

# KASHMIR OBSERVER

Thursday 15 August 2024 | Srinagar | Vol: 27 | Issue: 192 | Pages: 12 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

## Social Justice Govt's Top Priority: President

» 'Matter Of Pride That India Has Become 5th Largest Economy' » Says India A Vocal Voice Of Global South

### Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday declared that the groundwork has been laid for a new era of economic reforms aimed at elevating India to the status of a developed nation.

In her address to the nation on the eve of India's 78th Independence Day, the President highlighted India's impressive economic trajectory and said the country has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy, boasting an average annual GDP growth rate of 8 per cent between 2021 and 2024.

"It is a matter of pride that India has become the fifth-largest economy in the world, and we are on the



culsp of breaking into the top three economies soon," she remarked.

The President attributed this remarkable progress to the relentless efforts of workers and farmers, the foresight of | More on P11

### PM To Deliver Speech 11th Time In A Row

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unfurl the national flag for the 11th time in a row on Thursday on Independence Day -- the centrepiece annual event where he lays out his government's agenda, presents its report card, makes important policy and programme announcements and speaks about burning issues.

His first Independence Day address of his third term will take him past Manmohan Singh, who unfurled the tricolour 10 times from the ramparts of Red Fort during 2004-2014, and place him behind Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, who did the honours 17 | More on P11

### LG, DGP Greet People

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Wednesday greeted the people on the eve of Independence Day. "On the joyous occasion of 78th Independence Day, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of Jammu Kashmir. Today I pay my tribute to all | More on P11

### INSIDE

- » Tiranga' Rallies Held In Kashmir
- » Rising Terror Attacks: Rajnath Singh Chairs Key Security Meeting
- » I-Day: JKP Gets 50 Medals For Gallantry
- » KO Journalist Awarded E4M Journalism Award
- » Army Captain, Terrorist Killed In Doda Encounter
- » J&K Assembly Elections: EC Meets Home Secretary

**HAPPY 78<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**Towards VIKSIT BHARAT**

Celebrating Digital Freedom and Financial Empowerment

**J&K Bank** | YOUR BANK SINCE 1938  
Serving To Empower

DIPK-NB-1551/24 Dated: 14.08.2024

**78<sup>th</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

सत्यमेव जयते

DIPK-4774/24 Dated: 14.08.2024



Study Uses Music To Trigger Responses In Brains Of Patients Resistant To Depression Treatment

Press Trust Of India

Western classical music can help activate brains of patients who do not respond to anti-depression treatment, according to a study. The results, published in the journal Cell Reports, could help develop personalised music therapy plans for patients with treatment-resistant depression...



experiencing pleasure. The researchers found that classical music worked as an antidepressant by harmonising activity between the three brain regions -- the auditory cortex, involved in listening, the BNST (manages stress) and the NAC (helps experience pleasure).

scores the close relationship between this circuit and the amygdala, a central structure in emotional information processing... senior author Bomin Sun, director and professor of the Centre for Functional Neurosurgery at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, said.

ASF ENTERPRISES
Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar (J&K), Ph.0194-24 77949, 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.

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Tilgam
Executive Magistrate 1st Class
Application of Irfan Ahmad Baba s/o Gh Mohd Baba R/o Wani-gam Bala for obtaining RBA certificate in favour of self
PUBLIC NOTICE
General Public is hereby informed through this notice that the applicant file is currently under process in the office of undersigned regarding obtaining RBA certificate...

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan
Executive Magistrate 1st Class
Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth
Public Notice
The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Abu Bakr Dar s/o Tauseef Ahmad Dar R/O Saidpora Dangeerpora Tehsil Dangeerpora District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 08/07/2021 occurred at SDH Pattan

The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education
New Campus Bemina Srinagar
Notice for General Public
The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-
Roll No: 261464
Class 10th Matric
Year & Session : September 1995
Registration:
Name : Fayaz Ahmad Khan
Father's Name: Gh Rasool Khan
Mother's Name : Rehti Begum
Date of Birth:- 01-01-1977
Resident:- Rathsun Beerwah Budgam

OFFICE OF ADVOCATE YAKOUB HUSSAIN SOFI
J&K HIGH COURT SRINAGAR
CHAMBER NO. 07 MUNSIF/JMFC AT MAGAM
Cell No. 9906517553, 9419068005
In the case of.
I. Mohammad Abdullah Malla
S/O Mohammad Assadullah Malla
R/O Kuchaypora Magam District Budgam

PUBLIC NOTICE
The electricity connection with consumer ID .0201020005172 registered in the name of Mohd Yousuf Baktooo S/o Sonaulah Baktooo R/o Abi Buchwara Srinagar is to be transferred in favour of Mushtaq Ahmad S/o Jalal ul Din Dar R/o Abi Buchwara Dalgate Srinagar. Objection if any, same must reach Sub Division Basant Bagh within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-
Roll No: 261464
Class 10th Matric
Year & Session : September 1995
Registration:
Name : Fayaz Ahmad Khan
Father's Name: Gh Rasool Khan
Mother's Name : Rehti Begum
Date of Birth:- 01-01-1977
Resident:- Rathsun Beerwah Budgam

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
R/o Seerat Gul
R/o Nowgam Sumbal
A/C No: 0729-0420-0000-0089
J&K Bank Branch : Gadakhud Gammadoo
IFSC Code: JAKAOGAMUDD
Cell No: 9622428470

PUBLIC NOTICE
My name has been wrongly written in my Bank Account details as Gulzar Sheikh S/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheikh while my correct name is Gul Sheikh S/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheikh which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Branch Manager J&K Bank Dalgate within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Gul Sheikh S/O Ghulam Ahmad Sheikh
R/O Dooni Khud Buchwara Dalagate

Subject. Grant of registration of the proposed Homestay unit under the name & Style of M/s. ASTOURA HOMESTAY " situated at MEHJOOR NAGAR, SRINAGAR
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas I Mr./Ms Shazia Bashir W/o Asif Majid Khan R/o Zero Bridge Raj Bagh, Srinagar intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed Homestay unit under the name and style " M/s. ASTOURA HOMESTAY " situated at MEHJOOR NAGAR, SRINAGAR KASHMIR under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Subject. Grant of registration of the proposed Homestay unit under the name & Style of M/s. ANJEER VILLA " situated at NISHAT NEAR HDFC BANK, SRINAGAR
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas I Mr./Ms NUSRAT W/o MOHAMMAD RAFIQ R/o NISHAT, SRINAGAR intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed Homestay unit under the name and style " M/s. ANJEER VILLA " situated at NISHAT NEAR HDFC BANK, SRINAGAR KASHMIR under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Subject. Grant of registration of the proposed Homestay unit under the name & Style of M/s. THE BAKSHI COTTAGE " situated at PAHALGAM, KASHMIR
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas I Mr./Ms PARVEZ BAKSHI S/o A.M BAKSHI R/o SONWAR, SRINAGAR intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed Homestay unit under the name and style " M/s. THE BAKSHI COTTAGE " situated at PAHALGAM, KASHMIR under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانب فروس احمدکار و سمیرا اختر اولادان غلام قادر کارماتک ماموسہ براد اجرائی OBC بچہ خود
اشتراک ہرخاص وعام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدمہ میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ کار پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاض ہے کہ ساکن واقعی زرگزات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن چن میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے غلام قادر کارماتک ماموسہ 54 سال
رفیقہ بیگم زوجہ غلام قادر گھریلو کام 52 سال
فروس احمد کارماتک ماموسہ 28 سال
سمیرا اختر زوجہ غلام قادر زریعیتم 25 سال
ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کنڈیزیل میوار آمدنی 12000 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کارگری شخص کو کوئی عزیایا عزیاض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سانسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریعہ عزیاض ودالت حد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میجا کوئی مذریعہ عزیاض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار FKO

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانب مشتاق احمد زکر ولد عبدل اعد زرگر ساکن پٹن براد اجرائی OBC بچہ عنان مشتاق و سرین مشتاق
اشتراک ہرخاص وعام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدمہ میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ زرگر پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاض ہے کہ ساکن واقعی زرگزات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن چن میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے مشتاق احمد زکر ولد عبدل اعد زرگر گورنمنٹ ملازم
شاہین بیگم زوجہ مشتاق احمد گھریلو کام
عنان مشتاق پسر مشتاق احمد زریعیتم
سرین مشتاق دختر مشتاق احمد --
ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کنڈیزیل میوار آمدنی 63897 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کارگری شخص کو کوئی عزیایا عزیاض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سانسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریعہ عزیاض ودالت حد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میجا کوئی مذریعہ عزیاض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار FKO

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانب محمد سلیم آہنگر و گل بی بی پسران غلام نبی آہنگر ساکن بانچی ویرہ براد اجرائی OBC بچہ خود
اشتراک ہرخاص وعام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدمہ میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ آہنگر پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاض ہے کہ ساکن واقعی زرگزات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن بانچی ویرہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے غلام نبی آہنگر ولد غلام نبی الدین زمینداری 70 سال
راہین بیگم زوجہ غلام نبی گھریلو کام 58 سال
جاوید احمد ولد غلام نبی زمینداری 40 سال
کنکلی بی بی ولد غلام نبی گورنمنٹ ملازم 34 سال
محمد سلیم ولد غلام نبی زریعیتم 30 سال
نصرت بی بی دختر غلام نبی -- 29 سال
ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کنڈیزیل میوار آمدنی 64499 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کارگری شخص کو کوئی عزیایا عزیاض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سانسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریعہ عزیاض ودالت حد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میجا کوئی مذریعہ عزیاض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار FKO

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانب عادل احمد و محمد پسران عبدل اعد شیر گوری ساکن پٹن براد اجرائی OBC بچہ خود
اشتراک ہرخاص وعام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدمہ میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ شیر گوری پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاض ہے کہ ساکن واقعی شیر گوری ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن ماموسہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے عبدل اعد شیر گوری ولد عبدل اعد مزدوری 55 سال
زوت بیگم زوجہ عبدل اعد شیر گوری گھریلو کام 54 سال
عادل احمد ولد عبدل اعد زریعیتم 30 سال
محمد احمد ولد عبدل اعد شیر گوری زریعیتم 28 سال
ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کنڈیزیل میوار آمدنی 7000 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کارگری شخص کو کوئی عزیایا عزیاض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سانسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریعہ عزیاض ودالت حد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میجا کوئی مذریعہ عزیاض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار FKO

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانب عادل احمد و محمد پسران عبدل اعد شیر گوری ساکن پٹن براد اجرائی OBC بچہ خود
اشتراک ہرخاص وعام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدمہ میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ آہنگر پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاض ہے کہ ساکن واقعی زرگزات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن بانچی ویرہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے غلام نبی آہنگر ولد غلام نبی الدین زمینداری 70 سال
راہین بیگم زوجہ غلام نبی گھریلو کام 58 سال
جاوید احمد ولد غلام نبی زمینداری 40 سال
کنکلی بی بی ولد غلام نبی گورنمنٹ ملازم 34 سال
محمد سلیم ولد غلام نبی زریعیتم 30 سال
نصرت بی بی دختر غلام نبی -- 29 سال
ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہ ہے اور کنڈیزیل میوار آمدنی 64499 روپے تک ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کارگری شخص کو کوئی عزیایا عزیاض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سانسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مذریعہ عزیاض ودالت حد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میجا کوئی مذریعہ عزیاض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار FKO

## Army Captain, Terrorist Killed In Doda Encounter



Observer News Service

Jammu: An Army captain and a terrorist were killed in an ongoing operation in the higher reaches of Jammu region's Doda district on Wednesday, officials said.

A civilian was also injured in the encounter that broke out on the eve of Independence Day and is the latest in a series of incidents in the Jammu region that has witnessed a spike in violence of late.

This is the fourth encounter in recent days in the Udhampur-Doda-Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bullets rang out on Wednesday morning in a thickly-forested

area during a cordon-and-search operation (CASO) launched by a joint team of security personnel to track down a group of foreign terrorists hiding in the Shivgarh-Assar belt, the officials said.

Captain Deepak Singh was critically injured during the operations and shifted to a military hospital where he succumbed to his injuries, they added.

"One terrorist has been neutralised in the ongoing operation. One AK 47 has been recovered. Intermittent exchange of firing continues as the operations are ongoing," the Army said in a post on X.

Police also confirmed the killing of a terrorist. | More on P11

## Rajnath Singh Chairs Key Security Meet

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh convened a high-level meeting today focusing on the rising number of terror-related incidents in Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting, held at the South Block in New Delhi, was attended by top officials National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval and Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi. The meeting was called in response to a series of terror-related incidents that have plagued Jammu and Kashmir in | More on P11

## I-Day: JKP Gets 50 Medals For Gallantry, Meritorious Service

### SSP Imtiyaz Hussain to get President's Medal

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Jammu and Kashmir Police has bagged 50 medals for gallantry and meritorious services on the eve of 78th Independence Day.

According to the full list of awardees announced by the Union Home Ministry on Wednesday, a total of 50 personnel from J&K Police figure



in the list of awardees.

As per details, two officers have been chosen for the President's Medal for Distinguished Services.

Imtiyaz Hussain Mir (SSP) and Joginder Singh (SSP) have been awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Services.

According to details, 31 J&K Police personnel will be awarded medals | More on P11

## 'Tiranga' Rallies Held In Kashmir

The streets of Kashmir were dotted with the Tricolour on Wednesday as several 'Tiranga' rallies were organised in the Valley on the eve of the 78th Independence Day. The rallies were held under the Centre's 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, officials said. A walkathon was organised by the Srinagar Sector of | More on P11

## J&K Assembly Polls

## Home Secy On Board With EC's Security Assessment: Sources



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Union Home Ministry is learnt to have conveyed to the Election Commission its readiness to

provide adequate security personnel for assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, sources said on Wednesday.

The assurance was given by Union Home | More on P11

## Poll Schedule Likely On August 20 Or 21

The Union Home Ministry on Wednesday assured the Election Commission of India (ECI) that sufficient security will be provided for the upcoming assembly election in Jammu & Kashmir, sources disclosed. The ECI on Wednesday held a meeting with Union | More on P11

## JKCA Case: HC Gives Dr Farooq Big Relief

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday quashed chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) against National Conference patron and former chief minister Farooq Abdullah and five other persons regarding money laundering probe linked to alleged multi-crore J&K Cricket Association fund misappropriation case.

"The complaint, the charge-sheet and the charges framed

by the designated Special Court (Principal Sessions Court, Srinagar) vide order dated 18.03.2020 are quashed," a bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar said on a plea filed by Ahsan Mirza and Mir Manzoor Gazanffer.

"It is, however, made clear that notwithstanding quashing of the charges, it shall remain open to the Enforcement Director to register ECIR (Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) afresh and launch prosecution against the | More on P11

against the | More on P11

## KO Journalist Bags Award


Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a proud moment for Kashmir Observer, Nazir Ganaie, Multimedia Head at the organization has been awarded the prestigious Exchange4Media 40 Under 40 Award of Excellence in Journalism from Jammu and Kashmir.

Ganaie received the award on Tuesday, August 13 at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi. The award recognizes the country's top young journalists for their exceptional contributions to the field.

E4M English Journalism 40 Under 40 Awards is an annual gathering that celebrates excellence in journalism, recognizes outstanding contributions to the field, and provides a platform for thought-provoking discussions on the evolving landscape of media and journalism.

Ganaie expressed gratitude towards his | More on P11



सत्यमेव जयते  
Government of India

# Greetings to all fellow citizens on 78<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

## Jai Hind


---

Best wishes to all fellow citizens on Independence Day. At this historic moment, let's strengthen the resolve of building Viksit Bharat during the Amrit Kaal.

**- Narendra Modi**

**Hoist Tiranga at your home and adorn it with colours of national unity, pride and progress**

To upload selfie with Tiranga  
visit [harghartiranga.com](http://harghartiranga.com) or scan the QR code



cbc 22201/13/0006/2425

## Kolkata Rape: OPD Services Hit Across Country As Doctors' Strike Continues

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: OPD services in government hospitals of several states across the country remained affected on Tuesday as the resident doctors' strike over the alleged rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee in Kolkata entered its second day, even as the CBI took over the investigation in the case.

