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CRPF Inspector Killed In Udhampur Terror Attack

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: In fresh bloodletting in the Jammu region, a CRPF inspector was killed when terrorists opened fire on a patrol party in Udhampur district on Monday.

The personnel of CRPF and Special Operations Group (SOG) of the local police were attacked by terrorists around 3:30 pm in the remote Dudu area of Basantgarh, officials said.

They said inspector Kuldeep Kumar of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) belonging to the 187th battalion was hit by a bullet and later succumbed to injuries while being taken to hospital.

A police spokesman said an exchange of fire took place between terrorists and joint parties of police and CRPF during the area domination patrol at Chill village of Dudu.

"In the encounter, one inspector of CRPF suffered bullet injuries and has attained martyrdom. (The anti-terrorist) operation continues." he said.

His mortal remains were being brought to district headquarters

for postmortem. The terrorists fled the scene after a strong retaliation by the joint patrolling party, they said, adding reinforcements have been rushed to the area and a search operation has been launched to ASSEMBLY POLL MANIFESTO

From Art 370 Restoration To 1 Lakh Jobs: NC Makes 12 Promises

Observer News Service/PTI

Srinagar: Restoration Article 370 and Jammu and Kashmir's statehood as well as implementation of the autonomy resolution passed by the erstwhile assembly in 2000 are among the National Conference's 12 guarantees announced in its manifesto for the upcoming polls.

The election manifesto was released at the party headquarters, Nawai Subh by Omar Abdullah, the former chief minister of the erstwhile state and NC vicepresident. The proclamation, according to the NC leader, is "not just a document, but a comprehensive program of governance for the next five

In June 2000, the National government

Nomination

For First



under Faroog Abdullah passed a resolution in the Assembly seeking to restore the pre-1953 constitutional position in the state. It was, however, rejected by the Union Cabinet headed by then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

he nomination process for 24 assembly constituencies, where

The poll body will issue the notification for 24 assembly seats which will

polling will be held in the first phase of Jammu & Kashmir

assembly polls on September 18, will begin on Tuesday.

go to polls in the Union Territory's first election. The voting for these

seats spread over seven districts, including four | More on P6

The Narendra Modi government abrogated Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, in 2019 and bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union Territories -- Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The NC I More on P6

Election

Notification Issued

For Kokernag

Constituency

Will Approach SC If Statehood **Not Restored: Omar**

Dabeera Hassan

Srinagar: National Conference vice-president Abdullah on Monday said his party would approach the Supreme Court if the Centre fails to restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

"The reality is that we have a fight on our hands to get our powers back and we have no doubt that we will succeed. At the very least, in the first instance we will get statehood back for J&K," Abdullah told reporters here.

"Within the state all the powers that are required to fulfil these promises, are with the government of

J-K. And we will fulfil the promises," he added.

Abdullah was interacting with the media after releasing the party's manifesto. The National Conference (NC) leader said if the Centre is not willing to restore the statehood to Jammu and Kashmir then his party would approach the apex court.

"We only have to go as far to remind the Supreme Court that the government of India has promised the SC that statehood will be restored to J-K. In the unlikely event that the GoI is not willing to do it on its own will, | More on P6

he election notification for Kokernag assembly constituency

in south Kashmir was issued on Monday. According to a

notification, the constituency is set to go to polls in the

first phase of elections and the polling would take place in the

"An election is to be held of a member to the | More on P6

constituency on September 18, between 7 AM to 6 PM.

Amarnath Yatra Ends

Over 5 Lakh Pilgrims Pay Obeisance

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: More than a dozen Mountain Rescue Teams assisted thousands of pilgrims during this year's Amarnath pilgrimage in the south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said on Monday, as the annual yatra concluded with more than 5.10 lakh pilgrims offering prayers at the cave shrine.

The Mountain Rescue Teams (MRTs) -- comprising personnel from the Jammu and Kashmir Police, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) -- was flagged off by Additional Director General of Police Vijay Kumar and deployed on the twin tracks leading to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine nearly a week before the start of the 52-day pilgrimage on June 29.

While eight MRTs manned the critical spots on 48-kilometre traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district, five were positioned along the shorter but steeper 14-kilometre Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

"After two back-to-back recce of the twin routes, all 13 MRTs were stationed at the identified spots by June 24 and helped rescue more than 1,300 pilgrims in dire need, | More on P6

Phase **Begins** track down and | More on P6 **PDP Announces Assembly**

Constituency Incharges

Names Iltija Mufti As Bijbehara Lead

Observer News Service

Srinagar: People's Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti was on Monday named as the constituency in-charge for the Bijbehara assembly seat in Jammu and Kashmir as the party nominated leaders for various segments a day ahead of the start of the poll process.

The party nominated constituency incharges for eight assembly segments -- seven in south shmir and Chrar-e-Shareef in

central Kashmir's Budgam. The party named Iltija Mufti, who is also Mehbooba's media advisor, from the Bijbehara assembly constituency -- a seat from where her mother had also made her electoral debut in 1996. The seat is considered a

stronghold of the Mufti family. The party also named Abdul Rehman Veeri from Anantnag East, Sartaj Ahmad Madani from Devsar, Mehboob Beg from Anantnag, Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura from Chrar-e-Shareef,

Triggers Internal **Backlash**

Announcement The resentment is brewing among leaders and workers of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in several assembly constituencies after the first list of constituency incharges was made public by the party. In view of the assembly elections, the PDP parliamentary board has released the | More on P6

KAA Takes Over Bar Office In Srinagar Court

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant ledevelopment, newly formed Kashmir Advocate's Association (KAA) has taken over the office of Kashmir Bar Association at the District Court in Srinagar. According to the KAA, it is the officially recognized and registered

body representing advocates in Kashmir. The body said it undertook this "decisive action to address the presence and operations of an unauthorized organization"

This takeover underscores the KAA's dedication to preserving the integrity and legitimacy of legal institutions in the region," a statement | More on P6



Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd **Corporate Headquarters** M.A. Road, Srinagar www.jkbank.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All the customers are requested to update* their PAN/FORM60 and Phone number/s to keep enjoying uninterrupted banking services. *Please ignore if already updated.

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T:+91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F:+91 (0)194 248 1928; E: info@jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com



Rakshabandhan Celebrated With Fervour In J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The festival of Raksha Bandhan was celebrated on Monday with several temples witnessing a huge rush of

devotees throughout the day. The sweet shops across Srinagar have also reported a significant increase in sales over the past two days. Devotees thronged the temples including Shankarachariya temple here

today to pay obeisance and pray for their siblings on this day.

The festival symbolizes the bond between brothers and sisters, and sees families exchanging sweets | More on P6

BJP Appoints 'Prabharis'

Agencies

Srinagar: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir has released a list of Prabharies (In-charges) for the upcoming assembly constituencies in the Kashmir region.

The move comes as part of the party's preparations for the forthcoming assembly elections. Baramulla:

Trehgam: Gulzar Munshi (District Executive Member, Langate: Karnah), Mumtaz Ahmad Khan (District Vice President, Trehgam), Lolab: Abdul Rehman Lone (Senior Leader, Kupwara), Kupwara: Ghulam Nahi Khan (District Executive Member, Lolab), Karnah: Sartaj Majeed (Senior Leader, Handwara), Handwara Kreeri: Shabir Ahmad Zargar (Senior Leader, Langate), Wagora: Farooq Ahmad Malik (District General Secretary, Baramulla), Uri: Mohd Iqbal Khatana (District President, ST Morcha, Baramulla), Rafiabad: Mohd Rafiq (District Secretary, Baramulla), Baramulla: G.M. Mir (District President, Kisan Morcha, Uri), Sopore: Gh. Hussain Dar (District Vice President, Pattan), Tangmarg: Fida Hussain Wani (District | More on P6

Allow Print Media to Carry Ads During MCC: Tarigami To ECC

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Senior CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami Monday sought an exception from the Election Commission and allow print media to carry advertisements during the operation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in view of the "financial challenges" faced by the industry in the region.

"In light of the recent implementation of the MCC in Jammu & Kashmir, I write to draw your kind attention to the challenges faced by the print media fraternity. With the MCC in place, advertisements

related to development have been suspended from the date of announcement of polls, until the completion of elections," Tarigami said in a letter to CEC Rajiv Kumar.

While adherence to the MCC is crucial, it is important to consider the severe impact this decision has on the "already struggling" print media industry in the region.

The print media fraternity also endured significant financial losses during the MCC imposed for the recent Parliamentary elections, and they are now facing similar circumstances, the | More on P6

Global Mpox Cases Rise

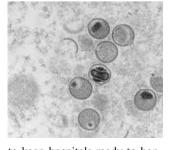
Indian Airports, Borders On Alert

KO Web Desk

New Delhi: The Centre has informed the authorities in airports, ports and borders with Bangladesh and Pakistan to remain alert about incoming international passengers who show monkeypox (mpox) symptoms, sources said. Mpox has been spreading around the world.

Three state-run hospitals have been selected as the key facilities in Delhi to quarantine, manage and treat mpox patients. They are Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital, and Lady Hardinge Hospital.

The Centre has asked all states



to keep hospitals ready to handle mpox cases. These hospitals should be designated as nodal centres and the information given to the public, sources said. Principal

Mishra, Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, chaired a meeting on Sunday to review the country's preparedness for mpox amid enhanced surveillance for prompt detection.

Officials said no mpox case has been reported from the country at present. According to assessment, the risk of a large outbreak with sustained transmission is low, they said.

The World Organisation (WHO) has declared mpox a public health emergency of international concern in view of its prevalence and spread across many parts of Africa.

"The virus strain | More on P6



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Srinagar | Tuesday | 20-08-2024 **4**

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

از نیابت پلہالن

عنوان: درخواست منجانب انيس نزيرولد نزيراحمه حجام ساكنة موضع پلهالن مختصيل پي^ن بمراداجرائی OBC سرٹفیکیٹ بذمرہ حجام

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريين سائل نے ايك درخواست بغرض OBC سر نفيكيك بذمره تجام پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کا روائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی کمار حجام سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل سلطان یور پخصیل پٹن میں رہائش یذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سائل ندکور OBC سرٹفیکیٹ حاصل کرنے کاخواں ہے اور کنبہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی 74001 ویتک ہے ۔ سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کشی تحف کو کوئی عزریا ا متراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خبارسات دن کے اندراندرآ پینے عذر یاعتراض ودالت هذا کو دفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔بعد گزرے میعاد کو بی عذریاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

From the office of the Adv M.A Sofi, Adv Mohammad **Umar & Associates**

In the case of 1. Ab Rashid Baba S/O Ghulam Mohammad Baba 2. Aadil Rashid Baba

3.Umar Rashid Baba Both son's of Abdul Rashid Baba All Residents of Goshbugh Pattan, Tehsil Pattan, District Baramulla

(Caveator)

Public At Large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap-peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa-rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate

NOTICE

I Have Changed My Name From SHABIR HAKAK S/O HABIBULLAH HAKAK TO SHABIR AHMAD HAKAK S/O HABIBULAH HAKAK R/O SARFIE COLONY, LANE NO 1, BUCHPORA, HOUSE NO 16. In Future I Will Be Known As SHABIR AHMAD HAKAK S/O HABIBULAH HAKAK R/O SARFIE COLONY, LANE NO 1, BUCHPORA, HOUSE NO 16. If Anybody Is Having Any Objection He/she May Contact Passport Office, Srinagar Within 7 Days. After 7 Days No Objection Will Be Accepted. **Media Line**

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mohammad Wasiq Dar s/o Nissar Ahmad Dar R/o Palpora Pattan Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 21/07/2020 occurred at SDH Pattan

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. **Executive Magistrate 1st Class** Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Palhallan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Application of Ishfaq Ah Sheer Gojri S/o Abdul Majeed Gojree S/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Gojri R/o Palhallan Tehsil Pattan for obtained OBC certificate

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 OBC certificate. According to the field staffs report the applicants are permanent resident of village Palhallan tehsil Pattan District Baramulla and have been residing here from more than 15 years and has not migrated from the said village the annual family income of the applicant from all sources is Rs 58400/-. Family details of the applicant are give

S No	Name	Parentage	AGE	Occupa- tion				
01	Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Gojree	S/oGh Mohd Sheer Goiree	70	Labour				
D2	Zoona Begum	W/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Goiree	66	H/W				
D3	Blal Ahmad Sheer Goiree	s/o	38	Labour				
04	shfaq Ahmad Sheer Goiree	_	30	Student				
05	Abdul Majood Shoor Goirgo	L	28					

In this connection If anyperson(s)hasanyobjection(s) he/ she can visit the undersigned's office within O7daysfrom the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be considered.

