

Congress-NC Pre-Poll Alliance In J&K

Amit Shah's 10-Point Attack On Congress



6

DOES THE CONGRESS PARTY SUPPORT NC's promise of a separate flag for UT."

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Home minister Amit Shah Friday fired 10 questions at the Congress and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi over its alliance with the National Conference (NC) for the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, questioning its stance on key issues outlined in the NC's poll manifesto.

In a post on X, Shah lambasted the Congress and Rahul Gandhi, stating that the party, which has repeatedly risked the nation's unity and security to satiate its greed for power, has once again exposed its ulterior motives by allying with the Abdullah family in Jammu and Kashmir elections. He questioned the party that

given the promises made in the National Conference's manifesto does the Congress support the National Conference's promise of a separate flag for Jammu and Kashmir?

"Given the promises made in the National Conference's manifesto, here are my 10 questions for the Congress party and Rahul Gandhi", Shah wrote:

1. Does the Congress support the National Conference's promise of a separate flag for Jammu and Kashmir?
2. Do Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party support the JKNC's decision to restore Article 370 and 35A, and thereby push Jammu and Kashmir back into an era of unrest and terrorism?
3. Does the Congress support promoting | More on P6

Anantnag Prepares For Assembly Elections 2024

6.67 Lakh Voters Set To Cast Ballots In First Phase



Observer News Service

Srinagar: With the announcement of Assembly Elections 2024, Anantnag District is gearing up for the first phase of the Elections with 6.67 lakh electorates are readying themselves to exercise their franchise on the scheduled polling day.

The district comprises of seven Assembly Constituencies viz Dooru, Kokernag (ST), Anantnag West, Anantnag, Srigufwara-Bijbehara,

Shangus-Anantnag East and Pahalgam with 6,67,781 electorates which includes 3,36,185 males, 3,31,592 females, and 4 transgender voters.

A comprehensive network of 844 polling stations has been established by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to accommodate voters across the district. These include 61 special polling stations, 33 model stations, 4 green stations, 7 pink stations, 7 stations for persons | More on P6



Constituencies

- » DOORU: 1,16,749 voters, 152 polling stations.
- » KOKERNAG: 91,280 voters, 123 polling stations.
- » ANANTNAG WEST: 1,26,006 voters, 146 polling stations.
- » ANANTNAG: 61,070 voters, 70 polling stations.
- » SRIGUFWARA-BIJBEHARA: 1,02,081 voters, 125 polling stations.
- » SHANGUS-ANANTNAG EAST: 100,902 voters, 127 polling stations.
- » PAHALGAM: 69,693 voters, 101 polling stations.

24 Booths Established For Kashmiri Migrants

In a major decision to facilitate voting by Kashmiri migrants in forthcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Election 2024, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has set up 24 special polling stations in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi. Like the recent Lok Sabha Election, the ECI has also decided to do away with the cumbersome procedure of filling Form-M for the displaced people from Kashmir valley who are residing in Jammu and Udhampur in Assembly Election even as for the migrants residing outside Jammu and Udhampur who will continue to submit Form-M have been authorized to self-attest the certificate | More on P6

Utilize ECI Apps: CEO To J&K Voters

Urging the voters to leverage the technological features introduced by the Election Commission of India in the electoral process, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) J&K, Pandurang K Pole on Friday exhorted the voters of Jammu and Kashmir to make use of the mobile voter friendly applications and ensure their active

participation in the upcoming Assembly Election 2024. "The ECI has launched several mobile apps, including cVIGIL, Know Your Candidate, Suvidha, Voter Helpline App, among others to ensure that the voting experience for the electors all across the country is easy and smooth. In Jammu and Kashmir, over | More on P6

Consensus On Some Seats Pending: Omar

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Friday said seat-sharing arrangement with the Congress has been finalised for a majority of assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir, and that parleys were underway to reach consensus over the remaining constituencies.

The NC and Congress on Thursday announced a pre-poll alliance for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, which is going to polls for the first time since



the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

"Consensus has been reached to a large extent. I can tell you that we have reached a consensus on the maximum seats out of the 90," Abdullah | More on P6

Congress Finalizes Draft Manifesto

The Manifesto Committee of Congress in Jammu and Kashmir, headed by former union minister Saifuddin Soz, has finalised the draft manifesto of the party after holding a series of meetings ahead of the | More on P6

7 Candidates File Nominations From Kashmir

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Seven candidates filed their nominations on Thursday for different Assembly seats in Kashmir, which are going to polls in the first phase on September 18, officials said.

The candidates include one from the National Conference (NC), two from the People's Democratic Party (PDP), two from the Apni Party, one from the People's Conference and an independent.

Former Jammu and Kashmir minister and senior NC leader Sakina Itoo filed her nomination from Damhal Hanji Pora, in the Kulgam district, the officials said.

Chairman of the PDP's parliamentary board Mohammad Sartaj Madni filed his nomination from



Devsar, while the party's general secretary Mehboob Beg filed the nomination papers from the Anantnag seat.

Apni Party's Abdul Majeed Padder filed his nomination from Damhal Hanji Pora, while party leader Mohammad Altaf Mir submitted papers from Pampore, the officials said. They said | More on P6

Poll Dates Declared Paid Holidays

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday declared public holidays on poll dates for three phases of the upcoming Assembly Elections-2024 in all 90 Assembly Constituencies.

As per a government order, issued by the GAD, the government has notified three days as holidays under section 135 B of the Representation of the People Act 1951.

According to the GAD order, the paid holidays shall be observed as per the election dates in all assembly constituencies across Jammu and Kashmir. In the first phase, to be held on September 18, 2024 (Wednesday), the paid holiday shall be observed in 24 Assembly segments. In the second phase of elections, the paid holiday shall be observed in 26 Assembly Constituencies on September 25, 2024 (Wednesday).

Similarly, in the last phase of the assembly elections scheduled on October 01, 2024 (Tuesday), paid holiday would be observed in 40 Assembly segments.

The order also declared the poll day as paid holiday for every eligible voter in his/her respective assembly constituency employed in any business, trade, industrial undertakings or any other establishment.

The order further stated that no deduction or abatement of the wages of any such | More on P6

UAPA Upholds Ban on Jama'at-e-Islami J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal has upheld the Central Government's ban on Jama'at-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir, declaring it an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The tribunal, comprising a Delhi High Court judge, validated the Ministry of Home Affairs' notification, extending the ban for another five years.

The Central Government had previously banned the outfit on February 28, 2019, for five years, which was extended again on February 28, 2024.

The tribunal agreed with the Central Government's contention that Jama'at-e-Islami was involved in secessionist activities, providing support to terrorists and their ideology in the region. | More on P6

BJP Plans Counter Strategy

Top Leaders Meet In Delhi

In a bid to counter the recent pre-poll alliance move by National Conference and Congress in J&K, the BJP's top leadership from the Union Territory assembled at BJP national president JP Nadda's New Delhi residence to give final touches to the probable candidates for the first phase commencing from September 18. Reliable sources said that J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina, General Secretary (Org) | More on P6

6 DOES THE CONGRESS WANT 'Shankaracharya Hill,' to be known as 'Takht-e-Suleiman,' and 'Hari Hill' as 'Koh-e-Maran'?"



LG Chairs 47th SASB Meeting

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the 47th Board meeting of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) at Raj Bhawan, on Friday. The meeting was attended by members of the Shrine Board - D.C. Raina; Kailash Mehra Sadhu, K. N. Rai; Dr Shailesh Raina and Prof Vishwamurti Shastri.

The Board, which met under the chairmanship of the LG, appreciated the Civil

Administration, Jammu & Kashmir Police, Army, CAPFs, Disaster Response Forces, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, Health & sanitation workers, service providers and all the stakeholders for the successful conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

This year, more than 5.12 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the Amarnath cave shrine. This is the highest Yatra figure in the last twelve years.

The Board discussed various interventions and proposed measures to further improve the facilities and services for the devotees.

The Board Members shared their valuable suggestions on the agenda points put forth during the meeting. They also hailed better queue regulation and crowd management, successful implementation of Aadhaar based registration and various | More on P6

Unpaid Ayushman Bharat Funds

Pvt Hospitals Threaten To Stop Services After August

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Private dialysis centers and hospitals empaneled under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme (AB-PMJAY) in Jammu and Kashmir are facing an unprecedented financial crisis, with payments pending since March 14, 2024.

The delay in releasing funds has left these healthcare facilities on the verge of bankruptcy, potentially jeopardizing medical services for thousands of patients across the Union Territory.

Despite repeated assurances from government officials, including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, the hospitals said that payments have not been disbursed. "An official meeting held in

April 2024 saw the CEO promise a resolution by the first week of May 2024. However, when no funds were released, the private hospitals and dialysis centers submitted an urgent appeal to the Chief Secretary via the CEO on May 18, 2024, requesting the release of funds by May 31, 2024," a spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Empanelled Hospitals and Dialysis Centres said, adding that in response, the Secretary of Health convened an online meeting on May 31, 2024, assuring healthcare providers that the issue would be resolved soon, leading to a temporary suspension of the planned shutdown of services. However, the situation has only worsened, with the hospitals and | More on P6

Kolkata Doctor's Rape, Murder

GMC Jammu First In India to Deploy Armed Security

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu, has made history by becoming the first hospital in India to deploy armed security personnel in its emergency premises for the protection of medical staff.

This development follows the tragic rape and murder of a female doctor in Kolkata, which sparked widespread demands for increased security measures in hospitals across the country.

An official of the GMC Jammu said that the hospital has deployed 12 armed guards from the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) to ensure the safety of its medical staff. He said the step was taken after thorough discussions between the GMC

administration and local police authorities.

The security deployment includes four guards in each shift, consisting of one Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) and three sepoy, he said, adding that the shifts are organized in eight-hour rotations to provide continuous 24-hour security.

The Kolkata incident called for the need for enhanced security measures for medical workers nationwide.

The official said that similar security measures will be extended to other healthcare facilities soon to ensure the safety and protection of medical staff across the country.

"This is a step toward addressing the safety concerns of medical workers and ensuring a secure | More on P6



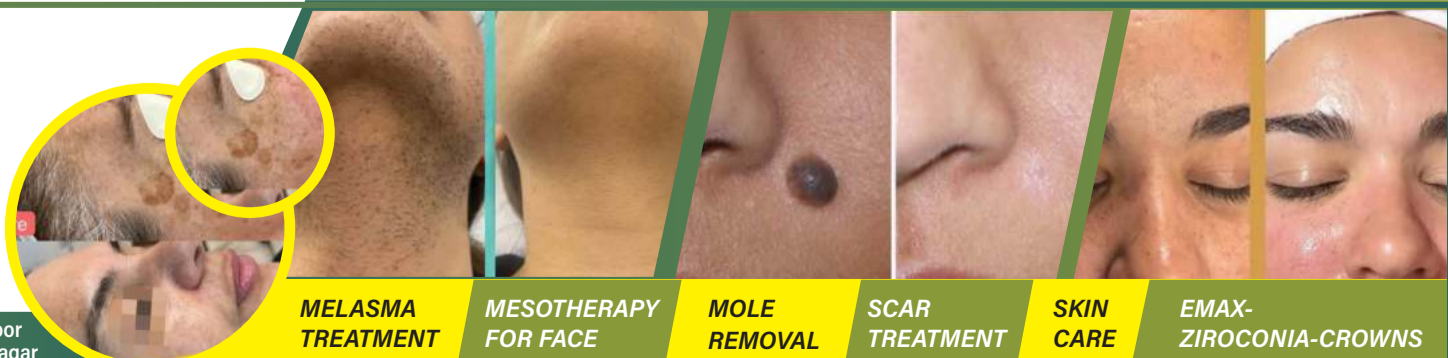
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Study Provides Evidence Of Effects Of Women Empowerment On Children Weight And Height

Press Trust Of India

When women are empowered, children are less likely to be underweight, say researchers who have studied several households in Odisha. The study gathered data from more than 1,900 farming households from 12 districts in Odisha, home to some of India's most vulnerable tribal groups.

The research was conducted by the Alliance of Biodiversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Italy, which sought to gather field evidence of how women empowerment affects food security, and quality of diet and childhood. The findings were published in the journal PLoS ONE.