The Federation of Resident Doctors' Association (FORDA), which called for a nationwide indefinite strike over the incident, on Tuesday night said it was calling off its strike as Union Health Minister J P Nadda has accepted their demands.

However, the medics at the central government-run AIIMS, the Indira Gandhi Hospital and other resident doctors' associations, including the Federation of All India Medical Associations (FAIMA), said their strike would continue until a central law to

nite strike. While all elective services in hospitals across the state have been halted, emergency services will continue uninterrupted, Maharashtra State Association of Residential Doctors (Central-MARD) president Dr Pratik Debaje told PTI.

"From 9 am, we stopped work at all OPDs (out-patient departments), and elective services have been stopped. Now, only emergency services are operational across the state," Dr Debaje said.

Meanwhile, the Calcutta High Court on Tuesday ordered the transfer of probe into the case from the Kolkata Police to the CBI.

While transferring the investigation to the CBI, a division bench presided by Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam also urged agitating doctors to call off their cease-work, maintaining that there is a "pious obligation" on their part to treat patients who come to government hospitals.

After the high court's direc-



## US Approves \$20bn Arms Package For Israel Amid Looming Iran Threat

Agencies

Washington: The United States has approved another \$20bn in weapons transfers to Israel, despite concerns that Israeli forces are routinely violating international law in Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken approved the arms sale, which includes fighter jets and missiles, the US Department of State announced on Tuesday.

"The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to US national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defence capability," the State Department said.

The order includes Boeing-made F-15 fighter jets, Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles, or AMRAAMS, 120mm tank ammunition and high explosive mortars and tactical vehicles.

Some of the weapons, including the more than 50 fighter jets, could take years to deliver. Other equipment, such as 33,000 tank shells and 50,000 explosive mortar cartridges, could arrive soon.

The US said that the tank shells "will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future enemy threats, strengthen its homeland defence and serve as a deterrent to regional threats".

The announcement came as Israel expects retaliation from Iran and Lebanon-based Hezbollah following the assassinations of high-level Hamas and Hezbollah officials, which have raised concerns over the possibility of a regional war.

The US has said it is working to avoid such an escalation.

President Joe Biden on Tuesday said an Iranian response might be avoided if a ceasefire agreement was reached to end the war in Gaza where Israeli forces have killed nearly 40,000 people, largely women and children, levelled entire neighbourhoods and blocked shipments of humanitarian assistance.

Critics have called on the Biden administration to cut off weapons transfers to Israel, alleging that they make the US complicit in the destruction of Gaza.

They also note that the supply of arms is a potential source

of leverage, but that the administration has refused to exploit it to secure a ceasefire.

Reports that Israeli forces are systematically violating international law and committing abuses such as torture have also failed to stop the flow of weapons, despite requirements under US law that military units credibly accused of gross human rights violations be cut off from support.

Speaking before a meeting of the United Nations Security Council, called on Tuesday to discuss the deadly weekend air strike on a school-turned-shelter in Gaza, US ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said her country's goal in the region was to "turn the temperature down".

"That starts with finalising a deal for an immediate ceasefire with hostage release in Gaza. We need to get this over the finish line," she said.

"Pouring gasoline on fire" Tarek Khalil, a Palestinian human rights activist, told Al Jazeera that the US has the power to force Israel to sign a ceasefire deal in Gaza by withholding weapons.



A key outcome of the meeting was the health minister's agreement to form a committee with FORDA's involvement to work on the Central Protection Act. The ministry has assured that work on this will begin within the next 15 days

curb attacks on medical personnel is implemented.

A delegation of FORDA met with Mr Nadda at his residence in New Delhi on Tuesday night.

FORDA said the decision to end the strike will be effective from Wednesday morning.

"A key outcome of the meeting was the health minister's agreement to form a committee with FORDA's involvement to work on the Central Protection Act. The ministry has assured that work on this will begin within the next 15 days," the resident doctors' body said in a statement.

In West Bengal, the epicentre of the protest, a widespread agitation by junior doctors crippled state healthcare services, with the functioning of even emergency and outdoor departments coming to a halt in most government hospitals.

Long queues of patients were seen at out-patient departments (OPDs) of all government hospitals since Tuesday morning as senior doctors were substituting their junior counterparts to address the rush.

In the national capital, elective services in government hospitals remained shut on Tuesday due to the ongoing strike.

On Tuesday, resident doctors in Maharashtra joined the indefi-

tion, the CBI took over the investigation and a team of the central agency sleuths from Delhi, along with forensic scientists and medical experts, will visit Kolkata on Wednesday, officials said.

The direction was passed in the wake of a petition moved by the victim's parents praying for a court-monitored probe and multiple other PILs seeking probe transfer to the CBI.

The interim order came five days after the gruesome incident that took place at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

The body of the postgraduate trainee with severe injury marks all over was found inside the seminar hall of the state-run hospital's chest department on Friday morning. The preliminary autopsy report suggested she was subjected to violent sexual assault.

Despite the Kolkata Police arresting a civic volunteer named Sanjay Roy in this connection on Saturday, the move failed to silence the clamour of allegations of a botched up investigation and evidence tampering which have now snowballed into an outrage of junior doctors spreading across medical campuses of the state and beyond.

## No Soap, No Water: Girls In War-Torn Gaza Forced To Cut Their Hair

Agencies

Deir Al-Balah, Gaza: When girls complain to Gaza paediatrician Lobna al-Azaiza that they have no comb, she tells them to cut off their hair.

It's not just combs. Israel's blockade of the territory, ravaged by 10 months of war, means there is little or no shampoo, soap, period products or household cleaning materials.

Waste collection and sewage treatment have also collapsed, and it's easy to see why contagious diseases that thrive on overcrowding and lack of cleanliness - such as scabies or fungal infections - are on the rise.

"In the past period, the most common disease we have seen was skin rashes, skin diseases, which

have many causes, including the overcrowding in the camps, the increased heat inside the tents, the sweating among children, and the lack of sufficient water for bathing," the doctor said.

Azaiza used to work at Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahia until Israeli tanks separated the north of the besieged enclave from the south.

Like most of Gaza's medics, she has adapted and continues to treat patients, walking to work past her own ruined house, demolished by an Israeli strike.

The tent clinic she set up with a small team began by treating children but has by necessity become a practice for whole families, most of whom have also been ordered or bombed out of their homes, like the vast majority of

Gaza's 2.3 million people.

Even the medication that is available is often unaffordable; a tube of simple burn ointment can now cost 200 shekels (\$53).

International aid deliveries have been dramatically reduced since Israel seized control of the Rafah border crossing from Egypt, exacerbating a humanitarian crisis.

Israel denies responsibility for delays in getting urgent humanitarian aid in, saying that the UN and others are responsible for its distribution inside the enclave.

Azaiza has little doubt about where the immediate solution lies: "The border crossing must be opened so that we can bring in medications, as most of the current ones are ineffective; zero effect, there is no effect on the skin diseases that we see."

## "Every Symbol Of India's Ties With Bangladesh Is Being...": Shashi Tharoor

Agencies

New Delhi: Amid the ongoing violence in Bangladesh, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said that it is difficult for people in India to be indifferent when every symbol of the country's friendship with Bangladesh is being attacked there.

Pointing to the turmoil in Bangladesh, Mr Tharoor said it is tragic to see what was hailed as a democratic revolution degenerating into anarchy, and violence targeting the minorities and the Hindu minority.

"It's extremely tragic that what was hailed as a democratic, popular revolution has degenerated into anarchy, and violence targeting the minorities and the Hindu minority... We in India must stand with the people of Bangladesh. But it's difficult for us to be indifferent when every symbol of gross human rights violations be cut off from support.

Speaking before a meeting of the United Nations Security Council, called on Tuesday to discuss the deadly weekend air strike on a school-turned-shelter in Gaza, US ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said her country's goal in the region was to "turn the temperature down".

"That starts with finalising a deal for an immediate ceasefire with hostage release in Gaza. We need to get this over the finish line," she said.

"Pouring gasoline on fire" Tarek Khalil, a Palestinian human rights activist, told Al Jazeera that the US has the power to force Israel to sign a ceasefire deal in Gaza by withholding weapons.

## Over 4,000 Lights Installed In Ayodhya's Bhakti Path And Ram Path Stolen, Fir Filed



Press Trust Of India

Ayodhya : As many as 3,800 bamboo and 36 projector lights worth over Rs 50 lakh installed on Bhakti Path and Ram Path, located in a high-security area in Ayodhya, were allegedly stolen, according to police.

An FIR was lodged at the Ram Janmabhoomi police station following a complaint on August 9 from a representative of the firm - Yash Enterprises and Krishna Automobiles - which set up the lights under a contract awarded by the Ayodhya Development Authority, police said on Tuesday.

"As many as 6,400 bamboo lights were installed on Rampath and 96 projector lights were in-

making it a "very negative" sign for people in India.

Mr Tharoor said, "The statue of the surrender of the Pakistani forces to Indian soldiers has been smashed to bits. The Indian Cultural Centre is destroyed, and a number of institutions are vandalised, including the ISKCON temple. All of these things are very negative signs for people in India. It is not in Bangladesh's interest either to come across in this way."

"They should be saying that this is about the restoration of their democracy, but in the process, you turn against the minorities and in particular one minority, inevitably, that will be noticed and resented in our country and elsewhere..." he added.

Bangladesh is experiencing a volatile political situation, after Sheikh Hasina resigned from the post of Prime Minister on August 5 amid mounting protests. The protests, led mainly by students demanding an end to a quota system for government jobs, evolved into anti-government demonstrations.

stalled on Bhakti Path. Till 19 March, all the lights were there but after an inspection on May 9, it was found that some lights were missing.

"Till now around 3,800 bamboo lights and 36 projector lights have been stolen by some unknown thieves," Shekhar Sharma, a representative of the firm, said in the complaint.

According to the FIR, the firm became aware of the theft in May but filed the complaint on August 9. The police said that an FIR has been registered in the matter and a probe is on.

Ayodhya was refurbished under a major project ahead of the January 22 Ram temple consecration ceremony in the holy city.

### Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT Industrial Training Institute (Charari Sharief) Skill Development Department

email: itichars@gmail.com  
website: www.iticharisharief.org  
Correspondence Address: Statelitte Colony, Near Fire Station and Sub Divisional Police Office, Chararisharief, Budgam, Kashmir, J&K, India  
Pin code: 191112  
Tele Fax: 01951-253596  
miscode: GRO100039

#### Selection List for Admission session 2024-2025-2026

Selection List for ROUND 1 of the candidates who have applied for undergoing training in different trades available at ITT Charar-i-Sharief for the session 2024-2025-2026 against free seats has been issued from admission portal maintained by Directorate  
[www.facebook.com/iticharsharief](http://www.facebook.com/iticharsharief) or access the google drive links

Selection list of ITI Charar-i-Sharief

Link	QR code
<a href="http://surl.li/xbzktj">http://surl.li/xbzktj</a>	

2. All the selected candidates desirous of seeking admission are hereby informed to report to Training Section of m Charar-i-Sharief with the requisite fee and submit the following original documents:  
1. D.O.B certificate.  
2. Domicile certificate.  
3. Harks card of the qualifying examination.  
4. Category Certificate, if any.  
5. Latest discharge certificate from the institute last attended.  
6. Self-attested photocopy of Aadhar card.  
7. One passport size photograph along with a file cover.  
8. Affidavit with the declaration that the candidate is not pursuing full time course elsewhere and adherence to training rules and regulations.  
Discharge/ school leaving certificate will be retained till completion of the course at the m. At the time of admission or during the course of study at the m if any submitted documents were found fake or the admitted candidate found to be pursuing a regular course elsewhere, the admission of that trainee will stand automatically cancelled without any notice and disciplinary action would follow subsequently.  
**Last date of submission of Original Documents and requisite fee for Candidates selected | in Round 1 is 17th of August, 2024.**

No: ITC/Ch-Sh/Trgs/2024/141-44  
DIPK-4861/24 Dated:-14-08-2024

Sd.  
Superintendent  
Industrial Training Institute, Charar-i-Sharief

### Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER  
Single Cover

NIT No:- 35/MDB /2024-25/4132-47 DATED:- 13/08/2024.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders are invited on an **percentage basis** (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money CDR/FDR/ BG (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of Contract or	Major Head of account
1.	Improvements of Inner link road at District Police Line Budgam by way of patch work.	4.94	200.00	9880/-	07	DEE	District Capex Budget

Project Authority: District Development Commissioner Budgam  
Position of AAA: Accorded  
Position of TS: Accorded

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) on the dates listed below: -

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	13/08/2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	13/08/2024
3	Bid submission <b>Start Date</b>	13/08/2024
4	Bid Submission <b>End Date</b>	21/08/2024 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids ( <b>Online</b> ) ( <b>Tech. Bids</b> )	22/08/2024 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

No: 4132-47  
Dt: 13-08-2024

DIPK-4849/24  
dated: 14-08-2024

s/-

Executive Engineer  
(R&B) Division Budgam.

## Director Panchayati Raj Interacts With Newly Appointed Secretaries

**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** The Director, Panchayati Raj, J&K, Sham Lal, interacted with newly appointed Panchayat Secretaries on Wednesday at the Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (IMPARD) Srinagar.

The interaction was part of a 28-day training program designed for the new appointees.

The training program aims to equip the newly recruited Panchayat Secretaries with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their roles effectively and contribute to the overall development of their respective Panchayats.

Sham Lal emphasized the pivotal role of Panchayat Secretaries in the effective implementation of government schemes and the overall development of rural areas.

He urged the newly appointed officials to work with dedication and a sense of responsibility, ensuring that the benefits of various government initiatives reach the last mile.

The Director also highlighted the importance of transparency, accountability, and proactive governance in the functioning of Panchayats.

He encouraged the Panchayat Secretaries to adopt innovative approaches in

addressing the challenges faced by rural communities and to act as a bridge between the government and the public.

Earlier, Director, Rural Development Department (RDD) Kashmir, Shabir Husain, inaugurated the training module in Srinagar.

Dr. Javed Rasheed, Assistant Professor at the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir, delivered an insightful presentation on the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGS) Scheme, detailing its objectives, key focus areas, funding structure, and various components.

Aaliya Khan, Thematic Expert on Women and Child at the State Panchayat Resource Centre (SPRC), discussed the monitoring mechanisms for capacity building and training. She also provided a comprehensive overview of the Training Management Portal, an essential tool for effective training management.

Shahid Bashir, Thematic Expert at the District Panchayat Resource Centre (DPRC), delivered a detailed presentation on localization of SDG and nine thematic area planning.

Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Block Development Officer (BDO) of Soibugh, Budgam, gave an extensive lecture on the Panchayat Election Process, covering both procedural and regulatory aspects.

## Srinagar Illuminate Ahead Of 78th Independence Day



**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** In the spirit of the upcoming Independence Day, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has illuminated various key locations across Srinagar City, including SMC Headquarters Karan Nagar.

The vibrant display of lights is part of a broader initiative to celebrate the 78th anniversary of India's independence.

The initiative has seen prominent areas of the city adorned with decorative lights, showcasing the SMC's commitment in honoring the nation's history and fostering a sense

of unity and patriotism among the residents. The SMC Headquarters, in particular, has been transformed into a glowing beacon of pride, symbolizing the city's reverence for the nation's freedom.

SMC officials have emphasized that this initiative is not just about beautification but also about evoking a collective sense of patriotism. The lighting of prominent landmarks is our way of participating in the National celebrations and bringing the community together to reflect on the importance of this day. The dazzling displays have added a festive atmosphere to the city, as citizens

prepare for the Independence Day celebrations.

The SMC has ensured that all necessary precautions are taken to manage crowds and maintain safety at the illuminated sites. The illumination initiative is part of a series of activities organized by the SMC in the lead-up to Independence Day, reflecting the city's enduring pride in its heritage and aspirations for the future.