Naib Tehsildar

THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF **SCHOOL EDUCATION NEW CAMPUS, BEMINA SRINAGAR**



The Candidate whose photograph is above reports that he/she have lost his/her qualification certificate/s has the following description:-

Roll no:-516464 Class:- 10th

Year & Session: 1999 Bi Annual Registration No:- K-96-2408-5026

Name: - ASIF IQBAL MASOODI Father's Name:- MOHD GUFRAN MASOODI **Mother's Name:- HAJRA BEGUM** D.O.B:- 30/10/1982

Residence:- DOLIPORA TREHGAM KUPWARA

Now the candidate has applied for Issuance of Duplicate

Qualification Certificate. Before the case will be processed under rules, if somebody have any kind of objection in this regard he/she shall approach the office of the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publishing of this notice after expiring date no objection shall be entertained.

(Besides, the "QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE", bearing Serial no/s 936331 is/are be treated as "CANCELLED"

No:- F(Certs-KD-DOC)B/KD/20 Dated:- 19/8/24

Assistant Secretary, Certificate, KD.

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Sarfaraz Ahmad Dar S/o Shareef ud din Dar R/o Chukar Pattan Tehsil Kunzer District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 08/07/2016 occurred at SDH Pattan

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

The Jammu And Kashmir **Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th)under Roll No., 136027038 Session: A/R Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board against my Father's Name Mohammad Iqbal Wagay instead of Iqbal Ahmad Wagay



Now. I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Khushboo Igbal F/N: Iqbal Ahmad Wagay M/N: Mahmooda Ban DOB:16-06-2009 Residence: Drabgam Pulwama Ph: 9797090693

The Jammu And Kashmir **Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th)under Roll No:. 332001033 Session: Annual Regular Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board, against

my Father's Name Mohammad Iqbal Wagay instead of Iqbal **Ahmad Wagay**

Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Ulfat Iqbal F/N: Igbal Ahmad Wagay M/N: Mahmooda Bano DOB: 05-06-2009 Residence: Drabgam Pulwama Ph: 9797090693

mpw

AN URGENT APPEAL

(My Daughter Needs Liver Transplant)



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

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

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

> Mushtaq Ahmad Najar F/o Seerat Gul R/o Nowgam Sumbal A/C No: 0729-0420-0000-0089 J&K Bank Branch: Gadakhud Gamdoo IFSC Code: JAKAOGAMUDD Cell No: 9622428470

The Jammu And Kashmir **Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th)under Roll No:. 121026025 Session: A/R 2023 Year 2023 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board, against my Mother's Name Gulshan Ara instead of Gulshana Begum



Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Adfar Manzoor F/N: Manzoor Ahmad Kumar M/N: Gulshan Ara DOB: 18-09-2007 Residence: Chandgam Teh / Distt Pulwama Ph: 7006259589

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to general public that I have lost the class 6th pass certificate year 2004 under class roll no 19 now I have applied for the duplicate copy of the same so ,in this regard have anybody any objection he/she may file his /her objection report at Govt higher Secondary school Samboora within the period of one week after that no objection will/shall be accepted en-

Name:Mond Yaseen Hanji S/O: Bashir Ahmad Hanji. R/O:Bajibagh Samboora.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my son has been wrongly written in his school recoras as ikniq Basnir while his correct name is Shanbaz Basnii 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 Madina Public School Gund Khawaja Qasim within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

F/o Shahbaz Bashir

bmg

Election Urgent

Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

Election Urgent

Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama.

Office of the Head Division of Livestock Products Technology Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry Shuhama, Srinagar – 190006, Kashmir (J&K)

Email: lptfvsc@skuastkashmir.ac.in:

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest (EoI) is invited from reputed agencies/firms/industries etc. for imparting capacity building programmes to individuals interested in venturing into fur article industry during the year 2024-25. The area of the capacity building programme is "development of sheep furbased value added products". The requirements of the capacity building programme are:

based value added products. The requirements of the capacity banding programme are.						
1	No.	of	ca	pacity	building	02
	prograi	nmes	;			Level 1: Basic capacity building programme on sheep
						fur article development.
						Level 2: Advanced capacity building programme on
						sheep fur article development.
2	Duratio	n (of	each	training	3 months
	prograi	nme				
3	Size of target group					10-15

4 Expected Deliverables Skilled manpower expertise in fur article development The interested agencies/firms/industries etc. having experience in fur article development sector supported by valid proof may offer the rates per capacity building programmes in sealed envelopes to PI, HADP wool & pelt, Division of LPT, FVSC & AH, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shuhama, Alastang Srinagar 190006 (J&K) by or before 30th Aug 2024.

- · Inputs in the form of raw material (sheep pelts only) and machineries shall be provided
- . Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) shall be signed with selected agency as per the mutually agreed terms and conditions.

Division of LPT (PI HADP wool & pelt)

Phone:-01933-295302 E-mail:-techrbpul786@gmail.com

TENDER NOTICE E-NIT No: : 51/EEP/RNB/of 2024-25/4083-93 Dated: 19/08/2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT term e-tenders (In Single Cover system) are invited on ong/gage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Government for the

		Adv. Cost	Cost of	Earnest Money	Time of	Class of	Major Head of	Administrative Accord	Call No:
S. No	Name of Work	(Rs. Lacs.)	T/D	(In %age.)	Completion	Contract	Accounts	Approval No:	
			(Rs.)		in working				
			l		Days				
1.	Creation of strong rooms and				03			DO 24 Polosos de No	
	counting centres at District Head 22.39		800/	2% of Adv. cost	working	CEE,BEE	CEE,BEE Election	RO-34 Pulwama's No. RO-34/pul/2024/49-52 Dated.19.08.2024	
	quarter Pulwama for Assembly	22.37	300/	2 /0 of Auv. cost		CEE,BEE Election	lst		
	elections 2024.(civil part)				days				call

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, 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.jnas per schedule of

date giv	en below:-	
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	19- 08-2024
2.	Bid downloading Start Date	19-08-2024 from 10:00 A.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	19 - 08-2024 from 10:00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	24- 08-2024 upto 0 4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	24 - 08-2024 at 4.15 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama
6.	Submission of Performance Security(PS)	Within three (03) days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest successful bidder has to provide 5% of allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan /Receipt as per Annexure -C (Debited to M.H.0059 PWD) and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama (The Date of Treasury Challan and EMD should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.

 The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Div.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwam
- The Contractors are advised to visit the site and to be aware of the conditions for launching at site of work before quoting the rates. The contractor shall also be responsible for any theft/ damage to any of the component at site and the cost of damage/ theft if any shall be deducted.
- from the work done or CDR of the Contractor till completion of work and handing over.

 The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engine

R&B Division Pulwama within three (03) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank

Head Draftsman DIPK-5083/24 dated: 19-08-2024 **Technical Officer**

Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama **General Assembly Elections**

Facilitation Centre, RO Office Established For 24-Zadibal AC

Observer News Servece

Srinagar: In order to ensure smooth and hassle free conduct of General Elections to Legislative Assembly in the UT of J&K, 2024, a Facilitation Centre has been established for 24- Zadibal Assembly Constituency.

The Facilitation Centre shall operate from the office of Migrant Cell O/o Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar.

In this connection, a team of Officers/ officials under the supervision of Umar Gulzar, ARO/ AERO 24- Zadibal Assembly Constituency has been constituted to facilitate the candidates/ agents during filing of nominations and other election related work.

These Officers/ officials

include Mohsin Lateef Khan, Naib Tehsildar (9149809047), Suhail Ahmad, Jr Asstt (7006299813), M Aquib, Jr Asstt (7006089008) and Mudasir Rashid, MTS (7006655484).

For smooth conduct of the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir, the office of the Returning Officer for the 24-Zadibal Assembly Constituency (AC) has been established at DC Office Srinagar.

The said office will function from Room No. 25 at the DC Office, Srinagar, situated at Amar Niwas Complex Tankipora, here.

In this connection, a Distribution/Collection Center is being established in S.P Higher Secondary School. M.A Road, Srinagar.

Noor Jahan Bridge Misses Yet Another Deadline

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The much awaited Qamarwari Bridge or the 'Noor Jahan' Bridge missed yet another deadline on Monday, much to the disappointment and inconvenience to the people.

The project was scheduled to be inaugurated on 19th August, according to officials.

Pertinently, last month the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi- Ud- Din Bhat conducted a visit to Noor Jehan Bridge Qamarwari, to look at the pace and progress of the bridge.

During his visit, he had issued strict directions to the concerned executing agency to complete the remaining work on the bridge by the end of August this year and make it functional for the convenience of the general public.

However, seeing the

ground situation, the opening of the bridge seems too far. The work is nowhere near completion.

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, Chief Engineer Sajad Naqib acknowledged that the August deadline for the project has been missed and said that they had floated tenders for the remaining work and the bridge will be inaugurated soon.

"We will seek permission from the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the bridge will be thrown open in the month of September."

The Noor Jahan Bridge project, intended to ease traffic congestion and improve connectivity in the Qamarwari area, has missed multiple deadlines since its inception. The slow pace of construction has led to anger among the people, with many calling for increased accountability and transparency from the authorities.

Ganaie Family Bereaved

It is to be stated with a heavy heart that Mr Meharj Ud din Ganai S/O Abdul Rahim Ganai R/O Maidan Pora Kaka Sarai left for the eternal journey by biding the lad adeau to this world today that is 18th August 2024 due to sudden Cardiac issues .

The congregational prayers (Chaharum) Will be observed on Wednesday that is 21st August 2024 at Zamla Kadal Gravevard.

Kindly recite Surah Fatiha for the departed soul.

May Allah forgive the departed soul and bestowe the bereaved family with the patience

Berieved Ganai Family Mohammad Ayoub, Shabir Ahmad Javeed Ahmad Bhat, Rouf ul Raheem +917889737765





Hindu devotees queue up to perform special puja on the eve of Rasksha Bandhan at the Shankar Acharya temple in Srinagar on Monday. KO photo, Abid Bhat

2-Day Kashmir Rainbow Film Festival Begins At Tagore Hall

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A two-day 'Kashmir Rainbow Film Festival' is scheduled to begin at Tagore Hall Srinagar on Tuesday.

The event promises to be a vibrant celebration of cinema, showcasing a diverse selection of films that have garnered acclimation at national and international levels.

The film festival comprises the

taq, the lone female feature film producer in Kashmir, and feature films directed by Ali Emran. It is set to captivate audiences with its unique blend of storytell-

films of visionary Yaqut Mush-

ing and artistic expression.

One of the key highlights of the festival, according to KNO, is its focus on films that have been recognized at prestigious international and national film festivals. From prestigious Kolkata International Film Festival to India Habitat Film Festival

The lineup includes movies such as "Qouluf: The Ensorcelled," a poignant exploration of the protagonist's inner and outer journey played outstandingly by renowned writer Bashir Dada, and "Know Me, words in black and in white" a thought-provoking narrative on self-realization.

Another gem in the selection is "Ibtida, the beginning" a film inspired by Ayn Rand's novel "The Fountainhead," delving into themes of integrity and individualism. Having received acclaim during its special screening at India Habitat Centre, "Ibtida" promises to resonate deeply with audiences, the film showcases the excellent performances by actors Zameer Ashai, Late Parvez Masoodi, Bashir Dada, Shahid Gulfam amongst others.

Adding to the excitement is the world premiere of "Baand," a musical journey of an artist, offering viewers a fresh cinematic experience, the main attraction of the film Baand is the fact that it has been performed by actual bands of Kashmir.

With its debut at the Kashmir Rainbow Film Festival, "Baand" is set to leave a lasting impression on cinephiles.

Furthermore, "The 9th Act" explores the impact of globalization, providing a thought-provoking commentary on contemporary issues. Having been previously screened at Stein Auditorium, New Delhi, this film offers a unique perspective on the ever-changing global landscape.

In essence, the Rainbow Film Festival promises to be a treat for film enthusiasts in Kashmir, with its lineup of seven films symbolizing the seven colors of a rainbow.

By showcasing the talent and creativity of Kashmir's film industry, this event serves as a platform for artists to share their stories and connect with audiences on a profound level.