The researchers scored the women in these households using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), a measure that helps gauge their inclusion in agriculture.

The index quantifies such factors as women's decision-making related to agricultural production and their control over how income was used in the household, among others. The index was co-launched in 2012 by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), headquartered in Washington, DC.

The WEAI, based on individual-data, but reported as an aggregate score at national or regional level,

also measures women's empowerment relative to that of the men in their households.

The researchers compared the WEAI score with varied aspects of the woman's household, such as the number of different foods and weight of children for their age.

The team also measured the height and weight of the children and discovered that women's empowerment significantly increased children's weight-for-age z-scores (WAZ), and weight-for-height z-scores (WHZ), but not their height-for-age z-scores (HAZ). Z-scores reveal how distant one's individual score is from the average of the entire sample.

"The improvements in the z-scores contributed to reduced prevalence of underweight and wasting in children with mother's with a higher empowerment score," lead researcher Jonathan Mockshell, an agricultural economist at the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, said.

"Overall, the results showed that women's empowerment improved household dietary diversity, food consumption, and child anthropometry (reduced prevalence of underweight and wasting in children) among the vulnerable populations in Odisha, India," the authors wrote.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST. CLASS NARBAL DISTRICT BUDGAM.

Tele Fax. 01951-260276 | Pin code 193401

NOTICE FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

It is hereby notified that the applicant namely Insha Jan S/O Nazir Ahmad Dar R/o Narbal Tehsil Narbal District Budgam had applied for the issuance of Birth certificate of his Daughter namely self. S/o. D/o Nazir Ahmad Dar. The applicant intends to register the DOB of his Son / Daughter as per school record / vaccination card School Record. If any body is having any objection / claim regarding the same he / she may approach the office of undersigned with in a period of seven days 07 days from the date of publication of this notice or else any such claims / objections shall not be entertained. Dated: 25-08-2024 Executive Magistrate 1st. Class Narbal

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان: درخواست منجانب مشتاق احمد تیلی ولد غلام محمد تیلی ساکنہ ٹیل پورہ تحصیل پٹن بمبراد
اگر کوئی اعتراض ہو تو منجانب دفتر مشتاق احمد تیلی اور تسم جان

اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں سال نے ایک درخواست بجز OBC سرٹیفکیٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں بنواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے یہاں ہے کہ سال واقع زگر زرات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سال پٹن میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سال کا کنڈ بڈیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

نمبر شمار	نام افراد	سنت	عمر
1-	مشتاق احمد تیلی ولد غلام محمد	گورنٹ ملازم	45 سال
2-	حسین بیگم زوجہ مشتاق احمد	گھر بیوکام	42 سال
3-	تسم جان دختر مشتاق احمد	زیر تعلیم	18 سال
4-	زینت مشتاق دختر مشتاق احمد	زیر تعلیم	16 سال
5-	کونو مشتاق دختر مشتاق احمد	زیر تعلیم	14 سال

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کنڈ نہیں ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشورہ اخبار سراسر دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مندرجہ اعتراض وادالت حذا کو دفتر ی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کوئی مندرجہ اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار FKO

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار پٹن
عنوان: درخواست منجانب وجاہت محمد زگر اور آفرین الطاف پسران الطاف حسین زگر ساکنہ پٹن تحصیل پٹن بمبراد ابراہی OBC سرٹیفکیٹ

اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں سال نے ایک درخواست بجز OBC سرٹیفکیٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں بنواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے یہاں ہے کہ سال واقع زگر زرات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سال پٹن میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سال کا کنڈ بڈیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

نمبر شمار	نام افراد	سنت	عمر
1-	الطاف حسین ولد غلام نبی زگر	مزدوری	55 سال
2-	داشاد بیگم زوجہ الطاف حسین	گھر بیوکام	54 سال
3-	وجاہت محمد زگر ولد الطاف حسین	زیر تعلیم	25 سال
4-	آفرینہ الطاف دختر الطاف حسین	زیر تعلیم	23 سال

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کنڈ نہیں ہے کنڈ سال کی مہوار آمدنی 7000 روپے ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشورہ اخبار سراسر دن کے اندر اندر اپنے مندرجہ اعتراض وادالت حذا کو دفتر ی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کوئی مندرجہ اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار FKO

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.- 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR-154-2024-25-ADEN-JRC, 155-2024-25-ADEN-JRC & 156-2024-25-ADEN-LDH acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 11.09.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revise bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
20.08.2024	28.08.2024	11.09.2024

S. No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
1	154-2024-25-ADEN-JRC	Ordinary repair and maintenances as well as new works, additions and alterations to existing structures, emergent works of service building & staff Qtrs for the year 2024-25 in the section of SSE/W/MEX under ADEN/JRC.	14995920.11	60 Days	12 Months
2	155-2024-25-ADEN-JRC	Construction of CC channel between tracks in various yards in the jurisdiction of ADEN/JRC.	149959.66	60 Days	06 Months
3	156-2024-25-ADEN-LDH	Pre and post-lamping track measurement survey using Trimble Gedu Vorsys trolley system between LDH-JRC (UP & DN Line) in the Jurisdiction of ADEN/LDH.	1977233	60 Days	06 Months

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OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR PATTAN EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS

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

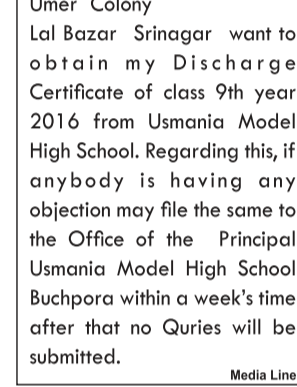
PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar births and deaths (EO Municipal council Pattan/Block development officer Pattan) has submitted case file pertaining to Birth/Death of Hafsa Binti Shahid D/o Shahid Ahmad Dar R/o Krankshna colony Sopore Tehsil Sopore District Baramulla with verified date of event Birth as 16/06/2021 occurred at SDH Pattan. In this connection, if anybody having objections 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.

NOTICE

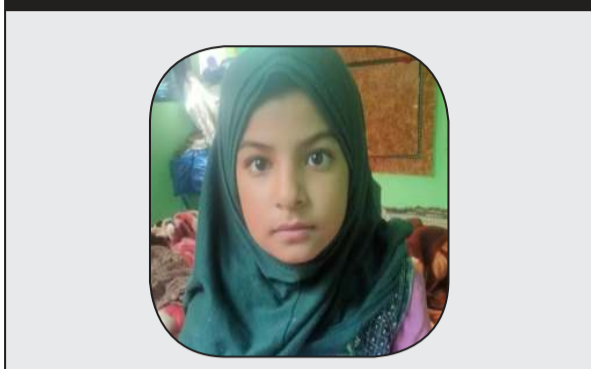
I Sohil Naseer S/o Naseer Ahmad Bhat & Haleema Bano R/o Umer Colony Lal Bazar Srinagar want to obtain my Discharge Certificate of class 9th year 2016 from Usmania Model High School. Regarding this, if anybody is having any objection may file the same to the Office of the Principal Usmania Model High School Buchpora within a week's time after that no Quiries will be submitted.



Media Line

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.

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R/o Nowgam Sumbal
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J&K Bank Branch : Gadakhud Gaddoo
IFSC Code: JAKA0GAMDD
Cell No: 9622428470

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOSS OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

I, BILAL AHMAD GANAI, son of GH. MOHAMMAD GANAI, resident of HARIPARI GAM, AWANTIPORA, TRAL, PULWAMA, JAMMU & KASHMIR- 192123, hereby declare that I have lost the original registration certificate of my vehicle with Registration No. JK13G 4013 and Chassis No. MA3NY-FJ5MGB06700. The document was lost while traveling from my residence i.e HARIPARI GAM towards Srinagar. I am applying for a duplicate registration certificate with the Regional Transport Office (RTO). If anyone has any objections regarding the issuance of a duplicate certificate, they are requested to notify the undersigned or the concerned RTO within 7 days from the date of this notice.

BILAL AHMAD GANAI
S/O. GH. MOHAMMAD GANAI
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THE JAMMU & KASHMIR MEDICAL COUNCIL

Jammu Office: 28 B/C Gandhi Nagar, Jammu 18004 TELE: 0191-2459221 Srinagar Office: Sector 1 Gulberg Colony Near HP Petrol Pump Opposite Jamkash Vehicleads Hyderpora Tele: 0194-2102198 & 0194-2101562

DR. ISHTIYAQ ABDULLAH Assistant Professor (Orthopaedics) Government Medical College Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir Subject: Suspension of Registration No's 3909 (Additional qualification) A 10077 (Permanent Registration) for a period of One Year.

- References:
1. Government Order NO. 203-JK (HME) of 2024, dated 15.03.2024
 2. Government Order NO. 233-JK (HME) of 2024, dated 23.03.2024
 3. Government Order NO. 563-JK (HME) of 2024, dated 16.08.2024

ORDER

Whereas, the JK Medical Council has examined the communication received from Administration Department along with the enquiry report forwarded by the Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir, Health and Medical Education Department vide letter No. ME-GztdONMC/11/2024-02-B (CC:7434595) dated 16.08.2024. The report of the enquiry conducted by Prof Dr. Altaf Ahmad Kawoosa, HOD Orthopaedics, Bone and Joint Hospital Srinagar and Prof. Dr. Suhail Majid, HOD Orthopaedics, SKIMS Medical College, Bemina, Srinagar is thorough and self-explanatory. You were called by Enquiry committee on 27th March 2024 and were given fair chance to explain your position. During appearance before the committee, you accepted that you have not been attending official duties at GMC Baramulla regularly and you were not able to defend your case. It has also been mentioned in the report that your surgical incompetence has been proven. The case wise study has been mentioned by the enquiry Officers in the report. The Enquiry Committee has proved gross negligence and misconduct by you.

Whereas, the inquiry report clearly indicates gross violations of professional ethics and the code of conduct. Specifically, it highlights negligence and a breach of duty towards patient care, involving the performance of unnecessary / incorrect procedures, misdiagnosis of injuries, which has led to serious harm to the patients who trusted you and had faith in your professional competence. The Enquiry Committee has observed and documented that you have not been dedicating adequate time to the Hospital, instead engaging in private practice, astonishingly also performed surgeries of two different patients simultaneously at two different locations in the private sector involves overlapping times. These actions are in direct contradiction to the standard expected from a medical professional in your position and also in violation of the norms of Hospital/ Department.

Whereas, in view of your Malpractices, poor Conduct and lack of Professional skills, you have already been banned for practicing in Private sector and also placed under suspension from Govt. service vide above mentioned Govt orders. Considering above discussed facts / detailed enquiry report, you are proven delinquent Medical Practitioner and found guilty of professional Misconduct / Technical incompetence and also keeping in mind the public good. JK Medical Council unanimously resolves as under:

RESOLVED:

1) Suspension of Registration: In accordance with the provisions of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct Etiquette and Ethics Regulations, 2002), NMC registered Medical Practitioner (Professional conduct) Regulations 2023 & NMC Act 2(19), your Registration Certificates No. 3409 (Additional Qualification) & 10077 (Permanent Registration) are suspended for a period of one year, effective from 21-08-2024.

It is expected that you use this time to reflect, review, and improve your skills, following and during the suspension period as trainee, you must work Under the guidance of the HOD (Orthopaedics), GMC Handwara who will assess and authenticate your surgical capabilities and professional conduct. The Council will review the assessment report presented by Principal / HOD (Orthopaedics) GMC Handwara before deciding on future authorization to perform surgeries / practice after a period of one year.

2. Surrender to Registration Certificates:

You are directed to surrender your original Registration Certificates (Additional Qualification & Permanent Registration) bearing No 3909 & 10077 by 23-08-2024, to the JK Medical Council for necessary endorsement. The certificates will remain in the Council's possession until the end of the suspension period after the decision is reviewed by the Council on the report of Principal / HOD (Orthopaedics) GMC Handwara. This decision has been recorded in the Council's official register.

