97 year of publication

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RG To Campaign For Congress in J&K Agencies

Srinagar: Amid poll fervor in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian National Congress (INC) has finalized a list of 120 star campaigners including the Leader of Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi and other top leaders, who will be visiting the Union Territory from next month.

General Secretary of All India Congress Committee (AICC) and party's candidate for Dooru assembly segment, Ghulam Ahmad Mir stated that a total of 120 star campaigners from the party are visiting Jammu and Kashmir after September 07.

He further said that at least 40 star campaigners will be visiting Jammu and Kashmir in each phase, adding that the star campaigners include the Leader of Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi and others, who will be visiting both Jammu as well as Kashmir division.

Notably, the three-phased assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are slated to be held from September 18 and will conclude on October 01 while the counting of votes will take place on October 04. Mir informed | More on P6

J&K ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 244 Candidates Clear Nomination Scrutiny For Phase 1 Nomination Of Jailed Sarjan Barkati, 34 Others Rejected

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In accordance with the election schedule issued by Election Commission of India (ECI) for the conduct of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections 2024, the scrutiny of nomination papers for 24 Assembly Constituencies which are going to polling in phase 1st was held on Wednesday, in the office of the respective Returning Officers across seven districts.

During the scrutiny of the nomination papers filed by 279 candidates, candidature of 244 candidates was found valid as per the guidelines of the Election Commission of



India, while nomination papers of 35 candidates, which were found invalid, were rejected. The 35 candidates whose nomination was rejected

ist worker Sarjan Ahmad Wagay alias Sarjan Barkati. His daughter Sugra had filed his nomination as an Independent candidate from

Barkati, who shot to fame during the 2016 summer turmoil which broke out after the killing of Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani, was first arrested eight years ago and booked under the Public Safety Act. He was again arrested last year and is facing charges under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). According to the charge jailed separat-

Zainapora constituency of

Shopian district on Tuesday.

sheet filed against him in a court earlier this year. Barkati -- an active ideologue, promoter and supporter of ongoing terrorist-secessionist nexus -- hatched | More on P6

EC Transfers SSPs. SP In J&K: Sources

n an administrative tone-up ahead of assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, the Election Commission has directed the transfer of senior superintendents of police of Baramulla and Kupwara and the SP of Handwara and has asked the administration to send a panel of IPS officers to be posted there, sources said on Wednesday.

The poll authority has also approved relieving of SSP Srinagar Ashish Mishra, an IPS officer who was transferred from Jammu and Kashmir to Delhi Police in June 2023 but could not be relieved due to administrative reasons. | More on P6

ECI Allocates Broadcast Time To Parties

Srinagar: The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday allotted 'broadcast time' and 'telecast time' to political parties for campaigning on the All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan.

In an order, the poll-body today allotted time to nine national and state parties for campaigning on AIR and Doordarshan.

As per details, a base time of 45 minutes has been allotted to each national party and respective 'recognized state parties' in Jammu & Kashmir on the Doordarshan network and All India Radio network in the

Union Territory. The additional time has been decided on the basis of the poll performance of the party in the last assembly election of Jammu & Kashmir. The last election in Jammu & Kashmir was held in 2014.

As per details, Aam Admi Party has been given 45 minutes, Bahujan Samaj Party 52 minutes, Bharatiya Janta Party 162 minutes, Communist Party of India(Marxist) 48 minutes, Congress 137 | More on P6

Court Sentences Doctor To 2 Years In Jail

Says Using RTI Application On Someone Else's Name Crime Which Affects General Public

M Ahmad

Srinagar: Observing that filing RTI application under somebody else's name is a crime which affects public in general, a court here on Wednesday sentenced a medical officer from Indian Systems of Medicine (ISM) to two years in jail and imposed Rs 50000 as fine on him.

The sentence was announced by the court a day

after convicting the medical officer of offences on charges of cheating by personation by filing RTI application in the name of another person and using the same as genuine document. "Filing RTI applications under the umbrella of somebody else's name is a crime which not only affects the of-

ficials of the ISM department or the persons so impersonated in particular | More on P6

Won't Contest Elections. Says Mehbooba

include

Press Trust Of India

PDP Srinagar: president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday said she will not contest the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, pointing out that she would not be able to fulfil her party's agenda in the union territory set up even if she were to become the chief minister.

"I have been chief minister of a government with the BJP which revoked FIRs against 12,000 persons (in 2016). Can we do that now? I, as the chief minister of a government with (PM) Modi, wrote a letter

to separatists to invite them for talks. Can you do that today? I got a ceasefire (implemented) on ground. Can you do that today? If you cannot take back an FIR as chief minister, what does one do with such a post?" she said.

The PDP president was asked if she has had a change of heart on contesting the polls after vice president of arch-rival National Conference Omar Abdullah made a U-turn on his stand of not participating in the polls till Jammu and Kashmir was a union territory. "Omar himself | More on P6

PC Releases First List Of Candidates

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Peoples Conference on Wednesday released its first list of seven candidates for the upcoming J&K assembly polls.

As per details, the party has fielded Abdul Gani Vakil from Rafiabad, Nazir Ahmed Laway from Kulgam, Abid Hussain Ansari from Zadibal, Irfan Matoo from Eidgah, Dr. Bashir Ahmed Chalkoo from Uri, Asif Lone from Baramulla, Muhammad Hamza and Lone from Gurez. Asif Lone. a young face from Baramulla town, would | More on P6

HAJJ-2025 **Age Limit For Companions Extended**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a partial modification in the Haj Guidelines for Haj 2025, the Hajj Committee of India (HCoI) has extended the age limit of a companion from an age bracket of 60 to 65 years. A circular issued by the HCoI,, states that in the partial modification in para 2 of the Haj Guidelines, a person in the

age bracket of 60 to 65 years, is

allowed to apply for Haj 2025 as companion, subject to such companion being a spouse, sibling or child of the pilgrim aged 65 or above.

The circular, however, states that all other companions must be in the age group of 18 to 60 years, on the date specified by HCoI.

Notably, according to the Hajj 2025 policy before the amendment, | More on P6

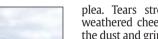


Between Promises & Reality: Lessons From Gandbal Tragedy

Srinagar: The old woman's

Asma Majid





plea. Tears stream down her the fateful morning of April 16, weathered cheeks, mixing with 2024, a grief that engulfed all the dust and grime on her face.

and sundry in and around the

We Are Looking For Journalist/

frail frame trembles as she sits amidst the squalor, her worn chappals sinking into the damp earth beside the putrid mound of garbage. The fetid stench of rotting waste fills the air, but she doesn't flinch, her senses numbed by the anguish that consumes her. Tear-stained and red-rimmed, her eyes stare into the murky Jhelum waters, hoping her son will surface.

As she sits there, her wails pierce the desolate landscape, echoing off the trees and the half-completed bridge that looms yonder, its unfinished structure a sordid reminder of the life her son will never get to build, its presence a cruel taunt

that deepens her anguish. She rocks back and forth, her grey hair disheveled, her wrinkled hands clasped together in a futile

"Khudaya, my son! My child! Why did you leave?" she laments, her voice cracking with each sob. "What will we do without you? Who cares for us now?" The garbage mound beside her seems to mock her grief, its discarded remnants insinuating at life's fleeting nature. A tattered shoe, a broken toy, a shattered vase - each bear witness to a world that callously marched forward, indifferent to the woman's grief.

A grief that struck the village of Gandbal like thunder on

village, a devastating tragedy that unfolded in plain sight, left a trail of horror and gloom on all those who witnessed it and those who merely heard about it. A boat, teeming with innocent lives - including school children, their parents, and laborers catastrophically capsized mere meters from the Batwara banks of Srinagar's Smart City. The vessel, en route from Gandbal on the opposite bank, met its doomed fate, claiming precious lives in the process. Four months | More on P6

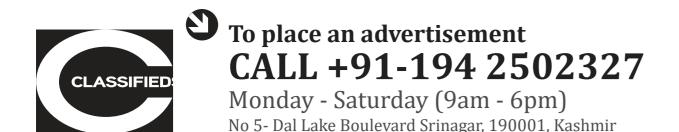
Management Trainees

This position is part of our management training rotation program. The objective is to introduce to potential journalists/managers experience in all major areas of managing a newspaper including editorial, advertising sales, circulation sales, distribution, operations and finance.

Following a month-long training program, journalists should understand enough of the operations to be a managing editor or advertising manager of a newspaper. During this time associations should become proficient at running an office, recruiting, data mining, Adobe Creative Suite, which includes InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and Premiere.

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Study Shows Light Exercise Improves Blood Flow To Children's Brain, Improve Cognition

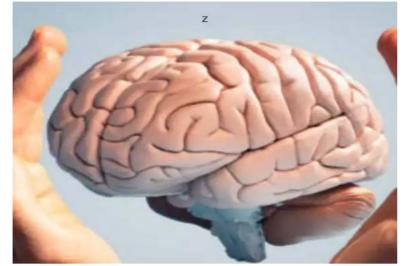
Press Trust Of India

erforming light-intensity exercises for a short duration was found to have improved the blood flow to children's cerebrum, known to help with cognition, according to a recent study. The study by Japan's Waseda University enrolled 41 healthy children from fifth-grade elementary to third-year junior high school students to find out how short-term, light-intensity exercises affected the blood flow to prefrontal cortex, located in the cerebrum and known to handle cognitive functions.

Researchers focused on exercises that can easily be performed on the spot without special equipment, such as stretching. Most of the exercises were performed while seated, with movements lasting 10 to 20 seconds.

The team used an imaging technique -- functional near-infrared spectroscopy -- to measure changes in blood flow to the brain by looking at concentrations of oxyhaemoglobin (that carries oxygen from the lungs to the tissues) while at rest and during the exercise.

According to the findings published in the Scientific Reports journal, the researchers found a significant increase in oxyhaemoglobin levels in multiple regions of the prefrontal cortex during all



forms of exercise compared to the resting state.

"By combining the types of exercise that easily increase blood flow in the prefrontal cortex identified in this study, it is possible to develop an exercise program that everyone can easily engage in to improve children's executive functions. It may also be used in the future to prevent cognitive decline in adults and the elderly," said Takashi Naito, one of the authors and a doctoral student at Waseda University.

The authors further wrote that the study implies that short-duration, light-intensity exercises, provided that they entail a certain degree of cognitive and/or physical demands, can activate the prefrontal cortex and in-

crease blood flow.

Previous studies have shown that physical exercise improves cognitive function in many ways such as by improving blood flow to the brain, by causing structural changes in the brain and by promoting the forming of new brain cells, or neurons.

However, as children around the world have been shown to insufficiently engage in physical exercise, leading to high levels of sedentary behaviour, the authors said that the study's results offer potential solutions.

The study is a significant step forward in combating sedentary lifestyles and activating brain functions in children, thereby supporting their physical and mental growth, they said.

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 29-08-2024

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/ Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of ArhamAyaz Khanday s/o Ayaz Ahmad Khanday R/o Zangam pattan tehsil pattan with verified date of event (birth) as 20/07/2020 occurred at SDH Pattan In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. Executive Magistrate 1st Class fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

M/s The Guli-Anar Sozni Embroidery Handicrafts Workers IC Ltd. Gund Khawja Qasim. Pattan Baramulla (J&K) Advertisement Notice: PS/QT/07/2024, Dated: 27/08/2024 DASTI QUOTATIONS

Invitations are invited from registered dealers/suppliers For supply of 30 no of toolkits as per detail below, which Should Reach to this office within 10 days from the issuance of this advertisement. The Material is meant for the institution situated at the above address.

Detailed Specification of embroidery craft tools

S.No	Specification of Improved No. of tool	
	Toolkit	in one Set.
1	Embroidery frames medium,	2
	large (8,10,12)	
2	Tracing Paper	5
3	Embroidery needles (4,5,6,10)	4
4	Pencil HB & B	1
5	Powder for tracing 250 gram	1
6	Steel Schale (1ft, 2 ft)	2
7	Measuring tape (tailor)	2
8	Scissor	1
9	Thread trimmer	2
10	Seam Ripper	4
11	Finger thimble	5
fko	S/	/d : Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE

The particulars of my daughter has been wrongly entered as Syed Daniyan Javaid D/o Syed Javaid Ahmad Shah while her correct name and parentage is Syed Danain Javaid D/o Javaid Ahmad Shah which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Daffodils International School Keegam Shopian within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Sved Danain Javaid

D/o: Javaid Ahmad Shah

Mothers name: Mahjabeen Akhter R/O NazneePora Keegam Shopian

Governemnt of Jammu and Kashmir District INdustries Centre, Pulwama

fko

Public Notice

& style of firm M/s Build Tech Industries, IGC Lassipora.

ection shall be entertained.

NO: DICPL/B-32/24/1678-

Dated; 28 - 08 - 2024

fko

The unit M/s Build Tech Industries, IGC Lassipora Pulwama stands formally registered with District Industries Centre, Pulwama under No. 01/005/12/02709/PMT/MSME dated: 28.06.2022 for the line of activity "Mfg. of Iron Flat Bar and Round Bars only", as a proprietary concern of Mr. Safdar Ali Wani S/o Mukhtar Ahmad Wani R/o Sazgaripora Hawal, Sri-

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Palhallan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Application Of Tanzeel Ahmad Hajam S/o Ghulam Hassan Hajam R/o Ussan Khoie for obtaining OBC Certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed through this notice that the applicant file is currently under process in the office of undersigned regarding obtaining OBC certificate. According to the field staffs report the applicants are permanent resident of village Ussan Khoie tehsil Pattan District Baramulla and have been residing here from more than 15 years and has not migrated from the said village the annual family income of the applicant from all sources is Rs 228000 /-. Family details of the applicant are give below.