Office Of The District Election Officer, (Deputy Commissioner), Shopian. 205 - Mini-Secretariat Arhama Shopian

Phone:01933-260125

Fax: 01933-260125 Email: entshopian@nic.in
"Greater Participation For A Stronger Democracy

Subject:- Restrictions on Possession and Carrying of Arms and Ammunition during General Elections to Legislative Assembly, 2024 under section 144 Cr. PC

ORDEF

With a view to ensure a smooth conduct of the Assembly Elections, 2024 and pursuant to the instructions of the Election Commission of India, it is imperative to impose restrictions on possession and carrying of Arms within the district to provide a peaceful environment for conduct of free and fair elections. Therefore, I Fa zLul Haseeb, IAS District Magistrate, Shopian in exercise of powers conferred U/s 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, do hereby order that:-

1. All Arms license holders of the district shall deposit their arms with the concerned Police Stations under proper receipt by the Police authorities and the same shall be returned to the concerned license holders immediately after the conclusion of election process.

2. Issue/ Renewal and carrying of arms licenses in the district shall be prohibited/banned during the period commencing from the date of announcement of elections, till the completion of electoral process as notified by ECI.

3. The Police authorities in the District shall confiscate / seize the arms and ammunition from the Civil Arms license holders in the District who fail to deposit the same in the concerned Police Stations within 01 week from the date of issuance of this order.

4. The Police authorities in the District shall ensure mopping up operations of the areas infested with known gundas and other bad elements and during such mopping up operations, special attention should be paid to unearth and unlicensed arms and places (if any) of indigenous manufacture of arms and ammunition and persons involved shall be arrested under law.

5. Inter-district movement of trucks and commercial vehicles shall be strictly checked by the Police with a view to prevent transportation or smuggling of arms and ammunition and anti-social elements, to maintain an environment for free and fair elections.

6. Strict vigil shall be maintained through checking of lorries, light vehicles and other vehicles to ensure that no undesirable elements or arms and ammunition are being transported into the District from outside and to appreciate the provided and the provided and the appreciate transported into the District from outside and to appreciate the provided and t

and ammunition are being transported into the District from outside and to apprehend them if they are doing so. Such checking of vehicles shall continue till the completion of counting of votes and the declaration of results. As and when such culprits are apprehended, the arms & ammunition and vehicles concerned shall be confiscated besides initiation of proceedings under law.

Bank/ATM/Cash Van Security Guards shall be exempted from the purview of this order. Superintendent of Police, Shopian shall ensure implementation of the order in letter and spirit.

The order shall remain in force till conclusion of electoral Process. Issued under my seal and signature today on 16-08-2024.

No.:-DEO/SPN/24/1703-12 DIPK-NB-1438/24 Dated: -19/08/2024 Faz Lul Haseeb, IAS District Magistrate Shopian

Office Of The Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division II Srinagar Pampore.

Subject: Extension of e-NIT No. TLMD-II/ 03 of 2024-25 dt:20.07.2024. No: TLMD II/1640 dt: 16.08.2024

(Extension-II)

Due to the poor response the fresh dates for e-filling of e-NIT No.TLMD-II/ 03 of 2024-25 dt:20.07.2024 for the work "for Survey, Geological investigations and earth resistivity along the 132 KV Double Circuit PRTL from Tower No.44 to 47 at Chock Pora B.K Pora under the Jurisdiction of TLMD-II Pampore are hereby extended as detailed below:-

Last Date of online filling of e-bids 23.08.2024 upto 04:00 pm Date of opening of e-bids 24.08.2024 at 04:00 pm

Sd/=
DIPK-NB-1429/24 Executive Engineer
dated: 19-08-2024 TLMD II Pampore

Office Of The Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division II Srinagar Pampore.

Subject: Extension of e-NIT No. TLMD-II/ 02 of 2024-25 dt:12.07.2024.

No: TLMD II/1641-42

dt: 16.08.2024 (Extension-II)

Due to the poor response the fresh dates for e-filling of e-NIT No.TLMD-II/ 02 of 2024-25 dt:12.07.2024 for the work "Increasing the ground clearance of 132kV (D/C) Bemina-Rawalpora transmission line between Tower Location No. 24 to 26 necessitated due to construction of flyover at Sanathnagar Chowk

Last Date of online filling of e-bids
Date of opening of e-bids 24.08.2024 at 04:00 pm

Srinagar are hereby extended as detailed below:-

DIPK-NB-1430/24 dated: 19-08-2024 Sd/= Executive Engineer TLMD II Pampore

HELP

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS FAJR 4: 24 ZUHR 12:35 ASR 5: 20 Magrib 7:18

8:44

This Day In History

 2- Venus and Jupiter in conjunction - possible astrological explanation for Star of Bethlehem

ISHA

- 1391- Konrad von Wallenrode becomes the 24th Hochmeister of the Teutonic Order.
- 636 Battle at Yarmuk: Muslims beat Byzantines
 1641 England & Scotland sign Treaty of Pacification
- 1828 Hindi reform movement Brahmo Samaj founded by Ram Mohan Roy and Dwarkanath Tagore in Calcutta
- 1864 8th/last day of battle at Deep Bottom Run Va (about 3,900 casualties)
- 1900 Great Britain beats France by 158 runs in Paris; cricket's only appearance at an Olympic Games
- 1905- Sun Yat-sen, Chinese revolutionary, forms the first chapter of T'ung Meng Hui, a union of all secret societies determined to bringing down the Manchus
- 1914 Battle at Gumbinnen, East-Prussia: Russians beat Germans
 1914 Battle at Morhange: German troops chase
- French, killing thousands

 1914 Bavarian troops kill 50 inhabitants of
- Nomeny, France

 , Ed Klepfer & \$31,500; Jackson involved in 'Black
- Sox Scandal' 1919
 1918 WWI: Britain opens offensive on Western
- front
- invasion in Mongolia
 1940 1st Polish squadrons fight along allies in the
- Battle of Britain

 1944 Soviet offensive at Jassy & Kisjinev
- 1944 US & British forces destroy German 7th Army at Falaise-Argentan Gap
- 1953 General Fazlollah Zahedi arrests Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh in a CIA supported coup d'état
 1960 - USSR recovers 2 dogs, 1st living organisms to
- return from space
 1961- East Germany begins erecting 5' high wall
- along the border with the west to replace the barbed wire put up Aug 13

 1968 During the night 250,000 Soviet and Warsaw
- Pact troops invade Czechoslovakia in response to the Prague Spring • 1974 - Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed is elected fifth
- President of India
 1975 Il-62 crashes south of Damascus, Syria,
- killing 1261975 Viking 1 launched to orbit around Mars, soft
- landing
 USA
 1977 NASA launches Voyager 2 towards Jupiter,
- Saturn, Uranus & Neptune
- 1980 UN Security Council condemns (14-0, US abstains) Israeli declaration that all of Jerusalem is its capital
- 1985 Libya throws out 1000s Tunisian/Egyptian
- gas workers
 1988- 6.5 earthquake strikes India/Nepal, 1,000s killed
- 1988- Peru becomes a member of the Berne Convention copyright treaty
 1990- Iraq moves Western hostages to military
- installations (human shields)

 1991- Estonia formally declares its independence
- from the USSR 1992- England get 7-363 in 55 overs vs Pakistan,
- 1992- England get 7-363 in 55 overs vs Pakistan, then world ODI record
 1993- Oslo Peace Accords signed, after secret
- negotiations in Norway, followed by a public ceremony in Washington, D.C. the following month
 1994- Archbishop Quarracino wants all
- 1994 Ferry boat sinks at Chandpur Bangladesh, 300-350 killed

homosexuals to leave Argentina

- 1996- India defeat Pakistan in Under-15 World Challenge Final at Lord's
- 1997- Souhane massacre in Algeria; over 60 people are killed and 15 kidnapped.
 1998- The Supreme Court of Canada rules that
- 1998- The Supreme Court of Canada rules that Quebec cannot legally secede from Canada without the federal government's approval.

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Tuesday | 20-08-2024

Let Polls Be Free And Fair

ith the Election Commission of India announcing Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, the political situation in the union territory is evolving with each passing day. The National Conference has chosen not to ally with any Valley-based party, although it has expressed itself open to an alliance with the Congress. The BJP has also decided to go it alone. Former Apni Party leader Chaudhury Zulfikar Ali has joined the BJP. This is a shot in the arm for the saffron party in Jammu division where it hopes to secure a major-

The political discourse is rife with rumours and speculations. One of them is that the Democratic Progressive Azad Party leader Ghulam Nabi Azad might return to Congress, although a DPAP spokesman has denied. Already, the party's senior leader in Kashmir Valley Taj Mohiud-din has rejoined the Congress. Also, it is rumoured that Engineer Rashid who pulled off a surprise victory in North Kashmir parliamentary constituency may be released. His organization Awami Ittehad Party has already filed a bail application in the Supreme Court a few days ago and the party expects a positive outcome. Should Rashid be released, it has the potential to change the political game in the Valley. He polled nearly five lakh votes in Baramulla constituency and his party thus could be a strong contender in not just several Assembly constituencies in north Kashmir but also across the Valley.

Be that as it may, the election holds interesting possibilities for Jammu and Kashmir. The National Conference expects to secure a majority of its own or atleast emerge as the largest single party. The BJP expects to repeat the 2014 performance. In fact, with fresh delimitation giving it an edge in many more constituencies in Jammu, the party expects to even better its 2014 tally. However, there are no signs so far of any political wave in its favour in Jammu. On the contrary, there are signs that people in Jammu are upset with it over not just the delay in Assembly elections and the restoration of statehood but also over the legal and administrative changes that are seen as unfavourable to Jammu. Would this resentment reflect in the election outcome is anybody's guess. It is possible that the newly rejuvenated Congress under Rahul Gandhi would once again make inroads into Jammu and undercut the BJP. In that case, the BJP would no longer be able to assert a role in the future elected government. That said, in the Valley, the NC could face a tough challenge from the PDP, which remains relevant and also from Rashid's AIP. The parties like People's Conference and the Apni Party may yet get a seat or two. But for an election that truly gives people a sense of involvement and empowerment, it has to be free and fair. And it is hoped that the ECI ensures that this exercise remains free from government intervention.



Did you know? Beware of Stock Market Frauds and Tips Scams in India

n the Indian stock market, a common misconception is that receiving a tip from someone can lead to quick and easy profits. Numerous fraudsters exploit this belief by offering "free tips" and promising to share profits and losses equally. This setup is often a scam.

nteed tips in the stock market. While the mple in concept, earning money consissors who claim to share both profits and losses often have ulterior motives. They lure you with promises, initially showcasing some successful trades to gain your trust. Eventually, they might mis-use your trading account, using your login credentials to conduct option trading and penny stock transactions

Emotional Manipulation

Fraudsters are skilled at playing with emotions, making investors believe that they can earn easy money. They may appear sincere and credible, making it hard to resist their pitches. Clients often become victims, losing most of their money through risky

Understand that there are no shortcuts to success in the stock market. Avoid speculative trades promoted by fraudsters. The stock market is not a place for baseless speculation; rather, it requires careful analysis and informed decisions.

Always engage with trusted service providers with proven credibility. Don't waste your time and money on unreliable sources or hard tips. Fraudulent advisors often access data from trading accounts and misuse it for their gain, sometimes aggressively marketing their illegal services to unsuspecting investors.

Protect Yourself

- To protect yourself:

 1. Be wary of unsolicited calls and messages offering invest-
- Never share your login credentials or sensitive account de-
- Avoid trading based on anonymous tips and speculative ad-
- Prefer established and reputable financial advisors and plat-

Make informed decisions and stay vigilant. The key to success in the stock market lies in education, research, and cautious investing, not in chasing after so-called easy tips. Beware of Stock Market Frauds and Tips Scams in India! Don't fall for promises of quick profits or shared losses. Do your own research and make informed decisions. Protect yourself from fraudulent advisors and always trade with trusted services.

