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NC Legislatures To Pick **Leader Today**

Statehood Resolution Will Be Passed In First Cabinet Meet: Omar



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The legislature party of the National Conference will meet on Thursday to elect their leader in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly as party president Farooq Abdullah maintained that his son Omar Abdullah will be the first chief minister of the Union Territory.

The NC on Tuesday emerged as the single largest party with

42 seats as results of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls were declared. The party is comfortably placed to form the government as its alliance with Congress and CPI(M) got 49 seats in the 95-member house.

"The National Conference legislature party will meet tomorrow at half-past 12 to elect their leader," the party vice president said.

Independent candidate Payare

Lal Sharma defeated another in-

dependent candidate Ghulam

Mohammad Saroori by a nar-

row margin of 643 votes in the

Inderwal assembly with INDI Alliance candidate of Congress party's Mohd Zafarullah securing

a third spot. Sharma decided to

contest as an independent after

the NC-Congress alliance left the

After the results were de-

clared, Sharma said he was as-

sociated with NC and would re-

main in the party in future. He

left for Srinagar from Kishtwar

to meet the top NC leadership on

Choudhary | More on P10

seat to Congress.

Wednesday.

Omar Abdullah | More on P10

'Foolish To Seek Art 370 **Restoration From BJP'**

ational Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah Wednesday said hoping for the restoration of Article 370 from the very people who snatched it would be "foolish," but his party would keep the issue alive and continue to raise it. "Our political stand will not change. We have never said that we will remain silent on | More on P10



THE NOMINATION OF FIVE MLAS WILL **NOT HAVE ANY IMPACT ON GOVERNMENT FORMATION.** Some independents who won

the election are already in touch with us and they will join us and we will increase our lead. "

GHAR WAPSI

4 Independents To Rejoin NC

Srinagar: After the result of the fourth snot with 7508 votes Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections, four independent MLAs who had left the National Conference (NC) over expressing resentment against ticket distribution issue set to have 'Ghar Wapsi' after a stellar performance by the NC-Congress alliance.

In the elections, seven independent candidates emerged victorious in their respective constituencies.

Former judge Muzaffar Iqbal Khan defeated BJP's Mohd Iqbal Malik in Thannamandi Assembly Constituency of Rajouri with a margin of 6,179 votes. The INDIA alliance candidate Mohd Shabir Khan who contested on a Congress ticket remained at

Asia's Largest Imaging Telescope Launched In Ladakh

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) observatory, the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia, has been inaugurated at Hanle in Ladakh, giving a boost to scientific research.

Located at an altitude of 4,300 metres, it is also the highest of its kind telescope in the world, a statement said here on Tuesday. It was inaugurated on October

4 by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) secretary Ajit Kumar Mohanty.

The telescope has been indig-enously built by the Mumbaibased Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) with support from the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd (ECIL) and other Indian industry partners. The inauguration of MACE observatory was a part of the platinum jubilee year celebrations of the DAE.
"The Major Atmospheric

Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) observatory was inaugurated by Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, DAE secretary and | More on P10

Over 76% Candidates Lose Security Deposit

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Over 71 per cent candidates of the PDP forfeited their deposits as the regional outfit was decimated at the hustings on Tuesday with only three candidates making it to the maiden assembly of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

Out of 873 candidates who ran for the 90 assembly seats, 666 candidates -- 76.28 per cent of the total, forfeited deposits. This has earned the Election Commission of India an amount little more than Rs 1.60 crore.

The PDP fielded the highest number of 80 candidates in this election with 57 of them losing their deposits.

In Kashmir, where the par-ty founded by former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and his daughter Mehbooba Mufti has its base, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was routed and reduced from 28 seats in 2014 to just three seats this time.

According to the Election Commission of India data, the PDP fielded candidates on 46 of the 47 seats in the valley. Out of these, 25 candidates forfeited their deposit while 17 other candidates stood second in their constituencies.

In Jammu, the PDP did not win a single seat and only two of its 34 candidates managed to get more than one-sixth of

PROMINENT **FORFEITURES**

SAJAD LONE



MUZAFFAR BAIG Baramulla



SAFINA BAIG



ABDUL GANI VAKIL

the total votes polled in their respective constituencies. The remaining 32 forfeited their deposits.

The BJP, which fielded 62 candidates across the Union Territory, won 29 seats and 19 of its candidates had to forfeit their deposits. In Kashmir, the saffron

party fielded 19 candidates and all but one had to forego their deposit money. Faqir Mohammad Khan, the BJP aspirant from Gurez, was the only candidate to get more than one-sixth of the polled votes. Khan stood second in the race, losing by a margin of just 1,132 votes.