S. No	Name	Parentage	Age	Occupation
1	Ghulam Hassan	S/o Mohd Sultan Hajam	50	Labour
2	Atiga Begum	W/o Gh Hassan	49	H/W
3	Aabid Ah Hajam	S/o	28	Labour
4	Tanzeel Ah Hajam	S/o	18	Student
05	Zahida Begum	W/o Aabaid Ah	27	H/W
06	Nimra Aabid	D/o Aabid Ah	03	Student

In this connection If any person(s) has any objection(s) he/she can visit the undersigned's office within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be considered. Naib Tehsildar fko

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mujeeb Ali Dar s/o Abid Hussain Dar R/o Trikolbal Hanjiwera tehsil pattan with verified date of event (birth) as 18/12/2020 occurred at SDH Pattan

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

want to apply for seeds licence under the name and style M/S Talib Seed Retailers pvt Ltd H/o Al Amin complex magam opposite Grameen Bank National Highway Gulmarg road . If any one has any objection in this regard may submit within 7 days from the date of establishment of this notice To Office Of The Chief Agriculture Office Budgam after that no objection shall be accepted

Name .Nesar Ali Bhat

S/o.Gh Hassan Bhat sbt R/o. Baghwan Pora Lal Bazar Haidriva colony House no 286 ward 8 street 1 under smart City Serial Block 59

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) shameema to (New name) Shamim in future I will be known as (new name) Shamim if any body is having any objection he/ she may contact passport office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted

ز دفتر نائب تخصيلدار پڻن منوان: - درخواست منجانب محمدامين تجام ولد محمه سلطان حجام ساكنه بالجي وير يخصيل پين بمراد جرائی OBC تجق خود application before office of the undersigned wherein he has اشتهار هرخاص وعام requested for change of constitution by virtue of induction of four partners namely 01) Mr. Gagan Singla S/o Som Nath Singla R/o House No. 15 Sector-20-D Mandi Gobindgarh (Punjab) 02) معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدريين سائل ن ايك درخواست بغرض OBC مرافيكيك بذمره حجام Mr. Ajay Makharia S/o Mohan Makharia B-3505 Loadha Mar-پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیرکا روائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے ریورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے quise Pandurang Bhudhkar Marg Opp. Hard Rock Cafe Mumbai (Mahrashtra) 03) Mohindar Pal Jain S/o Ram Kumar Jain R/o میاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی حجام ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ اور سائل پاخچی ور یہ میں رہائش یذیر یہ اور House No. 287-Shastri Nagar Mandi Gobindgarh (Punjab) 04) ^مبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں گی ہے ۔ سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پرمشتمل ہے Mr. Yogesh Kumar S/o Sita Ram Mangi R/o House No.351 Ward No.09 Mangal Nath Street, Sirhind District Fetehgarh Punjab محمدا مين تجام ولد محمد سلطان سركارى ملازم 35 سال having 12.25% shares each and sole promoter shall intake 51% shares from the partnership business running under the name ندارساره زوجة محمدامين گھریلوکا م 30 سال Any person (s) or any organization/department having any شيرخودار 02 مال روهامين دختر محمدامين objection in this behalf should convey in writing to the General Manager DIC Pulwama within seven (07) days from the date of ورکوئی افرادکنبه نہیں ہیں۔سائل مذکورہ OBC سرٹفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواں ہے اورکنبہ کی publication of this notice. After expiry of the time frame no ob-مہوارہ آمدنی 52313 روپے تک ہے ۔ سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کسی فخص کو کوئی عزریا عتراض ہوتوہ بعد مشتہرا خبار سات دن کے اندرا ندرآ پنے عذر یاعتر اض ودالت General Manager Distric Industries Centre Pulwama *مذاکودفتر*ی ادقات کےدوران پیش کریں۔بعد گز رے میعاد کویی عذریا عتر اض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ FKO از دفترنا ئې تخصيلداريڻ از دفترنا ئې تخصيلداريڻن عنوان: _ درخواست منجانب _ عمر آشق وشريا ولادان عاشق احمد چوپان ساكنه پین تخصيل عنوان: _ درخواست منجانب غلام حسن آمهنگر ولد عبدل کریم آمهنگر ساکنهٔ بخی پوره پیژ بختصیل پیژن این این برادا جرائی OBC تجق خود بمرادا جرائی OBC تجق غلام صن آبهنگر و لطیف احدو سهیل احمد اشتهار جرخاص وعام اشتهار جرخاص وعام معامله مندرد بيغوان الصدر ميں سائل نے ايک درخواست بغرض OBC سرگفيکيٹ بذمرہ آہنگر | پیش کی ہےجو کہ زیرکا روائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے ریورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی چویان ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ اور سائل میٹن میں رہائش یذیر ہے اور پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیرکاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سےریورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی آہمگر ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل سنجی پورہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے 📔 سمجھ بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد پر شتمتل ہے ، در من ن رب سونت بین کی ب سائل کا کند بذیل افراد پر شتمل ب اما مخلی بیگیم زودید عبدل سلام عررسیده 70 سال الا محسن آہ تگر ولد عبدل کریم دوری 100 سال احاجہ بیگیم زودید عامق احمد کی محروری 100 سال احاجہ بیگیم زودید عامق احمد کی محروری 100 سال الطیف احمد آہ تکر ولد غلام حسن زیر تعلیم 20 سال احر این ولد عاشق احمد زیر تعلیم 20 سال احر این ولد عاشق احمد زیر تعلیم 20 سال احر این ولد عاشق احمد زیر تعلیم 20 سال احر این ولد عاشق احمد زیر تعلیم 20 سال احر این ولد عاشق احمد زیر تعلیم 20 سال

مہوارہ آمدنی 9300 روپے تک ہے ۔سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہا گر کسی

لتخص کو گوئی عزریا! عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہر اخبار سات دن کے اندرا ندرآ پنے عذریا عتر اض ودالت

ھذا کودفتر یادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔بعد گزرے میعاد کو بی عذر یاعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

FKO

نائت تحصيلدار



Admission to B. Architecture Courses - 2024: Extension of last date for Subject: submission of Offline Forms thereof. Reference: Notification No. 079-BOPEE of 2024 Dated 18-08-2024.

> Notice No: 020-BOPEE of 2024 Dated: 27-08-2024

Due to poor response to Notification No. 079-BOPEE of 2024 dated 18-08-2024, The last date is hereby extended for submission of offline Application Forms upto 31-08-2024 (till 03:00 p.m.).

The other terms and conditions shall remain the same as notified in the Notification No. 079-BOPEE of 2024 dated 18-08-2024.

E & O E

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

No.BOPEE/Exam-24/2024 DIPK-NB-1488/24 Dated: 28-08-2024

Office Of The District Legal Services Authority Srinagar

NOTIFICATION

Under the directions of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) endorsed by Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority regarding holding of National Lok Adalats throughout India in the year 2024 on specified dates, District Legal Services Authority Srinagar is going to hold 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2024 at District Court Complex Srinagar on 14-09-2024 for the following types of cases (pre-Litigation and post Litigation Cases).

Pre-Litigation

- NI Act cases under Section 138.
- Bank Recovery matters.
- 3 Labour disputes cases.
- Electricity and Water bills (excluding non-Compoundable). 4 5
- Other (Criminal Compoundable, Matrimonial and other civil disputes).

Pending in Courts

- Criminal Compoundable offence.
- NI Act cases under Section 138. 2
- 3 Bank Recovery matters.
- MACT cases.
- 4 5 6 Labour disputes cases. Electricity and Water bills (excluding non-Compoundable).
- 7 Matrimonial cases.
- 8 Land Acquisition cases
- Other civil cases (rent, easementary rights, injunctions suit, specific performance suit) etc.

Therefore, it is notified that all concerned parties /advocates who desire to get their cases/ disputes/claims settled through this National Lok Adalat may approach District Legal Services Authority Srinagar by or before 06/09/2024, so that their cases/claims/ disputes can be settled amicably through this National Lok Adalat.

> Sd/ (Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi) SECRETARY **District Legal Services Authority** Srinagar

No: -957-62 /DLSA/ SGR/2024/ Dated: - 28-08-2024 DIPK-5220/24

وركونى افرادكنينين بي-ساكل فدكوره OBC مرتفيكيف حاصل كرن كاخوال ب اوركنيدك الوركونى افرادكنينين بي-ساكل فدكوره OBC مرتفيكيف حاصل كرن كاخوال ب اوركنيدك مہوارہ آمدنی 7000 روپے تک ہے ۔سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عزرایا عتراض موتوده بعد مشتهرا خبارسات دن کے اندرا ندر آپنے عذر یا عتراض ودالت ■ هذا كودفترى ادقات كے دوران پیش كریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد كو پی عذریا عتر اض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ FKO

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KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Thursday | 29-08-2024 🔾

Apni Party Door-to-Door Campaign Continues In Chanapora AC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Apni Party president Syed Altaf Bukhari on Wednesday continued door-to-door campaigning in Chanapora Assembly constituency.

Bukhari, who will be contesting from the Chanapora seat in the upcoming Assembly Election, according to statement, held door to door in the Chanapora constituency to seek support from people in the upcoming general assembly elections.

Bukhari, during the

door-to-door campaigning, reiterated to fulfill the promises incorporated in the manifesto. which underscores youthcentric reforms.

"We are reaching out to the people as they are the real leaders in the democracy and also seek their support on the basis of our past performance," Bukhari said.

He maintained that the Apni party would ensure an end to the frequent arresting of youth and a general amnesty for those imprisoned on petty crimes if elected to power.

Budgam Resident Dies Of Electrocution In Srinagar

Agencies

Srinagar: A man from Budgam died due to electrocution while working on a smart city project in Maharaj Gunj area of the old city on Monday, officials said.

An official told the news agency-KNO that the man was working on the smart city project when he received an

electric shock and fell unconscious. He said the man was immediately removed to a nearby hospital, where he succumbed to injuries.

The deceased has been identified as Danish Ahmed Dar (26) son of Mohammad Maqbool Dar of Chadoora, Budgam. Police have taken cognizance of the mat-

ter and set investigation

into motion.

National Lok Adalat On 14th Sept At District Court Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of Executive Chairman. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) endorsed by Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar is going to hold 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2024 at District Court Complex (DCC) Srinagar on 14th

September, 2024.

The National Lok Adalat

shall be held for amicable settlement of pre-Litigation and post Litigation cases. Pre-Litigation cases include NI Act cases under Section 138, Bank Recovery matters. Labor disputes cases. Electricity and Water bills (excluding non-Compoundable). Other (Criminal Compoundable, Matrimonial and

other civil disputes).



that drenched Srinagar on Wednesday. KO photo, Abid Bhat

Assembly Elections-2024

Training Sessions For Govt Employees Held Across Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In connection with upcoming General Elections to Legislative Assembly-2024, the District Election Authority (DEA) Srinagar held rigorous Election Training

Sessions for the Employees across the District on Wednesday. The Election Training Sessions were held on the directions of District

Election Officer (DEO), Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at nine different locations in Srinagar where Master Trainers carried out exhaustive training sessions to prepare skilled manpower for the upcoming Assem-

bly Elections. During the sessions, the Employees were oriented towards holding free and fair elections while strictly following the on-going Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in the District.

The Employees were also provided with hands-on experience to manage and handle polling material and machinery.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Auction Notice The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for

he following works over Firozpur Division.					
Catalogue No.	Auction Start date/time	Name of work			
EAFZR- OH24-10	at 12:30 Hrs.	Allotment of commercial Advertisement rights througl static media at Lohian Khas, Madhopur Punjaba Phagwara (Digital Display Screens i.e. Size 51 inches or Large) and Goraya Railway Station and L-Xing Gate No SpI-83 adjoining to GRY.			
EAFZR- SLR24-51		Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 11078/F1.			
	47.00.0004	Alletwart of contract for clash, room facility o			

Besides, instructions regarding the general guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India, to be followed before, during and after the polling were also delivered to the participating employees.

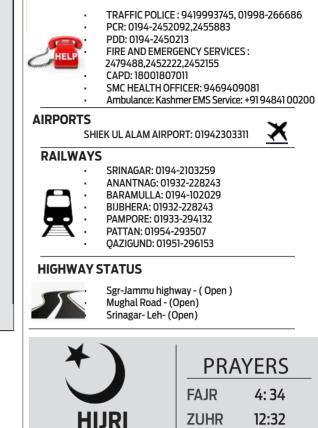
As part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, the trainings were conducted in different sessions with the objective to lay a strong base of well skilled manpower for the smooth and hassle-free elections in 8 Assembly Constituencies in district Srinagar.

Moreover, the employees were also encouraged to opt for 'Best Practices' during election duties, inviting a warm response from the participating employees.