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

Lessons for Kashmir from the Wayanad Landslide Tragedy

Unchecked and unthoughtful tourism-driven development in Kashmir risks triggering natural disasters, mirroring Wayanad's tragic landslide



The Wayanad disaster serves as a warning for Kashmir, because both regions share some similar environmental characteristics. In recent years, Kashmir has become more prone to heavy rains, landslides, and earthquakes creating conditions for a similar disaster if no preventive measures are taken.

see some of these negative impacts he landslide disaster in Kashmir, with that took place in Wayanad on July 30, and landslides and claimed the life of over earthquakes becoming 300 people, is a reminder of the severe impact natural disasters more common in the can have on a place, more so a tourist place. The landslide was region. For instance, caused due to "a cloudburst" which led to "the destruction the Kishtwar landslide of homes, with several people in July, triggered by trapped under debris". The main

A similar situation is arising in Kashmir Valley, which has always been a tourism hub. Since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, the valley has witnessed a huge rush of visitors. Research shows that in the past two years, "more than 57 lakh visitors" have visited the valley. Data collected by the Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department, shows that Kash-

mir, with landslides and earthquakes becoming more common in the region. For instance, the Kishtwar landslide in July, triggered by a cloudburst, caused significant damage and disrupted daily life. Second, there have been several reports of earthquakes felt throughout the region in recent years, with "86 quakes of magnitudes up to 5.3:" taking place in 2024 alone.



has led to construction boom in the region. In fact, to handle the tourists new "resorts have mushroomed, roads have been constructed, tunnels have been dug and quarrying activities have been undertaken" without any consideration of the region's carrying capacity. This unplanned development has put huge pressure on the environment and also worsened the damage caused by the landslide.

any regard to local environment. We are witnessing large-scale deforestation and water pollution, which harms the delicate ecosystem. The loss of trees and plants significantly increases the risks of landslides and floods as the soil cannot hold excess water. This should therefore be a cause of a serious concern for both the people and the administration.

We can already see some of these negative impacts in Kash-

consequences. Kashmir can learn from this tragedy and can take preventive steps to safeguard its environment and prevent similar disasters from occurring.

PARESH.

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 Georgetown University



SAKHRA RIYAZ

We can already

a cloudburst, caused

significant damage

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

Change Your Life and Personality

HERE'S no real "vou". You're just a blueprint of the society in which you were born and one that made you. Your habits, hobbies, interests, religion, beliefs and actions are all meditated by society. What you are right now is not the actual you. However, there is a possibility to discover and rediscover yourself. You are the creator of your own story. However this

change will hardly come overnight. Consider this, in a village two children are born. One grows up in the village itself and another is raised in a developed country abroad. After twenty years, they both will have different personalities. The village boy will have his own set of hobbies

and dreams. On the other hand, the one raised abroad will have a different set of values meditated by a completely different society abroad. Therefore, it is obvious that you do not control your life, society does. One might mistake ones life as though luck directed it, however, things aren't that simple.

However, no matter what society has done, you can change it if you don't like your story that you are living. You can completely recreate it no matter how old and strong your story is. You have the power, because you are the author of your own life story. This is the highest power for a hu-

man being. You have to first accept it deep

within by increasing your self understanding. Research on it, analyse your past. Listen and watch struggle stories of people who then become successful all over the world. One thought can change your life. Plant your thoughts deeply in your subconscious mind through gratitude affirmations. Do this until your belief in your abilities becomes stronger.

Then the next step is to destroy your fear of people. As they say, "sabse bada rogh, kya kahenge log". If you don't remove this fear then you can't unlock your true potential or inner voice. Listen to the inner voice not the outer voice. No matter how many failures you have faced, you become closer to success from every failure.

If you are so concerned about what people are thinking, then how can you make your decisions? You will act on their expectations of you and not on your inner voice.

Life is what you make it, it's your choice. Don't compromise in life, enjoy it to the fullest. Don't make excuses. Be patient, work hard. Keep a learning attitude, an open mind and do not see through the beliefs you hold but see things as they are. Make a commitment that no mat-

ter what your boring story was in the past and that you will live life on your own terms and conditions.

Mohsin Nazir

The Immortal Magnificence of Chinar trees in Kashmir

Mohammad Hanief

Chinar, a tree of antiquity and magnificence is an integral part of the landscape of Kashmir and holds a unique place in its cultural traditions. The tale of changing seasons in Kashmir often finds expression in the distinct appearances of Chinar.

Chinar is pride of Kashmir and represents the aspirations of its people. It is a magnificent and vibrant tree which predominantly grows on the entire landscape of Kashmir. Being an enormous tree, it houses significant biodiversity of birds and burrowing animals. Its large foliage is a source of life-giving oxygen and significantly mitigates air and noise pollution.

Numerically, Chinar trees have seen a decline over the past decades, due to plant diseases, pests, as well as impact of urbanization. Government is taking proactive steps for the conservation of mighty Chinars, and has embarked on, zealously, for planting Chinar trees on various locations like educational institutions, office complexes, parks, gardens, and other open areas.

The number of mighty Chinar trees once reported to be around 40,000 in Kashmir are now on decline. Hence, conservation of existing trees and planting of more Chinars is being carried out. Chinars are generally planted in parks and gardens by Department of Floriculture, who also maintain these trees.

Chinar, the state tree, is a living heritage of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This majestic tree is an integral part of rich culture of Kashmir and has a very special place in every Kashmiri's heart. The tree is known for its elegance and exuberance and is a very special attraction for the tourists who visit Jammu and Kashmir.

The name Chinar is derived from a Persian word which means, "What a Fire"; it reflects impressive orange red colour of Chinar in Autumn. Its leaves acquire varied hues from blood red to mauve, amber and yellow depicting various seasons of Kashmir. Being a deciduous tree, it is leafless in winters and stands out magnificently during the period of snowfall.

With renewed focus on Chinar, the concern departments are taking up several measures to conserve and promote its planta-



tion at suitable locations across Jammu and Kashmir. Plantation of Chinar in spacious complexes of educational and other institutions, office complexes, public premises is being promoted. As the number of mighty chinars is on decline, a fresh census and geo-tagging with modern tools for their conservation & monitoring is also planned. This will help in their future monitoring

It was during the Mughals, when someone saw its leaves turned into yellow radiant red which signified autumn, and he thought it was fire ,made him shout out the words "Che-Naar Ast?" which means "What flame it is?" in Persian. It is from this question that the royal tree got its name, CHINAR, and is believed to be given by Mughal emperor Jahangir.

The tree is an ineffaceable part of Kashmir's history, religion, literature, politics, and romance and its motif finds expression in Kashmiri art and craft particularly Papier-mâché, pottery, shawl embroidery, silverware and carpet making.

Throughout history, as entire civilizations have withered and mankind has continued to move at a breathless pace, the trees have remained. For some, these trees harbour the secrets to longevity, for others, they provide clear evidence of our journey across lifetimes and the path that awaits us in centuries to come.

Kashmir is always visualized as a big garden, scented with fresh blossoms and fruits and more importantly lined with magnificent Chinar trees. Chinar is synonymous to Kashmir valley. The golden Chinar leaf is a symbol of Kashmir. Every village here has at least one Chinar tree, if not more. Poets and writers have written literature focused on Kashmir's age-old association with Chinar and Chinar scape of Kashmir. They have been an important part of Kashmiri tradition.

The Chinar, the Oriental (Eastern) Plane tree, Platanus orientalis, or Buen and Booyn in

The Chinar has always enjoyed the high favours and patronage of the Mughals as they had recognized and valued its aesthetic and spiritual essence. The world famous Mughal **Gardens have stood** out as the centres of global attraction for their enticing and charismatic beauty springing from their systematically-planted Kashmiri language, is a living heritage of Kashmir. Chinar trees characteristically grow in Eastern Himalayas. Chinar being a long-living tree has survived for ages. It spreads wide across a region of cool climate with sufficient water.

It takes around 30 to 50 years for the trees to reach their mature height and around 150 years for them to grow to their full size. The tree has several properties - leaves and bark are used as medicine, the wood, known as lace wood is used for delicate interior furniture and the twigs & roots are used for making dyes.

The shape of the chinar leaf is a popular motif in Kashmiri craft and artwork, particularly in Kashmir's world-famous papier-mâché work. The leaves decorate many shawls, women's apparel, and woodwork, such as the popular wood-carved chinar leaf souvenir.

Monarchs like the Mughals, Pathans and Maharajas treated the Chinar as an integral part of Kashmiri's soul and existence. The Mughals even declared the Buen as the Royal tree. Mughal emperor Akbar planted more than 1100 Chinar trees at place called Naseem bagh beside Dal Lake at Hazratbal. Over the

years many Chinar trees were removed to make space for infrastructure expansion, many trees got infected with disease-causing pests & pathogens to reduce number from over 1100 to present population of less than 700.

Even though the tree is believed to have existed in the valley even before the Mughal annexation, not only the credit of giving such a beautiful name but also the credit of adding it to the landscape as an attractive shade bearer goes to Mughals. References to the tree can be seen in both Akbar Nama as well as Tuzk-i-Jehangiri, both stating that the King took shelter in the hollow trunk of the tree with its soldiers.

Islamic preachers who travelled to Kashmir four centuries ago from Central Asia and Persia also revered the tree. It is said that the oldest Chinar tree in Kashmir, around 700 years old, was planted by the Sufi Saint Syed Qasim Shah in Chattergam, in central Kashmir's Budgam district. The tree grew to be 14.78 metres tall with a bisal growth of about 19m.

The Chinar has always enjoyed the high favours and patronage of the Mughals as they had recognized and valued its aesthetic and spiritual essence. The world famous Mughal Gardens have stood out as the centres of global attraction for their enticing and charismatic beauty springing from their systematically-planted Chinars.

Chinar - The King Tree is a reminder of the importance of rekindling our respect and love for nature. It is seen as a symbol for the region, and a part of its soul. The Valley of Kashmir is acknowledged as paradise on earth for its diverse rationale and is known for its rich natural environmental heritage. Nature has bestowed our region with a vanity of trees like Deodar, Kail, Fir, Chilgoza pine, Taxus, Juniper, and Cypress etc but without "Chinar" the paradise is incomplete.

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

Is the Term "Gaslighting" in Trouble?

Terri Apter

The term "gaslighting" originated in 1938, but it was not until about 2010 that it was widely used. It still includes the original meaning—malign efforts to convince someone that their own sense of reality is unreliable—but it now also includes a variety of personal, social, and political influences.

Usage took on another growth spurt around 2020, and in 2022 "gaslighting" was flagged by Merriam-Webster as Word of the Year. Some now question whether the proliferation of the term dilutes the meaning required to satisfy what Leslie Jamison calls "a widespread hunger to name a certain kind of harm." [1]

To prevent widespread usage from emptying this useful term of meaning, noted psychologists and philosophers are trying to pin down definitions. Some proposed definitions, however, distort and limit the concept.

For example, it is argued that a key dynamic of gaslighting is that victims collude with the gaslighter as they lose trust in their own experiences and beliefs. Gaslighting is not psychological violence, it is argued, but a "voluntary relinquishing of one's own narrative to another person" and the "victim" should be tasked with asking themselves what benefits them in engaging with their abuser. [2]

Failed Efforts in Clarification Gaslighting victims do turn against themselves, internalizing the voice that says, "You



cannot trust what you think you know," but framing this as collusion risks meta-gaslighting by telling victims that they are "really benefitting" from what tortures them. One clear counterexample is in any child/parent relationship wherein a child is

primed by the nature of the relationship itself to trust a parent's view.

In other cases, a victim more or less successfully resists being gaslit, but is harmed nonetheless because the story the gaslighter tells others about the victim devalues and undermines their testimony. Questioning, "Why do I continue to engage with my gaslighter?" has its place primarily after the victim, having identified the dynamic, considers whether to challenge or exit the relationship.

Another definition includes intentionality as a key feature of gaslighting. The perpetrator, it is argued, must know what they are doing, and the beliefs they are trying to inculcate in their victim must be false. [3] But does the gaslighter necessarily work to convince the victim that what is false is actually true?

There are many, many different ways an event can be described, and many different ways outcomes can be explained. We cannot always declare as true or false the common gaslighter's accusation, "This is your fault." The aim—and the violence—arise from the gaslighter's insistence on controlling the narrative and dismissing that of the victim, and this can be achieved without outright falsehoods.

A parent, peer, partner, or politician might emphasize one aspect of a situation or event and ignore others: "You don't understand what's happening. You're too young/selfish/insecure/stupid/limited." This might be true, or partly true, because anyone can fail to grasp all the details of what is happening: Is someone my parent disapproves of a good friend, or are they using or misleading me? Is my behavior responsible for my partner's anger? Am I imagining a partner's betrayal? Will the opposing candidate, if elected, really wreck the economy? The gaslighter weakens self-trust without actu-

ally lying.

Core Features of Gaslighting

We can set aside a victim's "collusion" and the gaslighter's

intentional falsehoods as central to a definition of gaslighting. Two core features remain.

The first is the exploitation of the victim's fallibility and their normal, healthy acknowledgment that it is possible to be mistaken. Gaslighters transform this into global self-doubt—a state in which the victim ceases to have any trust in their own experience and memory. The second core feature is to set up the gaslighter as expert narrator: "My story is real and yours is not."