As the nation gears up to celebrate its independence, Srinagar stands brightly lit, a testament to the city's unwavering spirit and commitment to the values of freedom and unity.

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

**AIRPORTS**


SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

**RAILWAYS**

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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



**HIJRI**  
**CALENDAR**  
09 Safar  
1446

**PRAYERS**

FAJR	4:22
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	5:24
Magrib	7:22
ISHA	8:50

## DC Srinagar Convenes DLIC Meeting On NCAP



**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** A meeting of District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) on National Clean Air Program (NCAP) was held on Wednesday under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Uddin Bhat at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here.

Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Dr Owais Ahmad was also present in the meeting.

The meeting reviewed the progress of the projects amounting Rs 90.87 crore for FY 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 under NCAP, which aims to reduce PM10 levels by 2025 and improve the Air Quality Index in Srinagar.

Dr Bilal was briefed on the status of 35 projects amounting Rs. 90.87 crore NCAP, with 32 projects currently in progress. These include creating green zones, planting along city roads, installing fountains, and developing green spaces at significant locations such as SKIMS Soura, GMC (SMHS), and Amar Singh College.

The DC stressed the importance of expediting these projects to enhance green spaces and improve air quality.

He also directed the preparation of detailed plans for the Rs 35.98 crore allocated for FY 2024-25, with a focus on further improving the Air Quality Index.

Emphasizing proactive measures, Dr. Bilal called for improved coordination among departments and active public involvement in awareness campaigns on air pollution. He urged all officials to work collaboratively to implement effective strategies for air quality management and control.

The meeting was attended by the Regional Director, Pollution Control Board, Kashmir; Sr. Superintendent of Police, Chief Planning Officer, DFO SMC, DFO Urban Forestry, Social Forestry, Secretary SDA, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Executive Engineers of R&B and I&FC, District Floriculture Officer, District Officer Pollution Control Board, and other Engineers & Officers from SMC.

## SMHS Hospital Goes Green, Launches Massive Plantation Drive

**Observer News Service**

**SRINAGAR:** The premier tertiary care Hospital SMHS has launched a massive plantation drive across the Campus to create more green spaces thereby providing an aesthetic and eco-friendly environment to patients and attendants.

Today, a mega plantation drive was carried out in which among others Principal/Dean, GMC Srinagar, Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan; Administrator, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak; Medical Superintendent SMHS, Dr. Tasneem; HODs, CMOs, RMOs various Doctors and Para medical staff participated.

More than 200 saplings were planted on the occasion. The creation of more green spaces will provide aesthetic space especially for attendants and other people visiting the Hospital.

A big achievement for creating green space is the restoration of a piece of land near the academic block in GMC into a beautiful green space.

A massive sanitation drive has been started in the Hospital to make the hospital clean and free from garbage. The main focus of the drive is to keep the sanitation complexes, bathrooms and toilet blocks neat and clean. The wards, corridors, casualty, and every part of the Hospital

## SKIMS Med College Witnesses Huge Patient Influx

**SRINAGAR:** The SKIMS Medical College Hospital has witnessed a huge rush of patients in the form of 7.1 lakh OPD visits, 3 lakh casualty visits and about 35 thousand IPD admissions on an annual basis.

Besides this, the hospital performs around 38 thousand major and minor surgical procedures, 21 lakh lab investigations besides over 2 lakh radiological investigations on an average per year.

This accounts for a huge foot-fall of patients, attendants and visitors visiting the hospital. However, huge attendant visits with over 8-10 visitors visiting a bed per day, taking tea, meals and putting the whole load on hospital washrooms and facilities makes things difficult not only for management but also for the attendants.

The hospital authorities have time and again requested the public by daily

announcements to restrict the number of attendants and social visits in the hospital so that the available resources are utilized properly for patient care. This is more important for maintaining general hygiene and for better patient care.

The hospital authorities by means of their constant cleanliness drives are trying to maintain the hygiene of the hospital for the maximum benefit of the patients by putting up a 3 tier system of sanitation officers, sanitation workers and sanitation supervisors.

The whole process is being monitored at the highest level by the office of medical superintendent and deputy medical superintendent. The hospital administration makes a fervent appeal to the public to kindly cooperate in all possible ways in the larger interests of patient care.

green spaces and massive sanitation drives have also been launched.

GMC is committed towards an eco-friendly, aesthetic environment and provision of best patient care services without compromising on cleanliness and hygiene.

## Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION VAILOO

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**

NIT No. 22/3425-34 of R&B/Vailoo / 2024-2025 / e-tendering / DATED: 13/08/2024

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

S. No	Name of Work	Approved Amount (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. in form of Treasury challen / Receipt (in Rs)	Earnest Money (2% of Adv. Cost) (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Project Intending Department	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1.	Construction of HDO Office building at Shangus	37.506	1100	75012	150 Days	Horticulture	AA/ BEE Class	Capex Budget

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

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice	13.08.2024
2. Period of Downloading of bidder documents.	From 13.08.2024 To 04.08.2024
3. Bid submission Start Date	From 13.08.2024 To 04.08.2024
4. Bid Submission End Date	To 19.08.2024
5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	20.08.2024 at 10.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/ challan remitted in Head-0059 and Earnest Money for 2% of Advertised Cost in shape of CDR/ FDR only. Pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division vailoo (tender receiving authority) (Name of work or ENIT No. and Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury receipt/ challan)/Refer Govt. order No. A/ 24/2017-65 Dt: 07.06.2018 & Superintendent Engineer R&B Circle Ang/ Kul 's No. 3867-70 dated: 04.08.2018 (The date of Treasury receipt / Challan should be between the date of start of bid end Bid submission end date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo (Tendering Inviting Authority). 5% Performance Security of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/ FDR by the Successful bidder. Minimum of Two bids are necessary to decide L1 bidder in case of Contractors.
- The 1st Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of allotted cost as performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR within 07 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of defective liability period of the work.
- The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security.
- Only those contractors are eligible for taking part in the bidding process whose contractor registration card is enrolled online on the JKPWDOMS portal.
- The Advertised is cost is inclusive of GST@18%. The bidder has to quote the rate exclusive of GST.
- Security Deposit shall be deposited by the contractor within 10 days of issuance of LOI, failing which the concerned tender issuing authority shall forfeit the EMD and recommend contractor for blacklisting and issue a fresh tender forthwith.
- The contractor shall initiate the work within 10 days of entering into the agreement, failing which the undersigned shall terminate the contract and issue a fresh tender after imposing penalties viz forfeit security/LD as per T&C of the Bid document and recommend contractor for blacklisting.
- The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor as per the timeline stipulated in the bid document/agreement, failing which action shall be initiated against contractor by forfeiting EMD and shall be recommended for blacklisting.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://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 vailoo (tender receiving authority).
- 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, if-
  - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes 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.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- 11.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) to acquaint bid submission process.
- 11.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- 11.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- 11.4 Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- 11.5 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including earnest money and tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid The Earnest money in favour of unsuccessful / Non-responsive bidders shall be released only after ensuring submission of Tender document Fee in original.
- 12 The intending bidders should write the name of work / serial No. of NIT and Item No. on the Treasury receipt / challan while uploading their bids.
- 23 All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

### AMARNATH YATRA SPECIAL TRAIN

For the convenience of passengers, Railways have decided to run the following Amarnath yatra Special Train between Jabalpur Jn. and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra as per the schedule given below :-

Train No. 01707	Jabalpur Jn.-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Jabalpur Jn. Express special	18 TRIPS
Train No. 01708	ARR. DEP.	
	ARR. DEP.	
12:15	06:00	18:10

STATIONS: Jabalpur Jn., Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra

Days of Run : 01707 Ex Jabalpur Jn. on every Monday from 02.09.2024 to 28.10.2024 and 01708 Ex Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on every Tuesday from 03.09.2024 to 29.10.2024

Stoppages : Katni Murwara, Damoh, Saugor, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Gwalior Jn., Morena, Agra Cantt., Mathura Jn., Faridabad, Hazrat Nizamuddin Jn, New Delhi, Shakurbasti, Rohatki Jn, Jind Jn, Jakhai Jn, Ludhiana Jn, Jalandhar Cantt. Jn, Pathankot Cantt., Jammu Tawi & Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan stations

Accommodation: 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General

For detailed information regarding stoppages and timings of above trains, please call RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit enquiry website: [www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in)

**RailMadad Helpline No. 139**

Visit RailMadad website: [www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in)

Download Railmadad App

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Your Convenience - Our Concern  
Visit us at [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in)

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DIPK-4822-24  
Dt: 14/08/2024

Sd/- Executive Engineer  
PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo

- ### This Day In History
- 1658- France, Sweden, Bavarian, Brunswick, Munster and Hessen-Kassel form Confederation of the Rhine
  - 1684- Spain, Germany and France sign Truce of Ratisbone, ending the War of Reunions - meant to last 20 years, lasts only four
  - 1741- French troops attack the Rhine
  - 1760- Battle at Leignitz: Prussian forces beat Austria and Russian armies
  - 1824 Freed American slaves establish Liberia on the West African coast through the American Colonization Society (ACS)
  - 1827 - Race riots in Cincinnati, Ohio spurred by city's threat to enforce restrictive residency requirements on Blacks begin; over 1,000 (more than half of the Black population) leave, many bound for Canada
  - 1863- The Anglo-Satsuma War begins between the Satsuma Domain of Japan and the United Kingdom (Traditional Japanese date: July 2, 1863).
  - 1864- US Civil War: Off New England coast, CSS Tallahassee captures 6 Yankee schooners
  - 1865- Battle of Lone Jack, Missouri: fierce fighting between Union soldiers and Confederate forces prompted by bushwacker attacks destroys town of Lone Jack
  - 1893- US no longer allowed exclusive rights in Bering Sea
  - 1900- Russian troops advance further unto Manchuria
  - 1901- Great Britain issues a proclamation calling on the Boers to surrender by 15 September or face banishment and confiscation of their property
  - 1906- King Edward VII of Great Britain visits German Emperor Wilhelm II to discuss the escalating rivalry between their nations' naval forces
  - 1914 - Japan joins the side of the allies
  - 1914- Panama Canal opens (under cost) with the SS Ancon making the 1st official steamship through the canal
  - 1914- The first large public gathering of Boers in South Africa who do not want to support Britain in a war against Germany; British authorities will try to repress this movement, but discontent spreads
  - 1915- Journalist Albert Siegfried Bettelheim, convicted of murder in Georgia
  - 1918 Longest work of animation then produced - "The Sinking of Lusitania" by Winsor McCay
  - 1920- Polish troops commanded by Józef Piłsudski defeat the Soviets at the Battle of Warsaw (Miracle upon the Vistula)
  - 1923 - Mexico & US reaches accord over oil concession of 1917
  - 1925 - Norway annexes Spitsbergen
  - 1934- US ends occupation of Haiti after 19 years; started after the 1915 assassination of Haiti's president
  - 1940- Heavy dogfights above England: 75 German aircraft damaged
  - 1943- Allies land on Kiska, Aleutian islands
  - 1944- German field marshal Günther von Kluge vanishes for one day; he killed himself on the 19th in the aftermath of the attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler
  - 1945- A riot ensues in San Francisco while the city is celebrating the end of WW II
  - 1945- US wartime rationing of gasoline & fuel oil ends
  - 1945- Victory over Japan Day, the Japanese surrender and the end of WWII is announced in Japan (due to time zones 14th Aug in the Americas)
  - 1945- World War II: Korean Liberation Day
  - 1947 - India gains independence from Great Britain, remains a dominion until 1950
  - 1948- Republic of Korea (South Korea) proclaimed (National Day)
  - 1950- 8.6 Assam-Tibet earthquake kills several thousand
  - 1950- Joseph Pholien becomes Belgian premier
  - 1950- Sukarno proclaims the unitary Republic of Indonesia and becomes its 1st President
  - 1954- Dictator Alfredo Stroessner names himself the 42nd President of Paraguay
  - 1962- Netherlands & Indonesia sign accord over New Guinea
  - 1963- Fulbert Youlou resigns as President of Congo-Brazzaville
  - 1971 - Bahrain gains independence from Britain
  - 1971 - US President Richard Nixon announces 90-day freeze on wages, prices & rents.
  - 1971 - The Social Democratic and Labour Party announce a campaign of civil disobedience in response to the introduction of Internment in Northern Ireland
  - 1974 - Hurricane/floods ravage Bangladesh, 4,000 killed
  - 1974 - South Korean President Park Chung-Hee escapes assassination
  - 1975 - Bangladesh military coup under Khondakar Moustaque Ahmed
  - 1975 - Indian action-adventure film "Sholay" directed by Ramesh Sippy, starring Dharmendra and Amitabh Bachchan is released, highest-grossing Indian film ever
  - 1984 - The PKK in Turkey starts a campaign of armed attacks upon the Turkish military
  - 1985 - First Iraqi air raid on Iran's main oil export terminal, Kharg Island
  - 1986 - US President Ronald Reagan decides to support a replacement for Challenger
  - 1992 - Colombo '92 closes in Genoa Italy

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 15-08-2024

## Drug Scourge

**D**rug addiction in Kashmir is an issue that hurtles into an occasional media spotlight but never gets the public and the government attention that it deserves. We only get to hear about the scourge in the form of statistics. Last year in August, the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment conveyed to the Parliament of India that approximately 13.50 lakh drug abusers are estimated to be in Jammu and Kashmir, with the majority falling within the age range of 18 to 75 years. This is an alarming number and must otherwise prompt an immediate government response with a proper roadmap to address the situation. But that hasn't happened. And we expect that the administration takes the issue seriously and plays a role that is required of it.

Last year, a study found that around 52,000 people alone are using IV Heroin, among whom 34 percent are unmarried. What is more, while a recent study of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi said that Punjab has 1.2 percent of opiate users, Kashmir study has revealed the percentage at 2.87 percent.

However, it is not difficult to see what is leading the youth towards drugs. The complexity of the crisis lies in its multifaceted origins, where poverty and unemployment play a key role in pushing many young individuals into the clutches of addiction. Another major factor is the political conflict of the past over thirty years which is taking its toll on the youth. According to unemployment figures, jobless rate in Kashmir is 24 percent with unemployment among women at 48.6 percent. There are also a huge number of uneducated and unskilled youth who look forward to no future. The reigning political uncertainty and the humanitarian fallout of the past three decades have only reinforced the sense of hopelessness, leading youth to ease their frustration through drugs.

That said, the dismal state of affairs is no less aided by the easy availability of prescription drugs in the state. As a society, we are always inclined to trace these wrongs to the prevailing political conflict in the region and hence absolve ourselves of the responsibility to collectively play a role in redeeming the situation. We need to step up and face the humongous problem head on. Government, on the other hand, needs to actively engage young people in income-generating activities, including sports, to ensure that those who benefit from rehabilitation do not relapse and are embraced by their families and society once they change their ways.



Did you know ?

## Understanding Halal Mutual Funds and Shariah-Compliant Investments

**H**alal investments, also known as Sharia-compliant, adhere to Islamic principles and laws, forming a vital part of Islamic finance. In Islamic tradition, Sharia refers to Islamic law, outlining religious guidelines.

### What Are Halal Mutual Funds?

Halal mutual funds are investment vehicles that comply with Islamic laws. These laws dictate that Muslims must avoid certain financial practices, ensuring their investments are ethically sound and aligned with religious beliefs. In India, examples of such funds include Tata Ethical Fund, Taurus Ethical Fund, and Nippon India ETP Shariah Bees.

### Sharia-Compliant Investment Rules

- 1. Avoid Riba (Interest):** Investing in financial instruments that involve earning interest, such as traditional bank deposits or bonds, is prohibited.
- 2. Ethical Business Practices:** Investments should not involve companies engaged in activities deemed haram (forbidden), such as:

Alcohol production and sales  
Gambling  
Tobacco  
Firearms and weapons  
Nightclubs or adult entertainment businesses

- 3. Risk and Uncertainty:** Investments should avoid excessive risk and uncertainty, ensuring that gains are tied to entrepreneurial effort and that risks are limited.
- 4. Permissible (Halal) Business Operations:** Investments should support businesses that are lawful according to Islamic principles, promoting ethical and socially responsible activities.