Prominent among those who forfeited the deposit money were People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone (Kupwara), former deputy chief minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig (Baramulla), Baigs's wife Safina Baig (Wagoora-Kreeri), former ministers Abdul Gani Vakil (Rafiabad), Mohammad Ashraf Mir (Lal Chowk) and Aijaz Guroo (Sopore), the brother of Parliament attack convict Mohammad Afzal Guroo.

Out of the 47 seats in the valley, five seats saw all the contestants except the winner forfeit their deposits. These segments are Sopore, Baramulla, Habbakadal, Lal Chowk and Central Shalteng. In 43 assembly segments of Jammu region, 68.53 per cent candidates including almost all of the PDP and BSP forfeited their security deposits.

These candidates failed to secure a minimum of one-sixth of the total valid votes and lost their security deposits.

Incidentally, 164 of the total 356 candidates in the fray from the 43 assembly seats of Jammu region got less votes than none of the above (NOTA), which gives an option to voters to reject all candidates in a constituency.

The National Conference (NC)-Congress coalition, including the CPI(M), swept the first assembly elections post-abrogation of Article 370 by winning 49 seats with the regional party gaining a total of 42 seats.

While NC tally included seven seats in the Jammu region, the Congress won one seat in Jammu and five seats in Kashmir. The CPI(M) has won one seat, which is in Kashmir. The BJP emerged the second largest party after the NC

by winning 29 seats -- all in the Jammu region -- which is its best-ever performance. An analysis of the 43 results of the Jammu region revealed that out of 356 candidates in the fray, 244 have forfeited

their security deposits. Barring Qamar Hussain from Thanamandi and Imtiaz Ahmed Shan from Banihal

who had managed to save their security deposit by getting 21,986 and 27,018 votes respectively, none of the Peoples Democratic Party's (PDP's) 30 other candidates were able to secure their deposits. Majority of them have even got less votes than the NOTA.

Thanamandi seat won by NC rebel candidate Muzaffar Iqbal Khan by defeating his nearest rival Mohd Iqbal Malik of the BJP by a margin of 6,179 votes. Khan polled 32,645 votes against Malik's 26,466 while PDP's Hussain, a former MLA, ended up a distant third.

Banihal Similarly, the seat was won by NC's Sajjad Shaheen who defeated former state Congress president and former minister Vikar Rasool Wani by a margin of 6,110 votes after bagging 27,018 votes. Shan ended up third while BJP's Mohd Saleem Bhat along with four others lost their security deposits.

Prominent faces among the PDP who lost their security deposit included former MLC Firdous Ahmad Tak who only got 997 votes out of total 60,524 polled votes in Kishtwar constituency. The BJP's lone woman face Shagun Parihar defeated former NC minister Sajjad Kitchloo by a slender margin of over 500 votes on Kishtwar. Parihar, whose I More on P10

Missing Soldier Found Dead In Anantnag Forests

Agencies

Anantnag: Security forces Wednesday recovered the bullet-riddled body of a missing Territorial Army soldier who had gone missing during a counter terrorist operation in the Kazwan area of Shangus in South Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Officials said that two soldiers from the Territoria Army unit were abducted by terrorists from a forest area in Anantnag during a joint anti-terror operation on Tuesday. One soldier managed to escape, while the other went missing.

The second soldier, identified as Hilal Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Nowgam, was found dead in the Pathribal forest area of Anantnag during a subsequent search operation. "There were bullet injuries on the body of the slain soldier," an official said.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), the Indian Army's Srinagar-based Chinar Corps said: "Chinar Corps honours



LG pays homage to the slain territorial army soldier

the supreme sacrifice of the Braveheart, Rifleman Hilal Ahmad Bhat, in the line of duty for the nation. His courage and dedication will forever inspire us. The Indian Army expresses its deepest condolences and stands in solidarity with the bereaved

Earlier, on Wednesday morning, the Chinar Corps had confirmed that the soldier of the Territorial Army was reported missing.

"Based on intelligence input, a joint counter-terrorist operation was launched by the Indian Army along with Jammu and Kashmir Police and other agencies in the Kazwan Forest in Kokernag on October 8. The operation continued overnight as one soldier of the Territorial Army was reported missing," the post on X read.

Meanwhile, sorrow engulfed the village when the news of | More on P10

LG Greets Newly Elected Members

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also congratulated the newly elected members of I&K Assembly.