With these core features, more expansive meanings of gaslighting can be honed by taking into account different contexts: parent and child, peer or friendship groups, and romantic partners. Then, in less intimate contexts are a politician's freewheeling explanations and predictions; sidelining of a person's story because of their gender, race, ethnicity, or wealth; and what is now called institutional gaslighting.

In every context, the two core features of gaslighting are present (exploitation of personal fallibility and presumption of narrative control), but other features associated with gaslighting (outright falsehoods, intentionality, and victim's collision) are more likely to be present in some contexts than in others. In my next post, I will look at the different features of gaslighting in these different contexts.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

KIIT's 6 Engineering Programmes Get ABET (US) Accreditation

Observer News Service

presti-Bhubaneswar: The gious Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), USA has accredited KIIT Deemed to be University's six engineering programs for next six years. ABET is the premier global accreditation organization of engineering and engineering technology programmes. Regarded as the 'Gold Standard' for engineering education, it assures that programs meet the quality standards that produce graduates prepared to

enter a global workforce.

The following B. Tech programs at KIIT-DU have been accredited by ABET. They are B. Tech Computer Science & Engineering (accredited by both ABET's CAC & EAC Commissions); B.Tech Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering; B.Tech Electrical Engineering; B.Tech Electronics & Electrical Engineering and B.Tech Mechanical Engineering. In addition, the B.Tech Civil Engineering program was previously accredited for six years in 2022.

This accreditation places KIIT-DU in an elite group of

cer, the party said.

institutions that includes renowned universities such as Harvard, Cambridge, Stanford, MIT, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Through its unwavering commitment to academic excellence, extensive research initiatives, and valuable practical exposure. KIIT has successfully met ABET's rigorous educational standards. These standards encompass curriculum quality, faculty qualifications, and outcomes assessment. The university's dedication to continuous improvement and a student-cantered



approach were crucial in achieving this prestigious accreditation, cementing its status among top-tier institutions worldwide.

ABET's peer-review process is highly regarded worldwide because it adds critical value to academic programs in technical disciplines, where quality, precision, and safety are paramount. KIIT Joined WTUN

In another significant development, the World Technology Universities Network (WTUN) announced the signing of Network's Consortium Collaboration agreement with KIIT. With this, KIIT has joined WTUN as a member, providing its students with numerous opportunities, including participation in global competitions, the chance to win the Brian Cantor Scholarship Prize 2023-24, hackathons, and exchange programs. KIIT is among 20 Universities in the world. KIIT In AICMRH

KIIT has got approval of the Australia-India Critical Minerals Research Hub (AICMRH) under the SPARC Scheme by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. The hub's focus areas include critical mineral extraction, processing, criticality assessments, economic geology, sustainable mining practices, and supply chain analyses. KIIT has become a member among 17 Indian institutions and 11 Australian institutions are involved in this program.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

CRPF Inspector neutralise the militants.

The forest area of Basantgarh has witnessed a couple of terror incidents since April when a village defence guard was killed in a gunfight with terrorists. It was the first such incident in the area in nearly two decades which was seen by security agencies as an attempt by Pakistani handlers to revive terrorism in the Jammu region.

The incident comes five days after a gunfight in Doda district resulted in the killing of an army captain and a heavily armed terrorist.

The latest killing took the number of terror-related fatalities in Jammu and Kashmir this year to 74. The dead included 21 security personnel and 35

Of these, Jammu region's six districts -- Doda, Kathua, Reasi, Poonch and Rajouri districts -- accounted for 30 deaths including 14 security personnel and six terrorists.

From Art 370

manifesto for the upcoming Assembly polls also promised to seek amnesty for all political prisoners and dignified return of Kashmiri Pandits to

Free 200 units of electricity, relief from power and water crisis, transfer of hydro-electric power projects to Jammu and Kashmir and providing 12 LPG cylinders to the economically weaker sections each year for free are among the other pledges made by the party in its poll document.

Releasing the manifesto at a press conference here, NC Vice President Omar Abdullah said the party is making only those promises it can deliver. He described the manifesto as the NC's vision document and a roadmap for governance.

The manifesto makes 12 broad promises, including striving for the full implementation of the Autonomy Resolution passed by the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly in 2000.

"We strive to restore (Articles) 370-35A, and statehood as prior to August 5, 2019," the NC poll document said.

In the interim period, "we will endeayour to redraw the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019, and the Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Rules, 2019", it

The manifesto has promised that the Jammu and Kashmir assembly, in its first list of business after elections, will pass a resolution against the Centre's decision to strip the region of

its statehood and special status. The NC said it will make efforts to modify, annul, and repeal post-August 5, 2019, laws that impact the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

It also pledged to protect the land and employment rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, encourage dialogue between India and Pakistan, and make efforts to secure the release of prisoners languishing in jails.

Under a guarantee titled "Restoring normalcy", the NC said if it forms a government in Jammu and Kashmir after the polls, it will revoke the stringent and controversial Public Safety

Simplified job verification process, addressing "unjust" terminations of employees and putting an end to harassment of people on highways have also been mentioned in the manifesto.

The National Conference pledged to provide a comprehensive job package, one lakh jobs to youths and fill up all vacancies in government departments within 180 days of coming to power.

Another guarantee announced by the party talks about social welfare and the aim to provide Rs 5,000 per month to women heads of households belonging to the economically weaker sections of society.

It also promised to strengthen the public distribution system, providing 10 kgs of rice/atta per person each month, and working towards establishing a Minority Commission.

The manifesto said the party would implement its WADA (War Against Drug Abuse) report to eradicate the drug menace.

If the NC forms government, it would strengthen agricultural and horticulture sectors, create robust health infrastructure, and set up a medical trust with free insurance of Rs 5 lakh per annum for people requiring heart and kidney transplants and those with terminal diseases like can-

The poll document promised to grant industry status to the tourism sector and explore new tourist destinations in Jammu and Kashmir, including in Pir Panjal, Chenab, and other areas.

The National Conference pledged free education till the university level and to draw up a strong plan for the education sector. It also promised comprehensive expansion of the cities of Srinagar and Jammu.

Omar Abdullah said when the party sought suggestions from the public for its manifesto, he did not expect a tremendous response.

"We were surprised that there was no corner of Jammu and Kashmir where we did not get a response. Thousands of letters, emails and messages. I thank them all. Every message was read and discussed. We tried to incorporate those in the manifesto," he said.

He said the party senior leader and former finance minister Abdul Rahim Rather was tasked by the party president to prepare the poll manifesto based on the feedback received at the grass roots level.

"People's suggestions about how to improve their everyday lives and how to find a long-term solution to the problems that we have been experiencing for years were solicited. People were encouraged to send their feedback via mails to the Manifesto committee, and we were surprised by the overwhelming response from all around J&K," Omar added, addressing a press conference.

Preparations for Assembly polls from the party's end, Omar claimed. were started as soon as the Lok Sabha elections concluded in Jammu and Kashmir in April/May this year.

A five-year comprehensive roadmap that could bring about a visible change in J&K was drafted under the instructions of the party president Farooq Abdullah. "NC president directed Rather Sahab and his team to draft the manifesto based on promises that could be fulfilled tomorrow. This is not just a document but a full-fledged agenda of governance," he said, adding, NC does not believe in making hollow claims which could not be

Other parties, he said, will likewise come up with their poll manifestos based on flimsy grounds, even if they are aware that they will not be able to form the government in J&K.

"This manifesto has been broken into three sections, the first of which features a summary of the twelve pledges we made. The second section has additional commitments. Thirdly, all the promises have been detailed in the third part. The Urdu and Hindi translations of the manifesto will be distributed among the voters in J&K within the next three days," Omar

Asked on how his party could reinstate J&K's lost status given the Supreme Court of India's upholding of the centers 2019 decision, Omar said, the Apex Court had in past upheld J&K's special status under Article 370 of the Indian constitution and that if the BJP could make uphill efforts for decades to pursue their agenda, then why couldn't NC.

'We will fight for the statehood to be restored; we will again approach the Supreme Court to challenge the centre's August 5, 2019 move. I hope another bench of the Supreme Court will reconsider its earlier decision," he added.

Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in three phases on September 18, September 25 and October 1. The results will be announced on October 4.

Last December, the Supreme Court directed the poll panel to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30. (with inputs from PTI)

Will Approach SC

party in its manifesto.

we will go to the SC and we will get justice from there," said Abdullah. "But statehood will be restored and these promises will be kept," he added, referring to the poll promises made by the

Restoration of Article 370 and Jammu and Kashmir's statehood as well as implementation of the autonomy resolution passed by the erstwhile

assembly in 2000 are among the NC's 12 guarantees announced in its manifesto for the upcoming polls.

When asked how the National Conference would go about seeking the restoration of Article 370 abrogated by the Centre in August 2019 when the apex court has upheld the Government of India's decision. Abdullah said, "We will fight politically. Before this decision of the SC, it upheld Article 370 three times. So, can we not hope that the SC will tomorrow change its decision? If the BJP did not accept defeat even after three rulings, how can we accept defeat after just one verdict?" "We have never said that we will be able to do it immediately, but we are not ready to quit this fight. We assure people that we will not sit silent on these issues. If the BJP took so many years, we will not talk about 10-20 years, but are hopeful that the situation in this country will change and we will be able to fulfil this promise," he added.

Responding to a question about talks of alliance with the Congress, Abdullah said the National Conference is starting talks with the grand old party to chalk out alliance and seat sharing.

"I cannot tell you how far we will succeed in that because talks have not yet started. Let the talks start, then we will see," he added.

Asked if the party would ally with the BJP as in the parliamentary polls the National Conference got leads in 35 seats in Kashmir and the BJP secured leads in 29 seats in Jammu, the former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir said his party is not thinking of allying with the saffron party.

"Why are you (media) going into speculations? Wait for October 4. We do not feel the BJP is in a position which you think it is in. We will not need to go with the BJP nor are we thinking about going that way," he

To a question about the lessons learnt by the party from the results of the parliamentary polls, Abdullah said the party has learnt that the party's situation is not as bad as some have been making of it over the last few years.

"We also learnt that nothing can be taken as for granted and that independent candidates can be dangerous. But the most important thing we felt was that the voter base of the NC was intact when the other parties disintegrated," he said.

Responding to a question about the Jamaat-e-Islami's willingness to contest the assembly polls, Abdullah said he regrets that the Centre did not revoke the ban of the organisation.

"We regret that JeI (Jamaat-e-Islami) cannot participate in polls as the ban was not revoked when they wanted to leave their politics of the last 30 years and contest in the polls. We have always been in favour of revoking the ban on them. But unfortunately the administration was not able to revoke the ban," he said.

Nomination For

in south Kashmir and three in Chenab Valley- would take place on September 18. The notification would be issued for four seats of Pulwama district, two seats of Shopian, three seats of Kulgam, seven seats of Anantnag, three seats of Doda, three seats of Kishtwar and two seats of Ramban district.

As per schedule announced by the ECI, candidates can file nomination papers for these seats till August 27 while scrutiny of nominations will be done on August 28.

The poll body has fixed August 30 as the last date for withdrawal of candidature.

Election Notification

Legislative Assembly in the Constituency. 42-Kokernag Nomination papers may be delivered by a candidate or any of his proposers to the Returning Officer, at Office of the Returning Officer (SDM Office), Kokernag between 11 A.M. and 3 P.M on any day (Other than public holiday) not later than the 27th August 2024," a notification issued by the Returning Officer said.

It said forms of nomination paper may be obtained at the place and times aforesaid.

Also the nomination paper will be

taken up for scrutiny at the Office of the Returning Officer (SDM Office) Kokernag on 28th August, 2024 at 11

The notification said that the notice of withdrawal of candidature may be delivered either by a candidate or by any of his proposers or by his election agent who has been authorised in writing by the candidate to deliver it to either of the officers specified in paragraph (2) above at his office before 3 PM on 30 August, 2024.

Over 5 Lakh

besides providing oxygen to 20,000 others during the yatra," Inspector Ram Singh, the MRT in-charge, told

Singh created history by becoming the first personnel from the Jammu and Kashmir Police to scale the world's highest peak -- Mount Everest -- in May 2008.

He said the teams also helped a large number of local service providers and the security personnel who suffered from altitude sickness, braving life-threatening challenges in the snowbound, high-altitude tracks.

He said the MRTs also distributed over 20,000 raincoats free of cost among the pilgrims.

More than 5.10 lakh pilgrims from across the country and abroad visited the cave shrine, housing a naturally formed ice lingam, during the yatra, which concluded with Chhari Mubarak -- the silver-robed mace of Lord Shiva -- reaching the cave shrine on Monday afternoon on the occasion of Shravan Purnima, coinciding with festival of Raksha Bandhan.