### Halal Mutual Fund Options in India

In India, specific indices and mutual funds cater to Sharia-compliant investment needs, including:  
- \*\*S&P CNX 500 Shariah Index:\*\* These indices ensure the inclusion of companies that comply with Islamic laws.

### Example Historical Return

#### Tata Ethical Fund

Inception: 1996

Annual Return: Approximately 15%

Investment Value Today: INR 2.9 crores from an initial investment of INR 10 lakhs

By investing in Halal mutual funds, individuals can ensure their financial growth aligns with their religious and ethical values, promoting a socially responsible and ethical approach to wealth management.

Learn from the insights of @IshadMushtaq, writer, investor, entrepreneur & Founder of MI Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at [misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com](mailto:misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com). Disclaimer: This article is solely for educational purposes. The investment examples here are not recommendatory

# The Radical Act of Rest

## Kashmiri Women, Roles, and Resistance

Sabzara Ali

**I**n a world where women are constantly expected to do it all, have you ever wondered what happens when they just stop and take a breath? What if the most radical act of resistance isn't in the struggle but in the stillness? What if real rebellion happens when women take some moments for themselves without any responsibilities or roles?

### Gendered Dichotomy

Throughout history, leisure for men and women has been greatly influenced by gender roles which result in different experiences altogether. Men, often considered tough and adventurous, tend to pursue leisure activities away from home – for example playing sports or engaging in heated political debates. Women, on the other hand, are often viewed as nurturing, private, and inclined to stay within the home. Their "leisure" is typically woven into their responsibilities, like caring for the family or keeping the household running smoothly.

Historically, there isn't much separation between work and relaxation in the lives of women. Their roles blur the lines between labor and leisure, making those quiet moments of rest feel like a rare luxury.

For men, who work outside the home, work and leisure are clearly separated. Of course, economic status influences how people spend their free time but regardless of wealth, men still find ways to carve out time for themselves. For the affluent, it might be a drive or a hobby; for others, it could be as simple as gathering at a local stall for a chat.

### The Unequal Landscape of Leisure

Leisure is when you can just be yourself without worry about your work or anything else that obliges you. Unfortunately, for many women, such as those in rural India, spare time is something they do not have enough of.

The Time-Use Survey 2019-20 for India states that young working women in rural areas spent almost five hours daily on domestic tasks while urban counterparts spent about two hours forty-five minutes each day.

Thus, for many women, leisure isn't a scheduled break; it's something snatched in between daily responsibilities. It might be listening to the radio while cooking or chatting with a friend on the way to work. But for the women of Kashmir, leisure is about more than just choosing how to spend their time. It's about navigating a complex web of societal norms, restrictions, and the shadow of conflict that constantly defines the limits of their freedom.

### The Confining Norms and Invisible Boundaries

The majority of Kashmiri women live by traditional societal norms that limit them to being caregivers and housewives. With this, they hardly get any time to pursue interests or recreations of their choice. Most public spaces in Kashmir are male dominated, and women's participation in leisure is largely confined to their homes. A survey conducted by students of Lady Shri Ram College revealed that most women in Jammu and Kashmir engage in leisure activities like reading, writing, and painting, all within the safety of their homes. Only a small number of respondents participated in sports, and even then, these activities often came to an abrupt end due to reasons such as harassment or the necessity of being accompanied by a male family member. For instance, one of the respondents spoke of how she had to leave sports because of continuous groping in public transport while another explained that going out in Kashmir often required a series of lies, as she was frequently made to stay at home under the guise of safety concerns.

The conflict in the region has only exacerbated this situation, cre-



“If one were to introspect into the life of a Kashmiri woman, it would become evident that these moments of leisure are more than just brief escapes from daily responsibilities— they are subtle acts of defiance, quiet rebellions against a world that tries to confine them to narrow roles

ating both physical and psychological barriers that restrict women's movement and make the idea of leisure fraught with anxiety. Patriarchal norms further limit their freedom, dictating which forms of leisure are acceptable, often tying them to domestic and societal activities. This leaves very little time for a woman to relax, be creative, or express herself authentically, further marginalizing her and thus denying her the liberative power of leisure.

### Sufi Shrines: Sanctuaries of Solace and Sisterhood for Kashmiri Women

The visit to a Sufi shrine is one of the very few occasions when an elderly woman of Kashmir gets to leave her house and break the tedium of routine. She finds a rare escape in the peaceful courtyards of these shrines. These sacred spaces, deeply woven into the spiritual fabric of Kashmiri life, represent much more than just a place to pray. They are sanctuaries where women come together to breathe, to connect, and to rejuvenate.

Unlike mosques, which are predominantly male spaces, these shrines provide women with a socially acceptable public space where they can gather, socialize, and form emotional and devotional relationships with the saints. Here, they can personalize the relationship with the saints and whisper all their troubles to them, finding solace in the company of people who share similar burdens. Here, it is not very uncommon to find a group of women sitting together in the shade of a tree, sharing their stories, and drawing strength from

one another's stories.

These visits are not just about tradition or seeking blessings. They are about reclaiming a bit of themselves—a space to laugh, cry, and be without the weight of household duties pressing down on them. For many women, these shrines are places where they feel truly at peace—where the noise of everyday life fades, and they shift their focus to spiritual growth and healing. In a world that offers so few spaces for leisure, these shrines become a vital refuge, a place where they can finally exhale and let their souls rest.

### Leisure Through a Feminist Lens: Reclaiming Identity and Crafting New Narratives

Leisure, often seen as a simple escape from daily responsibilities, holds a deeper, more transformative potential when viewed through a feminist lens. It's not just about taking a break; it is about reclaiming both time and space for self-discovery and self-expression. For most women, leisure is a powerful act of resistance against societal norms that expect them to behave in a certain way or hold specific roles.

One inspiring perspective comes from Surabhi Yadav, the founder of the NGO Sanjhe Sapne. Through her work, Surabhi explores how leisure can be a radical tool for women to redefine themselves beyond the traditional roles of mother, wife, or daughter. Her photo project, *Basanti: Women at Leisure*, was inspired by observing the often-hidden playful side of her mother and women around her. The project captures women and girls in moments of unguard-

ed joy, dancing and relaxing; it captures them being themselves. These images do not depict rest; they celebrate leisure as a personal right and subtle, powerful form of resistance.

Surabhi argues that while much of today's feminist movement focuses on resisting patriarchy—fighting for equal pay, rights, and recognition—this approach often feels reactive, simply responding to the rules set by men. To her, real power in feminism lies in opening up so many new possibilities to women and creating spaces where women have the choice to explore and define their identities. Within these very words, leisure ceases to become a mere break from life's routine but assumes the role of a path toward self-discovery and empowerment. Leisure time would afford a space within which women could discover themselves beyond defined roles assigned to them, hence changing this resting time into a powerful tool of creating and reclaiming their own narratives.

If one were to introspect into the life of a Kashmiri woman, it would become evident that these moments of leisure are more than just brief escapes from daily responsibilities— they are subtle acts of defiance, quiet rebellions against a world that tries to confine them to narrow roles.

Whether they find peace in the sacred spaces of a Sufi shrine or take a rare moment of rest within their homes, these women are taking back their narratives from just being victims to discovering their own identities, engaging in activities they truly enjoy, and reclaiming their right to prioritize their own well-being.

But as we applaud these acts of quiet defiance before the mountains, we must also remind ourselves: What are we, as a society, doing to make their burdens a little lighter? How do we ensure that the leisure of Kashmiri women is priority and not an afterthought? For too long, our feminist goals have centered on survival—fighting for land, labor, and basic rights. But perhaps true liberation for Kashmiri women means striving for more than just safety and survival. It means reimagining leisure as a fundamental right, a space for self-discovery and liberation.

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

The author is a student at Smith College



## CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE DAY

# A Duty & Debt for Every Indian

Dr. Reyaz Ahmad

Every year on August 15, Indians celebrate Independence Day, which is more than just a national holiday. It was a significant day that ushered in a new era of freedom and sovereignty for India, ending British colonial rule. This day is a potent symbol of the sacrifices made by the many freedom warriors who gave their lives to defend the country's freedom. Every Indian observes Independence Day as a serious obligation and a way to show appreciation to their ancestors who bravely battled for the freedom, we take for granted today. This article explores the historical background of India's struggle for independence as well as the ongoing significance of marking Independence Day as a national obligation.

### Context of History

One of the most amazing and protracted revolutions in world history was India's independence movement. The British East India Company founded commercial posts along India's coastline in the early 17th century, which is when British rule in the country first began. With the Revolt of 1857, commonly referred to as the First War of Indian Independence, the Company grew in power over time, leading to the British Crown's eventual full-fledged colonial domination of India in 1858.

Throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the struggle for freedom grew more intense. Key players in the fight against British imperialism included leaders like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Jawaharlal Nehru, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, and Subhas Chandra Bose. Founded in 1885, the Indian National Congress served as the main organizing force for the independence movement, pushing for first complete independence and then self-rule.

The nonviolent resistance movement of Mahatma Gandhi, known as Satyagraha, served as the foundation for the independence movement. Millions of Indians were inspired to rebel against the colonial government by his leadership during crucial campaigns including the Quit India Movement (1942), the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-1934), and the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922). The British were ultimately compelled to cede control of India



because of the sacrifices made by these leaders and several unidentified martyrs.

India, at last, achieved independence on August 15, 1947, a historic event that signaled the end of over 200 years of British rule. Following the country's division into India and Pakistan, there was a great deal of intercommunal violence and displaced people. Nevertheless, despite the difficulties, the establishment of a free India was a victory of bravery, resiliency, and national cohesion.

### The duty to celebrate

The obligation to observe Independence Day affirms the principles and values that India's independence fighters fought for, not only to remember a historical occasion. Every Indian has a responsibility to celebrate this day because it pays tribute to those who gave their lives to ensure the freedom of their country. It is a means of expressing our gratitude to our forefathers who battled valiantly to ensure that future generations would live in freedom.

Honoring the Freedom Fighters' Sacrifices: The freedom struggle was characterized by great sacrifice, both in nonviolent protest and on the battlefield. Numerous liberation fight-

ers suffered from imprisonment, torture, and even death. By commemorating Independence Day, we honor their bravery and dedication. It is our responsibility to make sure that the younger generation recognizes the cost of the freedom they take for granted today and that their sacrifices are not forgotten.

Preserving National Unity: Fifteenth of August is a potent symbol of our shared national identity and unity. It serves as a reminder that despite the differences between our cultures, languages, and religions, our common history of battling for freedom unites us. By urging people to put aside their regional and ethnic divisions and embrace national unity, the celebration of this day serves to uphold the notion that India is one country.

Reaffirming Dedication to Nation-Building: In addition to commemorating our nation's achievements since 1947, Independence Day serves as a chance to reaffirm our dedication to the ongoing work of nation-building. The independence that was gained after a protracted battle needs to be maintained by diligence and commitment to the nation's advancement. Honoring the principles of democracy, secularism, and social justice that underpin the Indian Republic is

Every Indian can carry out this duty by preserving the unity and values of the present, reflecting on the sacrifices made in the past, and striving for a better future. We reaffirm our dedication to the freedom, democracy, and justice that define our country

what it means to celebrate Independence Day.

Inspiring Future Generations: Independence Day celebrations are essential for teaching the next generation the value of independence and the obligations that accompany it. It encourages young Indians to be proud of their ancestry and make contributions to the advancement of their country. By taking part in Independence Day festivities, we ensure that the spirit of freedom

endures by passing on the patriotism torch to the following generation.

### The Debt to freedom

Every Indian person has an obligation to acknowledge that the freedom we take pleasure in today was not given lightly. We owe future generations as much as we do the freedom fighters of the past. It is our duty to preserve and advance the legacy that our ancestors battled to establish—a free and just society.

1. **Preserving Democratic Values:** The democratic foundation laid down by India's independence founders is among the greatest debts we owe. The ideals of justice, equality, and liberty for all citizens are enshrined in the 1950 Indian Constitution. Every Indian has a responsibility to defend these principles from injustice, corruption, and dictatorship.

2. **Fostering Social and Economic Justice:** The goal of the independence movement was to establish a society in which every person would have equal access to opportunities and rights, in addition to securing political freedom. This is still a problem because India is

still dealing with problems like social prejudice, poverty, and inequality. We acknowledge our debt to those who dreamed of an India where all citizens may live in dignity by commemorating Independence Day.

3. **Promoting National Pride:** Developing a sense of national pride is another facet of our obligation to protect freedom. This is a profound reverence for the accomplishments and ideals of our nation, not mindless nationalism. On this Independence Day, we should embrace our cultural legacy, celebrate India's diversity and resiliency, and pledge our support for the country's future.

4. **Supporting World Peace and Progress:** Lastly, we owe the international community an obligation as residents of a free country. An accomplishment for the rights of self-determination and human rights was India's independence. As such, it is our duty to support world peace, advancement, and the struggle against all forms of injustice. Honoring Independence Day serves as a reminder that the fight for independence is an international effort and that we should support those who are currently defending their rights wherever they may be.

### Conclusion

Independence Day is more than just a holiday; it's a significant obligation and a recognition of the debt we owe to our country, our forefathers, and the coming generations. Every Indian can carry out this duty by preserving the unity and values of the present, reflecting on the sacrifices made in the past, and striving for a better future. We reaffirm our dedication to the freedom, democracy, and justice that define our country by raising the tricolor and playing the national anthem. By doing this, we pledge to always take inspiration and direction from the history of India's liberation.

*Views expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is Faculty of Mathematics at the Department of General Education SUC, Sharjah, UAE*

## Wake up and Smell the Coffee!

We are in deep trouble with the Green-Eyed Monster

Er Aausyf Ibn Farooq

Jealousy and envy are harmful emotions that can eat away at a person like a moth nibbling on a fine piece of cloth. In Islam, these feelings are not just frowned upon, they are considered serious sins that can cause deep harm to our souls and relationships. Jealousy is like a fire that can burn down everything good in its path. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) warned us about this, "Beware of jealousy, for verily it destroys good deeds the way fire destroys wood." This means that when we allow jealousy to take root in our hearts, it can undo all the good things we've worked hard to achieve, just like a fire turning wood into ashes. When we're jealous, it's like carrying a heavy stone in our hearts. It weighs us down, making us feel unhappy and restless. This feeling can make us question Al-

lah's fairness, leading to a lack of gratitude for what we have. Instead of counting our blessings, we would start focusing on what others have, which only makes us feel worse. Jealousy doesn't just harm us it can also drive a wedge between us and the people we care about. It's like planting a seed of distrust that grows into a thorny bush, making it hard to maintain healthy relationships. Moreover, if we talk about animosity and Hatred, it often stirs up bad blood, causing people to harbor grudges and resentment. This can turn friends into foes and families into feuding factions. A jealous heart might lead someone to speak ill of others, spreading rumors or lies to make the other person look bad. This kind of behavior is like throwing mud at someone, you might get them dirty, but you also end up with dirty hands. Hold your horses, Jealousy

is not just a personal issue but a widespread problem that infiltrates every part of society, from schools and workplaces to friendships and families. In schools, students might envy each other's grades, talents, or popularity, leading to bullying and exclusion. In the workplace, jealousy could create a toxic atmosphere where colleagues compete destructively, much like crabs in a bucket pulling each other down. Even within families, jealousy could cause rifts, with siblings and relatives competing for attention and favor, turning homes into tense environments rather than places of love and support.

Islam offers clear guidance on tackling jealousy by encouraging gratitude, which involves focusing on the blessings Allah has given us and finding contentment, making it easier to celebrate others' successes. Additionally, praying for

those we envy helps purify our hearts, much like watering a plant with kindness, allowing it to grow instead of withering in jealousy. Regular self-reflection is also essential, as it involves examining our hearts, seeking Allah's forgiveness, and committing to positive change, ultimately leading to a more peaceful and content life.