He stated that the peaceful electoral process and participation of millions of voters is testimony to vibrant democracy and people's faith in democratic values of the country. In a post on X. LG Sinha said that J&K stands taller, guided by principles of good governance, people-first, social justice and

social harmony. "My heartiest congratulations

to all the members elected to the Legislative Assembly and NC-led alliance for victory in the polls. Best wishes to them in the service of people. The Constitution of India is our guiding light & I urge all to work together for the growth of J&K & welfare of people," he said. The LG thanked the people for empowering and strengthening democracy in J&K. "I laud the efforts of CEO I&K. EC officials. IKP and security forces for working tirelessly and diligently to uphold the sanctity of the ballot and successfully completing transparent, free & fair election," he said.

ECI Thanks MHA, Security Forces

lection Commission of India (ECI) Wednesday expressed its gratitude to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) officers, security forces and the Indian Airforce officers for their contribution towards peaceful Assembly polls in J&K held after a decade. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India Rajiv Kumar commended the exemplary role played by coordinated efforts of security forces with election officials which resulted in minimal re-polls & near zero instances of violence in last Lok Sabha polls.

"Assembly elections witnessed a massive meticulous | More on P10

Scholarship Fraud In J&K

Case Filed Against Former Director, Others

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday registered a formal case against five officials, including a former director, and several private individuals in connection with the alleged misappropriation of

funds under the post-matscholarric ship scheme for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in Jammu and Kashmir.

An FIR has been registered under the Jammu and Kashmir Prevention of Corruption Act against the then director of tribal affairs Mohammad Sharief Choudhary, then assistant di-rector Muzaffar Wani, then junior assistant Gulzar Hussain, then in-charge computer assistant Javed Ahmed, and then head assistant Shaheen Naqishbandi as well as several

private individuals who owned educational institutes in the Rajouri and Poonch districts, a spokesperson for the ACB said. The case stems from an

ACB investigation into allegations that officials from the Directorate of Tribal Affairs misused funds meant for scholarships under Government Post Matric

scholarship scheme, he said. This scheme provides a financial assistance of Rs 18,000 per student, plus Rs 2,300 maintenance allow-

to ST students pursuing post-matriculation education. However, between 2014 and 2018, approximately Rs 1.66 crore was disbursed to unrecognised institutes for unapproved courses, he said.

The investigation revealed that several institutes allegedly received | More on P10



Farmers harvesting rice in a paddy field in south Kashmir's Awantipora. KO Photo Abid Bhat

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 10-10-2024

High Levels Of Heat Found To Affect Foetuses, Infants Up To Age 2: Study

Press Trust Of India

xposure to high levels of heat could affect growth of foetuses in the womb and infants up to two years of age, an analysis of over 600 pregnancies in the west African country of The Gambia has suggested.

For every degree Celsius rise in average daily heat in the first trimester of pregnancy, the weight of a baby at birth corresponding to gestation period was found to be lowered, according to the findings published in The Lancet Planetary Health journal. One experiences heat stress when their body's ability to regulate temperature is compromised.

The researchers, led by those at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK, followed a total of 668 infants, about half of whom were girls and half boys, for their first 1,000 days of life. At birth, 66 infants (10 per cent) were found to weigh under 2.5 kilograms, described as a low birth weight by the researchers. About a third of the infants studied (218) were found to be small for gestational age, while nine infants were born prematurely. The researchers also found that heat stress experienced by foetuses can continue to affect them after birth -- infants up to two years of age exposed to high heat had lower

weights and heights for their age. The infants aged between 6-18 months who had experienced higher levels of daily heat stress in the previous three-month



period were found to be the most affected. The study is the first of its kind to show that heat stress can hamper development of babies after birth, the researchers said.

As climate change intensifies, the effects of exposure to heat must be urgently considered in public health interventions, they

"Our study demonstrates that the intersecting crises of climate change, food insecurity, and undernutrition are disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable, including young children," said lead author Ana Bonell, an assistant professor at the Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia,

The data for analysis was collected as part of a trial, conducted in West Kiang, The Gambia, between January 2010 and Febru-

These findings build on previous evidence showing that the first trimester is a vulnerable time to heat exposure and it's important that we now consider which factors may be contributing to the relationship,'

Open Tender | Gati Shakti Unit | Two Packet System



Our study

demonstrates that the intersecting crises of climate change, food insecurity, and undernutrition are disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable, including young children

Further research is needed to look at heat stress and its health impacts in regions beyond The Gambia, the researchers said.

یااعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کےاندراندر دفتر ھزامیں پیش کریں معادگز رنے کے بعد کوئی عزر

مضمون ـ درخواست عبدل رشید گوجرد بدر ولدغلام رسول گوجرد بدر سکنه بانڈی بالا تحصیلِ کربری ضلع بار ہمولہ بمراد حصول ST سرٹفیکیٹ بجق پسران خود سجادر شیدوشفقت رشیدو عرفان رشید

معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر ميں كاغزات درخوست سائل عبدل رشيد گوجرد يدڑ ولدغلام رسول گوجرديدڙ

ساکنہ بانڈی بالا بیک وارڑ بغرض تحقیقات تفویق هور بورٹ پٹواری سے عیاں ہوا کہ جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل کے ہلنبہ 5 افراد پر شمثل ہے۔ سائل کے کمنبہ کی سالانہ آمدانی

یں میں ہوئیں۔ 1035216 تک ہے سائل کے افراد مندرجہ ذیل ہے

2

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform to general public that the electric connection bearing consumer code No. 0204040034228 which is in the name of my father namely Ghulam Ahmad Mugloo R/o Mughal Mohalla Lalbazar, Srinagar Kashmir. Now I want to transfer the same in my name i.e Shagufta, if anybody has any objection please inform to Assistant Ex. Engineer PDD Sub Division Bagi Ali Mardan Khan. Srinagar within seven days after that claim will not be entertained.

Shagufta W/o Barkat Ali Mir D/o Gh. Ahmad Mugloo R/o Pandreathan, Srinagar

NOTICE

I Chasfeeda Akhter D/o Khursheed Ahmad Teli R/o Pazin Kagan Ganderbal have Lost my Rc Bearing Registration No:- JK16B-**1652 Somewhere.** Now I want to its Duplicate. Regarding this, if anybody is having any objection may file the same to the RTO office Ganderbal within 2 days after that

no objection will be entertained. 7006298116

no objection shall be entertained

Qumail Abas

Mobile: 7889317906

I want to change the name of my daughter in school records at Mallinson Girls School, Srinagar in class 8th section Yellow under admission no: 7211-22M from Ghulam Fatima to Fatimah Khalid Mir. If anybody is having any objection may contact the Principal of said school within a period of seven days from publication of this notice and after that no objection

Mir Khalid Masroor F/O Fatimah Khalid Mir R/O Rawalpora

'Inflammation In Vital Brain Region Could Be Driving Long Covid'

Press Trust Of India

ymptoms of long Covid, including fatigue and brain fog, have been linked to damage to the brainstem or the brain region, which acts as a "critical junction" between consciousness and all that is physically happening in the body, according to a study.

The brainstem connects the spinal cord to two main parts of the brain -- cerebrum and cerebellum. Often dubbed as the 'control centre' of involuntary functions, the brainstem regulates basic life-sustaining activities such as breathing, heart rate and sleep, and located at the base of the brain.

Symptoms of long Covid have been studied to persist in some patients for up to two years following initial infection. The previous studies have found prolonged inflammation to be one of the main drivers of long Covid.

In this study, the researchers from the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, UK, looked at high resolution MRI brain scans of 30 patients, who had severe Covid-19 early in the pandemic, and found that the infection caused inflammation in the brainstem region known to play a role in causing breathlessness, fatigue and anxiety.

The brainstem cannot be viewed directly unless the cerebrum -- making up almost 80 per cent of the organ -- is cut away, as described by scientists in previous studies.

The brainstem had been impossible to

scan in living people owing to its "difficult" location and "tiny size", said Catarina Rua from the University of Cambridge and first author of the study published in the journal Brain.

"Usually, scientists only get a good look at the brainstem during post-mortem examinations," Rua said.

The brainstem is the critical junction box between our conscious selves and what is happening in our bodies. The ability to see and understand how the brainstem changes in response to Covid-19 will help explain and treat the long term effects more effectively," said lead author James Rowe, University of Cambridge.

Post-mortem studies of the patients, who had died due to severe Covid-19 early in the pandemic before vaccines were available, showed changes to brainstems, including inflammation, the researchers said. Thus, they proposed that many of the troubling long Covid symptoms reported by hospitalised patients such as fatigue, breathlessness and chest pain, could be partly due to brainstem damage, known to persist long after infection has passed. From the MRI scans, the researchers found abnormalities in the brainstem especially in the regions of medulla oblongata, pons and midbrain, which they said were in line with an inflammation produced in response to the viral infection.