Singh, who is scheduled to get back to the base camp in Srinagar after the return of the Chhari Mubarak from the cave in the next few days, said each MRT team operated in its area of responsibility, covering the entire yatra track, including Sheshnag, Mahagunas Top, Poshpatri, Dardkote, Sangam Top, Brarimarg and Railpathri.

Each member of the team had an individual kit with gaiters, overmitts and equipped with mountain rescue equipment such as carabiners, jumars, descending rappels, avalanche rods, helmets, oxygen cylinder and first-aid kit, besides communication tools, he

An SDRF spokesperson said the MRTs played an invaluable role during the yatra, describing it as a journey of faith and one that tested both physical endurance and spiritual resolve.

"This year, the efforts of the SDRF and other MRTs were instrumental in ensuring the safety of the yatris, leading to minimum casualties and widespread appreciation. The SDRF was strategically deployed along the yatra

The spokesperson said their presence ensured that help was always within reach for pilgrims in need. Whether it was altitude sickness, dehydration or injuries from falls, the teams were equipped to handle it all.

"The dedication of the MRTs was evident from their willingness to manually carry unconscious or severely ill pilgrims on their backs or stretchers, navigating the steep and rocky paths with great care. The proactive measures resulted in a significant reduction in the number of serious incidents and fatalities this year," he said.

He said their constant vigil and readiness played a key role in maintaining the safety of the pilgrims. A video shared by the SDRF showed

the pilgrims acknowledging the crucial role of the MRTs and expressing gratitude to the rescuers in making their yatra a memorable one.

"They (SDRF personnel) were very helpful. Special thanks to them for their help, otherwise it was not possible for me (to perform the yatra)," a woman pilgrim said, lauding the MRTs.

Another yatri said there was no tension when the SDRF teams were around. "For us, they are a form of our Lord."

The spokesperson said the exemplary work of the MRTs had not gone unnoticed, highlighting that their presence not only provided physical assistance but also a sense of security and reassurance to the yatris.

"Their efforts have been widely recognised and appreciated, not just by the pilgrims but also the broader community and the authorities. The SDRF and other MRTs have once again demonstrated their unwavering

commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the pilgrims," he said.

He said their tireless efforts, advanced training and seamless coordination ensured that the yatra was one of the safest in recent memory with minimal casualties.

The spokesperson said it was the SDRF's first battalion control room and joint police control in Pahalgam that played a key role in effective coordination.

PDP Announces

Mohi-ud-din Wani from Watchi and Rafiq Ahmad Naik from Tral.

PDP youth leader Waheed-ur Rehman Parra has been nominated as the constituency incharge from south Kashmir's Pulwama seat. Parra unsuccessfully contested the recent parliamentary polls.

The notification for the first phase of the three-phased assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir would be issued on Tuesday.

In the first phase, 16 seats in the valley and eight from the Jammu region will go to polls on September 18.

The Election Commission earlier on Friday announced the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir in three phases on September 18, 25 and October 1, and the votes will be counted on October 4

Rakshabandhan

as a part of the tradition. On the occasion, the Central Reserve Police force (CRPF) men in Srinagar also cherished the moment when the Jawans and their families residing here celebrated the day by tying the Rakhis.

The celebrations were witnessed at Srinagar International Airport where the families of jawans from 35th battalion celebrated the occasion with joy and zeal. (KNO)

BJP Appoints

Vice President, Pattan), Pattan: Fayaz Ahmed Najar (District General Secretary, Tangmarg).

Bandipora

Bandipora: Abdul Rashid Khan (State Vice President, Kisan Morcha, mawari), Gurez: Mohd Igbal Wani (District Vice President, Bandipora), Sonawari: Aijaz Ahmad Khan (District General Secretary, Gurez). Budgam

Beerwah: Manzoor Ahmad Bhat (District Vice President, Budgam), Budgam: Sana Ullah Beigh (District Vice President, Char-e-Shareef). Srinagar

Charar-i-Shareef: (District General Secretary, Beerwah), Khansahab: Gh. Nabi Namtahali (Senior Leader, Chadoora), Chadoora: Showkat Raja (District General Secretary, Khansahab), Pampore: Mohd Shafi Wani (District General Secretary, Pulwama), Pulwama: Aftab Ahmed Itoo (District Vice President, Rajpora), Tral: Sajad Ahmad Raina (District Prabhari, Rajpora), Rajpora: Ùbaid Mukhtiyar (District Vice President, Pulwama), Chanapora: Saba Ali (District Media Secretary, Srinagar), Central Shalteng: Muneer Shah (District Secretary, Eidgah), Eidgah: Khalid Bagal (State Secretary, BJYM), Lalchowk: Wajahat Hussain (District Vice President, Khaniyar), Khaniyar: Hilal Wani (District Vice President, Srinagar), Hazratbal: Adv. Sujat Rizvi (District General Secretary, Srinagar). Zadibal: Uzair Beigh (District Vice President, Srinagar), Habakadal: Majid Khan (District Vice President, Srinagar), Kangan: Javid Ahmad Dar (District Vice President, Ganderbal). Ganderbal: Shabir Ahmad Mir (State Executive Member, Minority Morcha), Zainpora: Manzoor Ahmad Paswal (District General Secretary, Shopian).

Anantnag Devsar: Ghulam Nabi Ganie (Prabhari, Devsar DH Pora), DH Pora: (District Spokesperson, Kulgam: Mohd Amin Chack (District General Secretary), Shopian: Rayaz Ahmad Ganie (District Secretary), Anantnag West: Pinka Malik (District Vice President, Anantnag), Bijbehara: Nisar Ahmad Khan (District Vice President, Anantnag), Dooru: Mohd Maqbool Ganie (District Vice President), Anantnag East: Aabid Hussain Nengroo (District General Secretary), Anantnag Main: Mushtaq Ahmad Khanday (District Secretary, ST Morcha, Anantnag), Pahalgam: Lateef Ahmad Khan (District Vice President, Anantnag), Kokernag: Sheikh Musa Qazim (District Secretary). (KNO)

KAA Takes Over Bar

from the association reads.

By asserting control over the office. the KAA aims to ensure that all legal and advocacy activities are conducted under the framework of constitutional regulations and standards, reinforcing the rule of law and professional ethics within the judicial system.

It is noteworthy that most of the top leadership of the Kashmir Bar Association have been booked under various stringent laws and lodged in different jails.

Allow Print Media

letter read.

The CPI(M) leader said the suspension of government advertisements, which serve as a critical source of revenue, has "exacerbated their difficulties".

"Given the importance of a vibrant and functional media in a democracy, and in view of the financial challenges faced by the print media fraternity, it would be highly appreciated if an exception to permit advertisements distribution is made at the earliest,"

This would not only provide print media with much-needed relief but also ensure their sustainability, enabling them to continue playing a vital role in society especially during the electioneering process, he said.

"Your generous consideration and approval of this request will be highly appreciated," he added.

Indian Airports,

this time is different and is more virulent and infectious. But the risk of a large outbreak with sustained transmission is low in the country as per the current assessment," news agency PTI reported quoting an officer.

The Health Ministry has ordered officials to ensure the network of testing laboratories is ready for early diagnosis of the disease. At present, 32 laboratories in the country are equipped

An earlier statement from WHO said 9 176 cases and 208 deaths have been reported due to mpox from 116 countries since 2022.

Mpox cases have been steadily increasing in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Last year, the number of reported cases around the world increased significantly. This year, the number of cases reported so far has already exceeded last year's total, with more than 15,600 cases and 537 deaths.

Since 2022, at least 30 mpox cases have been reported from India. The last case of mpox was detected in March this year.

Announcement Triggers

list of eight constituency incharges including A R Veeri from Anantnag East, Sartaj Madni Devsar, Dr Mehboob Beigh Anantnag, Gh Nabi Lone Hanjura Chaar-e-Shareef, Iltija Mufti Bijbehara, Gh Mohi-ud-din Wani Watchi, Waheed ur Rehman Para Pulwama and Rafiq Ahmad Naik from Tral.

On Bijbehara Assembly seat, the former minister and senior PDP leader Ab Rehman Veeri has won four times consecutively since 1998 but he has been now asked to fight elections from Anantnag East (Shangus Constituency).

Several party leaders and workers said that they aren't happy with the decision as according to them, Veeri wasn't taken into confidence before taking this decision.

They said how come the party has asked him to fight elections from another constituency despite being aware of every nook and corner of Bijbehara assembly segment. They said that party leaders in Shangus too aren't happy with the decision.

Nonetheless, a local news agency tried to contact A R Veeri in this regard, but he was not available to comment on the issue.

In Shopian's Zainapora, PDP has made senior worker Gh Mohi-ud-din Wani as constituency in charge while former MLA and DDC member Aijaz Ahmad Mir has been dropped.

Aijaz Ahmad Mir said that he wasn't taken into confidence before taking this decision.

He said that he isn't happy with it and will take up any decision after discussing the issue with the workers. (KNO)

Congress Open To Alliance With Like-Minded Parties: Karra

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JK-PCC) chief Tariq Hameed Karra said on Monday that the Con-

gress party was open to forging alliances with like-minded people or parties for upcoming assembly elections in the Union territory.

He claimed that regional parties such as the National Confer-

ence (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) had already established communication channels with the Congress's central leadership to discuss the pre-poll

"As far as I know, the National Conference has already approached the central leadership for an alliance," Karra told reporters at JKPCC headquarters in Srinagar after his return from New Delhi.

He said that the PDP was also in

talks with the Congress on the alliance and that "at some level, talks have happened." The JKPCC chief said that if the parties—which are part of the IN-DIA bloc-were of the idea that

and the BJP, they would come together and succeed. However, he said the final call would be taken by the five-mem-

they have to defeat divisive forces

ber committee formed by the high command to decide on the prospects of the alliance.

In reply to a question on rumours that Ghulam Nabi Azad was planning to return to Congress,

Karra said "It's a closed chapter" and that his party, the Democratic Progressive Azad Party, had been "outrightly rejected" by the people who "punished" the outfit for the "idea of leaving the Congress."

Karra, recently appointed J&K PCC chief by the party high command in Delhi, received a rousing reception at the party headquarters upon his arrival from New Delhi. Besides him, the newly appointed two working presidents, Raman Bhalla and Tara Chand, were also felicitated at the event.

They were flanked by senior party leaders, including Ghulam Ahmad Mir, Peerzada Muhammad Sayeed, GN Monga, and Muhammad Anwar Bhat, who also spoke on the occasion and congratulated Karra on his new assignment.

Later, addressing the party workers, Karra said that his foremost focus would be to "channelise and then capitalise" on the positivity generated by Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra in the interest of the people of Jammu and

Kashmir's Handmade Silver Craft Faces Extinction

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The traditional art of handmade silver designing in Kashmir, once celebrated for its intricate beauty, is now on the brink of extinction. With most master craftsmen having passed away or shifted to other trades, the craft is slowly fading away.

The few remaining artisans express deep concern about the future of this age-old tradition, citing a lack of government support and changing market demands as key reasons for its decline.

Mushtaq Ahmad Sodagar, a 42-year-old resident of Guzarbal in Ganderbal, has been a silver designer for over two decades.

Sodagar said the art of handmade silver design is dying. "The market now prefers machine-made designs, especially those from Japan, because they are more affordable compared to handmade designs, which have become too costly for most people," he said.

Mushtaq said that while



he once kept various designs readily available, the demand for handmade silverware has dwindled. Now, he only designs upon request.

Due to the lack of demand, Sodagar has transitioned to copper designing, which remains more popular and offers a more reliable source of income. "I will never allow my children to pursue this work because it no longer has any scope. If they learn this art, they will starve," he added.

Other master designers said most artisans have already abandoned silverwork in fa-

your of more lucrative trades. They lamented the absence of government support, which they believe could have helped preserve this cultural heritage.

Without any intervention, they fear that the last of the silver artisans will pass away, taking with them the knowledge and skills that have been passed down through generations.

