaring across the Middle East and raised fears of a coordinated attack on Israel by Iran and its regional proxies.

By choosing him as the group's chief Hamas "is sending a strong message to the occupation that Hamas continues its path of resistance", a senior Hamas official told AFP.

Sinwar stands accused of masterminding the group's October 7 attacks, the worst in Israel's history, which left 1,198 dead and 251 taken hostage according to an AFP tally and Israeli official figures. In the aftermath of that attack,

the Israeli military insisted he was a "dead man walking", although Sinwar has not been seen since. The October 7 attack was prob-

"took everyone by surprise" and "changed the balance of power on the ground", said Leila Seurat of the Arab Centre for Research and Political Studies (CAREP) in Paris.

The ascetic 61-year-old is a security operator "par excellence". according to Abu Abdallah, a Hamas member who spent years alongside him in Israeli jails.

"He makes decisions in the utmost calm, but is intractable when it comes to defending the interests of Hamas," Abu Abdallah told AFP in 2017, after his former co-detainee was elected Hamas's leader in Gaza.

Punishing collaborators

After October 7, Israeli military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Richard Hecht called Sinwar the "face of evil" and declared him a "dead man walking".

Born in the Khan Yunis refugee camp in southern Gaza, Sinwar joined Hamas when Sheikh Ahmad Yassin founded the group around the time the first Palestinian intifada began in 1987. Sinwar set up the group's in-

ternal security apparatus the following year and went on to head an intelligence unit dedicated to flushing out and mercilessly punishing -- sometimes killing -- Pales tinians accused of providing infor mation to Israel

According to a transcript of an interrogation with security officials published in Israeli media, Sinwar professed to have strangled an alleged collaborator with a keffiyeh scarf in a Khan Yunis cemetery.

A graduate of the Islamic University in Gaza, he learned perfect Hebrew during his 23 years in Israeli jails and is said to have a deep understanding of Israeli culture and society. He was serving four life terms

for the killing of two Israeli soldiers when he became the most senior of 1,027 Palestinians released in exchange for Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit in 2011.

Bangladesh Army Refused To Suppress Protest, Sealing Hasina's Fate

Dhaka/New Delhi: The night before long-time leader Sheikh Hasina abruptly fled Bangladesh amid deadly protests, her army chief held a meeting with his generals and decided that troops would not open fire on civilians to enforce a curfew, two serving army officers with knowledge of the discussions told Reuters.

Waker-Uz-Zaman then reached out to Hasina's office, conveying to the prime minister that his soldiers would be unable to implement the lockdown she had called

den end on Monday, when she fled from Bangladesh to India.

The nationwide curfew had been imposed after at least 91 people were killed and hundreds injured in nationwide clashes on Sunday, the deadliest day since student-led protests against Hasina began in July.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Sami Ud Dowla Chowdhury confirmed the Sunday evening discussions, which he described as a regular meeting to take updates after any disturbance. He did not provide details when presented with additional questions about decision-making at that meeting.

Hasina could



for, according to an Indian official briefed on the matter.

The message was clear, the official said: Hasina no longer

had the army's support. Details of the online meeting between military top brass and the message to Hasina that she had lost their backing have

not previously been reported. They help to explain how Hasina's 15-year rule, during which she brooked little dissent, came to such a chaotic and sudreached and her son and advisor, Sajeeb Wazed, did not respond to repeated requests for

Reuters spoke to ten people familiar with the events of the past week, including four serving army officers and two other informed sources in Bangladesh, to piece together the final 48 hours of Hasina's reign. Many of them spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter.

Israel Lobby Spends Millions To Unseat US Lawmaker Critical of Gaza war

Jerusalem: The pro-Israel lobby in the US is pouring millions into a campaign to unseat an African-Missouri, Cori Bush, as part of a broader effort to replace critics of Israel's war in Gaza with more Israel-friendly Democrats, The Washington Post reported on 6 August.

"It's because I called for a cease-fire in Gaza," Bush told a potential voter as she campaigned door-to-door in her district. "That's where all of this started." Bush is facing a tight pri-

mary contest Tuesday against St Louis County Prosecutor and fellow African-American and Democrat Wesley Bell, who is supported by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the largest and most powerful pro-Israel group in the US. Whoever wins the primary

will run against the Republican

party's candidate for the congressional seat in November.

Outside groups have already spent over \$15 million in Missouri's 1st Congressional district race, with 80 percent of the funds going toward ads opposing Bush and supporting her AIPACbacked opponent.

In June, AIPAC and other pro-Israel groups spent \$17 million to help defeat another progressive African-American member of the US Congress who was critical of the Gaza war. Democrat Jamaal Bowman from New York.

The Washington Post adds that the National Black Empowerment Action Fund (NBEA), founded by AIPAC veteran Darius Jones, donated \$1 million to the campaign against Bush last week.

Most of the voters in Bush's district with whom the Washington Post spoke said they did not know that AIPAC and other Israel lobby groups were so involved in tipping the race.

Class 9 Student Steals Mother's Gold To Gift iPhone To Girl In Delhi, Arrested: Cops

ew Delhi: A Class 9 student has has been arrested for allegedly stealing his mother's gold to finance his female friend's birthday party and gift her an iPhone in southwest Delhi's Najafgarh area, police said Wednesday.

The matter came to light after the boy's mother lodged an FIR reporting house theft by an unknown person, following which a probe was launched and the teenager was identified as the culprit.

Police said that the accused sold a gold earring, gold ring and gold chain of his mother to two different goldsmiths in the Kakrola area here and bought the high-end phone for the girl, with whom he was allegedly in a relationship.

The police have arrested a 40-year-old goldsmith, identified as Kamal Verma, and recovered one



gold ring and earring

"On August 3, an incident of house theft was reported by a woman in which she reported the theft of two gold chains, one pair of gold earrings and one gold ring from her house on August 2, by unknown person between 8 am to 3 pm," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka)

Ankit Singh said

Based on the complaint, an FIR was registered into the matter and an investigation was taken up, the officer said.

"CCTV footage of the crime scene was checked, but no suspicious activity was found near the house of the complainant at the time

of the incident. The team further examined the neighbourhood for any clues but no one witnessed any suspicious activity during the said time," the DCP added.

MAKERS

Ruling out the involvement of outsiders, the team then focused on the family members and found that the son of the complainant was missing since the burglary. The team started gathering information and questioned his school friends.

"Our team got to know that he (accused) had purchased a new iPhone worth 50,000. The team conducted many searches at Dharampura, Kakrola and Najafgarh, but everytime he managed to escape. On Tuesday, a tipoff was received that the juvenile will come to his home at about 6 pm, following which a trap was laid near the house," DCP Singh said.

19-Year-Old Boy Dies By Suicide After Rape **Complaint By English Teacher In Indore**

ndore: A 19-year-old student allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself in Indore city of Madhya Pradesh hours after the police recorded his statement in connection with a complaint of rape lodged by his woman English teacher, an official said on Wednesday. The incident occurred on Tuesday

night, he said. The parents of the student, however, claimed that their son was being

blackmailed by the woman. Talking to news agnecy PTI, Indore Mahila Thana in-charge Kaushalya Chouhan said, "The 19-year-old, who was a student of Bachelor of Pharmacy and a resident of Indore, ended his life by hanging himself on Tuesday night. His sister saw his hanging body and informed the parents, following which the police were alerted." "A 25-year-old teacher from a coaching centre had lodged a complaint of rape against him three days earlier and the police were investigating the charges against him. The student was called to the police station and his statement was recorded. He was let off after that," he said.

The exact reason behind his extreme step is yet to be known and investigation into the case was on, the official said.

The victim's father said his son was under immense depression as he was being blackmailed by his former English tutor.

"She was a few years older to him and as far as her allegation of rape against him is concerned, I don't have any idea...But I have shared screenshots of her messages on social media platforms in which she gave threats to him about lodging a complaint of rape," he said.

The police are probing the incident, the official added.

1000's Join Mourning **Procession In Magam**



Observer News Service

MAGAM: Tens of thousands of devout Muslims joined day long mourning Majlis to commemorate the sacrifices of Hazrat Zainab bint Ali (AS) in Magam town on Wednesday.

The Majlis was organised by Anjuman-e-Sharie Shiayan led by Agha Syed Hadi who also delivered a sermon following afternoon prayers.

Agha dwelt in detail on the

supreme sacrifices of the noble daughter of Imam Ali (AS) who also is credited for immortalizing the tragic events of Karbala.

Hailing Magam residents for hospitality and service to the multitude of mourners, Agha Hadi also announced setting up a Dialysis centre in the town.

Later a huge procession was taken out which passed Srinagar-Gulmarg through Road and culminated in the town square.

10 Day Exhibition Shines Spotlight **On Rural Women Entrepreneurs**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Srinagar's Zabarwan Park is currently hosting the much-anticipated "SARAS AAJEEVIKA Kashmir 3.0," a tenday festival dedicated to showcasing the exceptional talents of rural women entrepreneurs from across India.

Organized by the J&K Rural Livelihoods Mission under the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, this event has become a celebrated platform for rural women to display their entrepreneurial spirit.

According to the details available with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the fair presents a captivating array of products, from intricately crafted textiles to fresh

organic produce, highlighting the diverse skills and creativity of these rural businesswomen.

Each exhibit tells a unique story of innovation and tradition, reflecting the dedication and hard work of its creator.

Puja, a participant from Jammu, shared that it is a dream come true for them. "It not only provides a stage to showcase our products but also connects us with new opportunities and a larger audience. It's incredibly empowering," she said.

Notably, the SARAS AAJEE-VIKA initiative is more than just an exhibition; it represents a significant step toward empowering rural women by opening doors to new markets and supporting their economic independence, she said—(KNO)

Ganderbal Youth On Mission To Destroy Illegal 'Bhang'

GANDERBAL: As a commendable act of civic responsibility, Mudasir Baba from Ganderbal has taken proactive measures to address the spread of contraband wild crops, commonly known as 'bhang', in the area.

Mudasir said the illicit crop had infested nearly 10 kanals of land near prominent educational institutions and a public park

Determined to tackle the isue head-on.

organised and financed a team of labourers to clear the illegal

Before commencing the op-eration, he informed the police and the Municipal Council of Ganderbal, ensuring that the action was carried out with proper authorisation and oversight.

"Neglecting these contraband crops can potentially lead to increased drug abuse among the youth. It is our collective responsibility to address this issue and contribute to a safer

Budgam Welcomes Construction Of New District Hospital

Agencies

BUDGAM: Construction has commenced on a new 125bed district hospital in Rmreshipora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district, a move expected to transform local healthcare services.

District Commissioner Akshav Labroo visited the site today to inspect the initial stages of development and highlight the project's significance.

According to details, Labroo underscored that this new facility, a key initiative approved by the Administrative Council and led by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, will address a critical gap in healthcare for Budgam.

'Today is a momentous occasion for all, as the demand for building a district hospital in Budgam was fulfilled today, with the groundwork on mobilization

and survey starting," he said. "Recently, the Lieutenant

Governor Manoj Sinha gave approval for this project and laid the foundation stone, and it's a happy moment for the whole of Budgam that the work on the ground officially started today," he added.

The announcement has been met with enthusiasm from the community. Sajad Ahmad, a local resident, expressed relief, saying, "we have been waiting for something like this for a long time. This hospital will make accessing medical care much easier and more efficient for us."

Moreover, the project is being closely monitored by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and involves collaboration across several government departments. The development of this new hospital is seen as a significant step forward for Budgam, demonstrating the administration's dedication to enhancing public services and meeting the region's healthcare needs—(KNO)

Kashmir's Stored Apples Cleared After 10 Month Wait

SRINAGAR: The apples that had been languishing in cold storage for nearly ten months have finally been cleared as there was good demand for the apples in the last few days.

Growers and traders said the next season has already started with plums and peaches kept in stores. They said apples kept in stores last year were not cleared yet.

They said the prices drastically decreased compared to the rates during the main apple season in October-November 2023, which has caused the stored produce to remain unsold for longer than usual. Typically, the apples would have been cleared by April or May.

"Typically, apples would have been cleared from cold storage units by April or May, but this year's delayed clearance was due to the low demand for apples. Even C-grade apples fetched better returns during the main season," said a grower. "This is an alltime low rate for produce kept in cold storage units.'

The increasing presence of South African apples in retail supermarkets and on e-commerce platforms across the



country has exacerbated the situation, reducing demand for Kashmiri apples, driving prices down, and causing substantial losses for growers and traders, the growers explained.

Growers said that the apple boxes that were being sold at Rs 600-700 during the main season this year were sold at Rs 1200-1500 in the last few days as demand increased.