The abnormalities appeared several weeks after hospital admission and in brain regions responsible for breathing,

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date- 30.10.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manua offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cos and earnest money only through only payment modes available on **www.ireps.gov.in** portal like net banking, debit card, credit ard etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more

Tender Type		Tendering Section		Bidding System			
	0	pen	Work	s	Single Bid System		
Date of Uploading Tenders		Bid Starting Date		Bid Closing Date/Time			
08.10.2024		16.10.2024		30.10.2024/15:00 Hrs			
S.No.	S.No. Tender No. Details of Tender						
1.	212-2024-25-	Provision of standard	Duty hut at 8 nos. lev	el crossings & to	oilet facilities at 15 nos level crossings o	n	
	ADEN-II-ASR	ASR-KEMK section u	ınder ADEN-II/ASR.				
	Advertised Value (Rs.) 1,86,17,021.82/-		Earnest Money	Validity of Of	Offer Period of Completion	\neg	
			2,43,100/-	60 Days	o 06 Months	\Box	
	Similar natur	e of work :- "Any civil w	ork other than track wo	ork".		٦	

Note 1:- Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. Tender No:- 212-2024-25-ADEN-II ASR Date: 08.10.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMIL

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

Dy.CE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites Open Tender (E-Tenders) against below titled ender and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 29.10.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Tenderers are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like ne banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit Receipts, FDR tc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in Tender Type | Tendering Section | Bidding System | Date of Uploading Tenders | Bid Starting Date | Bid Closing Date/Time

Ope	iii ioiiaoi c	Jan Orland Orlin		00.10.2024	10.10.2024	20.10.2024/10.001113.		
S.N.	Tender No.		Details of Tender					
1	OP-06-GSU Upgradation		n/Improvement of Anantnag Good Shed on BAHL-BRML Section under ADEN BAHL.					
ļ .	25	Advertise	d Value (Rs.)	Earnest money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion		
	Dated: 05.10.2024	10,92	2,67,796.66/-	6,96,300/-	90 Days	08 Months		
Note1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.								
Ten	Tender Notice No:- OP-06-GSU-FZR-2024-25 Date: 08.10,2024 3104/2024							

05 10 2024

15 10 2024 29 10 2024/15:00 Hrs

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from Kumall Abass to Qumail Abas

in future i will be known as Qumail Abas . If anybody has any

objection in this regard he/she may file hsi/her objection in the

office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of

seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that

PUBLIC NOTICE To inform the general public that I, Sameer Ahmad Ganaie, have lost my 8th Class Certificate while traveling from Baramulla to my home. Despite my best efforts to locate it, I have been unable to

find the certificate. The Particulars of the certificate is as: Name: Sameer Ahmad Ganaie Father's Name: Abdul Rehman Ganaie

Residence: Kalantra Payeen, Kreeri, Baramulla, J&K. Now I am applying for the issuance of a duplicate certificate of Class 8th.If anyone has any objections regarding this matter, they may file their objection at

Government Middle School, Kalantra Paveen OR ZEO Wagoora. Baramulla within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After this period, no objections will be entertained.

Sameer Ahmad Ganaie S/O Abdul Rehman Ganaie R/O Kalantra Payeen, Kreeri, Baramulla fko

bmg

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Department of Fisheries

Ph.0194-2500092 0191-2958673

No: -DF/Acctts//E-Auction/2024-25/

DIPK-5673/24 Dated: 09 -10-2024. email.jkfdjmu@gmail.com,jkfdkmr@gmail.com

Re-auction Notice No. 04 of 2024 Dated: 09-10-2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-Bid affixed with Revenue Stamp worth Rs. 5/are invited from the Citizen of India, for the auction of Fishing Rights of Ranjit Sagar Reservoir (J&K portion) viz Satwain/Basohli, District Kathua for a period of one-year from the date of issuance of fishing rights contract. The society of Fishermen registered under the Cooperative Act of the J&K State (now Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir) if any, can also participate in the auction proceeding. The Bid documents containing detailed terms & conditions can be seen/downloaded against e-Bid document fee of Rs.2000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only) in shape of DD pledged to Assistant Director Fisheries, District Kathua from the official Government website www.jktenders.gov.in. from:-

D'-1 C1			
2 Bid Submission dat	e start	12-10-2024	
3 Bid submission dat	e ends	30-10-2024	
4 Submission of original	nal Earnest Money Deposit along with	1 30-10-2024	
Tender document F	ee in shape of Demand Draft.		
5 Bid opening Date	•	31-10-2024	

The original Demand Draft of EMD Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh only) along with Tender Document Fee of Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) pledged to the Assistant Director Fisheries, District Kathua respectively in a sealed cover addressed to Accounts Officer (Member Secretary of the Auction Committee Ranjit Sagar Reservoir) Department of Fisheries, Canal Road, Nowabad Jammu-180016 shall reach by or before 30-10-2024 upto 4.00 PM without of which no bid shall be accepted.