Jealousy might be a common emotion, but that doesn't mean we should let it control us. By following Islamic teachings and working on ourselves, we can uproot jealousy from our hearts. After all, a heart free of jealousy is a heart that's open to Allah's blessings and the joy of living a peaceful life.

*The author is an Automation and control Engineer, currently working in KSA aasjfnussain14@gmail.com*

## Understanding the Roots of Intolerance

Hlene Straus

Today, hate is almost pervasive, permeating different forms of media, creating a sense of division and coldness. People express hate for various reasons, often hiding behind their screens to lash out at those who disagree with them. It's challenging not to absorb their anger and rage. However, understanding is a potent tool that can bring warmth and clarity to the chaos. While we can't eradicate hate, with understanding and empathy, we can diminish its intensity, take it less personally, and empower ourselves to make a difference in the impact that hate has.

Hate is a powerful negative emotion aimed at people, things, or ideas. It's often tangled with feelings of anger, contempt, and disgust. When you hate something or someone, you generally believe nothing is positive about this person or group and that you have nothing in common.

Research and psychology tell us that hate often stems from mistrust, feelings of powerlessness, or vulnerability. History shows us that hate is frequently tied to issues of power and control. It's a pattern where one group believes it should dominate another, leading to oppression and violence.

But hate can also come from a place of ignorance and lack of exposure to different cultures, beliefs, and ways of life. One historical example where hate stemmed from ignorance and a lack of exposure to different cultures, beliefs, and ways of life is the European colonization of the Americas. When European settlers arrived in the New World, they encountered Indigenous peoples whose cultures, languages, and lifestyles vastly differed from their own. Lacking understanding and exposure to these diverse ways of life, many

European colonizers viewed Indigenous cultures as inferior or even "savage." This tragic chapter in history highlights how ignorance and narrow worldviews can give rise to hate and intolerance, resulting in long-lasting damage to entire cultures and communities.

Recognizing that hateful actions are not always born of genuine malice is essential. They often stem from deeper issues such as misunderstanding, fear, or a lack of empathy. For instance, during the Salem Witch Trials in the late 17th century, fear and ignorance fueled many of the accusations and subsequent executions. Similarly, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II was primarily driven by fear and racial prejudice following the attack on Pearl Harbor. While deeply harmful, these actions were rooted in a lack of understanding and the projection of fear onto innocent people.

Science supports the idea that hate often arises from complex psychological and social factors. Research in psychology indicates that hate can be a response to perceived threats or significant social and economic stress. For example, studies have shown that individuals who feel economically threatened may be more likely to harbor prejudices against those they view as competitors for resources. Neuroscience also reveals that the brain regions activated by fear and threat overlap significantly with those activated by feelings of hatred, suggesting that these emotions are closely linked. Understanding these factors can help us better comprehend the roots of hate and how to address it, providing us with a more enlightened and proactive approach to combat hate.

*The article was originally published by Psychology Today*

## India's Exports Dip 1.2% In July To Enter Negative Zone

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi - After remaining in the positive zone for three months, India's exports contracted 1.2 per cent to USD 33.98 billion in July, while the trade deficit widened to USD 23.5 billion.

According to government data, imports rose by about 7.45 per cent to USD 57.48 billion in July due to a jump in the inbound shipments of crude oil, silver and electronic goods.

Crude oil imports rose 17.44 per cent to USD 13.87 billion, while silver imports jumped 439 per cent to USD 165.74 million during the month under review.

The trade deficit, or the gap between imports and exports, was USD 21 billion in June and USD 19.3 billion in July 2023.

Briefing media on data, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said that going by the current trend, the country's total exports of goods and services will cross last year's figure of USD 778 billion.

He said that one of the reasons for the dip in merchandise exports is the fall in the shipments of petroleum products, which has declined by 22.15 per cent to USD 5.22 billion.

Fall in prices, low demand and increasing domestic consumption have led to a dip in the exports of petroleum products in July.

The other export sectors, which have recorded negative growth during the month, include rice, cashew, oil seeds, marine products, gems and jewellery, chemicals, and cotton yarn/fabrics.

## Wholesale Inflation Falls To 3-Month Low Of 2.04% In July As Food Prices Ease

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi - Wholesale inflation fell to a 3-month low of 2.04 per cent in July on decline in prices of food items especially vegetables, government data released on Wednesday showed.

The decline in wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation in July came after it rose for four months in a row till June, when it was 3.36 per cent. It was (-) 1.23 per cent in July last year.

In April wholesale inflation stood at 1.19 per cent.

As per the data, food inflation in July was 3.45 per cent, down from 10.87 per cent in June, mainly due to month-on-month decline in prices of vegetables, cereals, pulses and onion.

Vegetables recorded a deflation of 8.93 per cent in July, against a 38.76 per cent inflation in the previous month.

"Positive rate of inflation in July, 2024 is primarily due to increase in prices of food articles, manufacture of food products, mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, other manufacturing etc," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said in a statement.

The annual rate of inflation of the manufactured Products group increased to 1.58 per cent in July 2024, from 1.43 per cent in June 2024.

Inflation in fuel and power basket rose to 1.72 per cent in July, from 1.03 per cent in the previous month.

ICRA Senior Economist Rahul Agrawal said the core (non-food manufacturing) WPI continued to inch up for the fifth consecutive month, touching a 17-month high of 1.2 per cent in July 2024, even as



the index contracted on a sequential basis for the second consecutive month.

"The near-term outlook for WPI inflation remains benign. As per the data released by the Department of Consumer Affairs, the prices of a majority of food items have dipped on a sequential basis in August 2024 so far, amid a pick-up in the monsoon and a healthy progression in kharif sowing.

"This is likely to aid in containing the base effect-led uptick in the primary food articles inflation print in the ongoing month. Overall, ICRA expects the WPI inflation to remain unchanged at 2 per cent in August 2024," Agrawal said.

The decline in July WPI was in line with the retail inflation data for the month. Retail inflation fell to a near 5-year low of 3.54 per cent in July, data released earlier this week showed.

Sanjeev Agrawal, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry said: "Going ahead, we expect the continuous softening

of WPI inflation to reduce the costs of production levels and boost consumption demand in the country."

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which mainly takes into account retail inflation while framing the monetary policy, kept the benchmark interest rate or repo rate unchanged for the ninth consecutive time in its August monetary policy review at 6.5 per cent.

The decline in July food inflation would provide a breather to the RBI which had earlier this month said that the interest rate setting monetary policy committee (MPC) cannot ignore persistent high food inflation.

"The MPC (monetary policy committee) may look through high food inflation if it is transitory, but in an environment of persisting high food inflation, as we are experiencing now, the MPC cannot afford to do so," RBI Shaktikanta Das said in his policy review statement.

## Srinagar Municipal Corporation

Office Of The Executive Engineer  
Left River Works Division

Ph. No. 0194-2458118 Email: lrwdsmc@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS

NIET NO: 16 e-Tendering/2024-25

Dated:12-Aug-2024

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work:-

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (CDR)	Time of Completion in Weeks	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Technical Sanction/ Dated	Head of Account
1.	Construction of Chain Link Fencing of Around Musical Fountain at Municipal Park Jawhar Nagar and around Fountain at Karan Nagar Under NCAP Scheme.	Rs. 4.68/-	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 9360/-	10 Days Strictly	DEE	123 Dt: 12/08/2024	NCAP

• **Record of Administrative Approval:**  
**Accorded**

Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

### CRITICAL DATE SHEET

1	Publish date	12-08-2024
2	Document download date	12-08-2024 06:00 PM To 19-08-2024 01:00 PM
3	Bid submission/uploading date	12-08-2024 06:00 PM To 19-08-2024 01:00 PM
4	Bid Opening date	19-08-2024 02:00 PM
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	20-08-2024 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The Earnest Money (EMD) in respect of the advertised Cost of the work should be 2% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC. EMD 2% of the successful bidder will be discharged when the bidder has signed the Agreement & furnished the required Performance Security
- The Bidder shall have to furnish the **performance security @5%** in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC of the value of contract valid till DLP before issuance of LOA / LOI. In case of L-1 failing to provide performance security @5% for the works within 7 days after being notified, his bid will be cancelled and work shall be executed through other sources U/R at the risk, cost and responsibility of L1.
- In case of Holidays/office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids. Bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The intending tenderer/bidder should attach sales tax clearance certificate with upto date Validation without which no tenders/bids will be entertained.
- The bid shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer LRWD, SMC at Old Funds office Building Karan Nagar near National School Municipal Park on 19-08-2024 02:00 PM.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/ e- Challan pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer SMC in the Municipal Account No: 021601020000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch. Scanned copy of the same with mention of NIET No. & Serial no. to be uploaded along with all other documents. The bidder shall be barred / black list as per law for tender fee in form of Bank Receipt, tender fee receipt and other relevant documents including Bid Security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found with any ambiguity or unauthenticated, correction/overwriting for any work, such tender / bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action U/R shall be initiated. The Bid shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the Bid due date.

DIPK-NB-1360/24  
DATED: 14-08-2024

**No.SMC/EELRWD/1018-1027**

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Left River Works Division,  
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.  
**Dated: 12-Aug-2024.**

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

## Office Of The Deputy Director Kashmir Horticulture (P&M)

RAJBAGH SRINAGAR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e-Nit AUC06OF 2024-25 Dated:13-08-2024

### Outsourcing of Gate Entry Contract with respect to F & V Market BatingoAnantnag

For and on behalf of Market Administrative Committee e-Tenders are invited from public at large / NGO's having valid GST registrations for execution of Gate Entry Contract at F&V Market BatingoAnantnag for the year 2024-25  
The minimum reverse bid is fixed at Rs. 3,70,000/- (Rupees Three Lacs Seventy Thousand Only). The tender documents can be downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in.

The successful tenderer shall have to collect the gate entry fee from various kinds of vehicles every time entering the market as per the description given below:-

Name of work	Minimum Reserve Bid	Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR	Cost of Tender Document	Period of Contract
Collection of Gate Entry Fee of Fruit and Vegetable Market BatingoAnantnag for the year 2024-25 (w.e.f. from 00:00 hrs. of 26.08.2024 and shall terminate at 24:00 hrs. of the intervening night of 31.3.2025 and 01.04.2025)	Rs. 3,70,000/- + GST & other taxes as applicable in the J&K Union Territory	Rs. 11,100/- (3% of Minimum bid amount) in favour of Member Secretary (MAC) BatingoAnantnag	Rs. 500/- (Non-Refundable) in favour of Member Secretary (MAC) BatingoAnantnag	(w.e.f. 26.08.2024 To 31.03.2025)

### Critical Dates Table.

1	Publishing Date	13-08-2024
2	Document Download/Sale Date	13-08-2024
3	Bid Submission Start Date	13-08-2024
4	Bid Submission Closing Date	21-08-2024 (Up to 4:00 PM)
5	Bid Submission Opening Date	22-08-2024 (At 11:00 AM) at Deputy Director (K) office Rajbagh Srinagar

The committee will comprise of the following members:-

- Deputy Director Horticulture (P&M) Kashmir : Chairman
- Accounts Officer Horticulture (P&M) J&K : Member
- Member-Secretary MAC /Area Marketing Officer BatingoAnantnag : Member
- Assistant Grading and Marketing Officer BatingoAnantnag Grading and Marketing Inspector : Member

The Gate Entry Fee for each type of vehicle (loaded / unloaded) / entering / leaving Fruit and Vegetable Market BatingoAnantnag shall be as under:

S.No.	Type of Vehicle	Entry Fee Per Trip for 2024-25
1	Trolley: 20 Tyres, 18 Tyres, 14 Tyres	Rs. 330/-
2	Trolley: 12 Tyres, 10 Tyres	Rs. 210/-
3	Truck/Bus-06 Tyres	Rs. 130/-
4	Matador/Tractor/Trolley/Jonga/ Tata Mobile/Tata Sumo/Taveja/Qualis/Van	Rs. 40/-
5	Auto/Load Carrier-3 Wheelers	Rs. 30/-
6	Reda/Horse Cart	Rs. 10/-

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Successful Tenderer shall have to enter into an agreement with the Member Secretary MAC F&V Market BatingoAnantnag. The other terms and conditions of the agreement are as under:-

- The offer shall be super subscribed as Gate Entry tender document of Fruit & Vegetable Mandi F&V Market BatingoAnantnag.
- The successful tenderer shall deposit the offered bid amount in the office of the MAC Fruit & Vegetable Mandi F&V Market BatingoAnantnag in two installments 1st installment i.e. 75% of the offered bid amount at the time of allotment of contract and 2nd installment i.e. remaining 25% of the offered bid shall be paid by the successful bidder after three (03) months from the date of allotment of contract through payee account cheque or bank draft whichever is thought feasible in the interest of MAC F&V Market BatingoAnantnag.
- The allotment to the successful bidder shall be given after two days of opening of tenders after depositing the first installment.
- The agreement shall be executed only after the successful bidder deposits the first installment of the bid amount.
- The possession of the gates shall be given only after execution of the agreement with Member Secretary Market Administrative Committee (MAC) Fruit & Vegetable Market BatingoAnantnag.
- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the bid amount within the stipulated time, his contract shall be cancelled and the security deposit shall be forfeited.
- The successful tenderer shall not raise any structure (Temporary or Fixed) in the premises and shall use the infrastructure already existing for the collection of Entry Fee.
- The offer amount should be quoted in both figures and words duly covered with the transparent tape and without any cutting or tampering.
- The fee shall be charged every time the vehicle enters in the Mandi premises.
- The Member Secretary Market Administrative Committee shall not be responsible and bound to provide any kind of relief/relaxation/compensation in the event of any adversity or unavoidable circumstance like Hartal/ Curfews/Road blockage/Less arrivals etc.
- The defaulters (if any) of APMC/MAC F&V Market BatingoAnantnag are not eligible to submit tenders unless and until the previous outstanding, if any is not liquidated in full.
- The successful bidder has to charge the entry fee as per the approved rates of Directorate of Horticulture (P&M), any complaint with regard to the overcharging of rates will be viewed seriously which may lead to cancellation of the contract and in that case the amount deposited shall be forfeited along with the earnest money.
- The successful bidder shall regulate the traffic of Entry Gate in coordination with the Fruit Association.
- The Chairman/Chairperson of the Market Administrative Committee (MAC) F&V Market BatingoAnantnag reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
- In case of any dispute between the parties, the matter shall be referred to the Director Horticulture (P&M) J&K for arbitration and the decision of the Director Horticulture (P&M) J&K shall be final and binding upon both the parties.
- The successful tenderer shall also be liable to pay any kind of tax to the Government under income tax, GST etc. and all provisions of the GST shall be binding upon the successful bidder as amended from time to time.
- The successful tenderer shall have to abide by the labour laws as per the Labour Act in vogue.
- The successful tenderer shall be bound to use the prescribed receipt book of his own as per the specification of the Market Administrative Committee (MAC) F&V Market BatingoAnantnag.
- The successful tenderer shall have no right to sublet the contract during the contract period/agreement.
- The highest bidder shall produce GST clearance certificate before entering into contract.
- Clause on Arbitration issued by the Department Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs UT of J&K under Circular No:16-JK (LD) of 2023 dated: 28-12-2023 shall be applicable.