The increased demand has resulted in a favourable market for growers, with apple prices rising significantly at this last stage, they said, adding that this is the first time that a large portion of Kashmir's apple produce has remained in cold storage units for an extended period due to low demand

Approximately 3 lakh metric tons of apples are stored in different CA storages across Kashmir. On average, Kashmir produces over 20 lakh metric tonnes of apples annually, sometimes reaching up to 25 lakh metric tonnes.

According to the 2017 economic survey in J&K, half of Kashmir's population is directly or indirectly dependent on the apple industry, with over 3.5 lakh hectares under apple cultivation—(KNO)

Handwara's Krum Hoora Village Grapples With Water Crisis For '70 Years'

Agencies

HANDWARA: Krum Hoora, a village in Kupwara's Handwara belt, has been grappling with a severe water crisis for the past 70 years. The residents are accusing the concerned department and representatives of failing to deliver on their repeated promises.

The village, situated 12 kilometres from the sub-district headquarters of Handwara and 30 kilometres from the district headquarters of Kupwara, has a population of around 1,700 people and approximately 250 households.

The residents said that they have been forced to rely on unhygienic sources of water for decades, which has taken a heavy toll on their health.

"We are tired of being promised fake solutions," said a resident. "We are forced to drink unhygienic water, which has affected our health and our children's education."

that despite repeated assurances, the water crisis remains unresolved. "We fear that if



our water woes are not addressed urgently, we may face a tragedy like the Rajpora Rajwara incident," said another

They said the approved Water Supply Scheme (Checki Sarmarg Krumhoora) under JJM has been pending for years. "The department has failed to execute the work on the project. We don't understand why they are ignoring our plight," they said.

The villagers have accused local representatives of politicizing the issue and failing to take concrete action. "It seems own," said an elderly man. "We wonder if they truly care about our plight."

Despite repeated attempts to reach Sulaiman Mir, the concerned DDC member, he did not answer multiple calls from KNO. Executive Engineer Jal

Shakhti Division Handwara Er Bilal Ahmed Malik told KNO that the department is focusing on addressing water shortages in several villages, including Sarmarg. acknowledged He

Krum Hoora has a water source but added that it is not sufficient. "We will not leave any village without the water supply," he said. "All we need

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Ayushi Sudan was unavailable for comment—(KNO)



PDA Demolishes Illegally Raised Structures In Lidroo, Pahalgam

Agencies

PAHALGAM: The Pahalgam Development Authority (PDA) on Wednesday demolished several structures that according to them were raised illegally in Lidroo area of Pahalgam.

Officials said that several structures had come up in the area without any permission, thereby strict action was initiated and all such constructions were demolished.

They said that such drives were conducted in the past and will continue in the coming time as well. The demolition drive has garnered mixed reactions from the local community and stakeholders.

Environmentalists and concerned citizens have welcomed the move, arguing that it is necessary to protect the area's ecology while some people have alleged that only a few are being targeted

while the rest are being spared. They have demanded action against all the persons, who have illegally raised their structures in the last few years.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pahalgam Development Authority (PDA), Tariq Hussian Naik told KNO that these structures were raised illegally in violation of the master plan in place for Pahalgam.

He said that PDA along with Police, revenue and other departments were part of the drive, adding that all such structures that have come illegally will face the same action.

The CEO further said the crackdown is aimed at preserving the natural landscape of Pahalgam and ensuring sustainable tourism development, urging the property owners to ensure compliance with all regulations before undertaking any construction projects.

DIPR Celebrates Swachhta Pakhwada

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) today organised a series of impactful activities under the ongoing Swachhta Pakhwada.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Information, Jatin Kishore, remarked that Swachhta Pakhwada is a unique initiative of the Government aimed at promoting cleanliness and sanitation across the country. He highlighted that the initiative, part of the nationwide Swachh Bharat Mission, underscores the commitment of the government to create a cleaner and healthier environment for its citizens.

He underlined that by organising this initiative we are being reminded of importance of maintaining cleanliness in pub-lic spaces for the well-being of all the citizens.

The DIPR officials and officers led by Director Information, Jatin Kishore, also held a plantation drive in the DIPR office complex as part of the 'Ek Ped Shaheedon Ke Naam' initiative of the Government.



Later, the officials and officers also participated in the cleanliness drive, demonstrating a commitment for preserving the local environment and fostering a sense of civic duty.

Joint Director Information (Hgr), Veveik Puri; Deputy Director Information (AV/PR), Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director Information (Central), Sunil Kumar; Editor Films, Zahoor Ahmad Guru; Maheer Thakur, Information Officer and other officers and officials of DIPR were also present and participated in the event enthusiastically.

Zadi.

HEATWAVE

Sopore Residents Hold Special Prayers For Rain

SRINAGAR: The ongoing dry weather and heatwave prompted residents of Sopore town in north Kashmir's Baramulla district to hold special prayers on Wednesday, seeking relief from the extreme conditions.

Residents organised a traditional Aalam procession, which began at Khangah-e-Moula, passed through Main Chowk and culminated at the busiest Iqbal market where Salatule-Istisqa - special prayers for rain were held.

Those present at the prayer said the heatwave has caused distress to both businesses as well as the agriculture sector. "Crops are drying up and the intense heat is affecting our daily lives. Our businesses have reported a downturn due to the prevailing conditions," they said.

Those associated with the agriculture sector said they have been facing severe challenges, as their fields and orchards suffer from water scarcity, which has led to reduced crop sizes and yields. "Such conditions not only affect the current season's yield but can also reduce the fruit-bearing capacity of trees in future seasons," said

nessed across the sub-division including Nowpora, Seer, Arampora and others, with farmers and fruit growers reporting losses due to the prevailing situation.

Several water sources that feed the fields in and around Sopore witnessed a decline, which has exacerbated the situation across the re-

a fruit grower. A similar situation is being wit-

gion-(KNO)

INDIAN RAILWAYS

"PUBLIC NOTIFICATION"

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25 kV, 50 Hz, AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all time and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Division	Section	Kilometer		Date of
		From	То	Energization
Firozpur	Energization of OHE on 25 KV ac single phase 50 Hz supply over Electrification of Line no. 6 (Washing Line No. 1) and line no. 8 (washing line no.3) at Shri. Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Station, W/L No. 1 (OHE Location SVDK/1003A, chainage Km 77/491.00 to OHE Location SVDK/1086, chainage Km 78/549.50) & W/L No. 3(OHE Location SVDK/1007, chainage Km 77/540.50 to OHE Location SVDK/1083, chainage Km 78/541.50) of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway.	OHE Location SVDK/1003A, chainage Km 77/491.00 OHE Location SVDK/1007, chainage Km 77/540.50	OHE Location SVDK/1086, chainage Km 78/549.50 OHE Location SVDK/1083, chainage Km 78/541.50	20.08.2024
2407/24	Sr	. DEE/TR/JAT,	Firozpur, Nort	hern Railway

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PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S Puja Wires, IE Khunmoh Srinagar formally registered with this office under No. 01/003/09562/PMT/MSME dated 28.03.2023 for the activity of " Steel Fabrication, gates, grills and iron posts" as proprietorship concern of Farooq Ahmad Bhat S/o Abdul Ahad Bat R/o Madina Chowk Maisuma Gowkadal Srinagar.

Now the proprietor of the unit intends to transfer the lease hold rights to Aijaz Hassan Mukhdoomi S/o Ghulam Hassan Makhdoomi R/o Shah Faisal Colony Buchpora Srinagar.

Any person having any objection to the above proposed transfer of lease hold rights in favour of the unit shall report to the office of General Manager, District Industries Centre, Srinagar within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which no objection shall be entertained.

General Manager **District Industries/Centre** Srinagar

DIPK-4287-24 DT: 07/08/2024

Keegam Youth Takes Lead To Keep Environment Clean

Agencies

SHOPIAN: A group of around 200 youth in Keegam area of South Kashmir's Shopian district have been installing dustbins at main places and cleaning water bodies to keep the environment clean.

This group under the banner of Keegam Youth Trust was recently praised by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for their environment friendly steps.

Youth around 200 in number who are part of this trust have been working for environmental sustainability and have been installing dustbins at various strategic points throughout the town.



President of the Trust, Basharat Maqbool said that the main aim behind this work is to combat littering and promote a cleaner and greener environment in the area that will be extended to other ar-

He said that they have purchased small dustbins on their own and

distributed them among hundreds of households and created awareness among them about the importance of proper waste disposal and environmental stewardship.

Maqbool said that they have installed big dustbins at main points in the area and the waste thrown in it will be collected and properly treated at the facilities available.

By providing accessible waste disposal options, we are hopeful that it will help in significant reduction in littering and encourage people to keep their area clean, he said, adding that they have provided biodegradable bags to the shopkeepers in the area by taking away polythene from them so as to promote polythene free culture. He said that they have cleaned dozens of blocked water bodies in the area so as to keep water clean.

"There is a need to take environment friendly steps by reducing the use of polythene, proper waste disposal and keeping water bodies clean otherwise we may face disastrous situations in the future," he said. Basharat said that in the coming

will visit tourist spots to collect plastic material and other garbage. Maqbool said that such initiatives must be taken in every area and take steps for sustainable development-(KNO)

days, they are going to destroy the

Bhung in the area besides that they

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 08-08-2024

Hold Assembly Polls

s the Election Commission embarks on a visit to Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday to hold meetings with political parties to discuss the upcoming Assembly polls in the Union Territory., there is every reason to be hopeful. The EC has already expressed its commitment to adhere to the Supreme Court's September 30 deadline for holding the polls. But the central government will have to take a final call on whether to go ahead with the exercise or not.

The spate of attacks, particularly in Jammu division, has intensified concerns though. But it cannot be a credible reason for deferring polls, for it is difficult to put a definite timeline on when the situation could return to normal. More so, when the troubled nature of the region makes the region perennially unpredictable.

Also, all elections since 1989 when militancy first broke out in the UT have been held amid spikes in violence. In 1996, Assembly elections were held amidst a runaway turmoil in the then state. And if any more evidence was needed it was provided by the recent parliament polls which were held in the UT without a single incident of violence.

People in the UT are excited about the prospect of elections as they anticipate it would lead to restoration of statehood. But it may not happen soon after the exercise. As far as making any political concessions on Kashmir is concerned, there seems hardly any possibility of a rethink in the union government. The centre has no immediate plan to restore statehood. This was also obvious from the recent grant of more powers to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The fresh amendments to the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, which give more authority to the LG, signals that assembly elections in the region may be imminent. By increasing the Lieutenant Governor's control over the transfers and postings of all-India service officers like the IAS and IPS, as well as appointments of judicial officers, police, and law and order matters, the central government appears to be paving the way for a more centralized administration ahead of potential elections. These amendments indicate that the union government aims to safeguard its strategic changes in Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring they remain intact irrespective of the political shifts that may follow upcoming assembly elections.

Meanwhile, people look forward to Assembly elections in the UT in the near future. J&K has not had an elected government since June 2018 when Governor's rule was imposed after the PDP-led coalition government lost its majority following the withdrawal of support by the BJP. The last five years have witnessed a drastic political makeover of the state-turned-union territory, so much so that in many aspects, the current J&K bears little resemblance to what it was pre-August 2019. Here is hoping that the changes culminate into restoration of democracy and subsequently into reinstatement of statehood.



Did you know?

In Volatile Market, SIP is the Way to Go

Irshad Mushtaq

n volatile markets, Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) are key for enhancing portfolio value in mutual funds. Market downturns provide great opportunities to buy high-quality assets at lower prices. Stay focused on strong sectors like FMCG and pharma and health care, gold funds, telecommunication and manufacturing theme , during corrections. Keep a long-term perspective, practice discipline, and consult advisors for successful investing.

In the context of volatile markets, Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) stand out as an optimal strategy for enhancing portfolio value in mutual funds. When markets decline, investors gain the opportunity to acquire shares at lower prices, highlighting the importance of focusing on high-quality sectors during such periods. Despite the negative sentiment and discouragement that often accompany market downturns, these times actually present advantageous opportunities for increasing investments in shares, ETFs, and mutual funds through SIPs.

investments in shares, ETFs, and mutual funds through SIPs. Historically, a lot of sectors like Pharma, technology such have performed well during market corrections, while industries like health-care, FMCG, defense, and gold usually demonstrate resilience during

economic slowdowns.

Adopting a long-term perspective is crucial for wealth creation in the stock market. Investors should avoid short-term thinking, leveraging, overtrading, and speculation. Instead, disciplined investment practices, particularly staggered buying, are recommended to maximize returns. Given the unpredictability of market bottoms and peaks, sustained and informed investments are fundamental for recovery and eventual growth

In summary, successful investing hinges on key elements including market education, patience, and a long-term vision. Consulting trusted advisors can also be beneficial. It is important to avoid overtrading and speculative actions and adopt a strategic, disciplined approach to invest-

ing in high-potential sectors.