Kashmiri silverware is one of the region's ancient arts, dating back to the Mughal era. The designers, known as 'Naqash', create patterns that range from simple to highly intricate—(KNO)

Entrepreneurship Programme On Walnut processing **Commences At SKUAST-K**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: KVK Ganderbal organises five days Entrepreneurship & Skill Development Programme on Walnut processing for walnut growers and farmwomen in collaboration with Division of Food Sciences and Technology, SKUAST-K sponsored under National Horticulture Board sponsored project entitled "Utilization of broken walnut kernels for development of Value-added Products" w.e.f; 19th August 2024. The programme is being organised under the mentorship of Prof. D. M. Makhdoomi, Director Extension. The inaugural function of programme had Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, Prof. Feroz Ahmad Bhat and Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Ganderbal, Dr. Ishfaq Abidi as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. Large number of scientists from FST, KVK Ganderbal, IUST and other faculties attended the programme. Dr Feroz Ahmad stressed on the trainees to make full use of latest techniques to set up processing

units & strengthen this linkage with KVK for better returns.

Dr. Ishfaq Abidi, Chief Scientist and Head, KVK Ganderbal highlighted the importance of Walnut in the economy of J & K and emphasised the popularity of Kashmiri walnut throughout India and abroad owing to its taste and quality. He encouraged the young trainees to take up entrepreneurial ventures in Walnut post-harvest and processing. Interface with prominent entrepreneurs Mr. Ishfaq Rashid, "Prop. Cake Smith", Ms. Asiya Ashraf Bhat, "Prop. 11 Spices" and Mr. Abdul Basit Fazili, "Prop. Safawi Food",was also the part of the programme where in they shared their experiences of how they turned into a processing entrepreneurship. Experts from Food Science & Technology, SKUAST-K, IUST, EDI, Entrepreneurs, KVK's are scheduled to deliver special lectures and demonstrations to the trainees on making Value added products like Walnut Chikki, Roasted Walnuts, Walnut Honey Dip and Chocolate

Sopore Augafs Unite To End High-Profile weddings

SRINAGAR: In a significant move aimed at easing the financial strain on families and fostering social equality, Augaf committees across Sopore town in north Kashmir have come together to change the traditional marriage customs by advocating for simple weddings.

The initiative taken by the coordination committee of Krankshivan Colony, comprising at least 10 mohallas came in light of growing concerns about the escalating costs associated with extravagant marriages.

Ghulam Nabi Sheikh, Chairman Coordination Committee said that the joint decision was taken during a meeting in which the rise of lavish weddings deviating from religious and cultural values was discussed.

to simplify the Wazwaan menu and keep it modest, in essence to ensure weddings reflect religious teachings and traditions," he said.

Sheikh said that the initiative aims to alleviate the financial burden on families and promote timely marriages, particularly among those struggling with the costs of traditional wedding ceremonies.

"The most blessed Nikkah is the one with the least expenses. The extravagance in weddings is discouraged in Islam as it leads to wastage and inequality," he said.

He said that they have jointly decided to limit the number of dishes in the traditional wazwan, cutting down on excessive gift-giving, and rethinking elaborate Phirsaals.

Mohammad Lateef, one of the Augaf head while commending the initiative said that it will promote a sense of fairness, solidarity and community spirit—(KNO)

J&K Bank Settles Insurance Claims Worth Rs 4.69 rores

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a major relief to bereaved families during their time of loss, J&K Bank has facilitated the swift settlement of MetLoan & Life Suraksha (MLLS) insurance claims for its deceased borrowers from various branches in the Srinagar Zone. The claims, amounting to Rs 4.69 Cr, have been paid to 109 families, alleviating their financial burdens during a difficult time.

The symbolic cheque of Rs 4.69 Cr - an amount that was handed over to the nominees/ legal heirs of the deceased - was displayed by the Bank's Zonal Head (Srinagar) Raja Zaffer Khan, along with Channel Head (Credit Life - PNB MetLife) Irfan Ali Zargar along with Cluster Heads Shabir Ahmad Bulla and Asmat Ara in presence of AGM Mushtaq Ahmad Bayroo, Mar-



keting Head (Kashmir) Tajamul Ahmad Qadri and other senior officials of the Bank and PNB MetLife, including Regional Manager Mudasir Hassan Khanyari and Area Manager Shahid Hamid Shah.

The recipients of the claims expressed their gratitude towards J&K Bank and its insurance partner, PNB MetLife, for their prompt support. "We are thankful to the Bank for insuring these loans and greatly appreciate the timely settlement of claims. PNB MetLife's assistance has been crucial in lifting the heavy financial burden during this difficult time," said one of the claimants.

On this occasion, Zonal Head (Srinagar) Raja Zaffer

Khan emphasized the importance of loan insurance, particularly in mitigating financial stress for families during challenging times. "When customers face hardships, it is our duty to ease their burden. By securing loans through MLLS, we safeguard the financial interests of all stakeholders

involved.'

Channel Head Irfan Ali Zargar reiterated that the Bank always advises its clients to get their loans insured so that their loved ones are taken care of in case of such unseen contingencies. "While we cannot replace the emotional loss, we can provide financial relief during such unforeseen events. Settling these claims is not just fulfilling our promise to the borrowers but also brings us a sense of fulfilment in helping families through challenging times."

Massive Demolition Drive Conducted In Sonamarg



Agencies

SONAMARG: Following the instructions of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA), a largescale demolition drive was conducted in Sonamarg on Monday.

The operation, aimed at curbing illegal constructions in the region, was carried out by SDA employees with the full support and cooperation of the Sonamarg Police. The day-long drive was initi-

ated following multiple complaints received by the SDA regarding unauthorized constructions in Sonamarg.

In response, the CEO of the

Sonamarg Development Authority soon after assuming the charge directed for immediate action to address these violations.

As a result, several illegal structures were demolished, reaffirming the authority's commitment to maintaining the integrity of Sonamarg's natural beauty and legal construction standards.

The CEO SDA has issued a stern warning to the public, emphasizing that illegal construction in Sonamarg will not be tolerated under any circumstances. The authority will continue to take stringent action against any further violations to preserve the eco fragile environment of the place, he said—(KNO)

Ganderbal's Repora Village – Grapes Hub Of Kashmir

GANDERBAL: Kashmir is widely recognised for its high-quality apples but few are aware of the exceptional grapes produced in the Repora village of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

This village has gained fame for its grape cultivation, featuring native varieties such as Sahibi and Hussaini. A unique advantage of Repora grapes is their availability at a time when fresh grapes are scarce globally, except in Italy.

Recognising the village's fertile soil, the Department of Horticulture has established a grape orchard spanning 67 kanals of land.

An official of the department said plans are underway to set up small processing units, which are expected to boost the local economy and create employment opportunities.

"This year, cultivators have experienced a bumper crop, thanks to favourable climatic conditions and the technical support pro-



vided by the horticulture department," he said, adding that the village has also become a popular destination for visitors who come to purchase fresh grapes directly

from the orchards. Experts say that Repora grapes stand out because they are available when fresh grapes are scarce worldwide. According to them, these grapes fetch premium prices

in the market, with Sahibi grapes selling for Rs 250 per kilogram and Hussaini for Rs 200 per kilogram.

The grapes produced in Repora exceed international standards, with berry sizes reaching 12.5 grams, compared to the global standard of 4-5 grams, they said.

Grapes are cultivated on approximately 202 hectares of land in Ganderbal, with Repora alone accounting for 80-90 hectares. This of thousands of people and provides substantial income for young individuals during the harvesting season, which has just begun.

The largest grape production site in the district is the Mode vinevard in Kralbagh, Lar block, established by the Horticulture Department. The department sublets the vineyard to a contractor annually for cultivation, earning revenue through the bidding process.

Growers expressed gratitude to the horticulture department for its consistent guidance and support. They have requested that the department assist in exporting their grape crop out of the state, similar

to how apples are managed. The Chief Horticulture Officer told KNO that this year's production has been significantly better than last year's. "It is a matter of great pride for the entire Ganderbal area that this village is known as the Grapes Village," he said—(KNO)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF HORTICULTURE OFFICER KULGAM Room No. 88, 90, 92, 93, 94 & 157 Eastern Block Mini Secretariat

Mr. Ab. Raouf Sidiqi, (HDO) S/o: Ab. Rafiq Sidiqi

R/o: Ashmuqam, Anantnag

FINAL SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Whereas, you were appointed as Horticulture Development Officer, vide Government order No. 18-Agri of 2010 dated: 08-02-2010 and later on posted as HDO at Seer (K-Pora) Anantnag vide Goyt, order No. 131-Agri of 2010 dated: 21-05-2010. Whereas, you were transferred from Seer (K-Pora) Anantnag and posted as HDO Arreh (Kulgam) vide Govt. order No. 20-Horti of 2019 dated: 01-03-2019. However, you have not resumed your duties till 20-08-2021.

Whereas, you have joined this office on 21-08-2021 (for one day only) and have absented yourself since 22-08-2021. Whereas you have been directed to resume your duties from time to time vide letter No. CHOK/Adm/Pf/2022-23/756-58 dated: 26-05-2022 and No. CHO/Adm/PF/2023/903-05 dated: 19-07-2023.

Whereas, a show cause notice was also served to you through print media (Daily Alsafa/Brighter Kashmir dated: 16-09-2023) vide this office No. CHOK/Adm/PF/2023/1672-74 dated: 11-09-2023, wherein you were given a chance to explain your position regarding unauthorized absence within a period of 21 days.

Whereas, you have neither resumed your Govt. duties despite a chain of reminders nor have responded to the commu nications from this office and have not bothered to pay heed to the directions of this office.

Accordingly, the matter has been taken up with Director Horticulture Kashmir vide this office letter No. CHOK/ Adm/78/2023/1913 dated: 10-10-2023 and No. CHOK/Adm/78/2024/114 dated: 10-01-2024 for further course of action. In response, vide Director Horticulture Kashmir letter No. DHK/Adm/Gaz/202/10838 dated: 09-08-2024, this office has been directed to issue notice in your favour through print media.

In view of the above facts and pursuant to Director Horticulture Kashmir's above quoted directions, you are given final chance to explain your position regarding unauthorized absence within a period of seven (07) days from the publication of this notice. In case you failed to comply with the directions, it will be presumed that you are not willing to serve the department and accordingly proceedings as per rules shall be initiated against you.

DIPK-5069-24 DT: 19/08/2024

(Mohd. Ramzan War) Chief Horticulture Officer Kulgam



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER, (DEPUTY COMMISSIONER), SHOPIAN 205 - Mini-Secretariat Arhama, Shopian.

Phone: 01933-2934455 | Fax:01933-261910 | Email: entshopian@nic.in

"Greater participation for a Stronger $oldsymbol{\mathbb{D}}$ emocracy"

Subject:- Application of Model Code of Conduct-Provisions relating misuse of official vehicles -regarding.

ORDER

Since the announcement of elections by Election Commission of India for holding General Elections to J & K Legislative Assembly -2024 on 16th of August, 2024, the provisions of Model Code of conduct have come into force with immediate effect for candidates, Political Parties and the Government Officials. In order to ensure strict adherence to the provisions of the Model code of conduct the following instructions are brought to the notice of all concerned:

- There shall be a total and absolute ban on the use of official vehicles for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections. Such vehicles include all vehicles except as regulated by the Commission's order on the subject, owned or hired or controlled by the Central and State Governments, Central Public Sector Organizations, Public Sector Undertakings and Joint Sector Undertakings of the Central and State Governments, Local Authorities and Local Bodies, Marketing Boards { by whatever name known}, Cooperative Societies, Autonomous District Councils or any other body in which public funds, howsoever small a portion of the total, are invested.
- The District Administration will keep a close watch to find out if any such official vehicle is being used for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel purpose. The district administration shall keep a close watch on the vehicles used by the contesting candidates, persons accompanying the contesting candidates
- and other party leaders and ensure that the Commission's instructions are not abused This order comes into effect immediately and shall remain in force until the completion of the General Legeslative Assembly Elections 2024. The guidelines issued

by ECI shall be followed in letter and spirit.

All the officers working in District Shopian shall adhere to the above instructions and other instruction of the Election Commission of India issued from time to time in this behalf strictly. Any deviation shall be dealt with seriously. No.:- DEO/SPN/24/645-56

Dated: 17/08/2024

DIPK-NB-1439-24 DT: 19/08/2024

Faz Lul Haseeb (IAS) District Election Officer. (Deputy Commissioner)

ANNEXURE 9 FORM 1 (see rule 3)

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that:-

An election is to be held of a member to the Legislative Assembly in the 42-Kokernag (ST) Constituency;

(UNDER CONDUCT OF ELECTION RULES, 1961)

- Nomination papers may be delivered by a candidate or any of his proposers to the Returning Officer, at Office of the Returning Officer (SDM Office), Kokernag between 11 A.M. and 3 P.M on any day (Other than public holiday) not later than the 27 August 2024 (Tuesday).
- Forms of nomination paper may be obtained at the place and times aforesaid;
- Nomination paper will be taken up for scrutiny at Office of the Returning Officer (SDM Office) Kokernag on 28th August 2024 (Wednesday) at 11 AM;
- Notice of withdrawal of candidature may be delivered either by a candidate or by any of his proposers or by his election agent who has been authorised in writing by the candidate to deliver it to either of the officers specified in paragraph (2) above at his office before 3 P.M. on the 30th August 2024 (Friday);
- In the event of the election being contested, the poll will be taken on 18th September 2024 (Wednesday) between the hours of 7 AM to 6 PM.