No: -142/DDK/HPM/Estt/2024/3421-24  
DIPK-4790/24 Dated: -14-08-2024

Sd/-  
(Naheed Mir)  
Deputy Director (K),  
Horticulture (P&M), Srinagar

## J&K Police Headquarters

JAMMU/SRINAGAR

ORDER NR-2108 of 2024

DATED:09- -08-2024

**Subject: Blacklisting of M/S Prime Computers, 60AB Gole Market Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K-180004 Email ID: jammudell@gmail.com and M/S Prime Computers 121/AD Greenbelt Park Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K, 180004 Email ID: jammudell2@gmail.com.**

- Whereas, PHQ J&K floated bid nr GEM/2023/B/4034717 dated 07.10.2023 for procurement of 342 nr desktop computers.
- Whereas, 35 bidders participated in the bid.
- Whereas, technical data sheets of 35 bidders who participated in the bid were downloaded and subsequently forwarded to Technical Evaluation Committee for carrying technical evaluation of the data sheets.
- Whereas, on perusal of documents it was found that two firms namely M/S Prime Computers, 60AB Gole Market Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K-180004, GSTIN nr 01 ACYPG07431I/1, and M/S Prime Computers, 121/AD Greenbelt Park Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K-180004, GSTIN nr 01 ACYPG0744PI/9, submitted identical Bidder Turnover Certificate for FY 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 issued in the name of Sanjay Gupta, PAN ACYCP 10744P, with address 25, 2nd floor, Deepak Building, 13, Nehru Place, New Delhi mentioned on the bidder turnover certificate.
- Whereas, the submission of identical turnover certificates by both firms raises concerns about potential conflict of interest, as outlined in Chapter 3.2.2 clause v and Chapter 05 Clause (ix) of the Manual for Procurement of Goods 2017.
- Whereas, according to the aforementioned clauses, a conflict of interest can arise from participation by a bidding firm or its affiliates in the consultancy contract linked to this procurement, involvement in multiple bids, or having relationships or financial transactions with any official of the Procuring Entity involved in the tender or execution process.
- Whereas, the submission of identical documents by both firms suggests a possible anti-competitive practice and improper use of information obtained from the Procuring Entity, aimed at gaining an unfair advantage
- Therefore, taking into account the facts enumerated supra, it is hereby ordered that:  
M/S Prime Computers, 60AB Gole Market Gandhii Nagar Jammu, J&K-180004, GSTIN nr 01ACYPG0743LIZI Email ID: jammudell@gmail.com and M/S Prime Computers, 121/AD Greenbelt Park Gandhi Nagar Jammu, J&K-180004 GSTIN nr 01 ACYPG0744PLZ9Email ID: jammudell2@gmail.com are debarred from participating in any procurement process of J&K Police for a period of one year from the issuance of this order. This action is in accordance with Chapter 3.2.2 clause v and Chapter 05 Clause (ix) of the Manual for Procurement of Goods 2017, addressing conflicts of interest, anti-competitive practices, and improper use of information.

This issues with approval of th competent authority

Gurinderpal Singh IPS  
AIG (Provision/Transport)  
For Director General of Police, PHQ, J&K, Srinagar

No. Prov-II /Elect-16(8)/2022-23/10351-70  
DIPK-4800/24  
Dated 14/08/2024



## LG Attends DD Kashmir's Special Event "Meri Maati Mera Desh"

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Wednesday attended DD Kashmir's special event "Meri Maati Mera Desh" and paid tribute to freedom fighters and martyrs on the eve of the 78th Independence Day. "Our founding fathers, brave personnel of J&K Police, Armed Forces and CAPFs, have ushered peace enabling the nation and the UT of J&K to fulfil the aspirations of the citizens and strengthen the ideals of social justice and equality," the Lt Governor said.



Addressing the gathering, the Lt Governor shared the transformational journey of J&K over the past few years. "The going has never been as good for J&K UT in the past as it is now. Our economy has been growing and it is stable and strong. Over a period of just five years, overcoming numerous challenges, a new J&K stands firm with steadfast determination," the Lt Governor said. He also commended the role of Doordarshan in preserving the local art, culture, heritage while promoting a sense of nationalism. The musical programme by folk artists and music-band showcased a vibrant display of music and songs on patriotic themes. The ambience was filled with patriotic fervor remembering the sacrifices and immense contributions of the martyrs and freedom fighters. During the program, a short-film about the developmental journey of Jammu and Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370 was shown. The event also marked the commencement of the talent hunt reality show. The event was attended by Prof. A. Ravinder Nath, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir; P.P. Shukla, DDG, DD Kashmir; Prakash Veer Tyagi, DDG Global Outreach Prasar Bharati; Sanjeev Sugam, DDG (E), senior officials and prominent citizens from all walks of life.

## 78TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

### Baramulla Creates History With 2.5km Long Tricolour At Tiranga Rally

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** District Baramulla created history on Wednesday as thousands of citizens from all walks of life united in Watergam Rafiabhad for a Tiranga Rally, proudly carrying a 2.5-kilometre-long tricolour, the longest ever witnessed in the history of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, creating a powerful symbol of pride and patriotism for the entire community.



Led by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, the rally saw the participation of Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore, S.A. Raina; Superintendent of Police, Sopore, Divya Dev, other civil and police administration officers, officials from all the departments, students, and local residents, creating an unforgettable spectacle of unity and national fervour.

The enthusiastic participants filled the air with patriotic emotion, carrying the national flag, chanting slogans, and singing national songs as they marched, paying tribute to the sacrifices made by freedom fighters and fallen heroes who gave their lives for the nation's freedom. On the occasion, the DC expressed deep gratitude to all the participants for taking part in the Tiranga Rally. The DC also praised the district and local administration especially ADC Sopore, SP Sopore and EO MC Watergam, for their exceptional efforts in successfully organising the record making event. Minga Sherpa further elaborated on the significance of the event and said, "What we've witnessed today is a testament

to the strength of our democracy and the unity of our people. The participation of thousands of citizens, from school children to elderly residents, shows that our national spirit transcends age, background, and all other differences." The Tiranga Rally in Watergam stands as a testament to the region's resilience, unity, and unwavering spirit of nationalism and serves as an inspiration for communities across the nation, showcasing how the tricolour continues to be a powerful unifying force, bringing people together as India celebrates its 78th Independence Day.

## August Heatwave Sets New Records In Kashmir

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir is sweltering under an unprecedented heatwave, with temperatures soaring to record-breaking levels this August. According to independent weatherman Faizan Arif, Qazigund, in particular, has experienced its second-highest August temperature since 1962, reaching a scorching 34.2°C. The all-time high for the region stands at 35.0°C, recorded on August 1, 1990.



Kokernag, too, has shattered its previous temperature record for August, with a blistering 32.7°C recorded on this day. This surpasses the earlier high of 32.5°C set on August 23, 2023. It's worth noting that the Kokernag observatory has been operational since 1978. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir has recorded 5.9 degree above normal temperature where the mercury settled at 35.3 degree Celsius. The weatherman said that for Srinagar, this is the third time in the past 25 years that the city has crossed the 35°C mark in August, with previous instances occurring in 2004 and 2018.

Notably, the local meteorological department predicted a five-day wet spell from August 15 Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu however was a bit colder than Kashmir today. As per the details, Jammu recorded a maximum temperature of 33.2 degree Celsius while in Katra, the mercury settled at 31.2 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted a five-day wet spell from tomorrow. "A spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Kashmir & Jammu division towards early morning with brief showers added that on August 16 to 20, light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of J&K." Moreover, the MeT has forecasted the possibility of intense showers for a brief period & heavy rainfall in Jammu division, which may lead to flash floods, landslides, mud-slides and shooting stones over vulnerable places of J&K during the next five days.

It added that water logging in low lying areas and increase in water level in Tawi & other flood channels of Jammu division are expected during the next five days.

## Basic Amenities Continue To Elude People In Far-Flung Areas Across Jammu: Dr. Farooq

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah Wednesday said the successive regimes since 2014 have ignored the development of far-flung areas of Jammu region. He further said, "People are questioning the BJP about their lack of progress in developing the region during their decade in power. Where are the promised hospitals, colleges, and industries that were supposed to come post the August 5, 2019 measures? There seems to be no visible progress since 2014. Where are the job opportunities for our local youth? Why have there been no special recruitment drives conducted here? What is holding them back from reaching out to the people and providing world-class tourism infrastructure? The people will demand answers from the BJP in the upcoming assembly elections."



This he said while chairing a one-day delegates convention in Baderwah organised by Sheikh Mehboob Iqbal. Provincial President Jammu Rattan Lal Gupta, Vice Provincial President Khalid Najeeb Sohawardi, Provincial President YNC Jammu Ajaz Jan, District President Sajjad Shaheen were present on the occasion.

In his address, Dr Farooq as per a statement said "Despite the tall claims of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas,' it is unfortunate that even after a substantial period, basic amenities continue to elude the people residing in far-flung areas, plunging them into enduring hardships. Although Baderwah is unde-

nably beautiful, it has yet to make its mark on the tourist map of the country. The limited infrastructure and road network present in this valley were established during successive NC-led governments."

He further said, "People are questioning the BJP about their lack of progress in developing the region during their decade in power. Where are the promised hospitals, colleges, and industries that were supposed to come post the August 5, 2019 measures? There seems to be no visible progress since 2014. Where are the job opportunities for our local youth? Why have there been no special recruitment drives conducted here? What is holding them back from reaching out to the people and providing world-class tourism infrastructure? The people will demand answers from the BJP in the upcoming assembly elections."

## Import Influx Of Second Hand Vehicles To J&K Likely To Reduce

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** In a bid to curb the environmental impact due to the older vehicles brought from other states, the Regional Transport Officer (RTO) Kashmir has formally requested the Transport Commissioner Jammu and Kashmir, proposing the introduction of an environmental cess on second hand vehicles older than 10 years at the time of allocation of J&K registration marks.

The letter addressed to J&K's Transport Commissioner as per the RTO Kashmir, comes in light of the rising environmental and infrastructural challenges posed by the influx of second-hand vehicles from neighbouring states.

In a letter, a copy of which with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) highlights the alarming increase in older, environmentally detrimental vehicles entering the region, particularly in the cities of Srinagar and Jammu, where traffic congestion and parking shortages have reached critical levels.

shortages have reached critical levels.

"These older vehicles also contribute disproportionately to environmental pollution. In view of this, it is proposed that the UT may introduce an environmental cess on second hand vehicles older than 10 years at the time of allocation of J&K registration mark," reads the letter.

The RTO as per the letter has pointed out that these second-hand vehicles, often nearing the end of their operational life as defined by their states of origin, are being sold at significantly reduced prices, making Jammu & Kashmir a dumping ground for vehicles that no longer meet the operational standards of other states.

"As you are aware the second-hand vehicles are being imported into Jammu & Kashmir from the neighbouring states. These vehicles, often nearing the end of their operational life as defined by their states of origin, are sold at cheap prices," reads the letter.

## Illicit Timber Recovered In Bla, 5 Accused Arrested: Police

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla on Wednesday said to have recovered illicit timber in Bijhama, Churanda Uri and arrested five accused persons involved in the commission of crime.

A statement issued to Kashmir Observer.

In addition, acting on reliable information, police recovered 20 logs of illicit Deodar timber in Churanda Uri. The accused identified as Mohd Shafi Khatana son of Siyan Khatana resident of Churanda Uri, was transporting the illegal timber from nearby forests towards Churunda, police said.

Acting on reliable information, police recovered 24 logs of illicit Deodar timber in Bijhama, Baramulla. The accused identified as Abdul Jabar Mir son of Ghulam Qadir and Abdul Jabar Mir son of Abdul Gaffar, both residents of Mayan Bijhama, were transporting the illegal timber from nearby forests towards Hilpathribal. Similarly, acting on reliable information, police recovered 15 logs of illicit Deodar timber in Bijhama, Baramulla. The accused identified as Mohd Sultan Lone son of Gh Qadir & Ali Mohd Sheikh son of Ab Jabar both residents of Kathihal Pathribal, were transporting the illegal timber from nearby forests towards Daryana Mayan, a police spokesman said in

All the accused persons have been arrested and shifted to Police Station Bijhama & PS Uri where they remain in custody. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and further investigation have been initiated, police added.

The police will continue its drive against timber smugglers to protect the environment and ensure the preservation of our natural resources. This action reaffirms our commitment to keeping our society free of crime and taking strict action against those involved in criminal activities, the statement reads.

He further

**Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir**

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SOPORE.

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

**NITNo- 31 of RnB-Sopore of 2024-2025 e-tendering DATED 14.08.2024**

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

S. No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ DOC (In Rupees)	E/Money	Time for completion of work	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	M.H of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
01	Improvement of Yemberzalwari to Marbal Road by way of Providing and laying of Nallah Muck / Quarry Muck in Patches and Stretches	3.969	200/-	7938/-	25 days	22.08. 2024	DEE	District Capex
02	Construction of Cement Concrete Drain at Zonipora and Logipora	3.92	200/-	7840/=	25 days	22.08. 2024	DEE	District Capex
03	Construction of Road From Hanfia Colony to Antoo Colony Towards Bypass	10.00	600/-	20000/-	30 days	22.08.2024	CEE/DEE	District Capex
04	Improvement to WadooraTujjar road by way of Providing and laying of Nallah Muck ,WBM Garde-2nd and laying of RCC pipes	14.999	600/-	29992/-	30 days	22.08.2024	CEE/DEE/ BEE	District Capex
05	Restoration of Road from H/O Javeed Ahmad to GhJeealaniWani at Al Huda Colony Shangergund	2.05	200/-	4010/-	25 days	22.08.2024	DEE	District Capex

Project Authority: DDC Bla  
Position of funds: Available  
Position of AAA/ TS /Accorded

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

1	Date of issue of tender Notice	14.08.2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	14.08.2024 to 21.08.2024 (upto 4 PM)
3	Bid Submission start date	14.08.2024
4	Bid submission End date	21.08.2024 (4.00 PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bides ( online)	22.08.2024(12 PM) in the office of Ex. Engineer R&B Division. Sopore
- Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan/ CDR ( dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.
- At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/ Maintenance Period.
- Geotech Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photograph before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x 21 cm to be provided.
- All other terms, conditions shall remain same as per e-NITNo.02 of 2024-25 issued under endorsement No:1189-98 dated 08.06.2024.
- If the contractor/HMPO quotes rate for any item of work in his tender as free of cost at the time of tendering process, his tender shall be rejected outrightly

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT,  
No: 2993-3003 Dated:14.08.2024  
DIPK-4858-24 DT: 14/08/2024  
Executive Engineer, R&B Division Sopore

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION Rafiabhad Watergam

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS TWO COVER SYSTEM

**Fresh NITNo14/2024-25/RnB/RAFIABHAD WATERGAM Dated 12.08.2024 (E-tendering)**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K, UT Executive Engineer, R&B Division Rafiabhad Watergam invites percentage rate bids (EPC Mode) in electronic tendering system for the following work from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

S. No	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs. In Lacs)	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of tender (Technical Bid)	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Design and Construction of 1x30 mtr span Plate Girder Bridge at Doabgah on Nallah Vijbal (under NABARD RIDF XXIX) on EPC MODE ENGINEERING PROCUREMENT AND CONSTRUCTION MODE (Complete Job in all respects)	12.59	0.085	24 Months	29/08/2024	AAV

Project Authority: = PWD (R&B) Kashmir  
Major Head of Account = NABARD RIDF-XXIX  
Position of AAA =Accorded  
Position of funds =Available

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12/08/2024
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12/08/2024
3.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	14/08/2024 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Baramulla.
4.	Bid submission Start Date	14/08/2024 From 10.00A.M
5.	Bid Submission End Date	28/08/2024 upto 4.00P.M
6.	The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Baramulla..	As per time specified in SBD.
7.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	29/08/2024at11.00A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Baramulla.
8.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids(Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per above schedule: Note:- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT/SBD carefully before uploaded soft copy any shortfall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Challan/e-challan/Demand Draft in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Rafiabhad Watergam. (The Date of Treasury Challan/Demand Draft must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. The bidder who chooses the option of Demand draft shall upload the copy of DD for Rs. 8500/- In addition to this the bidder shall submit the demand draft through Registered post/courier latest by 28/08/2024 to Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Baramulla. The department shall not be responsible for any delay in submission of DD due to any reasons.
- At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Baramulla. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.
- Bidders can resubmit/withdraw the bids as specified.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-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 Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Superintending Engineer, PWD(R&B) Baramulla. The date for same shall be intimated separately.
- 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, if-
  - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security with in specified time period issue of letter of intent.
  - In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Qualification criteria for the work and other terms and conditions are contained in the bidding document available on website.