Discipline, education, patience, and courage are vital for achieving favorable returns. Even if your portfolio experiences short-term declines of 5%, 10%, or 15%-20% remember that patience plays a significant role. Every market dip is an opportunity to accumulate quality assets, as purchasing shares, ETFs, and mutual funds at discounted prices is advantageous. Maintaining good behavior and a disciplined approach is critical in this process. SIPs offer an efficient way to invest consistently, leveraging the benefits of market volatility to enhance long-term portfolio value

Learn from the insights of @IrshadMushtag, writer, investor, entrepreneur & Founder of MI Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com

Why is Child Labour Still Prevalant in India?

Recently, the Centre wrote to Jammu and Kashmir apart from other states and Union Territories to strengthen the enforcement mechanism to prevent child labour and expedite the rescue and rehabilitation of the affected children



Rutba Riyaz



Child labour
is inevitable in a
country like India
where over 40
per cent of the
population lives
in conditions of
extreme poverty.
The children have
to supplement
their parents'
income or in some
cases, they are the
only wage earners
in the family

espite constitutional provisions against child labour, a large number of children continue to be exploited under hazardous work conditions. Poorly paid for long hours of work, they have to abandon their studies to support their family at an age when they are supposed to just play around and have fun. They are made to forego all the joys of childhood by a cruel and ruthless world.

Rural areas employ the largest number of child labour. In urban areas, they work in dhabas, tea-stalls and restaurants, and households. They are shamelessly exploited in the unorganized sector as domestic servants, hawkers, rag-pickers, paper vendors, agricultural labourers, and as workers in industrial concerns.

Some of the industries that employ children as labourers include match industry in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu; glass industry in Firozabad, brassware industry in Moradabad and the handmade carpet industry in Mirzapur-Bhadoi, precious stone polishing industry in Jaipur, Rajasthan; lock making industry in Aligarh; slate industry in Markapur, Andhra Pradesh, and slate industry in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh.

Sometimes, children are employed against a loan or debt or social obligation by the family of the child. Generally, they are forced to work assisting their families in the agricultural sector, brick kilns, and stone quarries. In urban areas, children of migrant workers mostly belonging to low caste groups such as dalits or marginalised tribal sections work in small production houses and factories. Bonded child labourers are particularly subjected to mental, physical and sexual abuse, sometimes even leading to death. In Orissa,

people sell daughters, eight to 10 years old, as maid servants to the creditor in order to clear their debt.

Child labour is inevitable in a country like India where over 40 per cent of the population lives in conditions of extreme poverty. The children have to supplement their parents' income or in some cases, they are the only wage earners in the family. Another reason is that vested interests deliberately create child labour to get cheap labour as a factory hand, a domestic servant or a shop assistant. Children often work in

dangerously polluted factories. They work for 9 to 10 hours at a stretch including night shifts. No wonder that a large number of child workers have sunken chests and thin bone frames which give them a fragile look. They are made to work in small rooms under inhuman conditions which include unhygienic surroundings. Most of these children come from extremely poor households. They are either school drop-outs or those who have not seen any school at all.

Child labourers run the risk of contracting various diseases. They are vulnerable to exploitation by all. There is no strict enforcement of laws against child labour, so, employers continue to circumvent the provisions of the law in the full knowledge that the child workers themselves will not dare to expose them.

The authorities should incorporate a provision for surprise checks and establish a separate vigilance cell. Employers should compulsorily take steps for the intellectual, vocational and educational well-being and upliftment of a child worker.

Recently, the Centre wrote to Jammu and Kashmir apart from other states and Union Territories to strengthen the enforcement mechanism to prevent child labour and expedite the rescue and rehabilitation of the affected children.

In a letter, the Ministry of Labour and Employment said, "Strengthen the enforcement mechanism to prevent any violation of the Child and Adolescent Labour Protection Act, 1986. It is also requested to expedite the rescue and rehabilitation of the affected children, ensuring that they receive proper care and access to education, as outlined in the standard operating procedures."

Many drives have been conducted in J&K lately to curb the menace of child labour. In Jammu, 15 FIRs were lodged for child labour. An anti-child labour drive was also jointly conducted by Child Welfare Committee Kupwara, Child Line and District Child Protection Unit in Kupwara town recently.

We need policies which try to alleviate poverty and inequality as they can have a significant and decisive impact on economic conditions and social structures that have a bearing on child labour. Such initiatives may incorporate agrarian reforms, employment-generation programmes, use of improved technology among the poor, promotion of the informal sector and creation of cooperatives and social security schemes. Also required is effective enforcement machinery to punish the violators of laws. Labourinspection and related services need to be strengthened.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer The author can be reached at rutbariyaz129@gmail.com



OBSERVER **MAII**

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

The Heat Wave in Kashmir

INCE years now, we have been joking and cursing summers in Kashmir. Every year is the same tale of rising temperatures. This year too, Kashmir is witnessing high temperatures and alien heat. However, what needs to

be done is to identify the cause of this rise.

We can't overlook the elephant in the room. Climate change is a reality and has been showing its presence through erratic weather patterns, unusual precipitation trends, melting glaciers and rising temperatures.

Ours is an abundant ecosystem which needs to be nurtured. We must make proactive sustainable and environmental friendly choices. We cannot go on abusing the environment and expecting it to nurture us in re-

turn. How we treat the environment is how the environment will treat us. An onslaught on the health and life of the environment is also an onslaught on our health and life.

Shafiq Mehmood Shafiqmehmood@rediffmail

A Girl at the Library

Jan Saahi

It was a morning with a refreshing breeze and sunlight streaming through the trees, creating a serene atmosphere as I approached the library. The library was empty, and its walls seemed to stand as silent sentinels, encircling me in their stillness. As I found a spot and opened my book, I couldn't help but feel a sense of anticipation for the quiet focus that this space promised. Gradually, the library began to fill with students, each immersed in their own world of study. The room's silence was punctuated by the soft sounds of pens scratching paper and the occasional rustle of pages turning.

In the midst of this peaceful scene, a sudden burst of laughter broke the calm. My attention was drawn to a young girl who had just entered the library. She had a calm and serene presence, her face partially obscured but her eyes-deep and expressive—revealing a story of their own. She scanned the room, found an empty seat in a quiet corner, and settled in for her study session. Her small feet swung beneath the chair, and her eyes blinked at an uneven rhythm as she began her work.

The girl pulled out a math textbook and set up a lecture on her mobile phone. Her delicate hands, adorned with intricate henna designs, held her pen with a graceful precision. A bottle of water sat in front of her, and she leaned towards her books, fully immersed in her studies. Despite the long hours of focused work, she remained in the same position, showing remarkable endurance. It was evident that she had

AND TENSIONS

BETWEEN THE IBA AND

THE IOC have raised

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believe that the IBA

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Olympic boxing. Many

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been studying for hours, yet she continued without any sign of fatigue or frustration.

This sight made me reflect on the various challenges that students face in libraries. One major challenge is maintaining focus for extended periods. It's not uncommon for students to struggle with distractions, whether from their environment, personal thoughts, or the temptation of digital devices. The library, despite being a place of quiet, is not immune to these distractions. The girl's ability to stay concentrated for so long was impressive, especially given how easy it is to lose focus or become overwhelmed by the sheer volume of material to be studied.

Another challenge is the physical discomfort that comes with long study sessions. Sitting for hours can lead to back

pain, stiffness, or discomfort, which can be exacerbated by factors like heat waves or inadequate seating. The girl's dedication to her studies despite these potential discomforts highlighted her resilience and commitment. It's a reminder of how important it is to create a study environment that is as comfortable and conducive to learning as possible.

For young girls, balancing academic responsibilities with other life demands can add another layer of complexity. Many girls juggle school work with family responsibilities, extracurricular activities, and social commitments. The struggle to manage these various aspects of life can make it even harder to stay motivated and focused. The girl's perseverance in the liMANY GIRLS JUGGLE SCHOOL WORK WITH FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, AND SOCIAL COMMITMENTS. THE

STRUGGLE TO MANAGE THESE various aspects of life can make it even harder to stay motivated and focused. The girl's perseverance in the library, despite these potential pressures, was a powerful example of how determination and discipline can help overcome these challenges."

was a powerful example of how determination and discipline can help overcome these challenges.

Moreover, libraries play a critical role in this process. They offer a quiet space free from the usual distractions of home and provide access to a wealth of resources that can support students' learning. Making the most of this environment requires not only physical presence but also mental commitment. The girl's ability to stay focused and dedicated in the library exemplifies the positive impact that a well-utilized study space can have on academic performance.

Addressing these challenges involves both practical and mental strategies. On a practical level, finding a comfortable and quiet place to study, using tools like timers to manage study sessions, and taking regular breaks to avoid burnout can make a significant difference. Mentally, developing a strong sense of purpose, setting clear goals, and maintaining a positive attitude towards studying can help overcome pro-

What is gender testing and where does testos-

Almost all sports competitions are organ-

ised in sex categories: a women's category and

a men's category. The segregation of men and

women's competitions is a founding principle of

ensuring fairness in elite sports due to the ath-

competitions since the 1920s, and was initially

introduced to ensure that men could not disguise

themselves as women to participate in women's

Gender testing has been used in elite sports

letic differences between men and women.

terone testing fit in?

In conclusion, the young girl's story serves as a powerful reminder of the dedication required to succeed in life. Her endurance in the library, despite the challenges of heat, discomfort, and potential distractions, is a testament to the importance of perseverance. It highlights the need for effective study habits and time management while also acknowledging the unique struggles faced by many students. For anyone struggling with procrastination or balancing multiple responsibilities, the lesson is clear: commitment to one's studies, no matter the obstacles, is essential for achieving future success and personal growth. Here I want to end this piece of write-up with inspiring lines of Dr Alama Iqbal. I-e;

Manzil se aagey badh kar manzil talash kar Mil jaaye tujhko dariya, samandar talash kar Har sheesha toot jata hai pathar ki chot se Pathar hi toot jaaye woh sheesha talash kar

> The writer can be reached at jaansaahi069@gmail.com



ries for women and ten weight categories for

men. Things started to change after Rio, with

the Tokyo 2020 games including five weight

One of the biggest controversies of women's

categories for women and eight categories for

men. In Paris, men compete in seven weight cat-

boxing at the Olympics took place before London

2012, when AIBA (Association Internationale

de Boxe Amateur - now the IBA) suggested it

be mandatory for women boxers to compete in

skirts at the Olympics. The suggestion was

met with resistance from women boxers

globally, and while the issue remained

egories and women in six.

sports. Looking at the history of gender testing however, the "sex-markers" being tested have changed as medical knowledge has evolved over the decades. Several of the gender tests have since been proven medically inaccurate and ethi-

Testosterone testing is commonly used in gender testing today. Women athletes who have "too much" testosterone are sometimes met with a demand for artificial regulation of their testosterone level. Even if their bodies naturally produce more testosterone compared to other women athletes. The demand for artificial regulation of testosterone levels concerns two groups of athletes in particular: transwomen and women with intersex variations (women with difference in sex development or DSD). There is currently no indication to suggest that Khelif or Yu-ting are affected by DSD, as the IBA has said it's unable to share information about their gender testing for

How much of this has to do with the feud

The International Boxing Association (IBA) was previously the governing body of amateur (Olympic) boxing. But the International Olympic Committee (IOC) stripped it of its recognition due to persistent concerns over corruption and governance issues. For the Paris Olympics, a unit appointed by the IOC is organising the boxing competition. For the 2028 Games, a new organisation named World Boxing is expected to replace the IBA as the governing body of Olympic

The power struggles and tensions between the IBA and the IOC have raised questions about the IBA's motivations in addressing gender eligibility issues in Olympic boxing. Many believe that the IBA is using the situation of Khelif as a strategy to undermine the IOC and garner global support.

How does gender and power play out in wom-

Historically, women have been marginalised as athletes, coaches, referees, and leaders in boxing. In most countries, boxing continues to be a male dominated sport, which often contributes to limiting women's opportunities. A pressing issue today is the lack of women's representation

in coaching and leadership in women's boxing. Regarding gender eligibility in elite sports, women from the global south are over-represented in cases where the gender of female ath-

By arrangements with The Conversation

Study Highlights Social Factors Impacting Lifespan By Up To 18 Years

A combination of four social factors -gender, marital status, education and race -- could impact risk of early death by up to 18 years, according to a study that analysed US citizens' data to devise a lifespan scoring system. While individual risks and genes partly explain differences in health and death, researchers said that evidence increasingly points to how social conditions, in which people are born, grow, live and work, shape one's health.

The researchers at the University of Southern Denmark found that while no one of the four factors was more influential than any of the others, the more of these factors a person has, the higher their risk of an earlier death.