Meanwhile, the District Election Authority Srinagar has prepared a comprehensive schedule for robust training sessions in coming days and will effectively implement the said schedule across the District

PUBLIC NOTICE

1/We,,[1] Naseer Ahmad Lone son of Ali Mohammad Lone R/o. Naseem Bagh Habak Srinagar Kashmir [2] Shabir Ahmad Lone 5/o.Ali Mohammad Lone R/o. Naseem bagh Habak, Srinagar [3] Imtiyaz Ahmad Wani 5/o.Ghulam Ahmad Woni R/o. Sanat Nagar, Srinagar [4] Naseer Ahmad Bhat S/o.Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o Lajpat Nagar South Delhi at present Firdous Colony Illahi Bagh, Srinagar have purchased a three storeved residential house along with land beneath and appurtenant thereto measuring 10 marlas 205 Sq.Ft falling under Khasra No.1438 min, Khewat No.248 Khata No.653 situated at Jawahar Nagar Mouza Nursingh Garh Tehsil South Srinagar District Srinagar within Srinagar Mu nicipal Limits from [1] Rifat Qureshi (Rifat Jan Qureshi) D/o.Ahmad ullah Qureshi W/o.Nissar Ahmad Qureshi R/o.Hyderpora, Sriangar [2] Mumtaz Ahmad Shah (Kanta) S/o. Ghulam Rasool Shah R/o. Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar [3] Shagufta Rasool D/o.Ghulam Rasool Shah (Kapta) W/o.Mohammad Naim Manhas R/o Peer Bagh, Sriangar [4] Ruquaya Rasool D/o.Ghulam Rasool Shah (Kanta) W/o. Altaf Mustafa Nahvi R/o.Peer Bagh. Srinagar Kashmir originally allotted in fa vour of Mudsudan Koul S/o.Shri Ganga Dhar Koul R/o.Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar_ We have applied for transfer of leasehold rights of above said property in ou favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhinagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be en tertained after the expiry of the above said period.



CALENDAR 23 Safar 1446

This Day In History

708 - Copper coins are minted in Japan for the first time (Traditional Japanese date: August 10, 708).

ASR

Magrib

ISHA

5:12

7:05

8:29

- 1988 USSR launches 3 cosmonauts (Valery Polyakav, 1 Afghan) to station Mir.
- 1990 Saddam Hussein declares America can't beat Iraq
- 1991 USSR suspends Communist Party activities 1995 - NATO launches Operation Deliberate Force
- against Bosnian Serb forces. 1997 - At least 98 villagers are killed by the GIA in the Rais massacre, Algeria.
 - 2003 Ayatollah Sayed Mohammed Baqir al-Hakim, the Shia Muslim leader in Iraq, is assassinated in a bombing, along with nearly 100 worshippers as they leave a mosque in Najaf.
- Usher 2004 - 28th Olympic Games closes at Athens, Greece
- 2004 Athens Olympic marathon is run on same route as 1896 Games, start at site of the Battle of Marathon to the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens: Stefano Baldini of Italy wins men's gold in 2:10:55
- 2004 Future undisputed world light heavyweight boxing champion Andre Ward of the US wins the light heavyweight gold medal at the Athens Olympics beating Magomed Aripgadjiev of Belarus on points

Sad Demise

Our beloved uncle Salahudin Ahmad Shah passed away in Virginia Washington DC on 26th of August 2014 after a brief illness. A cross section of well-wishers, including Washington Metropolitan Kashmiri and South East Asia community and his former colleagues bid farewell to him on 27 August 2024 at Mount Comfort cemetery, Virginia, where his son and wife are also resting in peace. Dr. Zaffar Noorani a renowned scholar of Kashmiri heritage led funeral prayers. In this connection a condolence meeting will be held at his ancestral residence 3, Doulatabad Nowpora Srinagar on 29th August 2024. Note: Ladies are requested not to bring any fruits etc along. Media fraternity will pay homage at 3.30 p.m at Tagore Hall Srinagar same day.

Srinagar Organizes Heena Art Competition

SVEP: B.ED College

C rinagar: A Heena Art Competition was today Organized by the Govt. College of Education M.A Road, Srinagar to raise awareness, increase electoral participation and boost voter turnout in the forthcoming Assembly Elections of 2024

A significant number of students participated in the competition, using Heena Art as a medium to express the importance of civic duty and electoral participation. The competition provided a platform for students to creatively reflect themes related to democracy, empowerment, and voting rights through intricate Heena designs.

BEREAVED **Shah Family** 9419549090 | 7006166969

Rasm-e-Chaharum



With profound sadness, we announce the demise of Nissar Hussain, son of Habibullah Mir, a resident of Karhama, Tangmarg. He left this mortal world on August 27th, 2024. The Rasm-e-Chaharum (fourth-day mourning ceremony) will be held on August 30th, Friday, at his residence in Kawrahama, Tangmarg.

Bereaved Family Mudasir Nisar Mir (Son)

FZRCLOAK | 17.09.2024 | Allotment of contract for cloak room facility at ROOM20 at 11:00 Hrs. Amristsar railway station.

EAFZR- SLR24-50		Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 22446/F1, 14504/R1, 14508/F2, 14504/F1, 14633/F2, 14634/R1, 14633/ R1, 14634/F2, 14508/F1, 22462/F1, 12266/F1, 14634/ F1, 14034/F1, 12446/F1, 12474/F1 & 14508/R1.		
EAFZR- PRKG24-4	20.09.2024 at 12:30 Hrs.	Allotment of Parking lot (Mixed) on contract at Reasi Railway station.		
EAFZR- MIS24-7	23.09.2024 at 12:30 Hrs.	Allotment of Contract for Supply, operation and maintenance of Battery Operated Cars (BOC) for carrying passengers on payment basis with advertisement on the body of BOC at Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Railway stations.		
For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in				

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NOTICE I need to rectify the name/ surname and address of my Driving License Bearing No JK-0120130079683 from Riyaz Ahmad to Riyaz Ahmad Dar and R/o from Devipora Buchpora Sgr to Dangerpora, Malla Bagh, Hazratbal Sgr as per my Adhaar. Now the same to be corrected. In this regard, if any

person/quarter should have any kind of objection he/she may file the same to the RTO OFFICE SRINAGAR within a week

at the most, after that no objection will be entertained. Media Line Ads

Subject.Grant of registration of the proposed travel unit under the name & Style of M/s. KASHMIR SERVE TOUR AND TRAVEL " situated at Khan complex Iqbal Colony Shaltang Srinagar 190012

jm

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr./Ms Jaan Mohammad Khan S/O Abdul Ahad Khan R/o Shalteng, shala tang ghat Srinagar intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name and style" M/KASHMIR SERVE TOUR AND TRAVEL " situated at Khan complex Iqbal Colony Shaltang, Srinagar under Tourist Trade Act1978/82/2011-12.

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

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

[1] Naseer Ahmad Lone son of Ali Mohammad Lone R/o.Naseem Bagh Habak

Srinagar Kashmir [2] Shabir Ahmad Lone S/o.Ali Mohammad Lone R/o. Naseem bagh Habak, Srinagar

[3] Imtiyaz Ahmad Wani S/o.Ghulam Ahmad Wani R/o. Sanat Nagar, Srinagar [4] Naseer Ahmad Bhat S/o.Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o.Lajpat Nagar South Delhi at present Firdous Colony Illahi Bagh, Srinagar. For Extension of Lease Hold Rights iko

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical And Hospitals Division Handwara E-mail id: xenmhdhandwara@gmail.com

Subject: - Construction of Modular Operation theatres at MCH Kangan Ref : This office e-NIT No.: -MHDH/TS/2024-25/13 dated: - 16/08/2024

CORRIGENDUM 01

In view of representation(s) received from bidder(s) and in order to ensure wider participation, following changes are made in Cover Ist of the above referred e-NIT.

- Kindly read "SITC of pre-fabricated EPG puff wall panel and ceiling panel (50mm thickness). Prefabricated PPGI on both sides Puff panel with 50 mm thickness wall panels. PPGI Sheet of 0.8mm thick. Panel filled with hard puff inside so became soundproof & with anti-bacterial & antifungal properties. Low heat transmission with GI profile for joining two panels with Filling of all Joints and cavities with medical grade silicon Epoxy Filler" in place of Clause 1 and 2 of annexure "C" of the e-NIT.
- Kindly read "SITC of Double Dome Surgical OT Light. The light should be fitted with camera's with screen for live streaming in operation threatre. Technical Data

Number of LED: 48 + 48; Intensity: 20,000-1,40,000 Lux; Spot Diameter: 100 - 150 mm; Color Temperature: 3800 - 5200K: Depth Illumination: 10-15 cm; Color Rendering Index: 95 Ra; Diameter of Light: 500 + 500 mm; Special Function: 5 Memory Function with Remote; Focusing: Adjustable; LED Average Life: > 50,000 Hrs.; Intensity Control: 10-100 Digital; Power Supply: 220V/50Hz AC; Power: 48 + 48 Watt; Optional: Battery Backup; 360-degree structure;

Special Features

Perfect Compatibility of Two Light heads.

Easy Positioning with Detachable Sterilized Central Control Handle.

Fast and Simple Operation with Remote or Control Panel.

... in place of clause 20 of Annexure "C" of the e- NIT.

- Clause 3, 4 & 24 of Annexure "C" of the e-NIT shall be treated as deleted.
- Kindly read "manual in place of motorized in clause 14 of Annexure "C" of the e-NIT. All other Terms and Conditions of the e- NIT shall remain the same

DIPK-5217/24 dated: 28-08-2024

Sd/-Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospital Division Handwara

Congress Unlikely To Extend Mufti's Tenure

From KO Archives

Observer News Service

*****EW DELHI - As the date draws nearer for Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed to hand over the baton to a leader from alliance partner Congress, the party today sought to put an end to all speculation by indicating that the PDP leader would not be asked to continue.

Virtually putting at rest speculation that Congress might not be willing to take over the reins of the government after three years in November as per an agreement between the two coalition partners, a senior leader said the party would suffer if did it.

"It will not go down well in the party," the leader close to J&K affairs said when asked whether the Congress would let Saveed continue for remaining three years of six year term as has been suggested by some reports.

When the two parties forged post-poll alliance to form government in November 2002, they had agreed that one party would lead the coalition for three years and the other for rest of the term.

Congress, with 20 MLAs in the 87-member Assembly, had then allowed junior partner PDP, with 17 MLAs, to lead the alliance in the first phase. The Deputy Chief Minister was from Congress for the first three years and from PDP for the remaining tenure.

Although some sections in the Congress are believed to be inclined to allow Sayeed to continue, the state unit of the Congress strongly disfavours any reunification move.

The state unit feels it was the much-awaited opportunity for the Congress to have its own Chief Minister and it should not be allowed to fizzle away.

On the question of whether the Congress had an appropriate leader to become Chief Minister, the party leader said there would be no problem on this count. The Congress leader, however dismissed possibility of Mohammad Shafi Qureshi or Saifuddin Soz be given the charge as had been reported in some sections of media.

The disadvantage with Soz's candidature is that he has joined the Congress only three years back after being expelled from National Conference. Qureshi also has been out of the party for a long time

(Kashmir Observer, August 29, 2005)

No: - M&HDH/TS/1962-65

Think Opinion, Analysis, Essays

Send your write ups and feedback at editpage.ko@gmail.com

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 29-08-2024



KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 29-08-2024

Polls Apart

s the Assembly election campaign gains momentum, it is a contest between the old and the still credible regional political order and the new one created out of nowhere in the past five years. And through it all, the BJP looms large over the scene.

The old order is represented by the National Conference and the PDP as well as the Congress party, which is a national party though. The BJP's rise in the former state is a post 2015 phenomenon when for the first time it won 25 of 37 seats from Jammu division in the then Assembly elections. The BJP subsequently formed a coalition government with the PDP which secured 28 seats.

The new order is represented by the Apni Party led by the businessman-turned politician Altaf Bukhari, the DPAP headed by Ghulam Nabi Azad and the People's Conference (PC) of Sajad Lone. Although the PC is an old party, its new avatar owes itself to the political restructuring of the Valley following the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

The ongoing Assembly polls are the first major electoral exercise in which the old and the new political order are face to face. Though the NC looks apparently strong and Mehbooba remains politically very much relevant, the parties have a work on hand to retain their centrality. The NC has got a head start by forging an alliance with the Congress. The PDP feels left out.

The unraveling of the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), reflects the deep-seated divisions within the ranks of the Valley parties. Originally formed with the lofty goal of advocating for the restoration of Article 370, the PAGD has devolved into little more than a memory, with its constituent parties failing to even convene, let alone pursue their shared objectives. The NC and the PDP, both integral members of the PAGD, have begun charting independent courses driven by their own political calculations - more so, the NC which was the first to go solo in the parliamentary elections in the Valley.

Going forward, the electoral scene looks fragmented, with many parties vying for Assembly seats. Engineer Rashid's Awami Ittehad Party and the surprise entry of the independent candidates affiliated to Jamaat-i-Islami into the fray has added a new dimension to the electoral contest. However, as of now, there is little evidence of any wave in favour of any party, albeit on paper the National Conference looks on a firmer wicket. Things could become clear in the days and weeks to come. Here's wishing the discourse to stay constructive and the situation peaceful.



Did you know? The True Wealth in Investing:



Should Government Control School Choice of the Children of Government Employees?