However, in case the interested/genuine bidders fail to submit hard copies (original) of CDRs (tender document fee and earnest money deposit), the technical bid shall still be opened to verify/check the uploaded documents including the copies of CDRs. The bidders who shall have failed to submit hard copies of CDRs (tender document fee and earnest money deposit) but have uploaded them with bid document on JK tenders, in that case concerned bank/branch shall be approached for forfeiture of the CDRs and defaulters shall be blacklisted in J&K UT for future auction process. The other terms and conditions will remain same as are mentioned in detailed bid

The Bid shall be opened on 31-10-2024 at 11:30 AM or any other date convenient to bid opening authority in presence of bidders who may like to be present.

> Member Secretary Auction Committee, RanjiSagar Reservoir,

Accounts Officer Fisheries Department.

Office of the Executive Engineer, **Electric Division- Ganderbal.**

Sd/-

Email: Edgbl123@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2416237 Fax No. 0194-2416237

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE e-NIT No. EDG/V/064 of 2024-25,dt:08.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-Ganderbal invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Electrical Contractors/firms for as under:

S.No	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)
1	Providing Power Supply to New USO Sites under 4G Saturation Project of GIO at	25.88
	Panzin, Wussan, Tangchatter, Hariganiwan, Surfraw, Haknar, Kullan, Rezan, Mam-	
	mar Dardwooder, Naranag, Wangat, Baba Nagri, Kijpora and Shutkari,	
	,	

The complete tender document is available at website http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested bidder/tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	08.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	22.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iii) iv)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End) Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	08.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 22.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs 23.10.2024 at 13:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically quali-
		fied bidders
vi)	Venue ofCommercial/ Technical BidOpening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System websitehttp://jktenders.gov.in
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand Only) (Non-
		refundable) [Treasury Receipt/Demand Draft]
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.51,800/= (Rupees Fifty Thousand Eight Hundred
		only)

DIPK-NB-1637/24 dated: 09-10-2024

Executive Engineer Electric Division Ganderbal

NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

SKIMS Signs MOU With Indian Oil Corporation



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Sheri Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura signed an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation under CSR to support SKIMS for various patient care activities.

The MoU was signed between SKIMS and IOC. in presence of Director SKIMS Dr. M. Ashraf Ganie and head Indian Oil Corporation. Other officers from SKIMS including Additional Director SKIMS Dr. Firdous Giri, HOD Hospital Administration Dr. G. H Yatoo, Incharge Collaborations SKIMS & Prof. Department of Nephrology Dr. Muzaffar Magsood Wani, and senior officers from Indian Oil

Corporation were present. As per the preliminary MoU signed today IOC will provide financial assistance of Rs.46 lakhs for the construction of two shelter sheds for

Director SKIMS Dr. M. Ashraf Ganaie welcomed the Head IOC and officers from IOC and expressed his gratitude to IOC for the initiative to provide support under CSR for various patient care facilities. He said SKIMS will frame IOC on broader areas of patient care as there are many areas where both SKIMS and IOC can work together to benefit patients and Nodal Officer Collaborations SKIMS will work out the plan on broader areas in consultation with IOC.

Director SKIMS under scored the need of such MOU for various services to the patients and said SKIMS is always in the front line to ensure best patient care services.

Additional Director SKIMS Dr. Firdous Giri in his remarks hailed IOC for their support and said their assistance for various patient care facilities will benefit patients.

Two Wild Boars Captured From House In Dalgate

Sedated, Boars Sent Back To Woods: Wildlife Dept

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Two wild boars that were seen roaming around Dal Lake and Foreshore Road a few days ago, have been captured alive by the wildlife life department near Chest Diseases Hospital, Dalgate late last evening.

The robust wild equivalents of the pig family mainly found in the Dachigam woods in Kashmir were put to sedation before being released into their natural habitat, from where they had infiltrated into human settlement.

The wild boars, according to wildlife officials, were found hiding in bushes at Drugian Dalgate area near Chest Diseases Hospital late last evening.

"The boars were hiding in bushes after breaking into a private property at Drugjan Dalgate. We sent a rescue squad to the area to capture them alive after receiving information about their presence in the area around 8:30 p.m. last evening," a wildlife official told Kashmir Observer.