The authors also devised a "simple scoring system" based on the four factors to identify those most at risk. According to the scoring system, one's lifespan score could range from a lowest of (minus) 10 to a highest of eight.

For the study, published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Open, the researchers took data on registered deaths and population numbers from national statistics and census for the period 2015-19. Overall, 54



different social groups and 12 specific causes of death, representing 11 leading ones in the US such as lung, breast and other cancers, were included in the analysis.

The team compared the partial life expectancies between age 30 and 90 years of the 54 social groups, which included three types of marital statuses, education and race each.

Partial life expectancy, one of the most commonly used measures of public health, estimates the expected number of years lived between specific ages. In this study, it measures the expected years lived between ages 30 and 90, for a maximum of 60 years of life, the authors explained.

Their analysis revealed "very large" differences in the lifespans between the social groups studied.

For example, the authors found that white never-married men with a high school diploma or less had the shortest partial life expectancy of 37 years, while white married women with a university degree had the longest one of 55 years.

"There is an 18-year difference between the minimum and maximum

partial life expectancies between age 30 and 90 years across the (social groups)," they wrote.

The team also found that the advantage of the social groups having longer lifespans was not obvious once multiple factors were considered.

For example, even though being a woman was related to a higher lifespan than being a man, specific social groups with men were found to have longer lifespans than those involving women.

"White married men with a university degree have a partial life expectancy of 53.2 years, which is higher than 81 per cent of all the women (social groups)," the authors wrote.

Further, the authors found that a social factor curtailing lifespan could be offset by another extending it, and vice versa. For example, having a high school education or lower shortens partial life expectancy by nearly 4 years, but being a married woman rose it by almost 5 years, the researchers said.

According to the authors' scoring system, being a man was assigned a score of zero, while being a woman was assigned that of four. Being married meant a score of zero. while never-married and previously-married meant (minus) five and (minus) three.

ASF ENTERPRISES

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar [J&K), Ph.0194-2477949, 9419001176, 9419776235

Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers, Photocopiers, Faxes, .CCTV Cameras, Security System and Refilling of all Types of Cartridges. Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

ازنيابت پلهالن

Subject: Furnishing Of One And Same Person Certificate

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريين قرار چھٹی آمدہ از سکول بورڈ آف ایجیو کیشن بمدسرینگرموصول ہوا جو کی زیر کاروائی ہے رپورٹ پٹواری سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل شوکت احمد شیر گرجری ولد غلام صن ساکنہ پاہالن تحت کھیوت نمبر ۵۲۹ کے تحت مکان شیر گوجری ہے تعلق رکھتے ہے سائل سکول سر ٹفکیٹ میں شیر گوجری کے بجائے Geogri درج ہوہے لہذا ہرخاص وعام کو بذریع اخبار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کہا گرکٹی شخص کو کوئی عزریا ا متراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خبار سات دن کے اندراندرآ بینے عذریاعتراض ودالت هذا کو وفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کوئی عذریاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

Government Medical College, Srinagar

10-Karan-Nagar, Srinagar 190010, Kashmir (J & K) Department of Pediatric Surgery, Super-specialty Hospital, Shireen Bagh Government Medical College, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

No.Ped/Surg/Advt/ICMR/2024-25/119-22

Dated:05-08-2024

(Professor & Head)

Class of contract Tender fee

Three years AAY

(Rs) 5000.00

Date of commencement of submission of the applications: Last date of submission of the applications:

August 6, 2024 August 20, 2024

In Pursuance to Order No. 04 GS of 2024 Dated:06-01-2024, applications on plain papers are invited from the eligible candidates of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir for engagement against the below mentioned positions on contract basis initially for a period of one year for the project entitled "Simulation of naturally occurring human varicocele in rat model with an attempt to identify potential pathogenic pathways". The applications should reach the office of the undersigned by or before the last date of submission (August 20, 2024).

S. No.	Name of the position	Minimum Qualification	Consolidated emoluments per
			month
01	Junior Research Fellow (JRF)	M.Sc. Life Science (Higher qualification with experience in the relevant field will be preferred)	INR 31000 + HRA (18%) = 36580

Sr. No. Name of the work

Construction of lining wall and slope

stabilization and cleaning of water course

- The contractual engagement is not being made against any substantive post and as such won't confer any right upon the hired person for regular/permanent appointment. The contractual engagee shall have to furnish an affidavit duly attested by the 1st Class magistrate to the effect that he/she will not claim any regular appointment at any future date on the strength of this contractual engager
- The engagement will be initially made for one year only, or till continuation of the scheme whichever is earlier and will be extended on yearly basis subject to the satisfactory performance of the candidate/approval of the competent authority and a) Availability of Budget Continuation of the scheme
- If a contractual engagee at any point of time willfully neglects or refuses to perform his/her engagement shall be terminated forthwith out any notice and he/she shall not be entitled to any salary for such period. No. TA/DA etc shall be paid to the candidates for participation in the written test/interview.
- The selected candidate shall have to execute an agreement that he/she will not leave the department before the completion of one
- year's contract. However, abandoning/termination of the engagement in the Specialty will require one month prior notice on either side, failing which the remuneration shall not be paid for one month's to the incumbent which shall always remain in deposit with the department and shall be released on completion of sanctioned term. Only candidates having valid registration of the Degree/Diploma with MCI/SMF/PMC can participate in the selection process.
- The selected candidate has to work as per the job assigned under the above referred scheme
 - The candidates must be in possession of all requisite certificates/documents in original and no document/certificate issued beyond the cutoff date shall be accepted/entertained.
 - In case of large number of applications for the above positions the candidates will be shortlisted for the interview/written test in

accordance with number of positions/availability of space. Principal Investigator Dr. Abdul Rashid

The Jammu & Kashmir **State Board Of School Education**

NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SRINAGAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed /appeared in SSE/HSE-I/HSE-II (Class 10th,11th,12th) under Roll No. 117021051 Session Annual Regular Year 2024. Through the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the OXBRIDGE VALLEY School Narkara against my Fathers Name as GHULAM AHMAD PAUL instead of GHULAM MOHAMMAD PAUL.

Now i have applied for correction / rectification of error in the Jammu & Kashmir board of School Education, New campus Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Deputy Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, afterthe expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained. This is published for the information of the general pub lic. The Correct particulars be recorded as under

Name: ZEESHAN GUL, Fathers Name: GHULAM MOHAMMAD PAUL, Mothers Name, SALEEMA BANO Date of Birth: 29/03/2009, Residence:- NARKARA CELL: 6006694036

NIT No:19/R&B of 2024-25

Subject.Grant of registration of the proposed Hotel unit under the name, M/s. The Grand Empire Luxury

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr./Ms Imran Bashir Wani S/o Bashir Ahmad Wani R/o Rawal pora Srinagar and Asif Bashir Wani S/o Bashir Ahmad Wani R/o Rawal pora Srinagar Sanat nagar The Grand Empire Luxury Hotels & Spa intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed unit under the name and style" M/s The Grand Empire Luxury Hotels & Spa"situated at Wahdan, Sallar Anantnag

Srinagar Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit state subject/Domicile certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan card, Experience certificate (minimum 05 years), Character certificate (Police department). Bank statement (minimum balance 1000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested sub-registrar, printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting), Photograph of the unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photograph to the department of tourism as prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour operation.

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

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Tangmarg.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

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., CPW, Railways sand other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.	Earnest money	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor	Project Authority
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Up-gradation of Chanpora Katipora link road including Culvert at Katipora and Gousia School link at Chandiloora.	4.87	200/-	9740/-	15 days	U.T Sector	DEE	R&B Deptt.
2	Construction of link roads at Check Treran, Sheikh Mohalla and inner links at Mahyan and Construction of Edge wall at Ferozpora.	6.57	300/-	13140/-	20 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.
3	Completion of balance work (approach) of 1x 10m span RCC Bridge at Peer Mohalla Chandil Tangmarg.	6.82	300/-	13640/-	20 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.
4	Construction of Inner link at Krishama incl. Khan Mohalla Habligaam to Bonibani via Check Narayndas.	7.16	300/-	14320/-	20 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.
5	Up-gradation of Mulgam to Devbugh via Awloora incl. Construction of 1 x 2 Mtr Box type culvert on Katjun road at Devbugh.	4.44	200/-	8880/-	15 days	U.T Sector	DEE	R&B Deptt.
6	Construction of link road from Ziyarat Shareef Waripora to Chichilora including link road from Nursury Gate to Waripora via Makhai Kha.	6.98	300/-	13960/-	20 days	U.T Sector	D/C	R&B Deptt.

Position Of AAA: Accorded Position of T.S: Accorded Available

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-08-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	08-08-2024
3	Bid submission Start Date	08-08-2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	19-08-2024 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	20-08-2024 11:00 AM

- 3. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (Dated between bid subm bid submission end date) with NIT No., Serial No. and name of work to be deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender inviting authority)
- All the bidders must upload Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority) (The Date of earnest money/Bid security should be between the Bid Submission start date and Bid submission End date, otherwise bids shall be rejected).

5. The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @ 5% of contract value in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to

- Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority) as per rule-171 (I) of GFR 2017. The earnest money/ Bid security @2% shall be released to the successful bidder only on receipt of Performance Security @ 5% of Contract value which shall be released after successful completion of DLP /maintenance period. 6. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically
- through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority). 7. The earnest money/ Bid security in favour of unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of original Treasury
- 8. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids The earnest money shall be forfeited, lf:-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit. iii. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

 All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form) and detailed NIT issued vide this office NIT No. 01 and

Executive Engineer

R&B Division Tangmarg.

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/1903-13 Technical Officer Dated: 06-08-2024 dated: 07-08-2024 DIPK-4318/24

Office Of The Executive Engineer Lake Division NO.2nd. Miskeen Bagh Khanyar Srinagar, J&K LAKES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, SRINAGAR.

(Phone and Fax No.0194-2414194) e mail:xen2lcma@gmail.com,deptt. website:www.lcma.in

Gist of N.I.T No. LD-2ND/05 of 2024-25(e).

For and on behalf of the LT. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir UT, e-tenders on item wise percentage basis are in double cover system are invited from Registered Civil Contractors of PWD/CPWD/MES for the below mentioned work/s:-

Time of Comp.

06 months

Estimated Cost Earnest Money

(Rs.) 1,88,46,491.00

	of Pazwalpora Nallah (RD 450 m to RD 1458m)	
Onlin	e bidding schedule:	
01. 02.	Date of issue of tender Notice. Start date for downloading of bidding docu	06.08.2024. 06.08.2024 (10.00AM)
03. 04. 05.	ments. Bid submission start date Bid submission end date	06.08.2024 (11.00 A.M) 27.08.2024 (04.00 P.M)
	Date and time of opening of bids (Technical Financial) on line. Tender inviting authority.	& 28.08.2024 (2.00 P.M) Executive Engineer Lake Division No: 2nd . J&K LCMA Miskeen Bagh Srinagar.
06. 07. 09. 10.	Tender opening/receiving authority. EMD to be pledged to	Superintending Engineer, J&K LCMA
10.	Tender fee to be drawn in favour of.	Tender fee to be deposited into account No: CDG/0185010200000003, JK Bank Upper Sathu through E-Challan/Treasury receipt./ Pay in slip. Note: NIT No. and S.No. of the work shall be mentioned on paying slip while depositing the fee. The fee must be deposited between publishing date of NIT and bid submission end date. No before or after-wards shall be entertained.

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in upto said bidding schedule.

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in upto said bidding schedule. The complete bidding process will be on line. Sd/-

No: LD-II/983-101 Executive Engineer, DIPK-NB-1218/24 Dated: 07.08.2024 Lake Division NO.2nd

J&K Bank Launches New Digital Offerings

The products represent our commitment to aligning with changing customer expectations: MD

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Taking one more step in its digital transformation journey towards enhancing customer experience and streamlining financial services, J&K Bank Wednesday launched new digital offerings including two loan products and a selfaudit tool for its staff.

MD & CEO Baldev Prakash unveiled the digital journey for Credit Card and Two-Wheeler Finance besides Self Audit Solution for staff today in the presence of Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Managers, DGMs, and other senior officers here at the corporate headquarters. Divisional Heads from Jammu, Kashmir, and the rest of India also joined the ceremony via video conferencing.

Speaking on the occasion, MD & CEO of J&K Bank said, "I am happy that we are moving ahead in our digital journey exactly the way we envisaged. The journey has started to bear fruits in the form of Bank's continued progression on many fronts."

"The introduction of digital journey for credit card and twowheeler loan will surely enhance the customer experience while making processes easier and convenient. These digital products represent our commitment to aligning with changing customer expectations. Through this digital transformation journey, we will continue to provide our customers with innovative, secure and efficient financial



solutions. And we have many more digital products lined up for our valuable customers in the months to come", he added.