Dr Mohd Iqbal sofi
NO: JKMC/S/Suspen/2024/402095
DIPK-5154-24
DT: 23/08/2024
Dr Saleem ur Rehman
Dated:- 21-08-2024

COURT OF ADDITIONAL SESSIONS JUDGE, BARAMULLA (SPECIAL COURT FOR OFFENCE UNDER ULA(P) ACT

Date of institution: 08-08-2024 Date of order: 08-08-2024

In the case of: UT of J&K through SHO Police Station Pattan in case FIR No. 03/2008 under - Section 2/3 EIMCO; 121 RPC & 19 ULA(P) Act. V/s

Gowhar Nabi Teli S/o Gh Nabi Teli R/o Mamoosa Pattan.

Subject: Application seeking proclamation warrant under Section 87 Cr.P.C. of J&K UT now 82 Cr.P.C., Coram: Sh: Pawan Kumar Sharma UID No. JK00135.

ORDER

08-08-2024: SHO Police Station Pattan has filed this application for initiating proceedings under Section 87 of Cr.P.C. (Old Code) against the accused persons namely Gowhar Nabi Teli in case FIR. No. 03/2008 under Section 2/3 EIMCO, 121 RPC, 19 ULA(P) Act Police Station Pattan.

It is claimed in the application that the accused mentioned above could not be traced out during the investigation of the case despite- all efforts made by police. Apprehension has also been made that the accused has went to Pakistan however his property is still lying in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. I have heard the SHO Police Station Pattan as well as Id. APP for the UT and perused the record.

The case is of year 2008 and yet the investigation has not been concluded which is a serious matter. I am also of the view that investigation cannot be kept open for unlimited period and has to be brought to its logical conclusion. The record annexed with, the application is sufficient to form an opinion that efforts of police have not yielded fruitful result. Thus, I am satisfied from the record that the accused mentioned above has absconded and is concealing himself in such a way so warrant, issued by the Court is not executed.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case, the application filed by the SHO Police Station Pattan for initiating of proceedings under Section 87 of Cr.P.C., is hereby allowed and proclamation as provided under Section 87 of Cr.P.C., is issued against the accused mentioned above for appearing in this Court within Court hours on or before next date of hearing.

The proclamation shall be publicly read in some conspicuous place of village in which the accused resides. A copy of proclamation shall be fixed to the house of accused were the ordinary resides.

The proclamation shall also be published in a Daily Newspaper which is widely circulated in District Baramulla in general and in Pattan Town specifically. SHO Police Station Pattan shall furnish a report on next date of hearing that the directions for proclamation have been complied with.

Put upon 09-09-2024. Dated: 08-08-2024
DIPK-5154-24
DT: 23/08/2024
Additional Sessions Judge, Baramulla.

Traffic Police Issues List Of Vehicles With Pending Challans

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar Traffic Police has issued a list of over 3,100 vehicles based in Jammu & Kashmir that have ten or more pending challans.

A senior traffic police officer told the news agency—KNO that the list has been shared on social media to alert vehicle owners of outstanding fines.

"There is a huge number of challans pending against over 3,100 vehicles. We have shared the list on our social media handles for those who have 10 or more pending challans," he said.

The officer said the traffic police have released a separate list of at least 220 non-J&K registered vehicles that also have 10 or more pending challans. He urged all vehicle owners with pending challans to clear them as soon as possible.

Some vehicles have more than 20 challans and have not cleared any of them, he informed.

In a tweet on the social media platform X, the Srinagar Traffic Police said, "Traffic City Srinagar requests all vehicle owners whose registration numbers are in these lists to kindly clear their pending challans immediately."

The officer said the challans have been issued for various types of traffic violations and are intended to deter drivers from breaking traffic rules.

The Srinagar Traffic Police have been actively photographing vehicles that are found violating traffic rules.

It is worth mentioning that some residents have contested the fines issued by the traffic police, claiming they were wrongly penalized.

Srinagar has recently seen a surge in road accidents, and official data shows that the district has experienced the highest number of accidents so far this year, which have resulted in more than five fatalities and over 40 injuries.

DLSA Srinagar Organizes Special Lok Adalat At DDC Mominabad



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In accordance with J&K Legal Service Authority calendar for the year 2024, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar today organized a special Lok Adalat for the amicable settlement of consumer cases at the District Court Complex (DCC) Mominabad, Srinagar.

The Lok Adalat held in the Court of District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Srinagar, was conducted under the able direction of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice (A) of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh,

and under supervision of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman of the DLSA (Pr. District & Sessions Judge) Srinagar.

The objective of this initiative was to provide a platform for amicable resolution of consumer disputes and ensure swift justice delivery. The Lok Adalat serves as a vital tool for promoting access to justice and ensuring that the consumers' rights are protected.

One bench was constituted for the said Lok-Adalat that took up 16 cases for settlement, out of which 07 cases were amicably settled and Rs. 5, 39, 022 was awarded as settlement amount in Consumer Cases.

Member Secy CSB GoI Chairs High-Level Meeting In Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Member Secretary, Central Silk Board (CSB), Government of India P. Sivakumar (IFS), who is on an official visit to Jammu and Kashmir, chaired a high level meeting today at the Directorate of Sericulture Dev. Department J&K, Tulsi Bagh, Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from the department, led by Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, IAS, Director of Sericulture J&K.

During the meeting, the Director Sericulture J&K, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat provided a detailed summary of the various initiatives being undertaken by the department. He outlined the strategic steps that have been implemented to enhance cocoon production, which is a vital component of J&K's sericulture industry.

The Director emphasized the department's focus on sustainable and innovative methods to increase productivity and improve the quality of cocoons produced in the region. Besides, the Director, Sericulture J&K also apprised the Member Secretary about the various programs of the Department which include mass awareness, skill development, extensive plantation drives, reach out initiatives of the department to cater

people in tribal areas in J&K. Infrastructure Development, establishment of community halls for Silkworm Rearing and Silkworm Seed Production at large scale etc.

A key highlight of the meeting was the in-depth discussion on the development of the post-cocoon sector in J&K. The Member Secretary and the department officers deliberated on strategies to establish robust infrastructure for processing cocoons, which would enable value addition within the Union Territory. This initiative aims to not only boost the local Silk Industry but also create employment opportunities and enhance the economic prosperity of Silkworm Rearers, Farmers, Youth, Women and other stakeholders involved in the Sericulture Sector.

Later in the day, the Member Secretary interacted with various Silkworm Rearers and Reelers. He took the opportunity to listen to their experiences and concerns, and assured them of the Central Silk Board's full support in addressing their needs. He encouraged the Silkworm Rearers and Reelers to continue their efforts towards achieving excellence in silk production and advised them to maintain close contact with the Sericulture Development Department of J&K for any further assistance or queries.

Man Attacked With Cricket Bat In Nowgam, Two Held

Majid Nabi

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested two persons on the charges of attacking and grievously injuring a man with a cricket bat in Nowgam area of the uptown Srinagar.

The incident, according to the police, occurred at Madankha area of Nowgam after the trio entered into heated arguments over some issue, and the accused in a fit of rage hit

the victim with a cricket bat, leaving him critically injured.

The injured was shifted to the hospital in a critical condition and is undergoing treatment at the moment. Taking cognizance of the incident, police arrested the accused and set the investigation into motion.

A formal case FIR number 74 of 2024 under the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) sections 191(2), 191(3), 126(2), 131, 109 stands registered at police station Nowgam

in this regard.

Taking to its official X handle, Srinagar police said, the victim has suffered serious injuries in the incident prompting police to register a case.

"Police has taken cognizance of an incident resulting grievous injuries to one individual upon being beaten by cricket bat in Madankha, Nowgam. FIR No. 74/2024 u/s 191(2), 191(3), 126(2), 131, 109 BNS stands registered in PS Nowgam." Srinagar police wrote X.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS-2024

First Randomization Of EVMs Conducted In Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In connection with upcoming General Elections to Legislative Assembly- 2024, the First Randomization of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) scheduled by the Election Commission of India (ECI) for all the Eight Assembly Constituencies of Srinagar District was conducted here on Friday at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The Randomization process was held under the supervision of District Election Officer (DEO), Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in presence of the representatives of various Registered Recognized Political Parties, Returning Officers (ROs), Deputy District Election Officer, Mir Imtiaz ul Aziz, Nodal Officer ETPBS, Syed Mujahid and other Officers of District Election Authority.

During the process Randomization of Ballot Units, Control Units and VVPATs for 08 Assembly Constituencies of Srinagar District was carried out. Each AC was allocated with the required number of EVMs along with sufficient Extra (as reserve) for use during the upcoming Polls.

The District has a total of 932 Polling Stations and the Assembly segment wise allocation of EVMs for conduct of Assembly Elections was



undertaken.

All the process was video recorded as per the laid guidelines of the Election Commission of India

Prior to the Randomization process, the DEO Srinagar briefed the representatives of the Political parties about the First Randomization process ensuring their confidence in the uprightness of the process and encouraging that all requisite measures have been enacted to uphold the sanctity of the polls in free, fair and transparent manner as per the guidelines of Election Commission of India.

The DEO said that the EVM Randomization facilitated by dedicated

software is to ensure transparent, free and fair elections devoid of human interference.

The DEO further elaborated that following the randomization; EVMs will be securely transferred to designated Strong Rooms of the respective constituencies under proper security and surveillance.

Meanwhile, District Election Officer (DEO), Srinagar visited the Offices of Returning Officers (ROs) for 21-Habba Kadal and 23-Chanapora. During the visit, the DEO took stock of the arrangements and facilities being made for smooth and seamless conduct of the Assembly Elections.



OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER

8 WEEK FREE GROUP THERAPY

I did wash my hand ... but.... did I clean it enough? ?Wash it again? is it clean now?

It's not just RECURRENT HANDWASHING AND CHECKING BUT UNSEEN PAIN distress myths and stigma associated with OCD

KASHMIR / Kashmir American Society of Healthcare, Medical Education & Research in collaboration with HPVT / Help Poor Voluntary Trust.

is initiating a **free 8 weeks Group therapy** for the individuals suffering with OCD by a team of counselling clinical psychologists led by leading consultant clinical psychologist of J&K.



If you or some one you know is experiencing symptoms of OCD, seeking professional help is crucial.

You do not have to fight your battles alone.

There is no need for referral, simply call us for registration.

Happy & Healthy minds Office, HPVT Building (First Floor), Daresh Kadal Chowk, Srinagar

9070806160

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

AIRPORTS


SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI CALENDAR

18 Safar 1446

PRAYERS	
FAJR	4:30
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	5:15
Magrib	7:11
ISHA	8:40

This Day In History

- 1608- 1st English convoy lands at Surat, India
- 1690- Job Charnock sets up East India Company HQ camp by Kalkata village (modern Calcutta)
- 1704- Battle of Málaga: largest naval battle in the War of the Spanish Succession; Tactically indecisive but a Grand Alliance strategic victory
- 1789- French Revolution: The National Assembly proclaims freedom of speech
- 1814- British forces capture Washington, D.C. and destroy many landmarks (War of 1812)
- 1891- Thomas Edison patents motion picture camera
- 1904- Battle of Liao-Yang-200,000 Japanese against 150,000 Russian, Japanese tactical victory
- 1912- District of Alaska becomes an organized incorporated territory of the United States
- 1914- Battle of Bergen: Germans defeat Belgian/British troops
- 1914- German troops occupy Namur, Belgium
- 1920- With British approval, Greece is encouraged to take offensive action against Turkish nationalists in Asia Minor
- 1921- Battle of Sakarav Valley begins between Turkey & Greece
- 1929- Turkey & Persia sign friendship treaty
- 1931- France & USSR sign neutrality/no attack treaty
- 1937- In the Spanish Civil War, the Basque Army surrenders to the Italian Corpo Truppe Volontarie following the Santaña Agreement.
- 1939- Germany & USSR sign 10-year non-aggression pact
- 1949- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) goes into effect
- 1966- USSR launches Luna 11 for orbit around Moon
- 1968- France becomes the world's fifth thermonuclear power with a detonation on Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific
- 1976- Soyuz 21 returns to Earth
- 1978- USSR performs underground nuclear test
- 1979- UN's Vienna office begins issuing postage stamps
- 1985- STS 51-L mission scrubbed at T-57 because of bad weather
- 1991- Mikhail Gorbachev resigns as head of USSR Communist Party
- 1992- Diplomatic relations are established between the People's Republic of China and South Korea.
- 1993- Mars Observer comes closest to Mars
- 1994- Israel & PLO initiated accord giving autonomy to Palestinians in West Bank in education, health, taxation, social welfare & tourism
- 1995- Microsoft debuts Windows 95
- 1997- Gordon Spence discovers 2^{2976221 - 1} (36th known Mersenne prime)
- 2004- 89 passengers die after two airliners explode after flying out of Domodedovo International Airport, near Moscow. The explosions were caused by suicide bombers (reportedly female) from the Russian Republic of Chechnya.
- 2006- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) redefines the term "planet" such that Pluto is considered a Dwarf Planet.
- 2015- Physicist Stephen Hawking presents a new theory on black holes at a lecture at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm
- 2015- Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announces that for the 1st time 1 billion people logged into Facebook
- 2016- Astronomers announce discovery of earth-like planet named Proxima b orbiting star Proxima Centauri
- 2016- 6.2-magnitude earthquake strikes central Italy, north east of Rome, killing 268, injuring 400
- 2018- Scott Morrison becomes Prime Minister of Australia after defeating Peter Dutton in a leadership spill, replacing Malcolm Turnbull

From KO Archives

NC To Support Whoever Forms The Next Govt: Farooq

NEW DELHI - The Jammu and Kashmir chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdullah today said his National conference would extend support to which ever group that comes to power at the Centre after the Lok Sabha polls. We will support the group that will form the government at the Centre as we are totally dependent on the Central Government, he said in an interview to Aaj Tak.