Ummar Jamal

he Jammu and Kashmir government on August 18 said that it is discussing a proposal regarding the enrolment of wards of all government employees in state-run schools. This proposal, currently under review, was submitted by a local organization to the monitoring and grievance cell of the Lieutenant Governor's office. The initiative is a welcoming step towards equitable education and can catalyse systemic reforms in the public education system of Jammu and Kashmir.

Some calls in past for such initiative across India:

There have been numerous calls in past across India to make it mandatory for government employees to send their children to government schools from time to time. In 2014 verdict of the Uttar Pradesh High Court, delivered by Justice Sudhir Agarwal, the court directed that all government officials, including those in the judiciary, executive, and public representatives, must send their children to governmentrun primary schools. The court emphasized that if the children of government officials attended these schools, there would be a significant push to enhance infrastructure, tea standards, and overall school management, ultimately benefiting all students. The judgment highlighted the disparity in education quality between private and public schools and sought to reduce this gap by making education a shared concern among all societal segments. Like the judiciary there have been similar calls from legislative and executive. In 2016 Deputy Speaker of Goa Legislative Assembly Vishnu Surya Wagh said that, government should make it compulsory for all its employees and teachers to admit their children to government primary schools (GPS) and not in private primary schools in a bid to improve their standard. Similarly, in 2018, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath encouraged government teachers to enroll their children in government schools operated by the Uttar Pradesh Basic and Secondary Education Boards. Speaking on Teachers' Day, he stated, "Government teachers should send their children to government schools instead of convent or private institutions. Sending your kids to private schools while being a government school teacher casts doubt on your own capabilities. In 2017, in response to the declining enrollment and closure of government schools, a seven-member committee led by the Karnataka Development Authority (KDA) has advised the Siddaramaiah government to mandate that all government employees and elected representatives enroll their children in government or aided schools. There have been numerous such calls from different quarters, highlighting need of taking such crucial steps to improve the state of education in government schools in India.

6

The government would need to ensure that public schools are sufficiently upgraded in terms of infrastructure, teaching quality, and extracurricular offerings before the policy is fully implemented. Moreover, the government would need to establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the policy, if approved, is

This increased accountability could lead to more effective policy implementation and resource allocation. It could also foster a culture of excellence and high performance in public schools, as the involvement of government employees in the education of their children might lead to the introduction of more innovative and modern teaching practices.

According to a study published in the Journal of Public Economics, when government employees, especially those in decision-making positions, have a direct stake in public schools, there is a higher likelihood of equitable resource allocation. The study found that increased community and parental involvement led to more transparent budgeting and better utilization of resources, ultimately enhancing the quality of education.

Finland's education system is widely regarded as one of the best in the world. According to the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), Finnish students consistently rank among the top performers in reading, math, and science. One key factor contributing to this success is the universal use of public schools, which ensures that all students, including those of government officials, receive a high-quality education. This broad enrollment creates a strong incentive for maintaining

Understanding CAGR, XIRR, Absolute Return, and Annual Return

Irshad Mushtaq

hen investing in equities or mutual funds, many are tempted to quickly book profits and exit. However, this mindset can undermine the potential of long-term wealth creation through compounding. CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate)

CAGR is pivotal in understanding investment growth. It's not just about short-term gains but the US potential for your investment to compound over time. By persistently investing in quality funds and stocks like TCS, your money can grow exponentially.

For instance, consider an initial investment of 10 lakhs. Over the years, if this grows at a CAGR of 20%, it could double every 3.8 years (approximately). This means:

- After 3.8 years, 10 lakhs becomes 20 lakhs.

- After 7.6 years, 20 lakhs becomes 40 lakhs.

- After 11.4 years, 40 lakhs becomes 80 lakhs.

After 15.2 years, 80 lakhs becomes 160 lakhs, and so forth.

This exemplifies the power of compounding: staying invested in high-quality assets allows significant wealth accumulation over time.

XIRR (Extended Internal Rate of Return)

XIRR is particularly useful when there are multiple investments over different periods. It gives a clear picture of your annualized return considering the actual dates of investments and redemptions. For example, if you invested 10 lakhs in varying tranches over several years, XIRR would account for each inflow and outflow, providing a more accurate performance indicator.

Absolute Return

Absolute Return measures the total gain or loss of an investment over a specified period. For example, if you invested 10 lakhs and after 5 years, the value is 15 lakhs, your absolute return is 50%.

Normal Annual Return

This metric shows the average yearly gain or loss of your investment without compounding effect. For example, if your 10 lakh investment grows to 15 lakhs in 5 years, the normal annual return would be 10% per annum.

Conclusion

Investing is about patience and allowing your investments to compound over time. Rather than succumbing to the temptation of early profit-booking, focus on maintaining investments in quality funds and equities. Aim for a robust CAGR (15% to 22%) for substantial long-term wealth growth. In essence, the true wealth from investing stems from letting your assets

In essence, the true wealth from investing stems from letting your assets grow uninterrupted, harnessing the power of compounding. Stay the course, and let CAGR, XIRR, absolute return, and annual return guide your investment decisions for enduring wealth creation.

Understanding CAGR, XIRR, Absolute Return, and Annual Return is crucial for successful investing. Focus on the power of compounding with CAGR, track your annualized returns with XIRR, and evaluate your total gains with Absolute Return. Stay invested for long-term wealth creation!

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

Potential benefits of implementing the proposal

One of the most significant benefits of this proposal is the potential improvement in the quality of education in state-run schools. Public schools in many parts of India, including Jammu and Kashmir, have historically been perceived as under-resourced and underperforming compared to private institutions. This perception often leads to a vicious cycle where families, including those of government employees, opt for private schools, further draining resources and attention from public schools.

enforced effectively and that the intended benefits are realized

By mandating that government employees enroll their children in state-run schools, the government could create a vested interest among these employees and thereby help in improving the quality of public education, as was held by Allahabad High court. Government employees, particularly those in decision-making roles, will have a direct stake in ensuring that these schools are well-resourced, adequately staffed, and provide high-quality education. This shift could lead to better infrastructure, more qualified teachers, and overall improvement in school management, as the well-being of their children will be directly impacted by the conditions of these schools.

The proposal also has the potential to introduce a new level of accountability in the public education system. With the children of government officials attending public schools, there would be increased scrutiny of the education system's functioning. Issues such as teacher absenteeism, poor infrastructure, and outdated teaching methods would likely be addressed more swiftly, as those responsible for the education system's oversight would have a personal stake in its success.

Research has consistently shown that when parents are actively involved in their children's education, school performance improves. For example, a study by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the United States found that students whose parents were highly involved in their schools had higher academic achievement and better attendance records than those whose parents were less involved. Applying this to government employees, having their children in public schools would likely increase accountability and focus on school quality improvements.

high standards across the public school system.

Challenges and Considerations

While the potential benefits of this proposal are significant, it is also important to acknowledge the challenges and considerations that come with it. Implementing such a policy would require careful planning to ensure that the transition is smooth and does not disrupt the existing educational environment.

One of the primary challenges would be addressing the concerns of government employees who might be reluctant to enroll their children in public schools due to the current state of these institutions. To counter this, the government would need to ensure that public schools are sufficiently upgraded in terms of infrastructure, teaching quality, and extracurricular offerings before the policy is fully implemented. Moreover, the government would need to establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the policy, if approved, is enforced effectively and that the intended benefits are realized. This could involve regular assessments of public schools and the creation of platforms for feedback from government employees and other stakeholders.

Conclusion

The proposal to enrol the children of all government employees in state-run schools is a welcome step that holds the potential to transform the educational system of Jammu and Kashmir. By fostering equality, improving accountability, and enhancing the quality of public education, this initiative could lead to long-term benefits for the region. If executed well, this policy could be a significant milestone in the journey towards an equitable and high-quality education system in Jammu and Kashmir.

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

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What Does It Mean to Be Truly Rich?

People See Your Income, Not Your Heart

Ikkz Ikbal

In a world where the sparkle of gold blinds the eye and the rustle of dollar bills drowns out the whispers of kindness, we find ourselves trapped in a society that values wealth over warmth. It's a tale as old as time—people see your money, not your heart. And oh, how tragic that truth is.

Walk into any room, and the first thing that catches the eye isn't the kindness in a person's smile, the sincerity in their gaze, or the warmth in their handshake. No, it's the watch on their wrist, the brand on their suit, or the price tag on their shoes. In this modern age, where we've seemingly traded compassion for currency, people are more interested in the digits in your bank account than the depth of your soul.

Imagine this: a man walks down the street, dressed in simplicity. His clothes aren't designer; his shoes aren't polished. But in his heart lies a treasure trove of love, empathy, and generosity. He's the one who feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless, and offers a listening ear to anyone in need. Yet, how many eyes would actually see him for who he truly is? Not many, I'd wager.

Now, let another man stroll by-his shoes gleaming, his suit tailored to perfection, his watch ticking at a thousand dollars per second. People turn their heads, admiration glinting in their eyes. They nod approvingly, eager to align themselves with someone of such apparent success. Never mind that his heart may be as cold as the diamonds in his cufflinks. Never mind that he wouldn't spare a dime for someone in need. To the world, he's a beacon of achievement, a symbol of what everyone should aspire to be.

This obsession with wealth is nothing short of a societal sick-



THIS OBSESSION WITH WEALTH IS NOTHING SHORT OF A SOCIETAL SICKNESS. It distorts our perceptions, making us value the outer shell more than the inner substance. We forget that money can't buy the most important things—integrity, kindness, love, and compassion

ness. It distorts our perceptions, making us value the outer shell more than the inner substance. We forget that money can't buy the most important things—integrity, kindness, love, and compassion. It's the beating heart that truly defines us, yet we continue to idolize those who flash their cash as if that's all that matters.

Consider the stories we tell our children, the heroes we celebrate. How often do we uplift those who have given their lives to help others, compared to those who have amassed fortunes? We live in a world where billionaires are revered while those who dedicate their lives to service are often overlooked, their contributions buried beneath the glittering pile of gold that we seem to worship.

And let's not forget the heartache this brings to those who aren't weighed down by wallets bursting at the seams. They walk through life, their hearts full of goodness, yet they are invisible. Their worth is questioned because they don't have the material means to flaunt. It's a cruel reality, one that leaves so many disillusioned and hurt.

But here's the thing—money may buy you a seat at the table, but it's the goodness of your heart that will keep you there. When the lights dim and the crowds disperse, it's your character, not your cash, that will determine who stands by your side. In the end, it's not the dollars you've stacked that will be remembered, but the lives you've touched, the hearts you've healed.

Money can't buy you a satisfied heart, money can't buy you peace and happiness, and money can't buy you a reason to get up in the morning. Money isn't meant to be your source of comfort when you are hurting or of hope when you are feeling discouraged. Money can't and was never intended to give you life. To ask money to do any of those things will always lead to money troubles.

So, let's take a moment to peel back the layers, to see beyond the surface. Let's recognize the richness in people's hearts, not just their pockets. Because at the end of the day, a heart of gold is worth more than all the money in the world. It's time to realign our values, to see people for who they truly are—not just what they have.

Real generosity is not dependant so much on income as it is on the capacity of the heart. There are many who have the means to give, but not the heart to give. And there are many, who, the more they have the less they give.

Life should not really be about how much money we accrue, but rather how many people we serve; because the greater your giving, the greater your living. Giving does not devalue your worth and the Prophet said that "charity does not decrease wealth". Remember, we are here to enrich the world, and if we ever forget that we impoverish ourselves.

At the end of the day, when the noise of the world fades and the glitter of wealth loses its shine, it's the kindness you've shown, the lives you've uplifted, and the love you've shared that will echo through time. True wealth isn't measured in dollars, but in the warmth of a grateful smile, the comfort of a helping hand, and the joy of a heart that knows it has done good. So, live richly in spirit, and let your legacy be one of compassion, not currency.

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The Danger of Unlicensed Mental Health Influencers

Kaytee Gillis

The advent of social media has revolutionized how we access and share data, including information about menThis deficit can lead to the dissemination of misinformation, outdated therapeutic techniques, or potentially harmful advice that fails to consider the

ance

can result in unintended harm, including worsening symptoms, delaying appropriate treatment, or causing emotional distress.

rm, | out to their family but instead chooses to look for support online. In a perfect scenario, they would find

ct scenario, they would find fessional st adherence to

Licensed mental health professionals are held accountable to regulatory bodies and professional standards, ensuring adherence to best practices and ethical guidelines. In contrast, unlicensed influencers operate without oversight, leaving their followers vulnerable to advice lacking in scientific validity or clinical relevance. The absence of accountability mechanisms poses risks of unchecked harm, as influencers face minimal consequences for disseminating inaccurate or harmful content. Of course, it should be noted that possessing a degree and license does not immediately absolve individuals of the potential for harm, but this form of gatekeeping is crucial for ensuring that mental health guidance adheres established to ethical standards and evidence-based practices. Licensed professionals are subject to rigorous training, supervision, and accountability measures designed to protect clients and maintain the integrity of mental health practices, which helps to mitigate the risks associated with unregulated and unqualified advice.

ally appropriate and trauma-informed mental healthcare, compromising their well-being.

Ensuring the information you find online about mental health is helpful and reliable involves

tal health, substance use, trauma experiences, and other issues. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), mental health problems are increasing annually. As many of those who report increased mental health symptoms of depression and anxiety are younger people, it comes as no surprise that many are getting their mental health information on social media (World Health Organization, 2022).