He further said, "And with a tool like Self-Audit Solution for our staff, I am sure there will be prompt audit, accountability and monitoring to further improve the organizational efficiency."

General Manger (Supervision & Control) Shareesh Sharma outlined various features of the Self-Audit Tool, which he said will enhance data integrity, real time monitoring and early detection of irregularities. "Its key features include increased compliance, tailoring audit procedures to meet specific requirements while reducing risks and optimizing costs through efficient audit practices", he said.

Earlier, DGM (BPR) Mohammad Muzaffar Wani gave a detailed power-point presentation of Bank's digital journey during the last two years and highlighted all the products that the Bank has designed for enhancing the customer-convenience and service-efficiency. He also spoke about the Bank's future plans to

further boost its digital journey. **Indo-Bangla Trade Resumes** Partially; Expected To



Press Trust Of India

Normalize Soon

KOLKATA: Trade between India and Bangladesh, which has halted since August 5, resumed partially through several land ports in West Bengal on Wednesday, officials said.

Trade, mostly of perishable goods, resumed in land ports at Hili, Changrabandha, Mahadipur, Fulbari, and Gojadanga.

Export from Petrapole, South Asia's largest land port in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, is expected to commence on Thursday, officials said after a meeting between the land port authorities of the two countries.

Sajedur Rahman, general secretary of the Benapole C&F Staff Association, said, "A meeting was held between two land ports and we expect that trade

will resume at 6 am tomorrow." Benapole is located on the Bangladesh side of Petrapole border in West Bengal.

The Director General of the Border Security Force visited Petrapole on Tuesday to review the situation along the international boundary amid the crisis in Bangladesh. 'Some cargo movement has

started via Ghojadanga for the Bangladeshi side. This is possible as the situation in Bhomra, the neighbouring country's counterpart to Ghojadanga, remains stable," said Joydev Sarkar, an office-bearer of the Carrying & Forwarding Agents Welfare Association. Key commodities like black stone, chillies, turmeric, and wheat bran are exported to Bangladesh from the North 24 Parganas district land port.

Budget Eased Tax Burden Of Middle Class, LTCG Changes Reflect People's Expectations: Sitharaman

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday put a staunch defence of her Budget, saying it has eased tax burden of the middle class and the relaxing of capital gains tax provision on property transaction was a reflection of the government accepting common man's expectations.

Replying to a debate on Finance Bill (No.2), 2024 in the Lok Sabha, she said the tax incidence on the middle class has been reduced with the increase in standard deduction by 50 per cent and the Budget brings about simplification of tax regime without raising

With opposition parties using her colleague and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari's demand for reduction in GST on health insurance premium to attack the government, Sitharaman said states levied taxes on premiums before the uniform GST came into being in 2017.

Parliament, she said, was not the forum to decide the GST rates and it has to go to a council where the states have two-third representation.

After the reply, the lower house passed by voice vote the Bill including 45 amendments. The major amendment was on the levy of capital gains tax on immovable property transactions.

Opposition MPs staged a

walkout from the Lok Sabha after an amendment moved by RSP member N K Premachandran seeking withdrawal of 18 per cent GST on medical and life insurance premiums was not taken up.

The amendment in Finance



Bill relating to LTCG tax restored indexation benefit on sale of properties bought prior to July 23, 2024. Now, individuals or HuFs who pur-



With opposition parties using her colleague and **Union Minister Nitin** Gadkari's demand for reduction in GST on health insurance premium to attack the government, Sitharaman said states levied taxes on premiums before the uniform GST came into being in 2017.

chased houses before July 23, 2024, can opt to pay LTCG tax under the new scheme at the rate of 12.5 per cent without indexation or claim the indexation benefit and pay 20 per cent tax.

Sitharaman in her Bud-

get for 2024-25 had lowered the long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax on real estate to 12.5 per cent from 20 per cent without the indexation benefit. This had come in for criticism particularly from the middle class who felt the LTCG tax liability has been increased.

In her reply, the minister, however, said there was no increase in tax incidence even in hypothetical computations and the benefit of rollover in case of new property purchases was retained.

The change in LTCG tax rate was not a revenue generating exercise or "greed" but an attempt to bring about parity among similar asset classes. The change gives a "fairer option and a choice to the property holder".

To assuage concerns, the option of indexation benefit has now been brought back for properties purchased before July 23, 2024, she said.

Sitharaman said she had since her first budget in 2019 gone around the country seeking inputs from various stakeholders and returned to Parliament with amendments to meet common people's as-

Opposition Slams Govt For Not Withdrawing GST On Health, **Life Insurance Premiums**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Opposition members in Lok Sabha on Wednesday slammed the government for not taking up an amendment in the Finance Bill to withdraw the 18 per cent GST levy on medical and life insurance premiums.

Opposition MPs staged a walkout from Lok Sabha after an amendment moved by RSP member N K Premchandran seeking removal of 18 per cent GST on medical and life insurance premiums was not taken

that it has been accepted, or the recommendation from the President has been obtained. Normally if it is not accepted by the President it will not be circulated," he said.

Another point, he added, is the "government amendments were also submitted yesterday, as did I. All government amendments were accepted by the President, why is the private member amendment not being given attention from the President's office..." he said.

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said perhaps the govern-



up by the House during the passage of the Finance Bill.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who piloted the Finance Bill, said any amendment in GST has to be approved by the GST council.

"Specific demand of the entire opposition is to withdraw the 18 per cent GST on life and health insurance schemes for which I had given an amendment. Normal procedure of the House is that the amendment is circulated only if it is admitted," Premchandran told reporters outside Parliament after the walked out by the opposition MPs.

This was circulated yesterday itself. This gives a message ment did not want the INDIA bloc to get credit for it.

On the withdrawal of indexation benefits on long-term capital gains, he said it was anti-middle class and "rolled back" under pressure from the

He said there was another demand for scrapping 18 per cent GST on medical and life insurance premiums.

"Our ally RSP leader N K Premachandran had moved an amendment but it was not taken up, and the government said there are technical issues which is baseless. Somewhere government does not want IN-DIA alliance to get the credit,"

Stock Markets Rebound Makes Investors Richer By Rs 8.97 Lakh Cr In Single Day

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Stock investors recouped Rs 8.97 lakh crore as equity markets staged a sharp rebound on Wednesday ending a three-day slump following a rally in global peers.

The BSE benchmark Sensex jumped 874.94 points or 1.11 per cent to settle at 79,468.01. During the day, it soared 1,046.13 points or 1.33 per cent to 79,639.20.

Thanks to the in equities, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms went up by Rs 8,97,352.99 crore to Rs 4,48,57,306.55 crore (USD 5.34 trillion).

"Global markets experienced a notable rebound after the BoJ's Deputy Governor reassured that the central bank would not raise interest rates during a period of financial instability. The Indian market also witnessed broad-based buying across sectors, with the realty sector seeing a relief rally due to the reinstatement of indexation benefits," said



Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

Investors' wealth had eroded by a whopping Rs. crore in the past three days of market slump where the BSE benchmark tanked 4 per cent.

"Domestic markets rallied sharply much in sync with optimism in global equity indices, although risk off sentiment could still prevail on the back of rising tension in the Middle East," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

On Wednesday, in the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 2.63 per cent and smallcap index climbed 2.39 per cent.

'Property Mkt Sentiment To Improve As Govt Gives Options On LTCG Tax' were concerned about the re-

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Property owners will heave a sigh of relief and market sentiments will improve with the Centre deciding to give taxpayers the option to choose between the new 12.5 per cent long-term capital gain (LTCG) tax rate and the old 20 per cent rate with indexation benefit for assets purchased before July 23, according to industry bodies.

Realtors' apex body CREDAI President Boman Irani said the recent amendment in the long-term capital gains tax and indexation benefits is a welcome move by the central government.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who in her budget for 2024-25 proposed to cut LTCG tax to 12.5 per cent from 20 per cent but without the indexation benefit, moved an amendment to the bill to give the option. Indexation



benefits allow taxpayers to arrive at property cost after adjusting for inflation.

The amendment came after the new provision was criticised for raising tax incidence and disincentivizing investments in real estate.

Realtors body NAREDCO President G Hari Babu termed it as a balanced approach by the government.

"This decision is poised to bring significant relief to property owners and investors who moval of indexation benefits. By providing an option, the amendment addresses the needs of long-term investors who might have otherwise faced a disproportionate tax burden due to the withdrawal of indexation," he said. The Naredco President said this move is likely to mitigate

concerns around cash transactions and potential resurgence of black money in the sector. Anarock Chairman Anuj Puri said this will have a very

profound impact on both homeowners and aspiring homebuyers. Housing.com CEO Dhruv

Agarwala said, "By ending the confusion and speculations from the Budget announcement, this move prevents potential negative impacts on market sentiment and growth in India's second-largest employment-generating sector.

'HADP Transforming Agriculture Scenario In Kashmir'



Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Wednday toured Pinjoora, Chitragam, Aglar, and Allowpora areas of Shopian district, visited agriculture fields (Paddy, vegetables, maize fields) in these areas and held interactions with the concerned farmers.

Director agriculture also inspected HADP works in the district.

Speaking to the farmers of these areas, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of small scale agri cottage industries including apiculture, mushroom etc. He asked the farmers to diversify their agriculture activities and go for an

integrated farming system. He asked farmers to avail ben-

efits from Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). Under this multi-project programme, agriculture and allied sectors are undergoing a unique transformation and achieving new heights, he said and added.

While taking feedback from the farmers, Director Agriculture impressed upon the concerned officers to raise awareness among the farmers regarding various centrally sponsored schemes, flagship programmes, HADP, being implemented by the department.

Later, the Director visited seed multiplication farm Allowpora. He inspected the status of different agricultural crops there. Chief Agriculture Officer Shopian and other officers of the department were present on the occasion.

TRAI To Review, Tighten Rules To Curb Spam Calls

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Telecom regulator will review and strengthen regulations to curb pesky, spam calls, TRAI Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti said today.

The crackdown on pesky calls has figured high on the agenda of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, and the regulator has been hardening its stance on the issue, amid rising consumer complaints around unsolicited communications from unauthorised telemarketers

"We had an interaction with service providers on spam calls and that is the next thing on our table. We will work seriously...we will plug any loopholes that people are finding on existing regulations to tighten (the checks on) spam call issue," Lahoti said on the sidelines of India SatCom 2024 organised by Broadband India Forum (BIF).

TRAI on Tuesday held a meeting and conveyed a strong message to service providers and their telemarketers to take effective measures to curb bulk communications using voice calls.

As part of the crackdown, the regulator has sought proactive action from all the stakeholders specially access service providers (telcos) and their delivery

The immediate action sought includes implementing technical solutions for traceability and preventing bulk calling by enterprise customers using 10-digit

Asked about the rising instances of fraud and scams over calls, and actions that are being proposed, Lahoti said that a joint committee of regulators is working collectively to address the issue.

China, Saudi, UAE Agree To Roll Over Pak's \$12 Billion Debt For A Year

bia and the United Arab Emirates

would be rolled over for one year,

like last time. Earlier, he had said

that the IMF had asked for the

rollover for three to five years be-

fore the Executive Board meeting.

requirement was to secure the

rollover for one year, but the gov-

ernment was trying to have these

rollovers for three to five years.

He added that the three bilateral

creditors had agreed to roll the

loans over on the existing terms

The IMF announced a staff-level

agreement for USD 7 billion last

month, subject to the approval of

the Executive Board and securing

financing commitments from the

However, he clarified that the

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: China, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have agreed to roll over cash-strapped Pakistan's \$12 billion debt for one year, as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is likely to approve its \$7 billion bailout package later this month.

After a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance yesterday, Pakistan Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb told reporters that there was no delay in the IMF Executive Board meeting, which is going to take place by the end of this month to approve the \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility, the Express Tribune reported today.

The Executive Board is scheduled to meet on August 28 to approve the \$7 billion package, the report said, quoting government

The development marks an end to the uncertainty over the timing of the Executive Board meeting, which was contingent upon the rollover of debts by Pakistan's three traditional creditors, it said. Aurangzeb said the \$12 billion

bilateral and multilateral creditors. The finance minister said there was no point in asking for

an increase in the interest rates on these loans when the country's foreign exchange reserves had strengthened compared to a year ago. The IMF, he added, had identified only a USD 3-5 billion financing gap over the three-year programme period, which was quite manageable. cash deposits by China, Saudi Ara-

and conditions.

"Pakistan has also received an

offer from a foreign commercial bank but we are waiting for the IMF Board approval to ask the lender to cut the offered interest rates," said Aurangzeb. The offer had come from a non-Gulf and non-Chinese commercial bank, he added, without disclosing the

A finance ministry official said that Standard Chartered Bank had offered a less than USD 400 million loan but it was asking for a double-digit interest rate that the government could not afford to pay. Aurangzeb said the government would wait for the IMF Board's approval to get the commercial bank to cut its offered interest rates.