Abdullah, who had recently shared dias with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee during the release of the election manifesto of National Democratic Alliance (NDA), said his party did not have any tie-up with BJP in the state. We don't have any seat sharing arrangement with BJP, he said, adding we are contesting against BIP and the BJP is fighting against us.

The national Conference leader was critical of the Centre for being silent on the continuing cross-border terrorism and infiltration.

(Kashmir Observer, August 24, 1999)

Recurrent Earthquakes

Afroz Shah

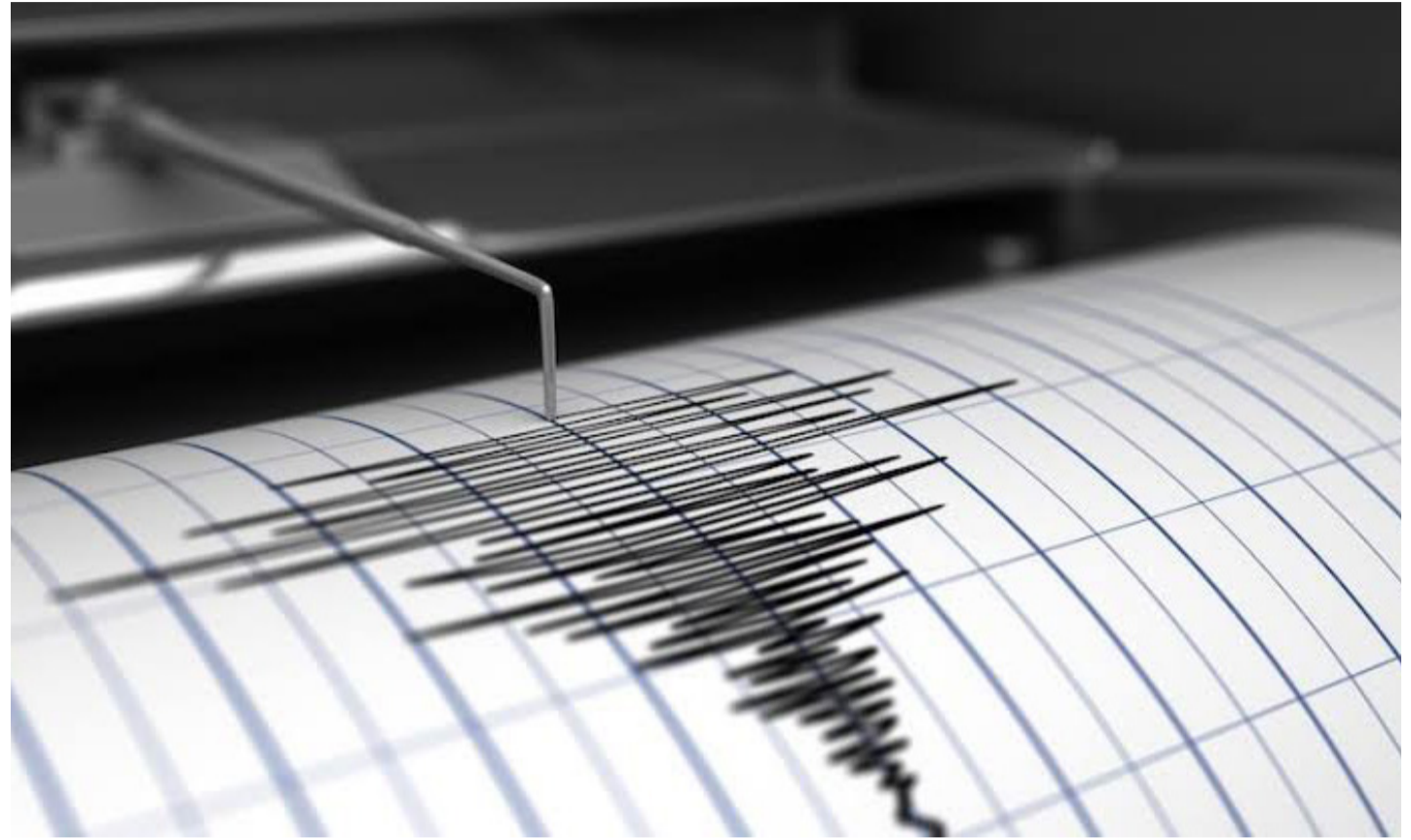
Recently, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported that a magnitude 5.1 earthquake occurred at 4 km NW of Baramulla, India, originating at a depth of about 15.9 km and caused shaking in Baramulla and adjacent areas of Kashmir. The National Center for Seismology (NCS), Ministry of Earth Science, India, reports two events ranging from 5 to 10 km deep near Baramulla and adjacent areas. Both these independent sources confirm that the earthquake occurred at a shallow depth, and it seems reasonable that the quake ruptured local active faults.

Recent seismic activity in Kashmir is consistent with our prior research on the region's earthquake dynamics, reinforcing the significant risk posed by the area's underlying tectonic structures. This event underscores the urgent need to prepare for a major earthquake, which could lead to widespread devastation, exacerbated by the unscientific urbanization practices prevalent in the region.

Kashmir's stunning landscape owes much to its complex geological and tectonic history, where seismic forces have shaped its natural beauty. However, this same tectonic activity also brings significant risks. Earthquakes, floods, and landslides are constant threats in this region, and the underlying tectonic structure suggests that a major seismic event could occur at any time.

Kashmir's beauty and danger duality underscores the region's intricate relationship with the Earth's dynamic forces.

Predicting the exact timing of an earthquake remains beyond our current knowledge and technological capabilities. Despite advancements, even the most earthquake-prone and technologically advanced nations, such as Japan, the USA, and New Zealand, cannot predict earthquakes. Recognizing this, these



nations initiated campaigns to protect lives from earthquakes and related hazards by implementing and adhering to strict building codes. These measures have significantly reduced losses and damages during major earthquakes, as demonstrated by decades of scientific and engineering progress.

Kashmir's failure to initiate an earthquake preparedness campaign contrasts with the proactive measures taken by other earthquake-prone regions worldwide. This delay is not just a missed opportunity but a grave risk, leaving the region vulnerable to catastrophic consequences. The looming threat of an earthquake with a magnitude of seven or higher casts a dark shadow over Kashmir, where the absence of stringent building codes and disaster preparedness could result in unimaginable loss. Immediate

action is crucial to safeguard lives and infrastructure before a devastating earthquake strikes, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive disaster management strategies.

To enhance the safety and resilience of buildings in Kashmir, it's imperative that we involve well-trained architects and engineers from some of the world's leading institutions. The current practice of relying on locally trained individuals, many of whom have not received formal education in engineering or architecture, poses significant risks. This is particularly concerning in the context of earthquake-prone areas, where improperly designed structures can lead to devastating consequences.

In areas like Anantnag, where I come from, I have observed that most residential buildings are designed and constructed by

local architects and engineers who often lack formal training from accredited institutions. This practice is deeply problematic, resulting in buildings that may not adhere to the necessary safety standards and are ill-equipped to withstand natural disasters like earthquakes. The existing norms must be replaced with professional engineering design and construction standards to ensure the safety and well-being of residents.

The government must play a pivotal role in this transformation. It should adopt a resolution that mandates careful monitoring of the competence of those involved in engineering design and construction.

This would involve setting up a regulatory body to oversee building practices, ensuring that only qualified professionals are permitted to design and construct residential and com-

mercial structures.

Moreover, systematic procedures should be established to gradually replace unqualified practitioners with professionals who have the necessary training and expertise. This shift would improve the quality and safety of buildings and foster a culture of accountability and excellence in the construction industry. By prioritizing professional standards, we can significantly reduce the risks of poorly constructed buildings and create safer, more resilient communities.

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

The author is Sr. Assistant Professor, Structural Geography



IN AREAS LIKE ANANTNAG, WHERE I COME FROM, I HAVE OBSERVED THAT MOST RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS ARE DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED BY LOCAL ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS WHO OFTEN LACK FORMAL TRAINING FROM ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS. This practice is deeply problematic, resulting in buildings that may not adhere to the necessary safety standards and are ill-equipped to withstand natural disasters like earthquakes

To Preserve Democracy, Tax the Rich

KAUSHIK BASU

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

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

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

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

Two key aspects of global inequality deserve particular attention. First, economic disparities are set to worsen both within and across countries. As



technological advances like artificial intelligence reduce demand for human labor, working-class households around the world could become increasingly impoverished. Meanwhile, those who own the machines and run the largest corporations are expected to amass unprecedented power and wealth. The United States - home to nearly 38 million people living below the poverty line despite being one of the world's richest countries - provides a glimpse into this bleak future.

Second, extreme inequality poses a mortal threat to democracy, enabling billionaires and

moneyed interests to influence elections, capture traditional and social media, and shape public perceptions. Regrettably, judging by social-media chatter and trolling, some of the strongest opposition to progressive taxation and redistributive policies comes from the poorer segments of society, largely owing to misinformation and manipulation.

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

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

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

Instead, what we really need is a progressive tax system that redistributes incomes from the

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

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

wealthy individuals.

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

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

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

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

Careful With the Young!

Dr. Mushtaq Rather

In the current day and age, stress is continuously mounting on the younger generation to perform exceedingly well and live upto the expectations of their parents, relatives, teachers, peers. The mantra of either perform or perish is seriously casting a shadow on the wellbeing of the younger generation. In this cut throat competition, the only alternative for the younger generation is to emerge victorious, no matter how far his/her health, be it their physical or mental health domain is stretched. How can we justify our unjustified and undesirable expectations from the younger generation? We have rendered younger generation vulnerable and susceptible to self harming incidents like suicides and drug abuse ruining their career and life.

We need to pause and seriously ponder over it. We are pushing our younger generation towards materialistic values and are least bothered about inculcating philanthropic attitude among them and the result is in front of all of us. Our societal norms and regulations are in shambles. Who will take a stand and rectify it, when the cornerstone of every upbringing relies on acquiring materialistic goals?

Additionally, the younger generation prefers to lead a sedentary life and seems to be least concerned about participating in outdoor activities. In this technologically driven era where children are most of the time found glued to the screens of their digital gadgets, the motivation and access to sports grounds for varied sports activities is diminishing with each passing day. This will even further exacerbate due to the disruptive incorporation of Artificial Intelligence (IA) in the technological landscape. This has catastrophic consequences on their overall wellbeing: be it their physical, mental or psycho-social well being.