Place: KOKERNAG Date: 20th August 2024

DIPK-NB-1445-24 DT: 19/08/2024

Returning Officer AC 42-Kokernag (ST)

Global Cricket Calendar 'Confusing, Chaotic', Says World Cricketers' Association

Press Trust of India

The World Cricketers' Association (WCA) has formed a six-member panel to review the cramped international calendar which it believes is "broken and unsustainable".

Formerly known as FICA, the WCA hopes to get a "clear and coherent structure" in which international cricket and domestic leagues can co-exist, according to a report in the ESPNCricinfo.

WCA has members from 16 different boards, except BCCI

The WCA chairperson Heath Mills said they had "given up hope" that the game's leaders could establish a coherent structure.

"One of those solutions, which WCA says 84% of the players they have spoken to are in favour of, is ring-fenced windows to ensure international cricket and domestic T20 leagues can co-exist," added



scheduling model, which it said was "broken and unsustainable" and "confusing and chaotic" which was forcing players to choose between "representing their country and optimising their careers."

The review will be conducted by a six-member team led by former head of the

administrators and franchise Australian Cricketers' Association Paul Marsh and he will be owners, to develop a set of recjoined by former Pakistan capommendations which will be tain Sana Mir, former FICA head first be presented to the WCA Tony Irish, ex-ECB CEO Tom board and later shared with the Harrison, and head of sports at broader cricket community, including the ICC. Disney Star Sanjog Gupta. The group will consult vari-

There is no deadline but the target is to finalise the recomous stakeholders, including players, current and former mendations by the end of the year, according to the report. "Change is badly needed to cre-

ate ongoing clarity, and value, for players, Boards and fans alike," WCA said in the statement.

"We are fortunate that cricket is spoilt for choice and has three core formats across both the international game and domestic leagues," Mills said in the statement.

"However, to date, the game's leadership has collectively failed to come together to establish a clear and coherent global structure in which they can co-exist. We have virtually given up hope of it doing so.

"The process we have put in place, guided by independent expertise, will be focussed on making recommendations to our Board on optimising the game's global structure, ensuring sustainable value, and providing more clarity, consistency, and less confusion for players, fans and commercial

First Girls Baseball Event **Held In Anantnag**



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Higher Secondary School Dailgam hosted a baseball event on the school's ground on Monday. The event, organised by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, was the brainchild of the school's principal Rukhsana Parveen and marked a significant milestone in the school's commitment to promoting diverse sports and physical activities among students.

Principal Rukhsana Parveen spearheaded the initiative to introduce baseball to the students of HSS Dailgam. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students across various grades, reflecting the growing interest in baseball.

The event featured a series of matches between student teams, showcasing their skills and teamwork on the field. The matches were met with excitement and competitive spirit, with students demonstrating their growing understanding of the game. The spectators, including faculty members, parents, and fellow students, cheered enthusiastically, adding to the vibrant atmosphere.

DYSSO Budgam Kicks Off Girls Kabbadi Competitions

BUDGAM: Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam began its Inter-Zonal Level Girls Kabaddi Competitions for Under-14, Under-17 and Under-19 student on Monday at Sports Stadium. More than 418 girls from all 12 zones of the district participated in the competitions.

In the first match of the U-14 category, Zone Budgam beat Zone BKP. In the U-17 category, Zone BKP played against Zone Parnewa, while in the U-19, Zone Magam defeated Zone Hardupanzo.

Sports In-charge of District Sports Office, Ghulam Hassan Khanday and Shakeel ul Rehman, apart from Senior Physical Master Manjit Singh Gill, inaugurated the competitions



at Sports Stadium Budgam. During the opening ceremony Shakeel ul Rehman urged girls to actively participate in the other sports to stay physically fit.

The competition was organised under the supervision of Joint Director DYSS Kashmir Mohd Rashid

Bangladesh Aim To Beat Pakistan For The First Time Ever In Test Cricket

Agencies

 $\mathbf{B}^{ ext{angladesh}}$ begin a two-Test series in Pakistan this week with their preparations severely hampered by the political turmoil that has wracked the country. Unrest that led to the overthrow of prime minister Sheikh Hasina kept the team's foreign coaches indoors, strictly following advisories from their embassies, while mass protests stopped the team from assembling for practice sessions. The make-up of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is also up in the air, after president Nazmul Hassan fled the country due to his association with Hasina.

Cricket and politics go hand-in-hand in Bangladesh, but ace allrounder Shakib Al Hasan -- a member of the now-dissolved parliament for Hasina's party -- is being allowed to feature in the Pakistan series by the interim government.

To add to Bangladesh's problems, in-form opener been ruled out of the first Test with a groin strain, but senior batter Mushfiqur Rahim is expected to recover in time from a finger injury.

No-Win Record

Bangladesh will be hoping hope to overturn their nowin record against Pakistan, having lost 12 of the 13 Tests, with just one draw.

The two-match Test series is part of the World Test Championship's third cycle with Pakistan sixth in the current nine-team table and Bangladesh eighth.

The second Test -- both matches moved to Rawalpindi because of construction work at Karachi stadium -- will be



played from August 30. Following a 3-0 rout in Australia earlier this year, Pakistan brought in former

Aussie paceman Jason Gillespie as Test coach, while Adelaide groundsman Damien Hough was hired to improve the standard of pitches. Having released their only

spinner, Abrar Ahmed, Pakistan will enter the Test with an all-pace attack -- a ploy Mahmudul Hasan Joy has they last used five years ago against Sri Lanka at the same venue.

Bangladesh, however, will rely on spin with Shakib (237 wickets), Taijul Islam (195), and Mehidy Hasan Miraz (164) all included.

captain Shan Pakistan Masood refused to accept the Bangladesh team is underprepared. You expect all internation-

al Test sides to come into a series well prepared and trying to play their best cricket," he told AFP. "Bangladesh is a side that

has quality players in all departments and we highly respect the challenges they bring as a side to us." Masood also hopes Pakistan will show improvement under the new coach.

"We are excited to see how they (coaches) help us to be better people, better cricketers and -- most importantly -- be among the top teams in the world.'

Teams (from):

Pakistan: Shan Masood Saud Shakeel, (captain), Abdullah Shafique, Babar Azam, Khurram Shahzad, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Ali, Muhammad Hurraira, Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Agha Salman, Sarfaraz Ahmed, Shaheen Shah

Bangladesh: Najmul Hossain Shanto (captain), Zakir Hasan, Shadman Islam, Mominul Haque, Mushfiqur Rahim, Shakib Al Hasan, Litton Das, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Taijul Islam, Nayeem Hasan, Nahid Rana, Shoriful Islam, Mahmud, Khaled Hasan Ahmed

Umpires: Richard Kettleborough (ENG) and Adrian Holdstock (RSA) Tv umpire: Michael Gough

(ENG) Match referee: Ranjan

Madugalle (SRI)

Short TAKES

Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Tournament Begins In Srinagar

The 2nd Edition of Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Tournament began on Monday at Polo View Hockey Stadium. The tournament is being org by HQ 31 Sub Area of Chinar Corps in collaboration with J&K Sports Council and Hockey J&K, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, the greatest field hockey player in history, popularly known as the

A total of 12 teams from 10 districts of Kashmir Valley are participating in the tournament. The matches are being played on league basis. In the first match, Kupwara beat Anantnag 4-3.

PM Modi Inspires Record Indian Contingent For Paris Paralympics

prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday engaged with India's largest-ever contingent for the Paris Paralympics, beginning August 28. The interaction, held via video call, saw the presence of Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

With 84 athletes across 12 sports, this year's contingent marks a significant increase from the 54 athletes at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. India will debut in para-cycling, para-rowing, and blind judo in Paris, enhancing the nation's representation.

Three Teams Disqualified For Fielding Overage Players In Subroto Cup

Three teams were disqualified from the 63rd Subroto Cup sub-junior boys international football tournament on Monday for allegedly fielding overage players. Nazareth Model High School from Assam. Nehru Public School from Bihar, and Ultou Govern-ment Model High School from Manipur faced immediate disqualification.

The Subroto Mukerjee Sports Education Society confirmed that these teams included more than four players who exceeded the age limit. A Skeletal Age Estimation Test was conducted according to the tournament regulations set by the All India Football

England Suffer Injury Blow Ahead Of Sri Lanka Series

ngland's Dan Lawrence will open the batting in \square place of the injured Zak Crawley in the first test against Sri Lanka and seamer Matthew Potts will replace Ben Stokes, the England and Wales Cricket Board said on Monday.

All-rounder Stokes was ruled out for the rest of the English summer after the 33-year-old picked up a hamstring injury last week with batter Ollie Pope taking over the captaincy.

Middle-order batter Harry Brook, 25, has been named vice-captain for the three-match series starting at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

France Coach Thierry Henry Leaves After Winning Olympic Silver



fter leading France's Olympic team to a silver medal at the Paris Games, Thierry Henry left his coaching job Monday, with the French soccer federation saying he had cited personal reasons for the The France great had a contract through the next

season and was due to resume coaching the France under-21 team next month in its qualifying group for the 2025 European Championship.

Henry led the team to the final on Aug. 9, losing 5-3 to Spain after extra time at Parc des Princes.

India's Football Rivals Unite To Protest Over Kolkata Doctor's Rape And Murder "I don't know how long we

Agencies

KOLKATA: Supporters of Indian football clubs East Bengal and Mohun Bagan put their bitter rivalry aside and united in protest against the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at a Kolkata hospital.

The Durand Cup match between the century-old clubs from the eastern city of Kolkata was cancelled on Sunday amid security concerns but fans gathered near the Salt Lake Stadium to demand justice for the 31-year-old, who died this month at R.G. Kar Hospital, prompting protests across the country by doctors.

Fans of the two clubs are often at loggerheads during heated Kolkata Derby matches, but Mohun Bagan general secretary Debashis Dutta said he was not surprised by the show

of unity. "They represented society... an incident like this saddens all of us and we all want a quick solution," Dutta said.

Some supporters injured as police dispersed crowds on Sunday.

Arundhati Biswas, an East Bengal supporter, sustained minor injuries during the protest but was pleasantly surprised by the camaraderie between rival groups.

"I never thought I'd see sworn enemies come together like this," Biswas told Reuters on Monday.

She added that some fans of another local side, Mohammedan Sporting, had also joined the two groups.

Subrata Ray, a Mohun Bagan fan who was arrested and taken to the police headquarters at Lalbazar, said the protesters had not engaged in violence or vandalism.

'We were protesting peacefully," Ray said, adding they were released late in the night after Indian football federation chief Kalyan Chaubey intervened.

Chaubey, a former India goalkeeper and a politician af-



filiated with the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, condemned the

arrest of fans, saying they had only gathered for a "peaceful

India and Mohun Bagan de-

fender Subhashish Bose also joined in the protest.

"There's only one demand, everyone wants justice," he

Indian Football Gets New Leader With Focus On Quality

All India Football Federation's (AIFF) newly-appointed secretary general Anil Kumar on Monday said his top priority is to "improve the quality" of football in the country while involving each and every stakeholder, such as the FIFA, clubs, state associations and

governments. An experienced sports administrator, Anil Kumar was welcomed at the Football House by the AIFF treasurer Kipa Ajay in the presence of deputy secretary general M Satyanarayan.

'So, the priority will be the improvement of quality of football," Anil Kumar, who took charge on Monday, told the AIFF website.

will take to make it at that level. But still we are starting with the hope that we can do something better. We will not give up until we succeed." "And along with you, all

continue to work across India with those who love football, who support Indian football,' he added. Anil Kumar felt when the

Indian football fans, we will

quality improves, the spectator turnout and viewership will improve, and the money will come to all areas of football. The newly-appointed secre-

tary general said that though Indian football has been growing since many years, it may not have reached the expected level if one looks at the FIFA

He said the federation will soon sit with all the clubs and investors for a discussion on the way forward, and will seek help from the state governments as well as the