The finance minister said two important developments had taken place in the last few days, which showed that Pakistan was well on its way to achieving macroeconomic stability. He described the Fitch rating agency's decision to improve Pakistan's credit rating by one notch and the central bank's decision to cut the interest rates by 1% as "very critical elements for achieving macroeconomic stability".

BIS Carries Out Search & Seizure Operations In Kashmir Valley

Srinagar: Team of officers of Jammu & Kashmir Branch office of Bureau of Indian Standards along with officers from Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology Department J&K govt carried out Search and Seizure at 4 different Locations in Kashmir Valley Region.

1st Team Led by Pankaj Atri Joint Director BIS JKBO along with Md Muzaffar Wani from Legal Metrology Dept carried Out Search & seizure at the premises of Diamond Grinding Media Industry Firm was found to be Violating QCO. Huge quantity of Iron Ingots has been seized.

2nd team led by Niraj Mishra, Deputy Director BIS along with Md Yusuf from Dept of FCS & CA has carried out Search & seizure at the Premise of Bala Jewelers, Downtown Srinagar. Jewellery without BIS Hallmark has been seized.

3rd team led by Hitesh Yadav, Deputy Director BIS along with Mr Tajamul Yusuf from Dept of FCS & CA has carried out Search & seizure in Hari Singh High Street Srinagar.

4th team led by Raj Kumar, Assistant Director BIS along with Mr Mudasir Rashid from Legal Metrology Dept has carried out Search & seizure at the Premise of Kashmir Glass, Khonmoh. Firm was found to be Violating QCO. Huge quantity of Iron toughened Glass has been seized.

Action is being initiated by BIS









Jammu & Kashmir Branch Office against the offenders under the Bureau of Indian Standard Act, 2016. The offense is violation of section 11, 14(6) or 14(8), 15, 17 of BIS Act, 2016 and is punwith imprisonment up to 1 years or a fine not less than Rs. 1 Lakh or both as per Section 29(2) of BIS Act, 2016. Prosecution under provisions of BIS Act shall be launched in the competent court of law.

It has been observed many times that fake ISI marked and Hallmarked products are manufactured and sold to common consumers for huge profit. Therefore, people should ascertain the genuineness of

Standards Mark on the product before purchase by visiting BIS website http:www.bis. gov.in or through BIS Care App. General public are, therefore, requested that in case they come across any instance of misuse of Standards mark on any product, the same may be informed to the Head, Jammu & Kashmir Branch Office, Lane No. 04, SIDCO Industrial Complex, Bari Brahmana, Jammu-181133 (J&K). Such complaints can also be made by email at the address jkbo@bis.gov.in or complaints@ bis.gov.in or by Telephone No. 01923-222690. The source of such information will be kept

confidential.

Justice Tashi chairs the High Level Committee to review the functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards in J&K

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 07: A meeting of High Level Committee chaired by Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice (A), High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman J&K Legal Services Authority was convened today at Conference Hall, High Court of J&K and Ladakh at Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by its members, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary, Home; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare and Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority also Ex-officio Member Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

The meeting was convened to review the pendency and disposal of cases by the Juvenile Justice Boards across the UT of J&K besides reviewing the progress on the resolutions passed in the previous meeting and deliberating upon the issues confronting the proper implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children), 2015 Act in the UT of J&K.

While reviewing the pendency and disposal of cases before the JJBs, the Member Secretary informed Justice Tashi that a total of 2769 cases were pending at the beginning of the current calendar year and 360 fresh cases were instituted up till 31.07.2024, out of which, 447 cases were disposed of between January to July 2024 despite the fact that 19 IJBs are operating with Principal Magistrates having additional charge and sole



full time basis.

He further informed that as on July 31, 2024, there is pendency of 2682cases in JBs across the UT of J&K. The Committee expects that the Principal Magistrates in all the 20 [[Bs shall be posted soon. The Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare suggested that the data of POCSO cases be also reviewed in the next meeting.

Iustice Tashi recorded satisfaction regarding the working of Juvenile Justice Boards and appreciated the efforts of Home and Social Welfare Departments in strengthening the JJBs. He further impressed upon the Committee to conduct the review meeting regarding the functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards at least once in six months.

During the meeting the Member Secretary, I&K Legal Services Authority, informed Justice Tashi about the non-furnishing

ing the establishment of Special Juvenile Police Units and the nomination of Child Welfare Police Officers, which was discussed in the previous meeting. The Principal Secretary Home assured the Committee to furnish the information on establishment of the Special Police Units and Child Welfare Police Officers, as well as the creation of child-friendly corners in all police stations.

Regarding the payment of compensation to the victims and their dependents under Victim Compensation Scheme 2019, the Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority informed Justice Tashi that during the current calendar year compensation to the tune of Rs. 1,03,62,000/- has already been disbursed in 52 cases whereas 15more applications are under process which shall be disposed of very soon. He raised a demand for release of funds to the

tune of Rs. 4.00 Crores to clear the awarded compensation and to cater to the petitions pending before various DLSAs.

Member Secretary also highlighted the need to fully computerize all the JJBs for which the Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare assured the Committee to raise the demand before concerned Authorities for release of funds.

Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority acknowledged the participation of Social Welfare Department in organizing Joint Awareness Programmes to spread awareness among the masses regarding the implementation of the JJ Act.

This meeting underlines the ongoing efforts and resolutions aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and improving the support systems for juvenile care and protection in the UT of

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Srinagar Faces

Qazigund and Kokernag likely recorded their hottest July temperatures ever, he informed.

However, despite witnessing the hottest July month, the ongoing August month is witnessing the above normal temperatures in Kashmir and a few areas of Jammu division.

Kupwara in north Kashmir was hottest in J&K today with 32.8 degree Celsius while Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 31.1 degree

The mercury in Qazigund settled at 31.4 degree Celsius while Pahalgam. Kokernag and Gulmarg recorded a maximum temperature of 27.8 degree Celsius, 30.9 degree Celsius and 21.0 degree Celsius.

The maximum temperature in Iammu settled at 30.5 degree Celsius while Banihal and Batote recorded 27.4 degree Celsius and 27.1 degree Celsius respectively.

Katra and Bhaderwah have recorded a maximum temperature of 28.4 derespectively.

Amidst the hot weather conditions, a few areas in South Kashmir have witnessed hailstorms, which affected the crops in the areas in Shopian district.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted brief spells of rain and thundershowers at many places of Jammu and Kashmir for the next one week till August 15. (KNO)

Women, Non-**Muslims**

Authority for survey of Waqf properties will now be given to the District Collector or their deputy. There will also be provision to lodge a High Court appeal within 90 days of the Board's

In addition, only practicing Muslims will be allowed to donate their property, movable or otherwise to the Waqf Council or Board. Also, only the legal owner can take this decision.

Under the current law, no Waqf property can be considered as such if there is dispute about its antecedents, particularly if there is a question about it being a government property. In such disputes officials will investigate and submit a report to the state, following which records will be adjusted.

In the new law, money received by the Waqf Board must be used for the welfare of widows, divorcees, and orphans, and that too in the manner suggested by the government.

Another key proposal is that women's inheritances must be protected and ensured.

Among major proposed changes are omission of Section 40 from the existing legislation, which allows the Board to classify properties; this meant it could declare any of its properties as Waqf. Instead, the District Collector. a Civil Service official, will now make that decision.

It provides for a broad-based composition of the Central Waqf Council and the State Waqf Boards and ensures the representation of Muslim women

and non-Muslims in such bodies. The Bill also proposes the establishment of a separate board of Augaf for the Bohras and Aghakhanis. The draft law provides for the representation of Shias, Sunnis, Bohras, Agakhanis and other backward classes among Muslim

What is Waqf, how much land it

Waqf is the permanent dedication of movable or immovable properties for religious, pious, or charitable purposes as recognized by Muslim law. It implies the endowment of property, whether moveable or immovable, tangible or intangible, to God by a Muslim, under the premise that the transfer will benefit the needy. There is a central Waqf board and several state boards.

The Waqf Act was first passed by Parliament in 1954. It was later repealed, and a new Wagf Act was passed in 1995, which gave more powers to Waqf Boards. In 2013, the Act was further amended to grant the Waqf Board extensive powers to designate property as 'Waqf Property.'

The Waqf board is said to be the third-largest landholder in India after the Railways and the Defence department. Currently, there are 872,292 registered Waqf properties spread across 8 lakh acres. These properties generate Rs 200 crore in revenue. Approximately 200 individuals control the state Waqf boards.

Protest Over Proposed Changes

Sources said the government wants the passage of the bill to be "inclusive", but will likely face fierce protests from the opposition and Waqf Boards across the country; the Tamil Nadu Board chief called the amendments a ploy by the ruling BJP to "weaken" and "destabilise" such organisations.

The All India Muslim Personal Law Board said any changes to the law "will not be tolerated".

The government, however, has dismissed such claims. Sources told the idea of the amendment is to empower Muslim women and children who "suffered" under the old law.

The objective, sources declared, is also to curb illegal occupancy by Waqf boards, who, combined, have the largest land holdings in the country around eight lakh acres; the Railways and the military have more but they are part of the government while the Waqf boards are private organisations.

Sources said the government is also willing to form a joint committee to study the bill.

Sources also claimed a "dangerous narrative" is being manufactured by certain Muslim clerics who are making wild statements that their land will be snatched. It has also been pointed out that these proposals are the results of extensive talks with stakeholders over the past two months.

The All India Sufi Sajjadanashin Council, for example, said Tuesday that it welcomed the government's decision to alter the functioning of Waqf boards, saying it was long due.

The 1995 Wakf Act was passed to regulate 'augaf' (assets donated and notified as Waqf) by a 'wakif' (the person who dedicates the property). The legislation was last amended in 2013.

Oppn Demands Sending It To Parliamentary Panel parties Opposition

Wednesday demanded that the Waqf (Amendment) Bill be sent to Parliament's standing committee for scrutiny after it is introduced, with

the government telling the Business Advisory Committee that it will take a call after assessing the sense of Lok

The government said at the Committee's meeting that it will not press for discussion on the Bill and its passage following its introduction in Lok Sabha on Thursday.

There is a strong possibility that the government may agree to refer the Bill, which is being opposed by some Muslim organisations, to a parliamentary panel. Sources said some parties, which have been supportive of the government's agenda, have also expressed their reservation over the proposed legislation.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said at the meeting of the Committee, which includes members from major parties and where the government discusses its proposed agenda, that the government will take a call whether or not to send the bill for parliamentary scrutiny on Thursday, the

Congress MP Gourav Gogoi and Trinamool Congress MP Sudin Bandyopadhya were among the opposition members who made the demand to send the Bill to Parliament's standing committee for scrutiny after it is introduced.

Incidentally, the department-related standing committees of Lok Sabha are yet to be constituted. The House may form a separate panel in the absence of the standing committee to scrutinise the Bill in case the government decides on such a course of action.

ECI To Visit

of political parties including the National Conference, Bharatiya Janta Party, Congress, Peoples Democratic Samaj Bahujan Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Aam Admi Party.

However, it wouldn't meet representatives of the Panthers Party, one of the three recognised state parties in J&K, as its name and symbol was frozen by the poll body on March 20,

After holding meetings with different political parties, the commission would hold a joint meeting with all deputy commissioners (DCs) and senior superintendents of police (SSPs). The meeting which would start at 2 pm and will be attended by all twenty DCs and twenty-three SSPs/SPs.

Later in the evening at 7 pm, the team would meet the chief electoral officer, state police nodal officer and coordinator central paramilitary forces to review preparedness for the polls.

As per the ECI's itinerary, the commission would hold a meeting with chief secretary Atul Dullo and director general of police RR Swain at 9 pm on

After concluding their meeting with the CS and the DGP, the commission would leave for Jammu and hold a meeting with different law enforcement agencies there at 1 am. The Commission is expected to ad-

2:30 pm before their departure to New Delhi at 4:40 pm. Notably, the Supreme Court had last year directed the commission to hold assembly polls in J&K by September 30

dress a news conference at around

No Alliance For

they will consult the Government of India and finalise the dates. They cannot finalise the dates themselves. Today, everything is done by the Government of India, (Prime Minister Narendra) Modiji and the home minister (Amit Shah)," he added.

Asked about the new Hajj policy, the NC president said the government

should not interfere in religious issues. "This government can do anything. But it will see its funeral one day and then we will see what the new government will do. This is not a big issue."