No:- 1742-49  
Dated: 12.08.2024  
DIPK-4802-24 DT: 14/08/2024

Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Rafiabhad  
watergam

## Rohit Sharma Takes 2nd Spot In ODI Rankings Behind Babar Azam

Press Trust of India

**DUBAI:** India skipper Rohit Sharma jumped one spot in the latest ICC ODI rankings for batters on Wednesday, moving to second place, following his superb performance in the recently concluded ODI series in Sri Lanka.

India lost the three-match series 0-2 but Rohit scored 157 runs, including two half-centuries, at an average of 52.33. The opening match of the series ended in a tie.

Shubman Gill slipped one spot to third, while Virat Kohli remained static at No. 4 in the rankings.

Pakistan's Babar Azam is currently leading the charts with

824 rating points, while Rohit has 765 points.

The other Indian in the top-20 is Shreyas Iyer at 16th, while KL Rahul is placed 21st after dropping one spot.

Left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav remained the top-ranked Indian at fourth spot in the bowling rankings, trailing top-ranked South African spinner Keshav Maharaj, Australia's Josh Hazlewood and Adam Zampa, who occupy the top-three spots.

Pacer Jasprit Bumrah remained stationary at eighth, while Mohammed Siraj slipped five spots to occupy the joint ninth position with New Zealand's Trent Boult.

Senior seamer Mohammed Shami is ranked 12th. The



33-year-old is currently rehabilitating at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru following an ankle surgery and is expected to be back for the two-match Test series against Bangladesh in Chennai and Kanpur next month.

Washington Sundar, India's highest wicket-taker during the Sri Lanka ODIs (5 wickets, 3 matches), has risen 10 places to 87th spot.

Ravindra Jadeja remains the highest-placed Indian in the all-rounders' section at 16th spot, while Hardik Pandya has dropped four places to 26th.

Team India sits at the summit of the ODI rankings with 118 rating points, while Australia are second at 116, followed by South Africa (112).

### Short TAKES

#### President Murmu Meets Indian Olympians



President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday met the Indian Olympic contingent and congratulated the players for their performance at the recently-concluded Paris Games.

Addressing the players, Murmu said they are a source of inspiration for all the youth of the country, especially the young players.

India won six medals, including a silver and five bronze, at the Paris Olympics to continue their good run in the global showpiece.

## Danish, Maajid Win RSGC FourBall Golf Tournament



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Royal Spring Golf Course (RSGC) declared the results for FourBall Best Ball Golf Tournament on Wednesday.

The tournament, played over five days on a knockout basis, featured 40 players and a total of 19 matches. The final took place on August 13.

Raja Danish Amaan and Maajid Khan were adjudged victorious of the RSGC Four Ball Best Ball Golf

Tournament.

Raja Danish Amaan and Maajid Khan stood out with their excellent performance and strong focus, earning a well-deserved win. Danish Ayoub Khan and Shafat Sultan were declared runners-up, for their impressive performance.

Secretary of RSGC, Mufti M. Farid Ud congratulated the players on their amazing win. He said their hard work, dedication and sportsmanship have been impressive.

## Northern Railway Promotes Olympic Medallist Aman Sehrawat

Observer News Service

**NEW DELHI:** Northern Railway honored its shining star Aman Sehrawat for his exceptional performance at Paris Olympics 2024 on Wednesday.

In a meeting held at the Northern Railway Headquarters, General Manager Shobhan Chaudhuri presented a token of appreciation to the Olympian for winning Bronze Medal in Paris Olympics 2024. On this occasion, Sujit Kumar Mishra, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, Northern Railway promoted Aman Sehrawat for his Olympic medal win and appointed him as OSD/Sports.

Vijay Pratap, Principal



Chief Engineer, Northern Railway and President NRSA and Kaustubh Mani, General Secretary NRSA also congratulated Aman Sehrawat. Abhishek Kesarwani Joint Secretary

NRSA, Ashish Saini Treasurer NRSA, Sakshi Malik, Jaydev Bisht, Anil Mann OSD/Sports also praised and congratulated Sehrawat for his excellent performance in the Olympics.

## Morne Morkel Appointed India's New Bowling Coach

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Former South Africa pace great Morne Morkel has been roped in as the Indian cricket team's new bowling coach, BCCI secretary Jay Shah said on Wednesday, completing the appointment of new head coach Gautam Gambhir's preferred support staff.

It is understood that the 39-year-old, who replaces Paras Mhambrey, will take over as the bowling coach from the Bangladesh series that starts with the opening Test in Chennai from September 19. He has been appointed till the end of the 2027 ODI World Cup in South Africa.

Morkel was also Gambhir's preferred choice, having worked with



him at Lucknow Super Giants during the Indian's two IPL seasons as mentor of the franchise.

Morkel has played 86 Tests, 117 ODIs and 44 T20Is for South Africa with a total of 544 international wickets.

He will be reporting in Bengaluru's National Cricket Academy at the start of next month and is expected to watch the Duleep Trophy games.

## 'My Youth My Pride' Sports Events Conclude In South Kashmir

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The three-day special sports extravaganza under the "My Youth My Pride" initiative by the J&K Sports Council concluded in south Kashmir on Wednesday.

**Pulwama:** The Sports Stadium in Pulwama was a hub of activity, with the final day featuring intense curling competitions. Badminton matches at the Indoor Stadium in Rajpora and basketball games at the playfield in Pampore were also held.

**Shopian:** Batpora's Sports Stadium was the epicenter of high-octane hockey and wushu matches. The volleyball tournament at Chitragam's playfield concluded the



events in Shopian.

**Kulgam:** The Indoor Sports Hall in Qaimoh witnessed the final rounds of kabaddi. Volleyball at the Mini Stadium in Kulgam continued to captivate audiences, while the chess competition at Kellam Boys Higher Secondary

School were also held.

**Anantnag:** Remote area of Larnoo Kokernag saw the final volleyball matches, while the kabaddi competition at Tickbag Mattan and the chess battles at the Indoor Complex in Nilandrusu showcased the talent of the youth.

## Mbappé Makes Real Madrid Favorites To Repeat As Spanish League Champions

Agencies

**MADRID:** Real Madrid was one of the teams to beat in Europe last season, winning the Spanish league with ease and adding another Champions League trophy to its collection.

And what was good got even better for 2024-25, with France star Kylian Mbappé finally joining the Spanish powerhouse after years of flirtation between both sides.

Mbappé's addition makes Madrid the heavy favorite to win back-to-back league titles for the first time since 2007-08.

Barcelona, still struggling financially, will debut coach Hansi Flick, while Diego Simeone's Atletico Madrid brought in Argentina forward Julián Álvarez and Spain defender Robin Le Normand to improve its squad.

The league kicks off Thursday with Copa del Rey champion Athletic Bilbao hosting Getafe, while Girona — the surprise team from last season after a third-place finish — will visit Manuel Pellegrini's Real Betis.

Here's what to watch in the Spanish league this season:



#### Mbappé's Madrid

Mbappé will boost a Madrid attack that includes Vinicius Junior, Rodrygo and will also count on young Brazil sensation Endrick.

Mbappé is likely to start alongside Vinicius, with Rodrygo losing his spot as a starter. Endrick, who is only 18, is expected to wait a bit longer to make it to the squad.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti won't count on stalwart Toni Kroos, who retired after last season, but fellow veteran midfielder Luka Modric will stick around for what is expected to be his final campaign with the club.

Ancelotti will still count on Jude Bellingham, who is returning after thriving in his first season with Madrid. Madrid's success came

despite many serious injuries to some of its top players, including Thibaut Courtois, Éder Militão and David Alaba — all who should be fully fit again to start the new season.

There was an early setback already, though, with midfielder Eduardo Camavinga set to miss several weeks because of a knee injury.

The defending champions, looking to win their third league title in four seasons, debut at Mallorca on Sunday.

#### Flick's Barcelona

The Hansi Flick era in Barcelona begins after the German coach replaced former great Xavi Hernández, whose final year with the club was marred by turmoil on and off the field.

Flick won't get any new significant signings for his first season, which will begin amid lingering doubts surrounding the fitness of midfielders Gavi, Pedri and Frenkie de Jong.

João Félix and João Cancelo are among the players not staying for 2024-25. Barcelona, which finished 10 points behind Madrid last season, kicks off its campaign at Valencia on Saturday.

#### Atletico's additions

Atletico Madrid finished only fourth last season, behind Girona, Barcelona and Madrid. Simeone's team ended 19 points behind the city rival in the standings.

But the club boosted its squad with some international players that include Álvarez, Le Normand and Alexander Sorloth of Norway.

France forward Antoine Griezmann should remain the team's top weapon in attack.

Among those who left are Stefan Savic, Mario Hermoso, Memphis Depay and Spain international Álvaro Morata.

Atletico's first game will be at Villarreal on Monday.

### THE J&K BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar); 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu)  
Website: <http://www.jkbopee.gov.in>  
Email: [coejakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:coejakbopee@gmail.com), [helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com), [jakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:jakbopee@gmail.com)

**Subject:** Provisional Selection List of Candidates Upgraded/Allotted seats during Mop-Up Round of counselling (physical) for admission to MDS course-2024.

**Reference:** I) Notification No: 67-BOPEE of 2024 dated 09-08-2024.  
II) Order Dated: 07.08.2024, passed by the Hon'ble High Court of J&K and Ladakh (at Jammu) in WP(C) No. 1828/2024, titled Prashant Balotra Vs. UT of J&K and Others.

**NOTIFICATION NO: 071-BOPEE OF 2024  
DATED: 14-08-2024**

Pursuant to Notification No. 067-BOPEE of 2024 dated 09.08.2024, the 3rd/Mop Up Round of counselling (Physical) for Upgradation/Allotment of Seats for NEET MDS course was conducted by the Board on 13th August, 2024 at BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar simultaneously. The list of candidates who have been provisionally upgraded/allotted seats/disciplines in Government Dental Colleges of UT of J&K is hereby notified as per Annexure-A to this Notification which shall remain available on official website of the Board i.e. [www.jkbopee.gov.in](http://www.jkbopee.gov.in) only.

The candidates upgraded/allotted seats/disciplines/institutions during this Round shall have to join in their allotted colleges by or before 20.08.2024 upto 4:00 p.m. positively from the date of issuance of this Notification.

It shall be sole responsibility of the Colleges/ Institutions concerned to ensure proper checking/verification of documents/ eligibility as per the DCI guidelines before the candidate is allowed to join the course he/she is provisionally selected for.

The College/Institutions shall submit the shortfall, if any, to BOPEE Office, Jammu/Srinagar upto 5:00 pm on 20-08-2024 through e-mail at [jakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:jakbopee@gmail.com) / [helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com) / [coejakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:coejakbopee@gmail.com).

In view of the limited time available for completion of admission process, all the concerned Institutions/Colleges shall treat all Sundays and Gazetted holidays as working days especially for the concerned admission sections so that the candidates may not face any problem during completion of their admission formalities within the prescribed cutoff date (20-08-2024).

**Note:**

- The admission of the candidates upgraded/allotted seats during Mop Up Round of counselling is purely provisional and shall be liable to be cancelled in case any information furnished by any candidates proves to be false/fabricated, and action as warranted under law shall be initiated against such candidates.
- The candidates who have been upgraded/allotted seats during the mop up round shall have to necessarily join in the college against the allotted seat(s).
- The Heads of the colleges are advised to release the documents/ certificates and fee immediately to such candidates who have been upgraded during mop up round of counselling to enable them to complete the admission formalities within the prescribed time limit.

The other terms and conditions shall remain the same as notified by the Board in various Notifications, Notices and e-Information Brochure in this regard.

**E & O E**

No. BOPEE/Exam-26/2024(7514779)  
Dated: 14-08-2024  
DIPK-NB-1367-24  
DT: 14/08/2024

Sd/-  
(Prof. Gurvinder Raj Verma)  
Controller of Examinations  
J&K BOPEE

## Social Justice

planners and wealth creators, and the visionary leadership guiding the nation.

"Social justice is the top priority of the Modi government. The Modi government has taken number of unprecedented initiatives for welfare of SC, ST and marginalised sections," she said.

She emphasised the government's ambitious goal of transforming India into a 'Viksit Bharat' -- a developed nation -- by 2047, coinciding with the centenary of India's Independence.

President Murmu pointed to the government's focus on infrastructure development, the adoption of cutting-edge technologies, such as artificial intelligence and semiconductors, and a robust banking and financial sector as key factors that make India an increasingly attractive destination for investment.

"All these elements have set the stage for the next generation of economic reforms and growth that will propel India among the developed nations," she stated.

The President also addressed the positive impacts of high economic growth on the populace, noting that it has resulted in increased disposable income and a significant reduction in poverty levels.

"For those who still face economic hardship, we are committed to providing support and pathways out of poverty," she assured.

Citing initiatives like the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, which provides free rations to approximately 800 million people, President Murmu emphasised that the government is dedicated to ensuring that individuals who have recently escaped poverty are not pushed back into it.

In her address, she commended the diligence of farmers, noting their crucial role in achieving agricultural self-sufficiency in India.

"Spirit of inclusion pervades every aspect of our social life. We move together as cohesive nation with our diversity, plurality"

She also observed that recent years have seen significant infrastructure improvements, citing strategic planning and the effectiveness of institutions as vital to expanding the nation's network of roads, highways, railways, and ports.

## PM To Deliver

and 16 times respectively.

While the theme of 'Viksit Bharat' is expected to animate his address, there is a view that the crisis in Bangladesh, especially the targeting of minority Hindus, may find a mention in his speech, more so as Hindutva groups have strongly taken up the issue and hit the streets.

Modi may also speak about the mandate for his government for a third straight term, though with a reduced majority, and dwell at length on how reforms, development programmes and welfare measures rolled out in the last 10 years have impacted the lives of the people.

It will be eagerly seen if the prime minister announces any new initiative or expand the ambit of some ongoing welfare programmes at a time when a combined opposition, at its strongest in the last 10 years, has pivoted to populist welfare promises to draw support.

Jammu and Kashmir has often figured in his August 15 speeches as the government has worked overtime to reconfigure the security and development paradigms in the erstwhile state, now a Union territory, since scrapping Article 370 in 2019.

Of late, the region, especially the Jammu division, has seen several terror incidents, leading to the deaths of several security personnel.

The Supreme Court has set September 30 as the deadline for the holding of assembly elections there.

There is also an anticipation that some of the key decisions taken by the government since he assumed the office in June for a third term may be highlighted by him.

Such decisions include an expansion of the housing scheme for the poor, major boost to road and rail infra, and a proposed change in the law regulating Waqf boards and properties, which have drawn vehement criticism from opposition parties.

## LG, DGP Greet

those freedom fighters, whose sacrifices secured our Independence," Sinha said.

"I pay homage to all the bravehearts of J&K Police, Armed Forces, and CAPFs who laid down their lives in safeguarding the unity and integrity of the nation. I also salute the brave personnel of Army, CAPF and J&K Police, who are guarding our borders, fighting terrorists and simultaneously maintaining law and order to ensure progress and prosperity of the Union Territory," he added.

LG said that it is also an occasion to pay our gratitude to the farmers, teachers, scientists, workers, youth and women entrepreneurs, who are working with dedication and making precious contributions to peace and prosperity of the UT.

"This year marks a significant moment in our democratic journey and robust participation in the recently concluded Lok Sabha election is a testament to the unwavering spirit. It

reaffirms that enduring peace is gradually returning to the UT."

"On this Independence Day, let us renew our pledge to follow the ideas and ideals of our founding fathers and rededicate ourselves to build an inclusive, progressive, prosperous J&K and Viksit Bharat," LG said.

The Director General of Police, J&K, R.R. Swain, has extended heartfelt greetings to the people of J&K, family members of J&K Police fallen heroes and the dedicated personnel of the J&K Police family.

Paying rich tributes to the freedom fighters who fought selflessly for the Independence of India, the DGP J&K has said that we must remember the countless sacrifices of men & women and their unwavering commitment to the cause of freedom. "Let us strive to uphold the values of freedom, justice, and equality that they fought for, and continue to build a nation that we all would be proud of", the DGP underlined.