The wild boars were tranquillized and then released by the rescue team back into Dachigam Woods, their native habitat, after an angry mob had reportedly started stoning and shoving them away.

"The enraged crowd would



The enraged crowd would have stoned the boars to death had not the wildlife department's rescue squad arrived in time. Since their presence may spark a serious event, we appeal to the authorities to ensure no space is left for such a forbidden species to trespass into inhabited areas henceforth," a local resident told Kashmir Observer.

have stoned the boars to death had not the wildlife department's rescue squad arrived in time. Since their presence may spark a serious event, we appeal to the authorities to ensure no space is left for such a forbidden species to trespass into inhabited areas henceforth," a local resident told Kashmir Observer.

It is worth mentioning that two wild boars found wandering around Dal Lake a few days ago, according to officials, exist in Dachigam National Park and its surrounding Conservation Reserves since Maharajas Time. During harvest season, they could be found roaming outside the peripheries of these reserves in search of food.



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

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

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



1446

FAJR 5:08 **ZUHR** 12:18 **ASR**

PRAYERS

4:25 6:08 Magrib **ISHA** 7:27

Youth Electrocuted To Death In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Tender

Srinagar: A 24-year-old youth died from an electric shock in Tengpora area of Srinagar, officials said Wednesday.

Javaid Malik, son of Abdul Rahman Malik a resident of Kalaroos Kupwara, according to officials, lost his life due to an elec-

tric shock. Following medico-legal for-

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr.DEE/TR/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled

App. Cost.

(in Rs.)

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Dated: 08.10.2024

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Money (In Rs.)

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Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Name of work

at Platform no. 1 at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra, Railway Station for three year,

251J-Elect- Shifting of Escalators and Comprehensive

T-05-2024- Annual Maintenance contract of Escalators

251 J-Elect/T. Notice No. 05-Elect/2024-25

malities, the body of the deceased youth was handed over to the next of his kin for last rites.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated an investigation.

Opening

tender

29.10.2024

Website

Particulars

www.ireps.gov.in

3100/24

Completion

period

38 Month

In continuation to already announced Festival Special Trains-2024, Railways have

planned to run following additional Festival Special trains including two Vande Bharat and one Tejas semi high speed Festival Specials as per detail given below:-

MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2024

02252/02251 New Delhi - Patna Jn. - New Delhi Reserved Vande Bharat Festival Spl. Train Trips TRAIN NO. 02252 TRAIN NO. 02251 **STATIONS** ARR. DEP. New Delhi 08:25 19:00

Patna Jn. 20:00 Days of Run: 02252 Ex. New Delhi on 30.10.2024, 01.11.2024, 03.11.2024 & 06.11.2024 and 02251 Ex. Patna Jn. on 31.10.2024, 02.11.2024, 04.11.2024 & 07.11.2024

Accommodation: AC Chair Car & Executive Chair Car Stoppages: Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal

Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar and Ara stations. 02270/02269 Lucknow - Chhapra - Lucknow Reserved Vande Bharat Festival Special Train (Daily Except Tuesday) TRAIN NO. 02270 ARR. DEP ARR. DEP. 14:15 Lucknow 06:30 ---Chhapra

Days of Run: 02270 Ex. Lucknow and 02269 Ex. Chhapra from 25.10.2024 to 08.11.2024 Daily (Except Tuesday) Accommodation: AC Chair Car & Executive Chair Car

Stoppages: Sultanpur Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia 04074/04073 Delhi Jn. - Howrah Jn. - Delhi Jn. | 02 and Suraimannur stations

02248/0224/ New Delhi - Patha Jn New Delhi 08 👢							
Reserved Tejas Superfast Festival Special Train Trips							
TRAIN NO. 02248		CTATIONS	TRAIN NO. 02247		L		
ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.			
	08:25 New Delhi 19:3		19:35		D		
20:30		Patna Jn.	-	07:30	l۰		
Days of Run: 02248 Ex. New Delhi on 29.10.2024, 31.10.2024,							

02.11.2024 & 05.11.2024 and 02247 Ex. Patna Jn. on 30.10.2024.01.11.2024.03.11.2024 & 06.11.2024 Accommodation: AC Chair Car & Executive Chair Car

Stoppages: Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Andal Jn., Durgapur, Barddhaman and Dankuni stations. Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar and Ara stations.