Rigidity and undesired expectations from parents

There is no wrong on the part of the parent to dream that their children excel in their careers. However in deciding the career progression of their child, as parents it is rather obligatory to entertain and accom-



modate the insights of their wards while laying out career options for them. However, the ground reality is disappointing. Parents don't take their children onboard in exploring diverse career options. As career sensitive parents, we need to be empathetic and compassionate towards our children and provide them a degree of breathing space instead of dictating terms to the younger lot. The dictatorial approach has caused more harm than good and has seriously altered the mental stability leading to mental chaos, stress and trauma.

Recently a young boy from Mattan area of south Kashmir who was on rolls in a coaching institute at Kota Rajasthan died by suicide. The reason behind this self inflicting harm is believed to be lack of congenial family atmosphere where the child was un-

able to express himself and was left with no choice but to take his life. Had there been any space for expressing divergent views and choices, his life and the lives of other innumerable children like him could have been saved.

As parents we need to keep two things in mind while deciding the career path for our children: is the child interested in pursuing that career and does the child have the inherent potential to execute the career option decided for him/her?

Mental health Issues of adolescents

Adolescence is the period of profound transformation. It marks the transition from childhood to adulthood and is laden with challenges –including those related to the

perception of one's body and body image issues. Society's expectations regarding the 'ideal' behaviour and body types can significantly affect physical and mental health. The weight of academic expectations, peer pressure and concerns about the future also takes a toll on mental health at this stage of life. Adolescents in India are particularly vulnerable to mental health problems like anxiety disorders and depression. Official reports have cited that among Indians aged between 13-17 years, the prevalence of severe mental illness is 7.3% and the situation is even more alarming in our UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Social media and Moral-ruptcy among younger generation

Virtual communication through social networking sites has no doubt ensured the user to go beyond the geographical boundaries in establishing virtual societies, but in the reality it has led to social isolation as the people mostly the younger generation are glued to their electronic gadgets in chatting and texting with their virtual friends and pay little heed to establish bonds in the real life. As a result the real social sphere of people is shrinking with each passing day. In the bygone era when there was no social media and internet, the younger generation used to contribute constructively in participating varied community services on a voluntary basis, where they used to interact with the young and the old to imbibe life-long skills and foster the social milieu. In the current circumstances of socialization via virtual platforms the neighborly bond which people enjoyed during yesteryears is waning with each passing day. Moreover, the autonomy and the independence enjoyed by the younger generation in operating social media platforms has given them the absolute right without checks and balances in accessing the content as per their taste and choice. The unfiltered and filthy content too has crept deep into the younger generation as they are unable to differentiate between the right content and the filthy content. This has seriously dented morality as our society is at the brink of collapse in terms of moral values.

Conclusion

The younger generation has a central role in realization of vision driven vibrant futuristic society. There must be calibrated efforts on the part of every concerned stakeholder to find amicable and viable solutions to the issues encountered by the younger generation. Rather than adopting the dictatorial and unidirectional approach, we need to come to the level of the younger generation to mitigate their sufferings. The lava accumulating in the younger generation if left unattended without giving any vent to express will erupt with serious ramifications.

Views expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is an educator

How to Teach a Child That Actions Have Consequences

Mark Travers

Mistakes are an inescapable part of life. This is especially true during childhood—where kids make most use of trial and error to learn the ways of life. Almost every parent can attest to the frequency of their children's mishaps, whether it's a broken toy or a playground scrape. These mistakes, both big and small, are par for the course in a child's development.

Given this reality, many parents find themselves spending countless hours explaining to their children what to do, what not to do, and how to live functional, responsible lives. Despite these efforts, such guidance can often be overwhelming for parents and, at times, fruitless—as children are naturally inclined to learn through their own experiences.

The key to effective parenting lies in embracing this natural learning process by reinforcing the connection between actions and their consequences. Instead of merely telling children what to do, allowing them to experience the outcomes of their actions firsthand can be a more impactful and lasting lesson.

The Action-Consequence Link

According to the 2019 handbook of Adlerian Counseling and Psychotherapy, mistakes can profoundly influence our behavior because they often lead to undesirable outcomes. You've probably heard sayings like "experience is our best teacher" or "learning through the school of hard knocks." These phrases capture the essence of how personal experiences shape our understanding and approach to life. While learning from experience is invaluable, it does come with some downsides.

For instance, if a child makes a serious mistake, it could lead to real harm. In other cases, a child might become overly fearful of potential consequences, which can hold them back in other areas of their development. Plus, some consequences don't always show up right away, like cavities or other health-related consequences. These factors can make it hard for children to confidently connect their actions with outcomes—at least without help.



Given these challenges, one of the best ways for parents to help their children learn from mistakes is to make the link between actions and consequences concretely clear. However, it's important to recognize that there are two types of consequences: natural and logical. And according to a 2018 study, emphasizing these two consequences appropriately is one of the most successful ways to mitigate disruptive behavior.

1. Natural Consequences

Natural consequences happen without any intervention from others; they are the immediate outcome of a child's mistake or bad behavior. For example:

If a child forgets to put a toy away when the family dog is known to chew them, the natural consequence is that the dog will de-

stroy the toy.

If a child leaves dirty clothes on the floor instead of in the hamper, the natural consequence is that the clothes won't be cleaned.

These outcomes occur naturally, making the lesson clear and direct; it's a simple cause-and-effect scenario that helps kids see the immediate impact of their actions. Natural consequences directly influence how we learn about and cope with the rules of life, but they need to be used intelligently for them to have a positive influence. In this way, they should be sought first, but replaced by a logical consequence if not appropriate.

2. Logical Consequences

Logical consequences, on the other hand, require a bit of intervention, but they still

“**PARENTS DON'T TAKE THEIR CHILDREN ONBOARD IN EXPLORING DIVERSE CAREER OPTIONS.** As career sensitive parents, we need to be empathetic and compassionate towards our children and provide them a degree of breathing space instead of dictating terms to the younger lot.”

follow logically from the child's behavior. For instance:

If a child leaves their toys all over the living room, you might pick them up and put them away in a place they can't access for a while. The logical consequence is that the child has to go without their toys for a period.

If a child speaks rudely to a sibling, a logical consequence might be needing to spend some time apart or doing something kind for the sibling to make amends.

Some natural consequences are not suited for a child to experience, especially if safety- or injury-related. In these cases, logical consequences will be much more impactful and safe, especially if the natural consequences are explained, too.

Logical consequences help children understand that their actions have predictable outcomes, even if someone else needs to step in to make the lesson clear. However, note that logical consequences that are made in anger become punishments, not learning experiences—friendliness and en-

couragement should always prevail.

Reinforcing the Action-Consequence Link According to a 2019 study, parents need to be both empathetic and careful when making the link between actions and consequences clear:

Let the child know they are responsible for their choices. This is especially important for natural consequences, which can be abstract for young children. For instance, "If you don't pick up your toys, the dog might chew them up." And if the natural consequence occurs, gently remind your child of the connection: "Remember, we talked about how leaving your toys out might lead to this."

Discuss logical consequences before applying them. Talk with your child about what will happen if they continue a certain behavior. For example, "If you don't finish your homework, you'll need to finish it during your screen time."

Ensure logical consequences are related to the behavior. These consequences must logically follow the behavior. For instance, if a child doesn't pick up their toys, they don't get to play with them for a while. Making this connection clear is crucial for them to understand that they have a choice in their actions and their subsequent outcomes.

Offer them choices. This gives children agency over situations while also instilling responsibility for their behavior. For instance, if their homework isn't done, you could ask them what they think an appropriate consequence would be or offer them a choice, such as, "You can either finish your homework and then have screen time, or you can give up your screen time for today." However, the choice is ultimately up to you in this process.

Through natural and logical consequences, children learn valuable life lessons before they are forced to learn the hard way. The key is to make sure the link is crystal clear and that the consequences are enforced consistently. This way, kids can effectively learn the connection between what they do and what happens next—which is integral to helping them learn and grow from their mistakes in a safe and supportive environment.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

Sports

Gundogan Returns For His 2nd Spell At Man City After A Year At Barcelona

Agencies

MANCHESTER: Ilkay Gundogan is back at Manchester City for a sequel few could have expected.

A year after leaving for Barcelona, the former Germany midfielder completed his return to City on Friday on a free transfer and a season-long deal.

The 33-year-old Gundogan, who has the option of a further season at City, was the captain when Pep Guardiola's team captured the Premier League-FA Cup- Champions League treble in the 2022-23 campaign.

That confirmed his place in the growing pantheon of City

greats, having already been in the conversation most notably after scoring two late goals against Aston Villa on the final day of the 2021-22 Premier League season to seal a 3-2 win that clinched the title. He was at City for seven years after joining in 2016 as Guardiola's first signing, and was so often his manager's go-to player with big performances and significant goals — as well as his neighbour.

"To have the opportunity to return here means so much," Gundogan said. "Everyone knows the respect I have for Pep — he is the best manager in the world and working with him



every day makes you a better player. You feel constantly challenged, which for any professional is exactly what you want. I cannot wait to work with him again.

"And what can I say about my teammates here at City... they are world-class footballers. I am genuinely delighted to have the chance to train and play alongside them. Honestly, I cannot wait to wear the City shirt again."

Bringing in Gundogan is a late call by City in this transfer window. He was one of Xavi Hernandez's favourite players during the coach's sole season with the Catalan club but Barcelona's delicate economic situation appears to have forced the new coach, Hansi Flick of Germany, to part ways with Gundogan.

ICC Planning Multi-Million Dollar Fund To Save Test Cricket: Report

Press Trust of India

SYDNEY: The International Cricket Council (ICC) is mulling a dedicated fund of at least USD 15 million for Test cricket that will help increase the players' match fee and address the migration of talent to lucrative T20 franchise leagues.

The initiative, which was proposed by Cricket Australia (CA), has the support of BCCI Secretary Jay Shah, who is the front-runner to become the next ICC Chairman, and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), a report in 'The Sydney Morning Herald' stated.

The fund would increase the minimum match payment for

Test players and cover the cost of sending teams on overseas tours.

It would support national boards like the West Indies that currently struggle to compete with the wages offered in global T20 competitions.

"The fund would ensure a minimum Test payment for all players, thought to be USD 10,000, and pay the costs of overseas tours for struggling countries," the report stated.

The fund is unlikely to benefit the three wealthiest cricket nations — India, Australia, and England — since they already offer substantial salaries to their players.

However, how much money is available for Test cricket from the ICC is also likely to depend on

a dispute with broadcaster Star, the report added. The Star network wants to renegotiate a 2022 broadcast deal with the ICC and reduce its value to half of the original cost of over USD three billion.

The BCCI had introduced an incentive scheme for India's men's Test cricketers earlier this year to encourage players to prioritise Test cricket and reward consistent performances in the longest format of the game.

Under the new scheme, a player who plays at least 75 per cent of India's Test matches in its annual cycle, from October to September, will earn a whopping Rs 45 lakh per match in addition to the Test match fees of Rs 15 lakh.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Amit Shah's

separatism again by engaging in dialogue with Pakistan instead of Kashmiri youth?

4. Do the Congress party and Rahul Gandhi support the National Conference's decision to start 'LoC Trade' with Pakistan, thereby nurturing terrorism and its ecosystem across the border?

5. Does Congress support reinstating relatives of those involved in terrorism and stone-pelting into government jobs, thereby bringing back terrorism, extremism, and the era of strikes?

6. The alliance has exposed the Congress party's anti-reservation stance. Does Congress support the JKNC's promise to end reservations for Dalits, Gujjars, Bakarwals, and Pahadi communities, thereby inflicting injustice upon them?

7. Does the Congress want 'Shankaracharya Hill,' to be known as 'Takht-e-Suleiman,' and 'Harih Hill' as 'Koh-e-Maran'?

8. Does the Congress support the politics of pushing Jammu and Kashmir's economy back into corruption and handing it over to selected Pakistan-supported families?

9. Does the Congress party support the JKNC's politics of discrimination between Jammu and the Valley?

10. Do the Congress party and Rahul Gandhi support the JKNC's divisive politics of granting autonomy to Kashmir?

On Thursday, National Conference and the Congress announced a pre-poll alliance for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir after Rahul Gandhi and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge met NC leaders Ferooz Abdullah and his son Omar at their Gupkar residence during their 2-day visit to the Union Territory.

BJP Plans Counter

Ashok Koul, two MPs—Dr Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore attended the meeting.