Reflecting on the significance of this day, the DGP paid glowing tributes to the fallen heroes of J&K Police and other security forces who gave supreme sacrifices while fighting the sponsored terrorism in J&K and protecting the interests of the country and the people adding that their gallantry and sacrifice is immortal.

R.R. Swain has also expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the enthusiastic participation of the people, particularly the youth, in the Tiranga rallies and other programmes organized by the J&K Police across the UT. He commended their spirit and passion, saying, "The Tiranga rallies have showcased the unwavering patriotism and unity of our people, and the youth have been at the forefront of this celebration.

## Army Captain,

Four blood-soaked rucksacks were seized from the site of the encounter, leading officials to initially believe that a total of four terrorists were killed. M-4 carbines were also found, the officials said. However, the death of only one terrorist has been confirmed.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anand Jain reached the Assar area along with top officers to supervise the operation.

Ahead of his visit to Doda, the ADGP told reporters in Jammu around 2 pm that the operation was still underway. "The operation is going on. Efforts are on," he said.

The Army expressed its deepest condolence on the officer's death and said the force stands with the bereaved family.

All ranks of the White Knight Corps salute the supreme sacrifice of braveheart Captain Deepak Singh, it said.

The terrorists crossed into Doda from a forest area near Patnitop in adjacent Udhampur district after a brief exchange of fire between security forces and the ultras there on Tuesday evening, officials said.

They said the security forces established contact with the terrorists in Udhampur around 6 pm on Tuesday. An encounter broke out about half an hour later and continued intermittently until both sides paused. A cordon was established overnight.

The search was resumed at dawn. At about 7:30 am on Wednesday, there was a renewed exchange of fire in Doda where the terrorists had fled to, the officials said.

Two encounters between security forces and terrorists were reported on Sunday in the remote forest areas of Nownatta in Kishtwar district and Basantgarh in Udhampur district.

Following these encounters, the terrorists had fled to the Doda hills.

On June 26, three ultras, suspected to be affiliated with the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), were killed in a gunfight in Doda's Gandoh area.

## Rajnath Singh Chairs

recent months. The security forces across the Union Territory have been placed on high alert ahead of Independence Day. An Army captain was killed and four terrorists were gunned down in an ongoing operation in the higher reaches of Jammu's Doda district today.

The situation in Jammu has become increasingly volatile, with a noticeable uptick in terror attacks. On August 10, two soldiers and a civilian were killed during a gunfight between terrorists and security forces in Anantnag. The region has witnessed attacks on an army convoy in Kathua, skirmishes in Doda and Udhampur, and a failed attack by the Pakistan Border Action Team (BAT) along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district's Machchal sector.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), 28 people, including civilians and security personnel, were killed in 11 terror-related incidents and 24 counter-terror operations up to July 21 this year.

In the past two months, the frequency of attacks and ambushes has increased, particularly in the southern reaches of Pir Panjal, an area that had been relatively quiet in terms of terrorist activity for some time. Notable among recent incidents was an operation in which two Army officers were killed, and two Pakistani

terrorists, including a Lashkar-e-Taiba sniper and explosives expert, were eliminated. Overall, casualties among security forces have doubled this year compared to the previous three years, with 17 security personnel and an equal number of civilians losing their lives.

A senior official told NDTV that the increased military casualties are a significant concern, which has led to the rationalisation of force deployment in the area with new combinations and strategies. The government, while maintaining a focus on securing the Kashmir Valley, has also recognised the need to bolster security in the Jammu region. This has resulted in the mobilisation of additional forces for deployment in key areas.

One of the primary objectives of the government's new security strategy is to plug infiltration routes used by terrorists to enter Jammu and Kashmir. Security audits conducted by various agencies have identified around two dozen sectors along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Valley and the International Border in the Jammu sector where infiltration has been recorded. Terrorists, often with the assistance of local guides, use these routes to cross into Indian territory.

In addition to infiltration by foot, there is also evidence of weapons being smuggled across the border or dropped via drones. To counter this, the government has initiated a project to fence the borders. However, progress has been slow, with only 70 out of 180 kilometres of the border in Jammu having been fenced so far, and floodlighting completed for only 40 kilometres.

Two battalions of the Border Security Force (BSF), comprising 2,000 personnel, have been airlifted from Odisha and deployed in the Samba sector to plug gaps along the Jammu-Punjab border.

Recent intelligence reports suggest that terrorists may target highways, which are vital for troop movements and logistics. To secure these "lifelines," the government has decided to deploy CRPF personnel along with local police to patrol highways and adjacent areas. Drones are also being used to monitor and map these areas for any suspicious activity.

## I-Day: JKP Gets

for gallantry and 17 medals for meritorious services.

## 10 CISF Personnel

identifying the personnel as Assistant Sub Inspector Shankar Prasad Patel (killed in action), head constables Pramod Patra, Surendra Kumar Balyan and R Nitin and Constables Ankit Chauhan, Punit Kumar, Rajesh Kumar, Amir Soren, Ram Naresh Gurjar and Waded Vithal Shantappa.

Two heavily armed terrorists had attacked a Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel manned picket just before 4 am on April 22, 2022, near Chaddha camp in the Sunjawan area of Jammu.

The "fidayeen" attackers sprayed a volley of bullets from their assault weapons and lobbed grenades at the picket when a shift change was taking place and CISF personnel onboard a bus had just reached the spot to relieve their colleagues standing guard overnight.

As the bus reached the 'Sunjawan naka', the CISF said, terrorists again started firing at the bus and also used UBGL (under barrel grenade launcher).

Immediately, Patra and Rajesh Kumar got off the bus and positioned themselves for retaliation while the other personnel, under the supervision of Patel, took position in the bus and opened fire on the terrorists, the force said.

Fifty-eight-year-old Patel, hailing from the Satna district of Madhya Pradesh, made the "supreme sacrifice" in the service of the nation, the CISF said.

Due to the valiant response by the CISF personnel, a major terrorist attack was not only averted but the terrorists were contained and eliminated, the force said in a statement.

Personnel of other security forces later killed the two terrorists.

The attack had taken place two days ahead of Modi's visit to Samba in the Jammu region of the Union Territory, his first post the Abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

## 'Tiranga' Rallies

the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on the road along the famous Dal Lake in the morning. The march was flagged off and led by IG, Srinagar Sector, Ajay Kumar Yadav.

The 3-km walkathon commenced from the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) and concluded at ghat no. 13 on Boulevard Road, the officials said.

CRPF personnel, including women personnel of all battalions of Srinagar Sector, participated in the walkathon, they said.

The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) organised a 'Tiranga' bike rally in the Batmaloo area.

Rallies were also held in Ganderbal, Baramulla, Kupwara, Anantnag and Shopian districts.

Thousands came together in

Baramulla's Watergam Rafiabab for a 'Tiranga' rally, which was led by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Minga Sherpa. The participants carried a 2.5-km-long Tricolour, chanted slogans and sang patriotic songs as they marched. Famous historical places and monuments, including Martand Sun Temple in the Mattan area of Anantnag, were illuminated in colours of the national flag, the officials said.

Security has been beefed up in the Kashmir Valley to ensure incident-free Independence Day celebrations. A security blanket has been thrown around the venue for the main function here which will be presided over by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

## KO Journalist

editors for their invaluable mentorship and constant support, and said, "I thank my editors who believed in me and encouraged me to bring out untold stories from Kashmir."

Ganaie has focused on quieter yet equally significant stories related to health, arts, culture, environment, and documentary filmmaking. His filmmaking pursuits, bolstered by specialized training in Cinematography and Screenplay Writing from the FTII, Pune, have led to notable works.

His recent work like 'Kashmir's Sinking Boats' and 'Gandbal Boat Capsizing Tragedy: Echoes of a Capsizing Boat', stand out as particularly impactful documentaries.

## JKCA Case: HC Gives

petitioner under Section 3 of the PMLA if ultimately the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar frames charges for offence/offences, which are specifically mentioned in the schedule of PMLA," the court said.

In July 2017, the CBI filed charge-sheet before the CJM Srinagar in the case for charges of criminal conspiracy and criminal breach of trust under the RPC against Farooq Abdullah, the then president of JKCA, Muhammad Saleem Khan, the then general secretary, Ahsan Ahmad Mirza, the then treasurer and Bashir Ahmad Misgar, an executive in the J&K Bank. The ED had later named the same persons in the money-laundering case.

In their plea, Mirza and Gazanffer submitted before the High Court that ED had no jurisdiction over the case and the charge sheets filed against them should be quashed.

The court, after hearing arguments, had reserved the judgement on August 7. The ED was represented by Additional Solicitor General S V Raju through virtual mode.

"Upon completion of investigation, the CBI has filed a charge-sheet against six accused persons including the petitioner for commission of offences under Sections 120-B, 406 and 409 RPC, which is pending consideration before Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar," the court said, adding, "It is not in dispute that Sections 406 and 409 RPC/IPC are not the scheduled offences"

As is the legal position amply clarified by the Supreme Court in Pavana Dibbur's case, the court said, offence punishable under Section 120-B RPC or IPC shall not be a scheduled offence unless conspiracy alleged is of committing an offence specifically included in the schedule.

"Viewed thus, the charge-sheet, which is pending trial before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar is not in respect of any offence, which is specifically included in the schedule of PMLA".

Going by the charge sheet filed by the CBI, the court said, it is evident that offence of money laundering, as defined under Section 3 of PMLA, is not made out.

"For commission of offence of money laundering under Section 3 of PMLA, it is required to be demonstrated that the accused has directly or indirectly, knowingly or unknowingly involved in any process or activity connected with the proceeds of crime," the court said, adding, "Such activity could be concealment possession, acquisition or use of the proceeds of crime and projecting it as untainted

property."

Referring to the instant case, the court said, indisputably, the jurisdictional police, the CBI has not registered any case for commission of any scheduled offence.

"Enquiry by way of complaint before the CJM, Srinagar is also not in respect of any scheduled offence. In the absence of there being any case registered for commission of scheduled offence or any case pending enquiry or trial in respect of scheduled offence, authorities under PMLA have no jurisdiction to register ECIR and launch prosecution for offence of money laundering under Sections 3/4 of PMLA," the court said, adding, "When there is no scheduled offence having been registered or pending enquiry or trial, there are no proceeds of crime and, thus, there is no offence of money laundering under Section 3 of the Act."

The federal probe agency had attached assets belonging to Abdullah and others worth Rs 21.55 crore under three separate orders issued by it in the past.

The agency's case is based on a 2018 charge sheet filed by the CBI against the same accused.

The CBI charge sheet filed alleged "misappropriation" of JKCA funds to the tune of Rs 43.69 crores from grants given by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to promote the sport in the erstwhile state between 2002 and 2011.

The ED had earlier said its probe found that JKCA received Rs 94.06 crore from BCCI in three different bank accounts during financial years 2005-2006 to 2011-2012 (up to December 2011).

It had alleged that several other bank accounts were opened in the name of the JKCA into which the funds were transferred. The bank accounts along with the existing bank accounts were later used for laundering JKCA funds.

## Home Secy On

Secretary Ajay Bhalla when he held a meeting with the election commissioners here.

Last December, the Supreme Court directed the poll panel to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

The home secretary, the sources said, was "on board" with EC's security assessment of Jammu and Kashmir relating to adequate security for contesting candidates as well as ensuring peaceful conduct of the democratic exercise.

He agreed to whatever the EC had sought for ensuring peaceful polls there, they said.

The Union Home Ministry is ready to provide sufficient number of security personnel proposed by EC to ensure the safety of candidates and for holding peaceful polls in the Union Territory, the sources said.

The poll panel on Wednesday afternoon held a detailed review meeting with Bhalla on the security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir.

The sources described the meeting as "good" and said the home secretary was on board with the EC's security assessment for holding assembly polls in the UT.

The EC flagged the issue of the security of candidates and polling stations while seeking forces for peaceful polls.

The last assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir in 2014, when Ladakh was its part, were held in five phases. This time too the number of phases could be the same.

The electoral exercise in Jammu and Kashmir is usually spread over a month.

It was not yet clear whether polls in Jammu and Kashmir will be held along with other states where assembly elections are due or separately.

Last time, Haryana and Maharashtra polls were held together and Jharkhand elections were announced later.

So far the EC has visited J&K and Haryana to assess poll preparedness. It is yet to visit Maharashtra.

The terms of the legislative assemblies of Haryana and Maharashtra end on November 3 and November 26 respectively.

The term of the Jharkhand assembly ends on January 5 next year.

After a record turnout in the Lok Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir, CEC Rajiv Kumar had said, "This active participation is a huge positive for assembly elections to be held soon so that the democratic process continues to thrive in the Union Territory."

Whenever assembly elections are held in Jammu and Kashmir, they will be the first since provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution were abrogated and the erstwhile state was divided into two Union Territories in 2019.

Following a delimitation exercise, the number of assembly seats has gone up from 83 to 90, excluding those allocated to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

In a fresh indication that assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir are imminent, the EC had last month asked the Union Territory administration to transfer out officers posted in their home districts, an exercise it holds ahead of conducting elections.

The Commission has been following a consistent policy that officers directly connected with the conduct of elections in a poll-bound state or Union Territory are not posted in their home districts or places where they have served for a considerably long period.

It is usual for the poll panel to issue instructions related to transfers of officers ahead of Lok Sabha and assembly elections.

Recently, it had ordered the updation of electoral rolls in Jammu and Kashmir and three other states.

In June, it decided to accept applications seeking allotment of 'common symbols' from registered unrecognised parties in the Union Territory.

## Poll Schedule

Home Security Ajay Bhalla to discuss security requirements for the first assembly election in Jammu & Kashmir after its conversion into a Union Territory in 2019.

Sources disclosed that the commission is now likely to announce the poll schedule on August 20 or 21.

"The elections will commence from the last week of September or the first week of October," they said, adding that the entire election process would be completed by the first week of November.

Notably, MHA has expressed its readiness to deploy adequate central paramilitary forces for the polls. "The Commission has been assured that security would be provided as per its assessment," they said, adding that security arrangements in Jammu region, which has witnessed a spurt in militancy in the recent months, also came up for discussion.

Sources disclosed that 600 companies of paramilitary forces are likely to be utilised for election in the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, chief election commissioner Rajiv Kumar and election commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and S Sandhu.

The poll-body held a meeting with the Union Home Secretary after it visited Jammu & Kashmir to assess preparedness for the polls.

After its meeting with political parties and J&K administration, the Election Commission said that it is committed to hold elections at the earliest in J&K and no internal or external forces will be allowed to derail the democratic process.

"We are committed to conducting elections at the earliest. We are sure that people of J&K will give a befitting response to disruptive forces. No internal or external intervention will be allowed to derail the democratic process. We are all prepared for it," said chief election commissioner Rajiv Kumar, who was accompanied by election commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and S.S. Sandhu.(KNO)

27<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF PUBLICATION

KO Kashmir Observer

[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/c/kobserver)

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

OR SCAN



Kashmir Observer, with 27 years of experience in news gathering is now available 24x7 on all digital platforms like laptops, cell phones or via Bluetooth on your smart TV's across the world.

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

OUR SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

THE OTHER SIDE | **INKISHAF** | VOX POP | UNRAVEL KASHMIR



## Hospital Bills can Exhaust your Family's Hard Earned Life Savings








**Bajaj Allianz Family Health Care policy covers you and your family from expenses incurred during hospitalization along with the added benefits of Health Prime Rider.**

### Bajaj Allianz Family Health Care's Benefits:

-  In Patient Hospitalization Expenses
-  Pre & Post Hospitalization Expenses
-  Road Ambulance
-  Day Care Procedures
-  Organ Donor Expenses
-  Sum Insured Reinstatement Benefit

### Benefits of Health Prime Rider:

-  Rider for both Individual & Family Floater Basis\*\*
-  24\*7 Unlimited Tele-Consultation
-  Investigations Cover
-  139000+ Doctors
-  Preventive Health Check-up (45+ Test Parameters at Network Centers)

\*\*Based on the variant opted in health plan

To know more, contact your **J&K Bank's Relationship Manager**