However, alongside legitimate professionals, a concerning trend has emerged: the rise of unlicensed and uncredentialed mental health influencers. A quick search for terms like "anxiety," "depression," "narcissistic abuse support," and even "self-harm" yields hundreds, if not thousands, of unlicensed and uncredentialed coaches and influencers claiming to assist those looking for support. These individuals, while often well-meaning, tend to lack formal qualifications and oversight, posing significant risks by disseminating inaccurate or even harmful advice. Not ironically, research shows that there is a link between an increase in social media use and increased mental health symptoms (Beyari, 2023). Here are some of the risks of unlicensed influencers spreading mental health information on social media:

Lack of qualifications and expertise

One of the primary concerns surrounding unlicensed mental health influencers is their lack of formal qualifications and expertise. Unlike licensed mental health professionals who undergo rigorous education, training, licensure processes, and accountability, influencers may lack the clinical knowledge and skills necessary to provide accurate and evidence-based guidcomplexities of mental health disorders and individualized treatment needs. Research shows that the spread of false or misinformation is a real problem on social media, and this can lead to harm if people unknowingly absorb and follow information that is false (Shearer et al., 2024).

Spread of false information and misinterpretation

The unchecked nature of social media allows misinformation to proliferate presented as credible advice influential bv figures. Unlicensed mental health influencers may inadvertently perpetuate myths or misconceptions about mental health conditions, treatments, and recovery processes (Shearer et al., 2024). Such misinformation can undermine public trust in evidence-based practices and deter individuals from seeking appropriate professional help, potentially exacerbating their mental health challenges.

Ethical concerns and harmful advice

Ethical guidelines and standards of practice are integral to responsible mental health advocacy and support. Licensed professionals adhere to ethical codes that prioritize client welfare, confidentiality, and informed consent.

In contrast, unlicensed influencers may promote unproven treatments, advocate for risky behaviors, or exploit vulnerable individuals seeking guidance. This lack of ethical oversight

Impact on vulnerable populations

Social media platforms provide a global platform where vulnerable populations, including adolescents, individuals in crisis, and those with limited access to mental health resources, seek information and support. An example of this is the Queer teenager who is unable to come

Undermining trust in mental health professionals

The proliferation of unlicensed mental health influencers can erode public trust in qualified professionals and evidencebased practices. Misinformation propagated online may create skepticism toward established treatments, therapies, and the credibility of licensed practitioners. This skepticism can deter individuals from seeking culturseveral key steps:

1. Check the source.

Is this person/group qualified to make these claims? Check the credentials and qualifications of the individual or organization providing the information. Look for details such as professional affiliations, degrees, certifications, or licenses in mental health fields.

This does not mean that someone needs a degree or a specific amount of letters after their name in order to be educated in a given topic, nor does it mean that those of us with degrees and certifications are exempt from spreading false or misleading information. However, it can give you an idea of the person's background and goals for posting.

2. Check the messaging.

Be cautious of sensationalized or overly simplistic explanations of complex mental health issues, as well as claims of "miracle cures" or quick fixes without scientific backing. For example, be wary of someone who seems set on revenge and who is spreading information about narcissism or similar conditions. This does not mean that they were not victimized, but that their messaging is likely that of one who is in a specific stage of their healing that might not resonate with you.

3. Compare and cross-check.

Cross-check information across multiple reputable sources to ensure consistency and reliability. Look for consensus among experts in the field regarding treatment approaches, symptoms, and outcomes. Do not take only one person's words at face value—if there is validity in their claims, others will be saying similar things.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

identity. However, there is a risk that the opposite can happen. Without proper qualifications, influencers may lack the cultural competence or sensitivity needed to address diverse experiences and identities.

validation and support for their

ΓΙΟΙ

Lack of accountability and liability

News

BIS Conducted 2-Day Review Meeting At SKICC Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Review meeting of the Northern Regional Office of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) concluded on Wednesday at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar.

Director General of BIS, Pramod Kumar Tiwari, IAS was the chief guest at the event.

The meeting was attended by senior officials along with the officers from all branch offices located in the Northern Region of BIS.

implementation of Indian standards across Industries, connecting different stakeholders in standardization Ecosystem, creating awareness among Common Consumer and the role of BIS in promoting "Make in India" initiatives. A press conference was held The meeting emphasized on

during the meeting in which the Director General emphasized on the Role of BIS in Standardization and the quality ecosystem of the Country. He also spoke about need of BIS care and consumer awareness programs organized by BIS HJS Pasricha, Deputy Director General Certification,

reviewed the certification process and implementation of guidelines on enhanced Surveillance of Industries. The importance of dynamic and risk-based approach was also discussed.

Sneh Lata, Deputy Director General North also reviewed the performance of branches under Northern Region and advised the officers to follow a hand holding approach for manufacturers. The meeting concluded with a set of recommendations for improving the standardization and quality ecosystem of the region which will help in driving economic growth through standardization.



CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

RG To Campaign For

that the party will be announcing the area specific list of star campaigners shortly and the arrival of star campaigners will begin from September 07 onwards.

Furthermore, Mir said that Jammu and Kashmir for the first time is witnessing the biggest alliance and they are hopeful that the coalition partners will manage to secure a win with a thumping majority. "I believe the coalition will ensure the win with 2/3rd of the majority in the assembly elections," Mir said.

Mir also appealed people to cast their ballots in the favour of coalition partners to ensure an end to their sufferings and also their voices reach New Delhi through their elected representatives

The two-time Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) and former president of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) said that the coalition will set the history from Dooru constituency in this election.

He acknowledged that some leaders from both parties within the alliance are disappointed about not receiving tickets, but emphasized that the parties will work to help them understand that participating in elections is not the sole avenue for contributing to politics. He assured that these leaders will not be overlooked and will be given opportunities to serve the people in other meaningful ways.

Asked about Omar Abdullah's statement on passing resolution in assembly if voted to power, Mir said that these issues will only be decided once the majority of seats will be secured, adding that there will be a complete common minimum program for the governance of five years in which everything will be decided. (KNO)

244 Candidates

a criminal conspiracy with others who include his relatives and family members to facilitate, aid, incite, advice, advocate and promote terrorist and secessionist ideologies and activities through his inflammatory speeches.

Through such audio-video inflammatory speeches, he has incited, instigated and provoked youth to join the terrorist ranks," the charge sheet reads.

Others whose nomination papers were rejected include 13 other Independent candidates and several candidates of different political

It may be mentioned that more than 23.27 lakh voters including 5.66 lakh youths are eligible to exercise their electoral franchise during the Phase-I of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Election, scheduled to be held on 18 September 2024, of which 11.76 lakh are male voters and 11.51 lakh female voters along with 60 Third Gender Electors

EC Transfers SSPs,

The Commission has directed the Union territory administration to provide a panel of IPS officers for the post of SP/SSP Srinagar, Baramulla, Handwara and Kupwara by Thursday evening.

The EC has also cleared the appointment of IPS officer Nalin Prabhat as DG (Operations and Security) of J-K Police till September 30.He is currently on inter-cadre deputation and posted as Special DG, J-K till September 30.

It also gave its nod to the extension of inter-cadre deputation tenure of IAS officer Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid, the deputy commissioner of Anantnag, for a period of two years. He had completed his tenure on July 8 this year.

The sources said Baramulla SSP Gurinderpal Singh, Handwara SP Dawood Ayoub, and Kupwara SSP Shobhit Saxena have been transferred out.

Jammu and Kashmir will go for assembly polls in three phases.

ECI Allocates

minutes, National Peoples Party 45 minutes, National Conference 151 minutes, Peoples Democratic Party 160 minutes and both factions of Panthers Party 50 minutes each.

According to the ECI order, the Prasar Bharati Corporation in consultation with the Commission will decide the actual date and time for broadcast and telecast.

'The period of broadcast and telecast will be between the date of publication of the list of contesting candidates for the election (in each phase) and two days before the date of poll in Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir," the order states

Court Sentences

but also the public in general," 2nd Additional Munsiff, Ahtzaz Ahmed, had said while sentencing the medical officer, Dr Zahoor Ahmad Tantray of Kupwara, for offences punishable in terms of RPC sections of 419 (cheating by personation) and 471 (using genuine as genuine a forged document) "For the offence under section 419 of the RPC, simple imprisonment of 1 year along with a fine of Rs 25000/-(Rupees twenty-five thousand only) is imposed upon the convict. In default of payment of Rs 25000/-, the convict shall further undergo 3 months imprisonment besides the primary sentence," the court said, adding, "For the offence under section 471 of the RPC, simple imprisonment of 1 year along with a fine of 25000/- (Rupees twenty-five thousand only) is imposed upon the convict. In default of payment of 25000/-, the convict shall further undergo 3 months imprisonment besides the primary sentence." However the court said that both sentences shall run "consecutively" and the detention imposed earlier on the convict during the investigation proceedings and the case proceedings shall be set off from the total sentence of 2 years or 2 years 6 months (in case of default of payment of fine) whatever the case may be.

The medical officer, as per the communication, had filed one of the applications in the name of Muzaffar Anwar Ganie who happens to be the son of the owner of the house where the doctor was residing.

The department sent a copy of RTI application to Muzaffar Anwar Ganie who on its receipt contacted the department and refused to have sought any such information.

Similarly, the communication said, another RTI application in the name of one Mohammad Ashraf Ganaie was received against the officers who were conducting an inquiry against Dr Zahoor Ahmad Tantray.

The communication alleged that Dr Zahoor actually wanted to escape from the departmental enquiry by harassing and causing distress to the officers and employees of the department.

Won't Contest

said that he will have to be at the door of the (lieutenant) governor for transfer of a peon. I am not bothered about the transfer of the peon but can we implement our agenda?" the former chief minister said.

Omar Abdullah, who had vowed not to take part in assembly polls till Jammu and Kashmir remained a union territory, was among 32 candidates named by the party on Tuesday.

The former chief minister will contest polls from Ganderbal where he had won in 2008.

On the alliance between National Conference and Congress for Jammu and Kashmir polls, the PDP president said the two parties have always come together just for the sake of power.

"When we entered into an alliance with Congress in 2002, we had an agenda. We released Syed Ali Geelani from jail. Can you think of doing it today? When we allied with the BJP government in 2014, we had an agenda of alliance in which we had it in writing that Article 370 will not be touched, AFSPA to be revoked, talks with Pakistan and Hurriyat, return of power projects, etc. We had an agenda. However, when Congress and NC form an alliance, it is for power," she added.

On the possibility of Lok Sabha MP from Baramulla Sheikh Abdul Rashid and senior separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah being released from jail ahead of the polls, she said it would be a good development.

She urged the government to consider releasing even those lesser known people who are entitled to bail but have been denied it

aged 65 or above must be female and between the age of 45 to 60 years.

The policy maintains the distribution of Haj seats, with 70 per cent allocated to the Haj Committee of India (HCoI) and 30 per cent to Haj Group Organisers (HGOs).

Between Promises

have passed, yet the anguish remains as fresh as the day it began, for the painful reminder of that fateful day still stands, neglected and unaddressed.

The incomplete Gandbal-Batwara bridge has become a menacing reminder of the catastrophe with its unfinished design constantly nudging the memory of the local people, twisting the knife in their wounds and persisting them into agony and sorrow of the acutest kind.

Meanwhile, the residents of Samarbugh, Lasjan, a kilometer away from Gandbal, express the fear that their locality is grappling with post the Gandbal tragedy. With their own reliance on a ferryboat service to cross the river, they can't help but feel a sense of shared vulnerability and heightened concern for their safety.

Waseem Magray, a resident of the area, voices his concern.

"The authorities attributed the Gandbal tragedy to a swollen Jhelum due to incessant rains. But the truth is, Kashmir's weather has become increasingly unpredictable, with frequent bursts of torrential rain. The Jhelum swelling is no surprise to us. Our fear is that we'll suffer the same fate as the people of Gandbal."

Magray shares how the Gandbal tragedy has led to a surge in parental anxiety, with many becoming overly cautious and protective of their children. In the wake of this devastating incident, they cannot bear the thought of putting their children's lives at risk, no matter how small the chance, and are therefore taking extra precautions to ensure their safety. The unbearable thought of their children meeting the same fate as the Gandbal children, who lost their lives in the tragic accident, has made them resolute - they can no longer tolerate the deprivation of a bridge and are demanding action to ensure their children's safe passage. Showkat Ahmad Kuchay, another

resident and a government employee speaks with a mix of frustration and helplessness.

"Every March, we dutifully pay our taxes, entrusting our hard-earned money to the verv system we serve.

local markets wear a subdued air, as traders and customers alike are preoccupied with the nagging fear of the unknown. The children too, have grown accustomed to this atmosphere of apprehension, their laughter and play punctuated by the constant fear of an impending danger. Their parents' concerns have grown into their own as they traverse the perilous terrain of their everyday existence, constantly watching over their shoulders and forever wondering as to when calamity may strike.

Er. Rajandar Kumar Gupta, the Superintending Engineer of R&B Circle, Srinagar South, addresses concerns regarding the repeated delays in completing the Gandbal-Batwara bridge, which has missed several deadlines. He explains that the delays were not due to negligence but rather due to a combination of challenging circumstances.

The weather has been unpredictable, which has significantly hindered the progress. The work on this bridge is highly technical, and while officers may set deadlines in response to public demands, it is the laborers and masons who face the real challenges on the ground," Gupta states.