Union Minister and J&K Election in-charges G Kishan Reddy and Ram Madhav, along with other leaders that include National General Secretary and BJP J&K in-charge Tarun Chugh and co-in-charge Ashish Sood were present in the meeting. They said that Madhav's presence in the meeting assumes significance given the fact that he is known as the main behind stitching alliance with the PDP besides having good political understanding of the J&K politics. Even though he was removed from the post of BJP's General Secretary, his entry in the political arena has a sole motive—to gain out of his political expertise on J&K affairs, sources said.

"He is the man who is roping in like-minded people towards the BJP in Kashmir," they said.

A senior BJP leader said that the meeting discussed the strategy on how to counter the NC-Congress alliance in J&K. "The primary focus of the party was on Jammu region where the number of assembly seats have increased upto 43 post delimitation. The party has chalked out the strategy on how to bag maximum. The list of contenders was also discussed and it was decided that candidates with clean image in public will be given preference," the leader said, adding that "the meeting started at 5:30 pm and lasted till 9:30 pm. Deliberations continued after that as well."

The leader said that it was also decided that while BJP was strong in Jammu region, it would approach the like-minded people/parties in Kashmir region to gain maximum in the upcoming Assembly polls starting from September 18 in three phases.

"We have finalised the list for the first phase of polls and the list of candidates will be out after final nod from the Central Election Commission (CEC) on Aug 26 (Monday). Soon after CEC, the final list for the phase 1 will be out and candidates will submit their nomination papers," he said. The last date of submission of nomination forms is August 27.

Sources privy to the meeting said that a consensus was reached that BJP should win at least 45 seats in the upcoming polls to stake claim on the

government formation even though it is eyeing all 90 Assembly seats. "A strategy to counter the NC-Congress alliance was also finalised. We are also in talks with like-minded people in Kashmir who may contest as independent candidates and later join BJP. It's not feasible to name them," a BJP source said. "The counter strategy can't be discussed in public. Ultimate aim is to form government in J&K to keep the dynasty politics away and to save J&K from hell in which it was plunged by the regional parties like NC, PDP and Congress." (KNO)

6.67 Lakh Voters

with disabilities (PWD), 1 youth polling station, and 9 unique stations.

AC 41-Dooru has 1,16,749 voters (59,052 males, 57,695 females and 2 transgender) with 152 polling stations (18 urban and 134 rural). Likewise, AC 42-Kokernag (ST) includes 91,280 voters (46,840 males, 44,439 females and 01 transgender) with 123 polling stations (5 urban and 118 rural).

The largest in terms of electorates in the district is AC 43-Anantnag West, having 1,26,006 voters (63,281 males, 62,724 females and 01 transgender) with 146 polling stations (25 urban and 121 rural).

Similarly, AC 44-Anantnag contains 61,070 voters (30,645 males, 30,425 females) with 70 polling stations (43 urban and 27 rural). AC 45-Srigufwara-Bijbehara, has 1,02,081 voters (50,728 males, 51,353 females) with 125 polling stations (16 urban and 109 rural).

For AC 46-Shangus-Anantnag East, 100,902 voters (50,656 males, 50,246 females) will exercise their right for which 127 polling stations (19 urban and 108 rural) have been established.

In AC 47-Pahalgam, there are 69,693 voters (34,983 males, 34,710 females) with 101 polling stations (12 urban and 89 rural).

The last date for filing nomination papers is August 27, 2024, until 3:00 PM.

The scrutiny of nominations for the seven Assembly constituencies of Anantnag District will take place in the respective Returning Officers' offices on August 28, 2024. The last date for the withdrawal of candidature is August 30, 2024.

The polling for the first phase of the electoral process is scheduled for September 18, 2024.

Polling will be conducted from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM on the scheduled day.

24 Booths Established

appended with Form-M, thus removing the hassle of getting this certificate attested by the Gazetted Officer.

This was informed by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT in a statement issued on Friday.

"Kashmiri migrant voters, who are residing at various relief camps in Jammu, Udhampur, and Delhi and who have opted to cast their votes in person through Electronic Voting Machines in the J&K Assembly Election 2024 can do so at 24 polling stations, including 19 in Jammu, 1 in Udhampur and 4 in Delhi," the statement said.

In Jammu, 19 polling stations have been set up at Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu; Indian Institute of Management, Jammu Canal Road, Jammu; North Zonal Accountancy Training Institute, Muthi, Jammu; Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Janipur, Jammu; Migrant School Purkhoo, Jammu; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Complex, Gole Puli Talab Tillo, Jammu; Govt Mixed Higher Secondary School, Muthi (Lower Roop Nagar), Jammu; Migrant School, Nagrota, Jammu; Government Higher Secondary School, (Migrants) Jagti, Jammu; Anuradha Higher Secondary School Barnai, Jammu; Agriculture University Complex, Udhaiyawa, Jammu; J&K Board of School Education, Rehari, Jammu; Govt Middle School (Migrants), Jagti, Jammu; Kendriya Vidyalaya Ban Talab, Jammu; Sant Mela Singh College of Education, Near Digiana Ashram, Jammu; Sarvodya Public School, By Pass Santra Morh, Jammu; Govt Girls Higher Secondary School, Miran Sahib, Jammu; Birla Open Minds International School, Channi Himmat

Jammu; and NSM College Anand Nagar, Bohri, Jammu.

Similarly, one such polling station has been set up at Government ITI, Udhampur.

To facilitate the Kashmiri Migrants residing in New Delhi to cast their votes in person on the polling days during Assembly Election on the seats across Jammu and Kashmir, four special polling booths have been established at J&K House, 5, Prithviraj Road, New Delhi; Office of the Deputy Director, Horticulture, Planning and Marketing, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi; Arwachin International School, F Block, Dilshad Garden, Delhi; and Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Paprawat, Delhi.

Continuing with the historic decision taken by the ECI in Lok Sabha Election 2024, the earlier practice of filling of Form-M for migrant electors of Jammu and Udhampur has been done away with. The electors staying in zones and camps will be mapped to their respective polling stations by the respective AERO Migrants at Jammu and Udhampur.

The draft roll extracts mapping Migrants Electors residing in various zones in Jammu and Udhampur to the respective Special Polling Stations shall be published soon by the concerned AEROs and any addition, deletion and corrections shall be allowed for a period of 7 days.

Consequent to this, the final photo electoral roll extracts shall be published for each polling station, based on which the Migrants Electors shall be allowed to vote at these Special Polling Stations like any other voter by producing the EPIC or any of the 12 alternate photo identity documents notified by the Commission in this regard.

Similarly, for migrants residing outside Jammu and Udhampur, they can now self-certify Form-M, instead of getting it attested by a Gazetted officer or other authorities.

"Those voters who are required to fill Form-M i.e. those residing outside Jammu and Udhampur, who wish to exercise their franchise in person should intimate details of the electors in their families to the Assistant Commissioner, Relief (Migrant), Jammu; Assistant Commissioner, Panchayat, Udhampur; Deputy Director, Horticulture, Planning and Marketing, Delhi; and Deputy Secretary, office of Resident Commissioner, New Delhi in prescribed Form-M.

Besides, all migrant voters other than those who opted to vote in person have the option to vote through postal ballot papers. They may apply for the postal ballot paper in the prescribed Form 12C appended to the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 available in the offices of the Assistant returning Officers.

In addition, the Migrant electors residing at various places other than Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi can also download Form-M and Form 12C from the ECI website and after filling such Forms can be got verified from the Electoral Registration Officer of the areas where he/she is residing.

The voting in Assembly Election 2024 will be held in all 90 Assembly Constituencies (ACs) of Jammu and Kashmir in three phases including 47 ACs in Kashmir region.

In the first phase, 16 ACs in Kashmir including 32-Pampore, 33-Tral, 34-Pulwama, 35-Rajpora, 36-Zainapora, 37-Shopin, 38-D.H.Pora, 39-Kulgam, 40-Devsar, 41-Dooru, 42-Kokernag(ST), 43-Anantnag West, 44-Anantnag, 45-Srigufwara-Bijbehara, 46-Shangus-Anantnag East, and 47-Pahalgam will witness polling on September 18.

A total of 15 ACs in Kashmir including 17-Kangan(ST), 18-Ganderbal, 19-Hazratbal, 20-Khanyar, 21-Habbakadal, 22-Lal Chowk, 23-Channapora, 24-Zadiabal, 25-Eidgah, 26-Central Shalteng, 27-Budgam, 28-Beerwah, 29-Khansahib, 30-Charal-Sharif, and 31-Chadoora will go to polling on September 25.

In the third phase, 16 ACs of the Valley including 1-Karnah, 2-Trehgam, 3-Kupwara, 4-Lolab, 5-Handwara,

6-Langate, 7-Sopore, 8-Rafiabad, 9-Uri, 10-Baramulla, 11-Gulmarg, 12-Wagoora-Kreeri, 13-Pattan, 14-Sonawari, 15-Bandipora, and 16-Gurez(ST) will go to polling on October 01.

Utilize ECI Apps

88.03 Lakhs voters will be able to make the best use of these Apps," the CEO said.

These Mobile Applications are available on both Android and iOS platforms.

To prevent any form of violation during the Assembly Election 2024, the voters are urged to use 'cVIGIL', an innovative mobile application for citizens to report MCC and Expenditure violations with time stamped, evidence-based proof through live photo and video with auto location data of the violation during the election. Any citizen can lodge a complaint through the cVIGIL mobile app following which the flying squads would investigate the matter and take action within 100 minutes.

Similarly, to strengthen accountability and to bring more transparency, the ECI has also launched the KYC (Know Your Candidate) app, through which the details and affidavits submitted by any candidate can be easily accessed. To use the KYC app, voters need to select the election type and Assembly Constituency name to view the list of nominations or they can directly search the candidate by name.

The app will then display information about the candidate's criminal antecedents, if any. This information includes the details of any criminal cases filed against the candidate, the status of those cases, and the nature of the offenses. The app is a valuable resource for voters who want to know more about the candidates who are contesting elections.

The 'Suvidha' app is a single window system for both the candidates as well as the political parties to apply for permissions before conducting any meetings or rallies. This groundbreaking platform serves as a one-stop solution, empowering candidates and political parties to apply for and obtain permissions efficiently and conveniently. With a user-friendly interface and robust features, the App simplifies the process, ensuring that all necessary permissions are acquired in a timely manner, thereby enabling seamless campaign activities. The different permissions available on Suvidha platform include Meetings, Rallies, Vehicles, Temporary Election Office, Loudspeakers, and Helicopters & Helipads.

Finally, the 'Voter Helpline App' provides convenience to voters in finding their names in the electoral roll, submitting online forms, checking the status of the application, file complaints and receive the reply on their mobile app. They can also access the contact details of booth level officers, electoral registration officers and district election officers, by using the Voter Helpline app, through www.nvsp. in portal or by calling 1950 helpline number.

Further, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Shri Pandurang K Pole also urged the candidates and political parties participating in the 2024 elections to utilize these services.

For further information, candidates and political parties are requested to visit the portal at <https://suvidha.eci.gov.in>

Poll Dates Declared

person shall be made on account of a holiday having been granted in accordance with sub-section (1) and if such person is employed on the basis that she/he would not ordinarily receive wages for such a day, she/he shall nonetheless be paid for such day the wages she/he would have drawn had not a holiday been granted to her/him on that day.

The order read that if an employer contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), then such employer shall be punishable with fine, which may extend to five hundred rupees.

"This section shall not apply to any elector whose absence may cause

danger or substantial loss in respect of the employment in which he is engaged," it added.

The order further said that the daily wage and casual workers shall also be entitled for the holiday and wages on the poll day.

It is further ordered that the above paid holidays shall also be observed in terms of explanation to Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

UAPA Upholds

This decision ensures the ban remains in force for the next five years.

7 Candidates File

People's Conference's Nazir Ahmad Laway filed nomination papers from Kulgam.

Independent candidate Asif Nabi Dar submitted his nomination papers from the Pulwama Assembly seat.

The last date for filing nomination papers for the 16 Assembly constituencies in the Kashmir valley is August 27. Eight seats from the Jammu region are also going to polls in the first phase.