"Why will they stop someone from performing Hajj? People are not going on the government's money, but on their own. The government has stopped all the (Hajj) subsidies. How will they stop anyone? If anyone performs the Amarnath Yatra or Badrinath Yatra, can we tell him not to come again? What is this? This is a religious issue and the government should not put pressure on religious issues," he said.

To a question about the situation Bangladesh, the former Union minister said India has been left alone as none of its neighbours is its friend anymore.

"Bangladesh is a different issue, our country has a different issue. In Bangladesh, (Sheikh) Hasina was pro-India, but the people there were not pro-India. She ran the affairs till she could. Today, India should be ready to deal with dangers.

"Today, none of our neighbours is our friend. We are alone -- be it Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh or Sri Lanka. The regret is that this big brother has miffed the younger brothers," Abdullah said.

The need of the hour is the revival of the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) and India should fulfil its duty as the big brother,

India should sit with everyone and discuss their problems, which was the aim of the SAARC. "Only then can all our neighbours become our friends.' Abdullah said.

Notably, in the Lok Sabha polls, NC refused to ally with Peoples Democratic Party, a constituent of INDIA bloc. The party won Anantnag-Rajouri and Srinagar seats but lost Baramulla seat.

While NC candidate Mian Altaf defeated PDP president and former CM Mehbooba by a heavy margin of 2.80 lakh votes, it's candidate for Srinagar Aga Ruhullah Mehdi defeated PDP's Waheed- Ur- Rehman Parra by 1. 80 lakh votes. In Baramulla LS, NC candidate Omar Abdullah was defeated by Er. Rashid by nearly two lakh votes.

However, PDP ended up losing deposit there as it secured mere 27000

'Holding Polls

what the people (of the Union Territory) have got in the past five years," he said.

Addressing a rally at Nagri in Kathua district, Abdullah said holding assembly elections before the September 30 deadline set by the Supreme Court was no favour of the BJP-led Centre.

"They are speaking about 'naya (new)' and 'khushhal (prosperous)' Jammu and Kashmir (post Article 370 abrogation) but the situation on the ground is completely opposite and

that is why they could not hold assembly elections till date because of the fear of defeat," said Abdullah, a former chief minister of the erstwhile state.

Referring to Union minister G Kishan Reddy's statement that the assembly elections would be held in September, he said, "If they are talking about elections today, they are not doing any favour to us.'

"It was the Supreme Court, which set a deadline of September 30 for holding assembly elections while delivering its judgment on the Article 370 abrogation, otherwise they would have delayed it again on some pretext. Lt Governor (Manoj Sinha) also talked about holding the elections and we are eagerly waiting for the polls," he said.

Abdullah said there was no doubt about the sounding of the election bugle though earlier "we were concerned

whether the polls will be held or not". "After 2018 (when the PDP-BJP government collapsed), there has been no popular government in Jammu and Kashmir, which witnessed a major change in 2019," he said.

The Centre on August voked Article 370 of the Constitution that provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir. It also bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Abdullah said the BJP made a lot of promises while making the constitutional changes but nothing could be found on the ground five years down

"They talked about industrialisation, generating employment and improving our lives by ending terrorism. Today, given the situation, we are compelled to ask what have we achieved in five years?" he said.

No major projects or industries have been set up, inflation is at its peak and unemployment is the highest in the country while terrorism has spread to the peaceful Jammu region, Abdullah alleged.

"At that time, it was said the abrogation of Article 370 would open the doors of development with new factories coming up to accommodate our youngsters. From Kathua to Samba to Bari Brahmana (in Jammu region), one is only seeing those factories and industrial units that were already there," the National Conference leader said.

He said the BJP had claimed the abrogation of Article 370 was necessary to save Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani guns and conspiracy

"Today, I am speaking with authority that Kathua is not the way we left it in 2014 as there are frequent encounters and attacks and our brave security forces are sacrificing their lives. The situation is no different in Pir Panjal, Chenab Valley, Jammu and Udhampur and other parts of the Jammu region,"

Continuing his attack on the BJP, Abdullah said the administration was driving people out from their lands. granted to them by the National Conference government headed by party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah under a land-to-tiller scheme.

Jammu and Kashmir was the only place in the country where Dalits moved around with their heads held high and it was possible for them to get rights over land, Abdullah claimed.

"This is a place where you can see

a Dalit riding a horse to get his bride and no power can bring him down and force him to walk," he said.

Referring to the general elections, Abdullah said the Lok Sabha poll results showed that the National Conference was going to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We did not contest from Udhampur and Jammu and also lost our seat from Baramulla but, despite all this, the National Conference got the highest number of assembly seats," he said. "We do not want a government where we have to take support from anyone

Abdullah also advised leaders to work hard for strengthening the party in Kathua district.

Road Accidents

for front-seat passengers, safety norms for young children riding on motorcycles, and the implementation of advanced safety technologies," he said. (KNO)

Tourism Minister:

ture, mobile and road connectivity at offbeat destinations. We are ready for an all-out support to J&K and other states," the Minister said.

To a query about shortage of tourist guides in J&K, the minister said that the Centre is committed to increase the number of tourist guides in States. "Here, we have started online modules to enhance the skills of guides. We will also conduct new programs for guides including aspiring ones during off season to provide them training. This will also help increase their number," he

About the Bangladesh situation, he said it was unfortunate to see an elected government being toppled there. "We are vigilant and taking all steps to ensure there is no negative impact of the situation on India. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, terrorism is breathing its last and Naxalism has shrunk to just four districts of the country now," he said.

RR Swain Appointed

of charge till September 30, 2024, or until further orders, whichever is earlier," the ministry said in an order dated August 6.

His appointment comes at a time when there has been a spike in terror attacks in the Jammu region since June 9, including an attack on an army convoy in Kathua and encounters in Doda and Udhampur.

Open Invitation

stated that Nowgam flyover has been thrown open for the public while Sanatnagar flyover will be dedicated to the public in October.

He also stated that the work on Cement Bridge is also going on and is expected to be completed by October

or November. (KNO) **Man Dies In**

post-mortem, the officials said, adding the relatives of the deceased blocked the main road near Mathyal to protest his "custodial death".

The SDM along with the additional superintendent of police, Katra, met the protesters and persuaded them to disperse, assuring them that an inquiry is underway in connection with Dogra's death.

Sri Lanka Crush India By 110 Runs To Win ODI Series 2-0

Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: The shockingly clueless Indian batting unit was strangled by crafty Sri Lankan spinners, led by five-wicket man Dunith Wellalage, as Rohit Sharma's men crashed to an embarrassing 110-run defeat in the third and final ODI here on Wednesday.

Sri Lanka won the threematch series 2-0 after the first match ended in a tie, and this is the Islanders' first bilateral ODI series victory over India since

Chasing a competitive 249 on a sharp turner at Premadasa, India were bowled out for a woeful 138 in 26.1 overs, and the new head coach Gautam Gambhir will have a few hard points to ponder early into his stint.

The left-arm spinner Wellalage, who hurt India with the bat till now, chose to bruise the visitors by ball taking five for



27 after opener Avishka Fernando made a well-paced 96 to carry Lanka to 248 for seven.

However, India had a rather good beginning, despite the early departure of Shubman Gill, to their chase, courtesy Ro-

20 balls that included an 18-run over off Maheesh Theekshana.

The runs cascaded through a sequence of 6, 4, 4, 4 in the fourth over of the innings. But sweep, one of the favoured

downfall of the Indian skipper. His attempt to play it off

Wellalage ended in the hands of Kusal Mendis behind the

Once Rohit walked back,

the rest of the Indian batters submerged into a whirlpool of confusion.

Virat Kohli (20) played for turn when there was none and was adjudged leg before to

Wellalage. Rishabh Pant, who was play-ing his first ODI after his comeback from that horrific car crash, trotted down the track and was beaten in the air by Theekshana to eventually get stumped by Kusal.

Riyan Parag, who made his ODI debut while coming in place of Arshdeep Singh, offered no shot to a straight one from leg-spinner Jeffrey Vandersay to get bowled.

In between, Shreyas Iyer also fell leg before to Wellalage, taking the total number of lbw and clean bowled dismissals in this Indian innings to seven, and no other crumb of statistics will offer a clearer picture of the muddled Indian minds than that

13th District Anantnag Wushu **Championship 2024 Concludes**



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The 13th District Anantnag Wushu Championship 2024, organised by the District Anantnag Wushu Association, concluded on Wednesday at Indoor Stadium Bijbehara. The event saw the participation of 345 female athletes and

195 male athletes. The championship had District Youth Services and Sports Officer Raja Yaqoob as the chief guest, along with the Sub-Divisional Police Officer Bijbehara Asif Mujtaba and the Manager of the Indoor Stadium as guests of honor.

Aijaz Hassan, the Secretary of the District Wushu Association, congratulated his entire team, led by Aaqib Majeed, Joint Secretary of the District Anantnag Wushu Association and Head Coach of FSLD Fighter's Club.

The chief guest expressed admiration for the efforts of the association and extended full support from the District Youth Services and

Sports Office for future endeavors. The organisers extend their

heartfelt thanks to Kuldeep Handoo and Magsood Rather for their invaluable support.

YSS Anantnag District Level Cricket Tourney In Full Flow



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services & Sports Anantnag's District Level Cricket Tournament three matches were played on Wednesday.

In the first match, batting first, HSS Arwani made 97 runs, with Imran (34 runs) top scoring. For HSS Pahalgam, Affan and Aayan each took 3 wickets. In response, HSS Pahalgam chased the target, winning by 4 wickets. Shabir Ahmad led the scoring with 19 runs.

In another match DPS Sangam,

batting first, set a target of 111 runs, with Rehan Nabi scoring 52 runs. Ather from Public School Bijbehara took 3 wickets. In their reply, Public School Bijbehara struggled, losing by 45 runs. Zehran scored 25 runs. Rehan Nabi and Sujahat Bashir from DPS Sangam each took 4 wickets.

In the third match, batting first, HSS Srigufwara set a target of 100 runs, with Faizan Amin scoring 32 runs. Masroof from HSS Brakpora took 3 wickets. In reply, HSS Brakpora won by 5 wickets. Farhan scored 20 runs, and Salfi added 16 runs.

Babar, Rizwan, Shaheen Named In **Pakistan Squad For Bangladesh Tests**



Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Pakistan Wednesday dropped its plans to conduct a "major surgery" on the national team as it included senior players Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan and Shaheen Shah Afridi in the Test squad for the two-match

series against Bangladesh. The trio was under the scanner, failing to perform in the T20 World Cup Cup in June, where Pakistan was eliminated in the opening round.

After defeats to the USA and India, Pakistan Cricket chairman Mohsin Board Nagvi told the media that a "major surgery" was required now in the team, and later reports emerged about some players misbehaving during the tournament.

Acting on the advice of foreign head coaches Jason Gillispie and Gary Kirsten, the PCB decided to move on from the World Cup with no action against players.

The PCB, however, has retained Shan Masood as the red-ball skipper, while Saud Shakeel has been announced as his deputy, replacing Shaheen, who was made the vicecaptain for the last Test tour of Australia.

The Test squad includes two uncapped players -- Mohammad Huraira and Kamran Ghulam.

the Pakistan Test squad last year but didn't make his debut, whereas pacer Mohammad Ali has also been recalled after playing just Two Tests

against England in 2022. Of the 17 players picked for Pakistan's opening Test series of the 2024-25 season, 13 players were involved in their last series against Australia in December-January 2023-24.

Selectors said Huraira, Ghulam and Mohammad Ali have been rewarded for their consistent performances in the domestic circuit as well as for Pakistan Shaheens, while Naseem Shah is back in the red-ball format after recovering from an injury.

The players dropped from the last Test series that Pakistan played in Australia are opener Imam ul Haq, spinners Noman Ali, Muhammad Nawaz and Sajid Khan, all-rounder Faheem Ashraf and pacer Hasan Ali -- while Mohammad Waseem junior is injured.

The selectors have also included all-rounder Aamir Jamal in the Test squad, provided he clears fitness to

Pakistan will play two Tests against Bangladesh from August 21 as part of the ICC Test Championship schedule.

The national team would be playing nine Tests, 14 T20 Internationals and 17 ODIs this season at home and away.

The selectors also announced the Pakistan Shaheens squad for a series this month against the Bangladesh A side.

Pakistan Test squad: Shan Masood (c), Saud Shakeel (vc), Aamir Jamal (subject to Fitness), Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Kamran Ghulam, Khurram Shahzad, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Huraira, Mohammad Rizwan (wk), Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed (wk) and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

Explainer

All You Need To Know **About Vinesh Phogat's Disqualification**

Press Trust of India

PARIS: India's Vinesh Phogat lost a sure-shot Olympic medal in the women's 50 kg freestyle wrestling event after being found overweight by 100 grams. Here is a ready reckoner on what led to her disqualification.