He highlights that logistical difficulties also played a major role in the delays.

"There was no available space to store materials like steel etc. Our workers had to weld every joint and angle iron directly on the bridge, which made the process more timeconsuming and tedious. Even now, as we prepare to lay the slab, we are facing issues. There's no space to unload the necessary materials, and with tippers being restricted during the day, it has become even more difficult to meet the planned schedule."

However, despite these challenges. Gupta expresses optimism about the project's completion.

"According to our current progress, the bridge's completion seems to be just around the corner. We are working diligently to overcome the remaining obstacles, and it looks like the bridge will be open to public use by early September.'

However, he declines to comment on the Samarbugh bridge, stating that it is not under their jurisdiction.

The Gandbal-Batwara or the Samarbugh bridges are not the only ones caught in the quagmire of neglect. Across the length of the Jhelum, numerous bridges were planned, intended to link the two banks of the river for both pedestrians and vehicles, promising to ease transportation, foster economic growth, and unite communities. Yet, many of these bridges, like the afore-mentioned, are languishing in various states of disrepair and their incomplete structures serving as striking symbols of a broader systemic failure. In the past decade, the government announced ambitious plans to construct several bridges over the Jhelum, envisioning them as arteries of progress that would revitalize the region. These bridges were to be lifelines, connecting remote villages with the bustling markets and educational institutions on the opposite bank, reducing the travel time, and enhancing the quality of life for thousands. However, reality has painted a different picture. Out of the numerous bridges planned, only a handful have been completed, and those that stand today often do so in isolation, their counterparts on neighboring stretches of the river remaining incomplete or abandoned. According to official data from the Roads and Building Department (R&B), the construction of over 15 crucial bridges and approximately seven footbridges remains unfinished, despite work having started more than a decade ago. This widespread stagnation reflects a deeper issue within the region's infrastructure development, where numerous projects intended to connect communities and enhance daily life have instead been put on ice, leaving residents stranded and frustrated. Sajad Naqeeb, Chief Engineer of R&B Central Kashmir reveals that the department has launched an initiative aimed at completing the numerous bridges that have been left unfinished assuring that the work on these languishing projects will be completed within the 2024-25 fiscal year. This initiative follows a significant decision made by the Jammu & Kashmir government in 2018 to address the issue of stalled infrastructure projects. To tackle the problem of projects abandoned due to a lack of funds, the government established the Jammu and Kashmir Infrastructure

Development Fund Corporation (JKIDFC). Through this fund, the R&B department identified 622 languishing projects across all districts, approving them at a cost of Rs 1446.73 crore. This strategic move was intended to revive these critical projects, including many of the bridges that have been on the back burner for years, and bring them to completion for the benefit of the local communities.

The Gandbal-Batwara bridge is just one example of a project awaiting action, but it epitomizes a much larger issue-the disconnect between the promises made and the promises kept. Moreover, it illustrates how infrastructure profoundly shapes and impacts human lives.

Basharat Hussain, a volunteer who helped distribute food items with NGO Athwas in the aftermath of the Gandbal tragedy, has borne witness to the anguished wails of those searching for their loved ones. As a father of two himself, Basharat can't fathom the unbearable pain of losing a child. Consumed by outrage at the systemic failures that led to the tragedy, he speaks out with a sense of urgency and conviction.

"The narrative of the incomplete bridges is not just about infrastructure; it's about the broken promises that these structures represent. It's about the gap between the two banks of the Jhelum that remain unbridged, not just by steel and concrete, but by trust and accountability."

Hussain adds "The people have been waiting for years, and with each passing day, the question becomes more urgent: When will the government finally make good on its promises? When will the bridges that were meant to connect, to protect, and to uplift, finally serve their intended purpose?

Among other things, the Gandbal tragedy has imparted a crucial lesson: Infrastructure is beyond concrete projects because it is what connects communities, drives economic growth, and ensures the safety and well-being of the population. When infrastructure projects are left incomplete, they do more than just mar the landscapethey disrupt lives! The roads that should have made travel easier, the bridges that were supposed to bring people closer together, and the schools and hospitals that were meant to serve the community—all become symbols of unfulfilled potential and lost opportunities. Stalled development projects strand communities in a cycle of stagnation, compelling residents to contend with unsafe roads, rely on outdated facilities, or make do without the essential services that they deserve. These projects, intended to be catalysts for progress, instead become barriers that hold people back, limiting access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. In the light of the Gandbal tragedy and the broader implications of infrastructure on human lives. Sociologist Dr. Nousheen Fatima observes that the gap between promises and reality goes beyond broken commitments; it is a profound matter of social justice. 'This disparity hits hardest on those who are already marginalized and vulnerable—people who can't afford to wait another year for a bridge to be finished or another decade for a hospital to open," she explains. "For them, infrastructure isn't just about convenience; it's a critical factor that directly shapes their lives and determines their futures."

parties.

A statement from the office of the Chief Electoral Officer detailed the scrutiny process held today.

Nomination papers of 67 candidates were found valid in Anantnag district, followed by 46 in Pulwama district, 34 in Doda district, 29 in Kishtwar district, 26 in Kulgam district, 21 in Shopian district, while nomination papers of 21 candidates have been found valid and accordingly accepted in Ramban district.

In Kishtwar district, nomination papers of 12 candidates were found valid in Inderwal AC; 10 candidates in Kishtwar AC; while nomination papers of 7 candidates have been accepted in Padder-Nagseni AC.

In Doda district, nomination papers of 14 candidates were accepted in Bhadarwah AC; 11 candidates in Doda AC; and 9 candidates in Doda West AC.

In Ramban district, a total of 12 nomination papers were found valid and accepted in Ramban AC; while nomination papers of 9 candidates have been accepted in Banihal AC.

Similarly, in Pulwama district. nomination papers of 14 candidates were accepted in Pampore AC; 10 candidates in Tral AC; 12 candidates in Pulwama AC; and 10 candidates in Rajpora AC.

In Shopian district, a total of 10 nomination papers were found valid and accepted in Zainapora AC; while nomination papers of 11 candidates have been accepted in Shopian AC.

In Kulgam district, nomination papers of 6 candidates were accepted in DH Pora AC; 10 candidates in Kulgam AC; and 10 candidates in Devsar AC.

Finally, in Anantnag district, a total of 12 nomination papers were found valid and accepted in Dooru AC; 10 candidates in Kokernag (ST) AC; 10 candidates in Anantnag West AC; 13 candidates in Anantnag AC; 3 candidates in Srigufwara-Bijbehara AC; 13 candidates in Shangus-Anantnag East AC; while nomination papers of 6 candidates have been accepted in Pahalgam AC.

As per the Election notification, the candidates can withdraw their nomination by 30 August, 2024 (Friday) before 03:00 pm in the office of the respective Returning Officers.

The court announced the sentence a day after convicting the 50-year-old medical officer.

"The prosecution has proved its case beyond any reasonable doubt to the extent that the accused had cheated the officials of department of ISM by pretending to be Muzafar Ahmad Ganaie by filing an RTI application in his name and thereby using a forged document as genuine," the court had said.

The case was filed on 30-10-2013 on the basis a communication received from the then Director, Indian Systems of Medicine, stating that the accused, putting up in a rented accommodation in Bemina Srinagar, was transferred from Unani Dispensary Gulab Bagh to Unani Dispensary Khanaid, Udhampur because of his "misconduct". Also it was reported that the medical officer was harassing the officials of the department by filing the RTI applications using different names so that he could escape from the "departmental enquiry" and could pressurize the officers of the Department.

As per the communication, the department grew suspicious on receipt of chain of RTI applications on "stereotype readymade proforma" filed by impersonating different persons.

"It is very good. I say that you can put a person in jail but you cannot imprison the ideas. Democracy is a battle of ideas. It has been delayed but Engineer Rashid and Shabir Shah should be released along with all those languishing in jails who are entitled to bail but are not even getting that relief.

"The government has been saying time and again that they want to start a process of reconciliation in Jammu and Kashmir. I tell them to open the doors of the jails and the process of reconciliation will start," she added.

Mehbooba said the PDP is fighting for a bigger cause as it is the only party which implements its agenda after coming to power.

"In 2002, we said we would repeal POTA and we did it. We said we will open (cross-LoC) routes and we did it. We said we will facilitate talks and we did it with the Hurriyat Conference. We follow our agenda and even today our agenda is that there is an issue which cannot be resolved without addressing it. And restoration of Article 370 is also important for resolution of this issue.

"We have always fought alone, based on the support of people and for addressing the problems of the people," she said.

Later two budding politicians joined the PDP in presence of the PDP president.

PC Releases

be locked in a direct contest with Javid Hussain Baig of National Conference.

Age Limit For

the policy stated that the age of the "Mehram" and companions accompanying pilgrims aged 65 years or above must be 18 to 60 years as on the date specified by HCol.

However, in the case of "Mahram" for lady pilgrims and companions of the pilgrims aged 65 years or above, including Ladies Without Mahram (LWM) pilgrims aged 65 years or above, the policy states that repeaters will be allowed on payment of additional charges as applicable from time to time.

The policy also outlines that companions accompanying LWM pilgrims But the irony is palpable - the projects we fund remain stuck in limbo, perpetually 'under construction'."

Kuchay grumbles, "This bridge, for instance, has been 'under construction' for 13 long years", his gaze fixed on the bridge as he recalls thirteen years of broken promises, delayed deadlines, and of lives put on hold.

While showing off his hair, another man gripes, "My entire hair was jet black then. Now, I'm married, my kids are grown up, and I'm going grey, but the bridge remains unfinished."

Just then, a wise-cracking Sardar ji, with a mischievous glint in his eyes, chimes in, his voice dripping with sarcasm, as he breaks into a witty ditty:

Taxes Jaari, jab aati public ki baari. Par jo government ki zimmewari, wo padhti hai unpe bhari!

(Taxes are imposed, when it's the public's turn.

What is the government's responsibility, falls heavily on them!) In the midst of this chaos, a young

girl's voice breaks through the commotion. She stands on the riverbank and ut-

ters a powerful cry for justice. "We shall not be silenced. We shall

not be ignored. We demand a bridge, we demand a future."

For the residents of Gandbal and Samarbugh, infrastructure isn't just about roads and bridges-it's about the peace of mind that comes with knowing that their loved ones are safe. The bridge's incompletion means that daily commutes, simple as they may seem, are fraught with anxiety and fear. Parents, like those in Gandbal, who now live in constant fear of another tragedy, are forced to take extra precautions, altering their daily lives in profound ways. The lack of proper infrastructure has seeped into the very fabric of their lives, affecting their mental health and altering their behavior.

As the days turn into weeks, and the weeks into years, the weight of this uncertainty bears down on the local people, leaving an indelible mark on their collective psyche. The streets of Gandbal and Samarbugh echo with the whispers of worry, as families huddle together, sharing stories of near-misses and narrow escapes. The

Dr. Fatima further notes that infrastructure is about more than just building roads or bridges.

"It is about building better lives and ensuring that every person has access to the opportunities and services that they need to thrive. When infrastructure projects are left incomplete, it is not just the physical structure that remains unfinished but the promise of a better life that is left hanging, just out of reach."

While workers toil on the Gandbal bridge, newspapers lament the missed deadlines, and social media buzzes with debates over the tragedy's haves and have-nots, the old woman still sits by the Gandbal banks from dawn to dusk as a matter of routine, waiting for her son's body to surface. As the sun approaches the horizon, she rises, her joints creaking from age and the stiffness of prolonged sitting. She casts one last glance at the incomplete bridge before turning back toward the village, gasps and whispers a prayer, "May the bridges we build connect not just our lands, but our hearts. May they bring us closer to the lives that we deserve!" With that, she fades into the twilight, leaving behind a river that continues to flow and a bridge that stands unfinished.

STATE

JKAACL Convenes Meeting With Prominent Writers & **Artists From Jammu**



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Ms. Harvinder Kour, JKAS, Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAA-CL), convened a meeting with prominent writers and artists from the Jammu region at the JKAACL office complex. The meeting aimed to discuss the cultural and artistic landscape of the region and explore avenues for future collaboration.

At the outset, Ms. Kour welcomed the participants, expressing her appreciation for their contributions to the cultural heritage of Jammu. The attendees, who represented various fields including literature, fine arts, music, and theater, introduced themselves, highlighting their respective achievements and ongoing projects.

The discussion was lively, with several valuable suggestions put forward. Participants emphasized the need to strengthen the connection between JKAACL and the artistic community by reviving various schemes that support artists. There was a consensus on the importance of improving the quality of the Academy's publications to better reflect the region's rich cultural diversity.

Suggestions also included organizing programs to promote classical arts, holding separate

Apni Party

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Former Srinagar

Municipal Corporation mayor

Junaid Azim Mattu resigned

from the Jammu and Kashmir

Junaid Mattu Quits

meetings for different languages and artistic disciplines to gather focused feedback, and establishing an open-air theater to provide a platform for local artists. Additionally, participants stressed the need to engage youth with the Academy's activities, revitalize drama and theatrical events as done in the past, and seek collaborations with national bodies such as the Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sahitya Akademi, and Lalit Kala Akademi.