Consensus On Some

told reporters in Kulgam district of south Kashmir.

Abdullah, who is accompanying party's candidate from D H Pora constituency Sakina Itoo for filing of nomination, said discussions over the rest of the seats were going on and the alliance partners will soon finalise the seat-sharing arrangement.

"On few seats, we are adamant and on some others, the local leaders of the Congress are adamant. There will be meetings today as well and we will try to sort out the rest of the seats so as to announce our candidates," he added.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of J-K, however, refused to share further details.

Asked when the party would announce its candidates for the rest of the seats going to polls in the first phase, Omar said there is no hurry.

"Which party has announced its candidates so far? A party has cleverly named people as constituency in-charges, our constituency in-charges have been working for the last ten years. So, why are you after our lists, ask them. Our list will have to be out in any case by August 27," he said, apparently referring to the PDP.

The Congress-NC alliance was announced by NC president Ferooz Abdullah after Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge held discussions with the NC leadership here on Thursday.

Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in three phases — September 18, September 25 and October 1. The counting of votes will be held on October 4.

Congress Finalizes

much-awaited assembly polls.

Soz said the manifesto had been submitted to the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress President (JKPC) chief Tariq Hameed Karra, and would be released in a day or two.

"I have included all the major and important poll promises in the draft and submitted it to Karra sahib's office. It will be released after his approval once he returns from Delhi," Soz said.

However, he didn't elaborate on the poll promises mentioned in the draft. "It won't be right to reveal it without the JKPC's chief approval," he said.

Sources, on the other hand, claimed that the Congress's high command had asked the panel to work around five guarantees for the party in line with the national manifesto and tailor made them for the region.

They said the draft also includes restoration of statehood, job creation, and land ownership rights to forest dwellers.

Notably, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday promised that the party would raise the voice of the people of J&K and fulfill all their aspirations.

He also promised that Congress would fight to secure people's "Jal, Jungle aur Zameen (water, forest

and land)" which was under attack by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government.

Kharge also promised job creation in industries, tourism, and horticulture sectors.

"We also want peace, development, and prosperity in J&K which has been under threat during the BJP rule," he said. (KNO)

LG Chairs 47th

pilgrim-centric endeavours of the Shrine Board and other line departments and agencies during this year's yatra.

Chief Executive Officer, Amarnathji Shrine Board, gave a detailed presentation on various ongoing works and other important factors related to the annual holy pilgrimage. Additional CEO SASB, senior officers of the UT Administration and Shrine Board also attended the meeting.

Pvt Hospitals

dialysis centers now unable to sustain operations due to severe financial constraints.

"The ongoing legal dispute between the government and the insurance company, IFFCO Tokio, over payments for wrongfully rejected and deducted claims has further exacerbated the crisis. Despite orders from the State Health Agency, IFFCO Tokio has yet to release approximately 300 crore in pending payments," he said.

In a last-ditch effort to avoid a complete collapse, the private healthcare providers have submitted a letter to the District Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, seeking the release of emergency funds under the DC's jurisdiction. They have also issued a public appeal, informing citizens that they will no longer be able to provide services to Golden Card patients under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme after August 31, 2024, unless the funds are released.

The healthcare providers have expressed deep regret for the inconvenience this may cause to patients, emphasizing their commitment to the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. However, they have stated that, until the funds are released, they will only be able to offer services on a cash basis.

This financial crisis threatens to disrupt essential healthcare services in Jammu and Kashmir, with potentially severe consequences for public health in the region. The hospitals and dialysis centers are appealing to the authorities for an immediate resolution to the issue, urging the government to prioritize the release of funds to prevent a complete breakdown of healthcare services.

The health insurance scheme was started in J&K to provide healthcare coverage to all residents. The scheme was initially implemented through Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited, whose contract ended in 2022, after which IFFCO-TOKIO was roped in.

Last November, IFFCO-TOKIO General Insurance Company, the insurer for Ayushman Bharat in J&K, informed SHA authorities of their decision not to renew the contract after its expiry on March 14, 2025. Despite SHA's requests for them to continue in the interest of patient care, the company refused.

The SHA approached the High Court to stay the exit, but the petition was dismissed on February 2, complicating matters further for both SHA and beneficiaries across the union territory. The government has since approached the division bench to stay the single bench order, making the issue sub judice.

Sanjiv M Gadkar, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the State Health Agency, Jammu and Kashmir had earlier said that empanelled private hospitals have continued their services despite not receiving payment on time, and expressed gratitude for their commitment. "We are one of the stakeholders in the implementation of the scheme and all possible steps are being taken to resolve the issue on priority," he told a local news agency.

GMC Jammu

working environment in healthcare facilities," he added. (KNO)

CS Chairs Session Over Implementation Of Mission YUVA



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday held a brainstorming session with the major stakeholders including those in Administration, Academics and Industry to have exchange of ideas about the best way for implementation of recently approved Mission Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (YUVA) here in the UT.

Besides the ACS, Forest; Commissioner Secretary, I&C; Secretary, SDD the session was too graced by the Vice Chancellors of all the Universities; MD, JK Bank; Representatives from SBI, NABARB, SIDBI and other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary had a detailed discussion with all these stakeholders to get their inputs about the ways and means to implement this Mission for generation of entrepreneurship opportunities here across the UT.

He enjoined upon all to have better synergy and coordination with each other with pooling of infrastructure and other human resource requirements

for smooth execution of this mission across all the districts of J&K.

Dulloo also advised for constituting a team of Nodal Officers across all the concerned Departments, Universities with representatives from financial institutions like J&K Bank, SBI, NABARB, SIDBI and other players from the industrial sector.

The Chief Secretary also asked for clarity about roles of each institution constituting the framework for implementation of this large scale entrepreneurship development programme here.

He urged the Institutional heads to extend their full co-operation in sharing their resources to ensure that all the aspirants can be provided best of training and guidance across all the sectors identified under this Mission.

The other stakeholders including the Vice-Chancellors and heads of Financial institutions gave their inputs for smooth and successful implementation of this mission here with achievement of set objectives in a time-bound manner.

Gandbal Bridge Likely To Be Thrown Open Within A Week



Agencies

SRINAGAR: The construction work on the long-awaited Gandbal-Batwara Bridge is in its final stage with the officials claiming that the 90 per cent of the work has been completed.

The construction work on the bridge, which has been ongoing for more than seven to eight years, is finally near completion.

Locals expressed their emotions, and said; "The new bridge will be a significant improvement for our daily commute. It's been a long wait".

A local resident, Tariq Ahmad added that this bridge will be

extremely helpful, as previously, they were being forced to travel all the way through Pandrathan to reach Batwara.

When contacted, the officials from the Roads and Buildings Department (R&B) said the project is 90% complete. "The bridge is expected to be opened to the general public within a week or two, depending on weather conditions," said an official from the R&B department.

Pertinently, in April, a boat capsized in Jhelum River, resulting in the death of eight people while the body one of the deceased is still untraced—(KNO)

J&K Assembly Polls: Resignations & Party Shifts Intensify

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As Jammu and Kashmir gears up for the Assembly elections, political realignments are on the rise. Key figures are rejoining old parties, new alliances are forming, and significant revolts are shaking up established political structures. The election, first since Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory in 2019 and in a decade, will be held in three phases: September 18, 25, and October 1.

In a major setback to the Apni Party on Friday, the recently appointed constituency in-charge for Bijbehara-Srigufwara constituency, Tariq Ahmad Veeri rejoined the National Conference in presence of his brother and senior NC leader Dr Basheer Ahmad Veeri.

Tariq Ahmad Veeri, who had joined the Apni party a few years before rejoining NC at the office of Dr Bashir Ahmad Veeri in Anantnag.

The joining of Tariq Ahmad Veeri will further boost NC's winning chances where there is a direct contest between Dr Bashir Ahmad Veeri and

PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti's daughter, Iltija Mufti.

Similarly, District President of PDP and former MLA of Wachi, Aijaz Ahmad Mir, has quit the party and is likely to contest the upcoming JK Assembly elections as an independent candidate.

Notably, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) is facing a revolt as several senior leaders have resigned just ahead of the elections. Sources said that several PDP leaders are upset with the functioning of the PDP.

The resignations followed the release of the PDP's list of constituency in-charges, which sparked discontent among several members.

Mir, who is also a DDC member, expressed his shock at the party's decision to give the mandate to someone else.

He said he had been campaigning for the party for several months and was interacting with workers in one of the villages in his constituency when he learned about the mandate.

"If the party had such intentions, they should have at least contacted me and made

a decision after taking me into confidence. Snatching the mandate in such a way is humiliation, and a man can bear anything but not humiliation. So, I have decided to quit the party," he said.

When asked about his future plans, he said that he would contest the elections but would first consult with his workers and decide accordingly.

Similarly, putting an end to speculations, former MLA Kokernag Abdul Rahim Rather Friday announced his resignation from the basic membership of the Apni Party.

Rather announced his resignation from the party during a press conference and cited the justification of his discomfort with the Apni party's manifesto.

After parting his way with the Apni party, former MLA Abdul Rahim Rather said that he is currently weighing options as to which party he will join.

The decision to join any other political party will be taken after consulting with my workers and supporters, Rather said.

No Need To Panic About Monkeypox: Doctors Assure Public

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Doctors in Jammu & Kashmir have assured the public that there is no need to panic about monkeypox, despite concerns about the disease spreading in various parts of the world.

They, however, urged staying vigilant, maintaining good hygiene and immediately reporting any unusual symptoms to healthcare providers.

According to the doctors no cases of monkeypox have been reported in J&K.

While monkey pox is contagious, it is not as easily transmissible as COVID-19, they said, adding that basic precautions can effectively prevent its spread.

A top health official said that the situation is under control and the healthcare system is prepared to handle any potential cases. "Necessary medical care is available and facilities have been set up to manage and treat any possible monkey pox cases," he said.

The health infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir is well-equipped to address any challenges related to monkeypox, and authorities continue to monitor the situation closely,



the official said, adding that sufficient stocks of PPE kits, N95 masks, surgical gloves and other protective gear are available.

Officials from SKIMS Soura said the hospital administration is on alert and has taken various measures to face any eventuality.

"An isolation facility with a bed capacity of six, which can be scaled up to 30 if needed, has been established. Testing capacity has been enhanced, and treatment modalities have been devised according to recommended guidelines. A dedicated control room has been set up for monkeypox management, also functioning as a helpline centre with the num-

ber 0194-2403679," they said.

Guidelines for healthcare workers have been prepared to manage screening and infection control, especially at airports and railway stations, they added.

Secretary, Health & Medical Education Dr Syed Abid Shah has directed heads of departments to conduct mock drills across the Union Territory to ensure that all health personnel are adequately trained in logistics and transportation protocols related to potential monkey pox cases, an official said.

He said all stakeholders have been advised to take proactive measures to ensure full preparedness to handle any situation—(KNO)

DGP Visits Doda, Kishtwar, Reviews Security Scenario



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) R.R. Swain Friday visited Doda and Kishtwar, districts of Jammu Zone to assess the security situation and review preparations for the upcoming Legislative Assembly Elections-2024.

Accompanied by senior officers, including Spl DG and DGP Designate, Nalin Prabhat, ADGP Law and Order Vijay Kumar, and ADGP Jammu Zone Anand Jain, the DGP began his visit from Shri Machail Mata Mandir in Machail Padder, where he reviewed security arrangements for the ongoing Machail Mata Yatra-2024, a police spokesman said in a statement said.

During the day-long visit, the DGP chaired high-level security review and election preparedness meetings, at the District Police Office (DPO) in Kishtwar and at the Dak Bungalow, Bhaderwah in Doda district. In these back to back meetings the DGP reviewed the security strategies for the upcoming elections in both the districts.

Chairing these meetings, the DGP issued directives aimed at countering terrorism and ensuring free, fair conduct of the elections. He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among J&K Police, CRPF, Army, civil administration and intelligence agencies.

The officers during these meetings also discussed ar-

rangements for adequate accommodation and amenities for troops being deployed for the election. Discussions were held on the security related matters and the DGP was apprised about the action plans to mitigate the challenges and other issues related to the security.