What was Vinesh Phogat's original weight category before

Vinesh had always competed in the 53kg category. This time Antim Panghal qualified in that division and Vinesh had to

slash weight to compete in the 50 kg category.

What is the permissible weight in any category?

For Olympics, Asian Games, World Championships and Asian Championship, no wrestler gets even one gram concession. For the Ranking Series and Invitational events, one gets a concession of 2kg which means that in these events, one can be 52 kg on the bout day even if they are contesting in 50kg category. Sadly, for Vinesh, Olympic rules are strict.

Has Vinesh ever been disqualified from an International event for being over-weight?

Yes. She was once disqualified from an Olympic qualifying event prior to 2016 Rio Olympics for being over-weight by 400 grams.

What are the rules of weigh-in during Olympic

In Olympic Games, the competition is held across two days and on both days, competing wrestlers need to undergo weight check. On the first day of the competition, the wrestler needs to wear his singlet (wrestling apparel) and get his/her weight measured multiple times in a 30 minute window. Also the medical examination should clear them of any contagious diseases, their nails need to be clipped.

Those who qualify for the gold medal, bronze medal play-offs and repechage bouts again have to come for weigh in on the second day. But on the second day, the window for weigh-in is only 15 minutes and on the morning of the competition. This is where Vinesh's weight was found to be 50.1 kg. Once the 15 minute window was over, Vinesh's medal hopes were dashed.

If Vinesh weighed within permissible limits on Day 1, how did she become 'over-weight' on Day 2?

Vinesh had three bouts of six minutes each on the first day. Eighteen minutes of combat sports can drain a wrestler and he/she needs enough amount of hydration and nourishment.

As per Indian contingent's medical head Dr Din-shaw Pardiwala, every wrestler cuts his/her weight to fight in lesser categories. In case of Vinesh, she fought in 53kg mostly with a natural weight of 55 to 56 kg. Once Vinesh came into 50 kg category, she had to shed at least 6kg before every competition. The sudden weight-cut is an extremely difficult process.

After first day, she gained around 1.5 kg after replenishment. Once she had cut it, she couldn't do it in permissible time which was very less. Sudden weight cuts can also cause some serious physical ilments and doctors don't permit that

Why do you need a second day weigh-in if there

This is believed to have been done by United World Wrestling (UWW) to curb the doping menace when they changed the competition format for world and continental events from one to two days

Normally, the athletes do weight cutting going into the weigh-in day and once they are cleared, they hydrate and nourish themselves to gain energy and a bit of mass. The ones on higher end of weight spectrum are beneficiaries. Also for a single day event, it was believed that some wrestlers were using supplements between bouts and two-day event and double weigh-in was to put a spanner on that.

Could Vinesh have saved her medal if she would have withdrawn citing injury?

No, she would have still been disqualified. A popular theory doing the rounds is that her team should have declared her injured and retained the silver. But the rule wouldn't have permitted her to do so. The rule states that if a wrestler sustains injury during the competition on the first day, he/she doesn't need to appear on the second day for weigh-in.

MID, PDC Bemina Srinagar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir,

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION SKIMS/ JVC.

HQ: SKIMS Soura

Tel: 0194-2402617 Ext: 2159 email: - mechanicalskims@gmail.com

No: MHD/SKIMS/JVC/1935-42 **SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS** Dt:-03 .08.2024

GSIT of E-NIT NO. MHD/SKIMS/JVC 19 0F 2024-25 dated.03/08/2024 For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited in two cover system (Technical and financial) on

percentage basis from Registered,	ercentage basis from Registered , reputed & experienced firms for execution of below mentioned work;									
	Est. / ceiling-	Cost of T/	Earnest	Time of		Position of Funds				
Name of Work	Cost (Rs. in	Doc. (In	Money (In	completion	AA accorded					
	Lacs)	rupees)	rupees)	(in months)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
Annual operation of Sewage	29.88	29.88 1500/-		12	Accorded vide 60 of	Available with In-				
Treatment Plant in SKIMS	29.00	1500/-	60000/-	12	2024-25 Dt22.05.2024	denting Department				

- Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 05/08/2024(12.30hrs) and can be downloaded from 05/08/2024 (2.00hrs).
- Uploading:- The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 05/08/2024(3.00hrs) to 12/08/2024(15:30hrs) in two (02) covers.
- Opening of Bids:-The bids received up-to due date and time shall be opened on 13/08/2024 (14.00 hrs) or any date convenient to the Department in the office of Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospital Division SKIMS/JVC.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, DIPK-4305-24 Mechanical and Hospital Division DT: 07/08/2024 SKIMS/JVC

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER **MECHANICAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION PDC BEMINA SRINAGAR**

Email: xenmidkmr@gmail.com

GIST of e-NIT. No:- 08 of 2024-25 Dated:- 05/08/2024

For and on behalf of the Managing Director JKPDC; e-tenders in Two-Cover System (Technical & Financial) from Registered, reputed and resourceful Mechanical / Electrical Contractors / SSI Unit holders with relevant experience in execution of similar job, are invited from the office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical Investigation Division PDC Bemina, for below mentioned work

S. No	Particulars	cost (In lacs)	Fee (In Rs.)	Class of Contract	Time of completion	submission start date	submission end date	Opening of technical bids
1	ANNUAL PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE OF 5 TON COLLES CRANE AT NLP BARAMULLA	0.50	200/-	Registered Mechanical/ Electrical Contractors / SSI Unit holders with relevant experience in execution of similar job.	10 days	06/08/24	27/08/24	29/08/24

Position of funds: Budgeted

Date:- 05/08/2024

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS:

- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms & conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the e-Nit portal website www.jktenders.gov.in upto said bidding schedule. The e-Nit GIST is also published on departmental website www.JKSPDC.nic.in.
- 2. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in upto said bidding schedule time and date with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and no financial bids will be accepted on physical form.

DT: 07/08/2024

No: - MID/PDC/Tech/436-445 DIPK-NB-1238-24 **Engineer Executive**

US judge brands Google 'monopolist', but AI may bring about quicker change in internet search



A federal judge has branded Google as a ruthless monopolist bent on suffocating its competitors. But how do you go about creating alternatives to a search engine that's synonymous with internet exploration?

It's a process that may take years to unfold as Google appeals the landmark decision issued Monday by U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta. And with that kind of time frame looming, the forces of technological upheaval may make the

exercise moot. The rise of artificial intelligence may reshape the landscape more quickly and profoundly than any judge ever could. The way consumers navigate the internet is more likely to be affected by advances in Al products — such as OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's own Gemini before a nearly 4-year-old case brought by the U.S. Justice Department is finally resolved.

Even so, Mehta's 277-page ruling Monday creates challenges for Google that company founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin probably didn't envision when they set out to revolutionize internet search while attending Stanford University as graduate students. They eventually dropped out to start a Silicon Valley company in 1998 that adopted "Don't Be Evil" as a motto that also was meant to serve as its corporate conscience.

Page and Brin, who remain the controlling shareholders of Google's corporate parent Alpha-

bet Inc., also cast their cuddly startup as a crusader for technology that would be far better than the products coming out of Microsoft, the industry's reigning kingpin at the time. Microsoft's dominance of personal computer software and anticompetitive tactics during the 1990s spurred another Justice Department case that ended up hobbling Microsoft and helped make it easier for Google to build its lead in search and then expand into maps, cloud computing, email (Gmail), web browsers (Chrome) and video (YouTube).

Now, the script has been flipped, with Google facing potential legal constraints, while a resurgent Microsoft has been making early headway in AI with a major helping hand from its investment in OpenAI. In one of the most dramatic scenarios that most experts think is unlikely to happen, Google might be forced to break up its business similar to how AT&T – once known as "Ma Bell" — ended up spinning off its telephone subsidiaries into separate "Baby Bells" more than 40 years ago.

It will be left to Google CEO Sundar Pichai, who took over the company's leadership from Page in 2015, to minimize the distractions caused by the legal skirmishing still to come and remain focused on an industrywide pivot to AI technology that's expected to be as revolutionary as the mobile computing shift by Apple's introduction of the iPhone in 2007.

Hiroshima remembers atom bomb victims as 'global tragedies' unfold

American Science Opens New Epoch ---

ATOMIC POWER UNLEASHED ON JAPAN

One Bomb Uses The Oregonian Weather Report Atoms by Billion Single Bomb Shatters Enemy City; Secret Weapon Made in Northwest



Shortening of War Seen

Quit or Be Destroyed, Truman Warns Tokyo;

Wallop Like Volcano RICHLA

Agenceis

The Mayor of Hiroshima said on Tuesday (August 6, 2024) that wars in Ukraine and Gaza were deepening fear and distrust worldwide while observing the 79th anniversary of the atomic bombing that devastated the Japanese city.

Kazumi Matsui made a sombre speech at a memorial event to commemorate the victims of the U.S. nuclear attack on August 6, 1945 that left around 1,40,000 people dead.

"Russia's protracted invasion of Ukraine and the worsening situation between Israel and Palestine are claiming the lives of countless innocent people and shattering

normal life", he said. "These global tragedies are deepening distrust and fear among nations, reinforcing the public assumption that to solve international problems we have to rely on military force, which we should be re-

Days after the 1945 Hiroshima attack, a second U.S. nuclear bomb hit Nagasaki in southwest Japan, killing around 74,000 people. The two strikes led to the end of the Second World War, and to this day Japan remains the only country to be hit by atomic weapons in wartime.

During Tuesday's (August 6, 2024) ceremony, dignitaries including Prime Minister Fumio Kishida - all clad in black suits - bowed deeply and laid wreaths at the memorial cenotaph featuring the inscription "rest in peace".

Today, Hiroshima is a thriving metropolis of 1.2 million people, but the ruins of a domed building stand in the city centre as a stark reminder of the attack's horrors.

Not invited For the third year running, Russia and Belarus were not invited to the ceremony because of the Ukraine crisis.It

was the city's first peace memorial since Israel launched a military offensive on Gaza last year following an attack by Palestinian militant group Hamas on the country.

The Israeli Ambassador attended the ceremony as usual, but according to local media. Hiroshima has never invited a Palestinian representative. "That an invitation was not extended to Palestine is shocking", the Permanent General Mission of Palestine to Japan said on social media platform X last month.
A city official said in June

that Hiroshima had called for a "ceasefire as soon as possible and resolution through dialogue" in its invitation letter to Israel.

Israel's Ambassador has not, however, been invited to the Nagasaki peace ceremony this year. Nagasaki has said the decision was not politically motivated, but rather taken to avoid any unexpected trouble.

Israel lobby spends millions to unseat US lawmaker critical of Gaza war



Agenceis

Rep. Cori Bush, D-Mo., and Rep. Rashida Tlaib, D-Mich., speak during a news conference at the US Capitol, May 8, 2024, in Washington (Photo credit: AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)

The pro-Israel lobby in the US is pouring millions into a campaign to unseat an African-American Congresswoman from Missouri, Cori Bush, as part of a broader effort to replace critics of Israel's war in Gaza with more Israel-friendly Democrats, The Washington Post reported on 6 August.

"It's because I called for a cease-fire in Gaza," Bush told a potential voter as she campaigned door-todoor in her district. "That's where all of this started."

Bush is facing a tight primary contest Tuesday against St Louis County Prosecutor and fellow African-American and Democrat Wesley Bell, who is supported by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the largest and most powerful pro-Israel group in the US.

Whoever wins the primary will run against the Republican party's candidate for the congressional seat in November.

Outside groups have already spent over \$15 million in Missouri's 1st Congressional district race, with 80 percent of the funds going toward ads opposing Bush and supporting her AIPACbacked opponent.

In June, AIPAC and other pro-Israel groups spent \$17 million to help defeat another progressive African-American member of the US Congress who was critical of the Gaza war, Democrat Jamaal Bowman from New York.

The Washington Post adds that the National Black Empowerment Action Fund (NBEA), founded by AIPAC veteran Darius Jones, donated \$1 million to the . campaign against Bush last week.

Most of the voters in Bush's district with whom the Washington Post spoke said they did not know that AIPAC and other Israel lobby groups were so involved in tipping the race. "It's deceitful," Bush said in an

interview. "If AIPAC and UDP decided to run [Bell] because they want someone who is going to say that they stand 100 percent with Israel ... then say that in the commercials."

"What they want to do is show that if you go against them, then you are at risk," she added.

After the 2022 Congressional elections, AIPAC announced that 95 percent of its candidates won their races.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu boasted decades ago that Israel controls the US government and public opinion. "We own the Senate, the Congress, and we have a record-strong Jewish lobby on our side. We have a strong influence over the general support. America won't force us into anything," he said.





OBSERVER

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OUR SPECIAL PROGRAMMES ...

THE OTHER SIDE



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UNRAVEL KASHMIR