Prominent artists, writers who participated in the meeting included V.K.Sambyal, Dr. litender udhampuri, Prof. Lalit Mangotra, Ashok Angurana,, Nirmal Vinod, Khalid Hussain, Reecha Gupta, O.P.Sharma, Jang, S. Verman, Deepak Kumar, Brij Mohan, Mohd Aslam Qureshi, Ramesh Singh, Rohit Bhat, Dr. Shalini Raina, Yash Pal Yash, Shazi Khan, Sarwar Chouhan, A.K.Naaz, Girdhari Lal, Mohan Lal, Vanshika Jaral, Suksham Guleria and Radhika Manhas.

Ms. Kour assured all attendees that their suggestions would be taken seriously and that JKAACL is committed to implementing actionable steps to address the needs of the artistic community. She emphasized the Academy's dedication to fostering a vibrant cultural environment in Jammu and ensuring that the region's artistic traditions continue to flourish.

SEHAT Scheme: HC Allows Govt's Plea Against Insurance Company

M Ahmad SRINAGAR: The High Court of

J&K and Ladakh has temporarily directed IFFCO TOKIO General Insurance Company Limited to continue with the existing arrangement as regards Ayushman BharatPradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-SEHAT to allow J&K government to provide free of cost Universal Health Coverage to all its residents, including the serving and retired employees and their families. ...petitioner (Union Territo-

ry of J&K) has succeeded to make out a prima facie case for grant of interim measures in terms of Section 9 of the Arbitration Act and since contract between the parties is service of insurance, balance of convenience favours the grant of injunction," a bench of Justice Rajesh Sekhri said while allowing a petition by the government stating therein that the insurance contract between the parties (Government through State Health Agency and IFFCO TOKIO General Insurance Company Limited), is for a period of three years and the Company having already extended the insurance cover for the second year, in terms of clause 9 of the contract, cannot turn around and wriggle out of the contract for the third year extension and "plunge the people of UT into risk and uncertainty."

"The damages, which may be suffered by the State Health Agency, in general, and the beneficiaries of the Scheme, in particular, on account of alleged breach of contract by the insurer, may not be compensated at a future point of time in terms of money or otherwise,' the court said, adding, "Hence, present petition is allowed and respondent (Insurance Company) is temporarily directed to continue with the existing arrangement as per terms and conditions of the contract agreement pending resolution of dispute by the Arbitrator." The government contended

that since the law with respect to insurance is part and parcel of a welfare legislation, "arbitrary" exit notice served by the insurance company was not only against the contractual liabilities, but also against the public health and safety at As noted by the Hantri Jan Arous large

court, the Govern-/ ment of Jammu and Kashmir launched Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan PM-JAY Arogya Yojana-SEHAT ["AB-PMJAY-SEHAT"] to

provide free of cost Universal Health Coverage to all its residents, including the serving and retired employees and their families. The Scheme is intended to provide same benefits those were available under Ayushman BharatPradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana ["AB-PMJAY"], a Government of India Scheme, that is providing annual health insurance cover of Rs.5.00 lacs per family on a floater and cashless basis through an established network of health care providers. Pertinently, the Scheme came to be introduced by the Government with the object to reduce catastrophic health expenditure and to improve access to quality health care of the domiciles of UT, the court noted. The eligible beneficiary families, under this Scheme are to be provided the Health Coverage through a network of Empanelled Health Care Providers (EHCPs). The Government decided to implement the Scheme to provide Health insurance to defined categories of families eligible in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. As a result, bidding process was commenced, through State Health Agency (SHA) by issuing the tender document and the IF-FCO TOKIO General Insurance Company Limited emerged the successful bidder. Consequently, a contract, for maximum period of three years, came to be executed between the parties on 10 March 2022. Since the beneficiary families are to be provided the Health Coverage through a network of EHCPs, the court noted, a separate Tri-

School Edu Deptt Seeks List Of **Lecturers With Unsatisfactory Results**

partite Agreement also came to be executed between the parties and EHCPs in terms of clause 6 of the contract. As per the government, con-

tract between the parties is to subsist till 14th of March, 2025, but the Insurance Company vide its letter dated 01.11.2023, served a notice that it was not interested in further renewal of the contract after the expiry of the policy period ending 14.03.2024. In response to the communication, the Chief Executive Officer, SHA, vide communication dated 03.11.2023 requested the company to continue as per the MOU signed between the par-

ties. However, the Insurance company vide communication 16.11.2023 reiterated dated that it has decided not to accord consent for renewal of the contract beyond 14th of March, 2024 and will not issue any new policy cover beyond the existing policy cover period and requested that SHA had enough time to make arrangement so that beneficiaries may not suffer. The CEO, SHA vide communication dated 07.12.2023 again requested Vice President of the company to re-consider its decision, however, the respondent vide communication dated 13.12.2023 informed the CEO that it stand by its decision not to continue. Again the Government through CEO, SHA vide letter dated 28.12.2023 requested Vice President of the Company to adhere to the terms and conditions of the contract in letter and spirit, however, it was conveyed by General Manager of the Company, vide its communication dated 03.01.2024 that Company is only invoking clause 9.1(c)of the Insurance contract. Ultimately, the SHA, by invocation of clause 41.3 of the contract, vide communication No. SHA/ ABPM-JAY/2023-24/5334 dated 19.01.2024 served a notice upon the company, for refer-

ence of dispute to the Arbitral Tribunal with a request to nom-

inate an Arbitrator on its behalf.

Media Certification & **Monitoring Committee Plays Crucial Role During Elections**



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Media Certification & Monitoring Com-mittee of District Anantnag has been established under the Chairmanship of District Election Officer(DEO) Anantnag Dr.Syed Fakhrudin Hamid. On a daily basis the operation of the MČMC is supervised by the District Information Officer (DIO) who is also designated as Nodal Officer MCMC and Media Communications. Other members of the committee include various Returning Officers and District Informatics Officers. This committee plays a crucial role in ensuring the compliance of media activities with established norms, particularly during election periods.

The MCMC operates 24X7 ensuring continuous monitoring of media content. The committee is managed by a team of 20 dedicated employees who work in shifts to provide uninterrupted service.

The Committee maintains efficiency and covers all hours, the MCMC employs a shift-based system. This ensures

TICKET TUSSLE IN BJP

J&K Party Chief Forced To Cut Short Speech

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina on Wednesday was forced to cut short his speech by angry workers seeking explanation over denial of ticket to party leader Rohit Dubey from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi seat in Reasi district.

Dubey's name was replaced in the revised list of candidates with former MLA Baldev Raj Sharma. Raina rushed to Katra where Dubey's supporters had come out

on the roads and blocked the highway outside the newly set up party office to protest the party's decision to field Sharma in his place.

that at any given time, the cell is fully operational and capable of addressing any media-related issues that may arise.

The primary responsibilities of the MCMC include certifying political advertisements, checking paid news, addressing fake news, monitoring media coverage for adherence to the Model Code of Conduct during elections, and ensuring that no misleading or objectionable content is disseminated.

The establishment of the MCMC underscores the district administration's commitment to promoting transparency and fairness in media practices, particularly in the context of elections. This initiative aims to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process by preventing the spread of misinformation and ensuring that all media content is in line with legal and ethical standards. The MCMC Cell at the DC Of-

fice Anantnag represents a significant step towards strengthening media oversight at the district level, contributing to the overall goal of maintaining a fair and transparent information environment.

As the J&K BJP president reached the party office, he was greeted by hundreds of slogan-shouting workers demanding an explana-

tion for denying ticket to Dubey and replacing him with Sharma. "We know Dubey is a hardworking and dedicated member of the BJP whose family has been associated with the party for generations... we are in election mode and have to fight together with our party's mission of nation first. party second and self last," he said

while addressing the workers. Raina's speech was frequently interrupted by the party workers, demanding an answer in clear terms whether Dubey would be given a ticket or not. Soon he had to abandon his speech as the party workers stood up despite attempts by Dubey to pacify them. "Dubey is a dedicated worker of the BJP whose family has a history of backing the party since the days of Jan Sangh. He will always remain with the party," Raina later told reporters in response to a question that many of his supporters are pressing him to fight as an independent from the constituency. The workers removed the road blockade on the intervention of Dubey who said the party's decision had left the workers disappointed. "What I am today is because of the party and it is not good to block the road and cause inconvenience to the commuters including Vaishno Devi pilgrims who are stranded. I was told to wait till tomorrow," Dubey told the gathering. He said senior leaders are coming from Delhi and "we will come to know about the party's decision". "I do not know the reason why my name was dropped after being included in the first list. It is premature to say what I will do next. Whatever the party workers will decide, I will respect their decision," he said while talking to reporters.

Apni Party on Wednesday. "It is with a heavy heart, and with all humility at a politics guided by ny command, tha

the Apni Party in 2020. "During my Hajj pilgrimage earlier this year, I had taken a solemn pledge to uphold my conviction and do

ference and became the mayor

of Srinagar Municipal Corpora-

tion with the help of the BJP in

2018. Mattu left the PC to join

I announce my decision to part ways with the J&K Apni Party. I extend my gratitude to our President Sved Muhammad Altaf Bukhari Sahab and my colleagues and wish them well," Mattu said in

a post on X. Mattu, who changed three parties in the past six years, did not spell out his future plans.

He entered politics by joining the People's Conference led by Sajad Gani Lone in 2009. He served as the party's spokesperson before quitting it in 2013 for the National Conference. He left the NC in 2018. He rejoined the People's Conmy own principles and a sense of discerning the right from the wrong," Mattu said in the post.

> said one He should not criticise the party one has

been a part of but "my own convictions are no longer congruent or symmetrical with the ideology of the party and in this situation to still remain associated with the party or to contest elections as a party candidate would be outrightly disingenuous".

He said the Apni party is now at liberty to field an appropriate candidate from Zadibal in his place.

LG Ladakh Visits Drass, **Celebrates Granting Of District Status**

Agencies

DRASS: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) made his first trip to the Drass area of Ladakh, following the Union Home Minister's announcement granting it district status. The visit was welcomed by the residents who celebrated this milestone with great enthusiasm.

Upon his arrival, LG Mishra was greeted by a human chain of school students stretching up to 1 kilometer along NH1D, showcasing the community's unity and excitement.

The local public also lined the route, showering the Lieutenant Governor with flower petals and chanting slogans like "Modi Government Zindabad", "Amit Shah Zindabad" and "LG Ladakh Zindabad". They expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the fulfillment of their long-standing demand for district status.

During his address, LG Mishra reaffirmed his dedication to the development of Drass, saying that granting district status was a priority project under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. "This decision marks the beginning of a developmental phase for Drass and promises a prosperous future for the next 30 years," he said.

The LG assured the people that the region would see massive growth and focus on long-term benefits for future generations.

The event was attended by several notable figures, includ-ing CEC Kargil Dr Mohd Jaffar Akhone, DC Kargil Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, SP Kargil, Councillors Abdul Wahid and Abdul Samad, BJP Chief Patron of Drass Fayaz Qari and other religious and political leaders.

In a heartfelt gesture, the people of Drass presented LG Mishra with traditional attire, which he wore on the spot-(KNO)

SRINAGAR: School Education Department has sought a list of all those lecturers in government educational institutes who have failed to deliver satisfactory results in the 12th standard exams.

In this regard, an official communique was sent by the under secretary to the government for the School Education Department to directors of school education of both Jammu and Kashmir regions. The official communique

reads, "The directors are requested to furnish the complete lists of all erring lecturers (School wise) in whose favour the result of 10+2 examination for the academic session, 2023-24 has been found and reported poor or unsatisfactory in violation of standing norms."

"The requisite details shall be furnished to this department within two days in view of the seriousness of the issue," it reads.

Earlier, in June the School Education Department had attached a principal of Higher Secondary School to the CEO office for poor performance in the recently announced results of 12th standard.

Directorate of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) in an order had said that no students in that Higher Secondary School had qualified the exams. DSEJ had also said that it

had asked all the CEOs of the division to furnish the result report for class 12th to the directorate.

"The CEO Rajouri has reported that zero percent result has been shown by the HSS Behrote Thannamandi wherein a total number of 13 students had appeared-13 in the exams and none of them had cleared it," DSEJ said-(KNO)

DEO Anantnag Reviews Election Preparedness

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Anantnag District is all set for the upcoming Assembly Elections-2024 in the first phase. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has released the election notification for the first phase of the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly. The district, comprising 07 Assembly constituencies, is preparing for a significant elec-

toral event.

Accordingly the District Election Officer (DEO) Anantnag Dr.SF.Hamid held a comprehensive meeting with all Nodal Officers to review the district's election preparedness. The review was aimed to ensure that all necessary arrangements are put in place for the upcoming General Legislative Assembly elections.

During the meeting various aspects of the election process, including the readiness of polling stations, availability of elec-



tion materials, training of polling staff, status of Flying Squad Teams, Static Surveillance Teams, Media Certification and Monitoring Committees, Model Code of Conduct adherence, Expenditure Monitoring, and the functioning of the Control Room.

Nodal Officers presented updates on their respective areas, highlighting any challenges and progress made.The discussion focused on fine-tuning operational plans, addressing potential issues, and ensuring that all teams are well-coordinated.

DEO emphasized the importance of maintaining high standards of transparency and efficiency throughout the election process. The review underscored the commitment of the election authorities to conduct a fair and well-organised election.

This proactive approach by the District Administration and the Nodal Officers reflects the district's dedication to ensuring a successful electoral process, aiming to uphold democratic values and provide a seamless experience for voters.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi seat is going to polls along with 25 other segments in the second phase on September 25.