During these high level meetings, SSP Kishtwar, Abdul Qayoom and SSP Doda Mohd Aslam gave detailed presentations on the current security scenario and the preparations underway for the upcoming Legislative Assembly Elections-2024 in Kishtwar and Doda districts respectively.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar and officers of Army, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), intelligence agencies of District Kishtwar attended the meeting at DPO Kishtwar and Deputy Commissioner Doda and officers of Army, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), intelligence agencies of District Doda attended the meeting at Dak Bungalow, Bhaderwah in Doda.

The DGP J&K also inspected the Police Control Room (PCR) Kishtwar and the CCTV Surveillance Room establishments at DPO Kishtwar. He issued directions to enhance surveillance and monitoring.

Earlier the DGP and accompanying officers paid homage to J&K Police fallen heroes by laying wreaths at the martyrs' memorial in Kishtwar.

Two Drug Peddlers Arrested In Baramulla

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday have arrested two drug peddlers in Baramulla and recovered contraband substance from their possession.

"A police party of Police Station Boniyar headed by SHO PS Boniyar at a checkpoint established near Govt. Degree College Boniyar intercepted 02 persons identified as Manzoor Ahmad Bhat son of Habibullah resident of Bagna Salamabad & Mubashir Ahmad Khan son of Atta Mohammad Khan resident of Girdnawah Nowshera," a police spokesman said in a statement.

During the search, 48 grams of contraband charas like sub-

stance was recovered from their possession. They have been arrested and shifted to Police Station Boniyar where they remain in custody, police said.

Accordingly, police said that a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Boniyar and investigation has been initiated.

"We urge the common masses that if you witness drug peddling or any other crime anywhere near you, feel free to contact the nearest police establishment or dial 112. People are requested to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that police will act tough against the criminals as per law," police said.

Quality Control Drive Of Handicrafts Department Targets Machine-Made Carpets



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Quality Control Wing of Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir, with robust support from the Jammu & Kashmir Police, conducted a significant drive today to combat the pervasive issue of machine-made carpets being falsely marketed as handmade in Munawarabad area of Srinagar city. This operation targeted various showrooms suspected of engaging in deceptive practices.

During the drive, officials seized several machine-made carpets that were being misrepresented as authentic handmade products. The department has issued a stern warning to showroom owners to cease and desist

from such misleading practices. Department urged the people in general and tourists in particular to remain vigilant and verify the authenticity of carpets before purchase.

Director Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir had previously uncovered serious concerns regarding deceptive practices in high-traffic tourist areas, prompting today's decisive action. The department is committed to ensuring transparency and preserving the integrity of the traditional handicraft sector.

The Department will continue to monitor and enforce regulations rigorously. Future drives are planned to uphold the authenticity of Kashmiri handicrafts and protect consumer interests.

Awareness Workshop On PM Vishwakarma Scheme Held At J&K Bank Headquarters

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In order to provide impetus to the PM Vishwakarma Scheme and create awareness among the stakeholders, J&K UTLCB today organized a workshop here at J&K Bank's corporate headquarters. The objective of the workshop was to reiterate the objectives and benefits of the scheme among all the stakeholders.

The Bank's General Manager (UTLCB) Syed Rais Maqbool chaired the workshop in presence of GM (DIC) Hameeda, Asst. Director (Ministry of MSME) Saheel Yaqub Allaqband, Bank's DGM (MSME) Rakesh Magotra, SEO National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) Kehkashan Anjum and senior officials from public and private sector banks/financial institutions besides valley-based Vishwakarmis. Zonal Head (Jammu) Rajesh Dubey along with Assistant Director (Industries and Commerce Deptt. Jammu) Pankaj Sasan also joined the workshop through VC Mode along with the Jammu-based Vishwakarmis and representatives from banks and NSDC. The workshop was also attended by Branch Managers of Bank branches located in the vicinity besides LDMs were also present on the occasion.

In his welcome address, Syed Rais Maqbool highlighted the significance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme saying, "All of us know that PM Vishwakarma Scheme is an ambitious program launched by the honourable Prime Minister last year designed to support those working with their own hands, tools and other equipment. Being an important segment of the country, the progress of Vishwakarmis will contribute positively in our journey of economic growth towards Viksit Bharat."

"I am happy to share with you that J&K UT has emerged as the prime mover in this scheme and a lot of progress has been made on this front. Today's workshop has been conducted in line with the directions from Directorate of Financial Services (DFS, GoI) to popularize the scheme and bring together all the stakeholders including scheme beneficiaries at one platform to plug-in loopholes experienced by the concerned stakeholders", he added.

He further said, "As a significant step towards empowering our Vishwakarmis across the nation, the scheme aims to provide the skilled workers of our country better tools, training and incentive-driven credit scheme to improve their efficiency, their productivity and enhance the

quality of their lives."

Expressing confidence that all the stakeholders here would work in close coordination henceforth, he asserted, "I am sure, all of us will work in tandem to make this ambitious national program a grand success,"

During the workshop, Incharge (GSGD) gave a detailed presentation of the scheme wherein he apprised the participants about the scheme, its objectives, and process involved in availing the scheme. He also dwelt in detail upon benefits of the scheme to Vishwakarmis like recognition as craftsmen, training for skill-upgrade, incentive for toolkits besides credit support from the banks, brand promotion and incentivized digital transactions. Some challenges being faced by the concerned stakeholders were also discussed on the occasion along with suggestions that came up during the workshop regarding the scheme.

While hailing the workshop as an important event for all stakeholders, Saheel Yaqub Allaqband underlined the importance of providing identity cards to Vishwakarmis, which he said, "makes them realize that they are as important to nation building as others."

"The scheme is so power-

ful and beneficial. This can be gauged by today's workshop where all stakeholders have come together. Artisans are special people with different skill sets and we need to take special care of them", said GM (DIC) Hameeda.

SEO (NSDC) Kehkashan Anjum also spoke on the occasion and said that NSDC identifies the talent of Vishwakarmas and trains them to upgrade their skillsets. "This event is important for all of us as a step towards making the Vishwakarmis self-employed and improving their productivity", she said.

The Vishwakarmis present on the occasion thanked all the stakeholders present on the occasion and expressed confidence that such events will help them achieve their aspirations for growth and progress.

Notably, the scheme is fully funded by the Union Government and aims at providing several benefits to the Vishwakarmis who are either self-employed or intend to set up their own small-scale ventures. The credit support to the eligible Vishwakarmis comprises loan at fixed ROI of just 5% per annum with no collateral security. The loan case has to be processed within a maximum of 14 working days by the banks.

Army's UAV Develops Snag, Drifts Into PoK*



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) of the Indian Army inadvertently drifted into Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

The UAV, which was on a test training sortie in the hinterland in Bhimber Gali area, developed some snag and lost control with the operator, thereby drifting into the other side of the LoC, they said.

It is believed to have fallen into the Nikial belt on the other side of the LoC and recovered by troops there.

The Army has sought the return of the UAV with their Pakistani counterparts, the officials said.

No Clear Favourite For BCCI Secy Post If Jay Shah Becomes ICC Chairman

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The numbers will favour Jay Shah to mount the saddle as the next ICC Chairman but there is no clarity if he decides to join the world governing body, who will replace him as BCCI secretary.

Shah is supposed to have the backing of 15 out of 16 members in the ICC Board but has less than 96 hours to decide if wants to make the move when he still has one year left in his second consecutive term as BCCI secretary.

The new ICC chairman will take charge on December 1, and the last date for filing nominations is August 27.

The mandatory three-year cooling-off period to make a comeback to the wealthiest cricket board will start for Shah after the completion of his term in Oc-



tober 2025.

But there is a big question mark as to who will replace Shah

in the BCCI since neither he nor the people close to him have yet divulged his immediate plans.

PTI takes a look at possible candidates -

Rajiv Shukla: There is a possibility that BCCI rejigs the positions and asks current vice-president Shukla, a Congress MP in Rajya Sabha, to do the job for one year. Shukla wouldn't certainly mind becoming a secretary as BCCI vice presidents are more like rubber-stamp.

Ashish Shelar: Then there is Maharashtra BJP heavyweight Shelar, who is BCCI treasurer and a big name in MCA administration. Shelar however is a consummate politician and the BCCI secretaryship is a time-consuming job. However, being an influential name, he could be in the mix.

Arun Dhimal: The IPL Chair-

man has the requisite experience to run the board.

He has been a treasurer and now heads a cash-rich league.

Dhimal and Shukla swapping designations could be the easiest way out but often BCCI throws up names that no one could envisage.

There is joint secretary Devajit 'Lon' Saikia, not the most popular name but a vital cog in current BCCI administration, who could also be elevated.

Whatever be the permutation and combinations at play, there will be one new candidate in the office-bearers' list if Shah is officially ready to take the plunge.

Among the younger administrators, there is DDCA president Rohan Jaitley or former CAB president Avishek Dalmiya, whose names could come up for discussion.

Murder Case Filed Against Shakib-Al-Hasan During Bangladesh Unrest

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Star Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has been named as one of the accused in connection with an alleged murder that took place during the recent protests and violence in Bangladesh which left hundreds dead.

The 37-year-old ex-Bangladesh captain, a former lawmaker in the Sheikh Hasina-led Awami League regime, was among 147 people against whom charges have been filed for an alleged murder during the protests in early August, according to ESPNcricinfo.

Sheikh Hasina was forced to resign and flee the country with Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus taking over as chief adviser of Bangladesh's interim government.

The murder case was filed by Rafiqul Islam at Dhaka's Adabor



police station and apart from Shakib, PM Sheikh Hasina, and many former ministers and lawmakers from the party are among the accused. Islam's son Rubel was killed on August 7 during the protest which plunged the country in political turmoil.

Shakib, who is either the 27th or 28th accused in the first information report (FIR), was not in Bangladesh on August 5, or at any time during the protests.

Baramulla, Pulwama Enter U-14 Provincial Level Cricket Final

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Baramulla and Pulwama will lock horns in the final of the Under-14 Provincial Level Inter District Cricket Tournament being played in Anantnag.

In the first semi-final, hosts Anantnag took on Baramulla at Bijbehara. Batting first, Anantnag set a target of 100 runs, in which Sanif Rashid scored 22 runs. From Baramulla, Usman Bhat took 3 wickets. In reply Barmullah chased down the

target easily in 13th over with 6 wickets in hand, in which Ufaan Iftikhar scored 30 runs. From Anantnag, Faisal took 3 wickets.

In the second semi-final, Pulwama played Ganderbal at Qazigund. Batting first, Pulwama set the target of 134 runs, in which Huzaif Manzoor scored 33 runs. In reply, Ganderbal failed to chase and lost the match by 14 runs. For Ganderbal, Kamran Mukhtar scored 35 runs. Pulwama's Mehran Gulzar and Musab Majeed took 2 wickets each.

Fit-Again Umran Eyes Strong Comeback In Duleep Trophy

J&K speedster Umran Malik has recovered from dengue and is focused on delivering his best performance in the upcoming Duleep Trophy.

Umran, who has played 10 ODIs and eight T20s for India, is currently training at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru as he aims to improve his fitness ahead of the Duleep Trophy, starting on September 5.

"I am feeling better and now I am fully focused on the preparation of the Duleep Trophy at NCA. I hope, I will be doing good in this season for my team," Umran told ANI.

GOOD THINGS ARE COMING JUST KEEP BELIEVING.



Week-Long National Sports Day Celebrations Begin In Budgam



Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam kicked off the week-long celebration of National Sports Day on Friday. The celebrations are being held under the direction of Director General DYSS, Rajinder Singh Tara, with various activities organised across the district to commemorate the legendary hockey player Major Dhyhan Chand.

The day began with a Fit India Pledge, taken by students, teachers and sports enthusiasts in all zones of Budgam. This was fol-

lowed by rallies, where participants promoted the importance of physical fitness and sports.

Speaking on the occasion, officials from DYSSO Budgam emphasized the role of sports in fostering discipline, teamwork and a healthy lifestyle among the youth. The activities lined up for the week aim to inspire young minds to adopt sports as an integral part of their lives.

The initiative is part of a broader effort by DYSSO Budgam to promote sports culture and ensure that the spirit of fitness and sportsmanship reaches every corner of the district.



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