Meanwhile, the protest at the BJP office here continued for the third day on Wednesday with a fresh group of agitated party workers from Chhamb constituency of Jammu raising slogans against fielding former MLA Rajeev Sharma from there.

The workers, who assembled outside the party headquarters at Trikuta Nagar in Jammu, said they were hoping for a local leader instead of an "outsider" to get a ticket. The first phase of elections covering 24 seats is taking place on September 18, while the final and the third phase covering the remaining 40 seats will be held on October 1 followed by counting of

votes on October 4. Dubey, who is district president of the BJP for Reasi, was named in the initial list of 44 candidates issued by the party on Monday which was subsequently withdrawn. However, in the rescinded list of 29 candidates issued on Tuesday, the party named Sharma in place of Dubey while all other names remained the same for the same set of constituencies announced earlier.

Two DDC Members Resign From NC In Shopian

SRINAGAR: Two District Development Council (DDC) members associated with the National Conference (NC) on Wednesday resigned from the party and extended their support to former NC leader and an independent candidate from Shopian, Shabir Ahmad Kullay. As per the details available, the two DDC members, who resigned from NC include Abdul Hamid Sheikh DDC Shopian and

Sheikh said that he has resigned from the party as the leadership has given a mandate to a person, who is not able to secure the seat.

He said Shabir Ahmad Kullay was promised a mandate before parliamentary elections following which he worked hard and NC managed to get the lead on the seat then.

Sheikh added that the party has failed to keep their promise with Kullay and thus he is parting ways from the party and extending support to him.

Agencies

Safiya Riyaz DDC Ramnagari.

SPORTS

Srinagar To Host Legends League Cricket Finals From October 10

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a major announcement, Legends League Cricket 2024 is set to bring international cricket stars to Srinagar after 40 years. The finals of the mega T20 cricket tournament will be played at Bakshi Stadium from October 10, the organisers of the league announced on Wednesday.

The 2024 edition of the league will kick off on September 20 at Barkatullah Khan Stadium in Jodhpur. This season, 25 matches will be played among the six franchises and the last two teams standing will play the final on October 16. The franchise-based tournament, featuring a pool of over 200 players, will unfold across four cities-Jodhpur, Surat, Jammu and Srinagar.

Raman Raheja, Co-Founder, Legends League Cricket, an-



nounced Kashmir as a venue of time in almost 40 years. It also presents a unique opportunity the tournament in a statement. "Legends League Cricket is for the cricketers to experience back for another season and the beauty of Kashmir and enwe are very excited to also be joy the hospitality and love of playing in Kashmir this season.

the wonderful people of Sri-This is a huge opportunity for nagar," he said in the statement. the people of Kashmir to come The league saw 180 million viewers across India during its to the stadium and watch live cricketing action for the first previous seasons. Its star-stud-

ded lineup includes the recently retired Shikhar Dhawan and Dinesh Karthik, with the organisers certain that the upcoming season will surpass its previous viewership records.

In the previous edition held in India, fans witnessed former international stalwarts such as Suresh Raina, Aaron Finch, Mar-

tin Guptill, Gautam Gambhir, Chris Gayle, Hashim Amla, Ross Taylor and many others, showcasing their skills alongside 110 other legendary cricketers.

The third leg of the tournament will be played at Maulana Azad Stadium in Jammu from October 6. The auction will be held in New Delhi on August 29.

West Indies Beat South Africa By 8 Wickets In 3rd T20, Sweep Series 3-0



Agencies

TAROUBA: Nicholas Pooran blasted 35 runs from 13 balls to lead the West Indies to an eight-wicket win over South Africa in the rain-shortened third Twenty20 cricket international, securing a 3-0 series sweep.

Rain delayed the start of play by an hour and returned in the fifth over of the South Africa innings, reducing the match to 13 overs per innings.

South Africa was 23-0 when the rain started and Tristan Stubbs dashed 40 from 15 balls to help the visitors post 108-4 after a slow start. Stubbs hit five fours and three sixes for 38 runs from boundaries. He finished the series with 144 runs at a strike-rate of 178. Pooran almost matched him, hitting two fours and four sixes. The West Indies was 60-2 when Pooran was out to the fifth ball of the fourth over and coasted to victory with 22 balls remaining. Shai Hope made an unbeaten 42 from 24 balls and Shimron Hetmeyer scored 31 from 17 deliveries in an unbroken partnership of 56 for the third wicket.

in humid conditions and the first boundary of its innings didn't come until the fourth over, hit by Ryan Rickelton from the bowling of Matthew Forde. The first six of the innings came from the next ball.

The rain returned and forced the players from the field for 70 minutes, leaving South Africa on the back foot when it resumed. Reeza Hendricks was out three balls after the resumption, but that brought Stubbs to the crease and he did his best to blast South Africa to a com-

petitive total. Stubbs hit 6 6 from consecu-

Athletics Competitions Kick Off At Sports Stadium Budgam

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam kick started its Inter-Zonal Athletics Competitions at Sports Stadium Budgam on Wednesday. The event saw participation from over 661 athletes representing 12 zones across the district.

The athletics meet features a range of events including High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, and track events like the 100 meters and 200 meters races, as well as the Javelin Throw. Among the notable performances, Muneeb Ashraf from B.K. Pora zone excelled in High Jump, Anayat Iqbal from Soibug zone shone in Long Jump, Zeeshan Thokar from Dreygam zone impressed in Triple Jump, and Syed Zee-



played remarkable speed in the 100 meters.

The opening day of the event was inaugurated by the Incharges of District Sports activities, Ghulam Hassan

Master Manjeet Singh.

Association presented a vote

of thanks to GHSS Khanyar,

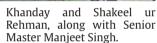
participants and schools for

their valuable participation.

Throwball Coaching Camp & Championship Held In Khanyar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Throw-



Thursday's athletics competitions will see participation from girls of various age groups

Short TAKES Kohli, Jaiswal Rise In Test Rankings,

Rohit Drops To 6th Virat Kohli moved up two rungs to eighth place while his captain Rohit Sharma dropped a spot

to sixth in the latest ICC Test rankings released on Wednesday.

Joining Rohit and Kohli in the top 10 is young Yas-hasvi Jaiswal, who has moved up a spot to seventh. Veteran England batter Joe Root maintained his place as the top ranked Test batter in the world. Paki-

stan's Babar Azam dropped a whopping six places to fall from shared third to ninth.

Zaheer Khan Set To Join Lucknow **Super Giants As Team Mentor**

ucknow Super Giants are set to appoint former India speedster Zaheer Khan as their mentor ahead of the IPL mega auction.

The appointment marks the return of the 45-yearold left-arm pacer to the IPL fold after two years, having been associated with five-time champions Mumbai Indians from 2018-2022.

A formal unveiling is scheduled at the RPSG Group Headquarters here on Wednesday.

"Zaheer has been appointed as team mentor and the unveiling will happen later today," sources told

England Batter Malan Retires From International Cricket

Dawid Malan, a former top-ranked batter in T20 Dinternationals, has retired from international cricket, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said on Wednesday.

Malan, who turns 37 next week, played 30 One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and 62 Twenty20 internationals (T20Is). He last appeared for England in November during the 50-over World Cup.

He is one of two England men's cricketers to score centuries in all three formats of the game, along with Jos Buttler.

Uruguayan Defender Izquierdo Dies After Collapsing During Match

South American football was in mourning on Tues-day following the death of Uruguayan defender Juan Izquierdo.

The 27-year-old had been undergoing medical treatment since collapsing during Nacional's game against Brazilian side Sao Paulo on Aug. 22.

Izquierdo fell to the ground unconscious in the 84th minute without coming into contact with another player. The hospital said in a statement Izquierdo had died as a result of brain death following a cardiopulmonary arrest associated with cardiac arrhythmia.

Federico Chiesa Joins Liverpool In £11m Deal From Juventus



No overs were lost when rain delayed the toss. The West Indies eventually won the toss and chose to bowl, with an eye on the threat of further rain. South Africa began cautiously

tive balls in the 11th over bowled by Obed McCoy and 4, 6, 4 in the final over bowled by Forde. He was out with two balls left in the innings.

Pooran then blasted the West Indies into a winning position with his brilliant 13-ball cameo. He finished with a strike rate of 269.

Hope hit four sixes in his innings and Hetmeyer hit four fours and a six as the West Indies completed a comprehensive win.

The West Indies beat South Africa 3-0 in a Twenty20 series prior to this year's T20 World Cup, which it cohosted with the United States, and now has swept South Africa again. But in between, South Africa eliminated the West Indies from the World Cup.

tion with Nodal Officer SVEEP Assembly Constituency Khanyar organised a Throwball Coaching Camp cum Championship 2024 on Wednesday at GHSS Khanyar in which students from different schools participated.

"The event was held to spread awareness among the sports persons so that they can act as ambassadors at their respective localities & schools to ensure maximum participation of voters in the elections," the association said in a statement.

RP School Lawaypora emerged overall champi-



ons while as Legends School the sports persons to spread secured second place and the message so that maxi-Sheikh Ul Alam Model High mum voters will turnout for voting on September 25. School came third. President J&K Throwball

Nodel Officer SVEEP assembly constituency Khanyar Sheikh Waheeda highlighted the importance of voting in democracy. She encouraged

taly's star forward Federico Chiesa is set to join Liverpool in a deal valued at £11 million (\$14.4 million) plus add-ons, according to recent reports. The Reds have secured an agreement with Juventus, marking a strategic enhancement to their attacking lineup as the new season approaches.

Chiesa, a pivotal player for Juventus, shared his appreciation and excitement for this transition. This move was spurred by Juventus manager Thiago Motta's decision to exclude him from the squad's future plans.

Ancelotti Unconcerned By Mbappe's Start At Real Madrid

Agencies

MADRID: Real Madrid manager Carlo Ancelotti is not worried about Kylian Mbappe's start at the club after the France striker failed to score in his opening two league games.

Mbappe, 25, joined the LaLiga and Champions League winners as a free agent from Paris St Germain in June, bringing an end to a transfer saga that had rumbled on for years.

Despite making a promising start by scoring on his debut to help Real earn a 2-0 win over Europa League champions Atalanta in the UEFA Super Cup final two weeks ago, Mbappe has yet to find the net in two LaLiga games with Real and struggled in a draw at Mallorca and in a dour home win against Real Valladolid

"His last goal was on August 14th. It has only been



see him worried either.

two weeks since, that is no reason to worry. Neither we are not worried as a club, nor him," Ancelotti told a press conference on Wednesday, ahead of Thursday's LaLiga match at Las Palmas.

He is very humble. I think "He is very happy here, delighted, sure he wants to his adaptation is going re-

ally well." Ancelotti said a slow

start was to be expected after key midfielder Toni Kroos retired, while they are also trying to fit Mbappe into a new centreforward role.

"Every year has its own challenge because there are changes in the structure of a team, the system that is implemented," Ancelotti said.

"Last year we also needed time at the start of the season, we needed a late goal to get a result in many games. It will take some time until we find our mojo and the best version of ourselves but it's a normal thing.

score in the next game. So "I didn't ask Toni Kroos does Vinicius, who has yet to to be Aurelien Tchouameni score this season and I don't last year, just as I won't ask Tchouameni to be Kroos. '(Mbappe) is progressing Each player has his own really well, I see him doing characteristics. The team better every day, excited, has to adapt to the characmotivated, training well. teristics that Tchouameni has, which are very important for us.

Olmo Strike Earns Barcelona Comeback Win At Rayo Vallecano

Agencies

MADRID: A late goal by new signing Dani Olmo gave Barcelona a nervy 2-1 comeback victory at Rayo Vallecano on Tuesday, as the LaLiga leaders continued their perfect start to the season with a third

consecutive win. After missing Barca's first two games as he was unregistered due the club's struggles to comply with LaLiga's Financial Fair Play (FFP) rules, Olmo came off the bench in the second half to give Barca the spark they needed on his

debut after signing from RB Leipzig. He struck the winner in the 82nd minute after Pedri's goal on a counter-attack in the 60th minute had cancelled out Unai Lopez's

early opener for Rayo. The win put Barcelona top the standings on nine points from three games, two ahead second-placed Villarreal. Rayo are eighth on four points.

Vallecas has not been a happy hunting ground for Barcelona in recent years and the Catalan giants have failed to win a league game at the raucous stadium on the outskirts of Madrid since November 2018.

Rayo dominated proceedings in the first half



Barca levelled in the 60th minute thanks to a quick counter attack started by Pedri, who passed to Raphinha in the left channel and burst forward to receive the ball back from his team mate before guiding his finish into the bottom right corner.

Barca thought they had scored a second through Robert Lewandowski in the 71st minute, but referee Cesar Soto Grado ruled out his effort due to a foul in the build up that he spotted in a VAR review.

However, Olmo gave Barca a deserved win after a fine combination with Lamine Yamal, who drove to the byline before cutting the ball back for an unmarked Olmo inside the box, who netted a curling strike just inside the far post.

and took the lead from a quick counter started by Jorge de Frutos who set up Lopez to score in the ninth minute.

Alvaro Garcia and Isi Palazon had great chances as Rayo started the game aggressively, pressuring Barca high and bursting forward on counter attacks.

But Barca were livelier

after the break, with man-