04052/04051 New Delhi - Jaynagar - New					
Delhi Reserved Special Train					
TRAIN	IO. 04052	STATIONS	TRAIN NO	0.04051	
ARR.	DEP.	SIAHONS	ARR.	DEP.	
	14:20	New Delhi	18:50		
15:40	\	Jaynagar		18:00	

01.11.2024 & 04.11.2024 and **04051** Ex. Jaynagar on 11.10.2024 & 13.10.2024 27.10.2024, 30.10.2024, 02.11.2024 & 05.11.2024

Accommodation: 1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier,

Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Mokama Jn., Barauni Jn., 04081/04082 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi 02 Samastipur Jn. and Darbhanga Jn. stations

04054/04053 New Delhi - Barauni Jn New							
	Delhi Reserved Special Train Trips						
TRAIN	NO. 04054	STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 04053				
ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.			
	14:20	New Delhi	09:10				
11:00	\	Barauni Jn.		12:30			

Days of Run: 04054 Ex. New Delhi on 27.10.2024, 30.10.2024, 02.11.2024 & 05.11.2024 and 04053 Ex. Barauni Jn. on 28.10.2024, 31.10.2024, 03.11.2024 & 06.11.2024

Accommodation: AC2Tier, Sleeper & General. Stoppages: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal

Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn. and Mokama Jn. stations. For any kind of information, passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways

website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

02250/02249 Delhi Jn Patna Jn Delhi Jn Reserved Superfast Express Special Train					04 Trips
k	TRAIN	NO. 02250	STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 0224	
Э	ARR.	DEP.	SIAHONS	ARR.	DEP.
ļ		23:55	Delhi Jn.	11:00	
t	16:40		Patna Jn.		17:50
ı	Days of Run : 02250 Ex. Delhi In. on 24 10 2024 & 31 10 20				

and 02249 Ex. Patna Jn. on 25.10.2024 & 01.11.2024 Accommodation: 1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, 3 Tier

Economy, Sleeper & General. Stoppages: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal

Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara and Danapur stations.

	09657/09658 Daurai - Barhni - Daurai Special Train (Weekly)						
,	TRAIN NO. 09657		STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 0965			
١	ARR.	DEP.	SIAHONS	ARR.	DEP.		
		15:00 _	Daurai	19:20			
ı	09:18	09:20	Barabanki Jn.	23:55	23:57		
	13:25		Barhni		19:15		

Days of Run: 09657 Ex. Daurai on every Saturday from 12.10.2024 to 16.11.2024 and 09658 Ex. Barhni on every **Trips** Sunday from 13.10.2024 to 17.11.2024

STATIONS TRAIN NO. 02269
Accommodation: AC 3 Tier, 3 Tier Economy, Sleeper & General. Jaipur, Bandikui Jn, Bharatpur Jn, Mathura Jn, Hathras City, Kasganj, Kaimganj, Farrukhabad Jn., Kannauj, Kanpur Anwarganj, Kanpur Central, Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Gomti Nagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Balrampur and Tulsipur stations.

а	Reserved Superfast Express Special Train T						
	TRAIN	NO. 04074	STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 0			
s	ARR.	DEP.	SIAIIUNS	ARR.	DEP.		
7		23:55	Delhi Jn.	05:00			
	01:25		Howrah Jn.		04:20		
	Days of Run: 04074 Ex. Delhi Jn. on 10.10.2024 and 04073 Ex.						
	10.10.0001						

Howrah Jn. on 12.10.2024 Accommodation: 1st AC, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General.

Stoppages: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Mirzapur, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Sasaram, Gaya Jn, Koderma, Parasnath, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Jn. Gomoh, Dhanbad Jn, Asansol Jn.,

Value 104071/04072 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - New Delhi Reserved Exp. Spl. Train						
TRAINI	NO. 04071	STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 0407		
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.	
	23:45	New Delh	09:30			
11:40		Shri Mata Vaishno			21:20	
		Devi Katra	a			
Days of Run: 04071 Ex. New Delhi of				on 10.10	.2024 &	

Days of Run: 04052 Ex. New Delhi on 26.10.2024, 29.10.2024, 12.10.2024 and 04072 Ex. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on

Accommodation: AC2Tier, Sleeper & General.

Stoppages: Sonipat, Panipat, Karnal, Kurukshetra Jn., Ambala Cantt, Dhandari Kalan, Jalandhar Cantt, Pathankot Cantt, Stoppages: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Jammu Tawi and Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan stations.

Katra - New Delhi Reserved Exp. Spl. Train				Trips
TRAIN NO. 04081		STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 04082	
ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.
	23:45	New Delhi	09:30	
11:40		Shri Mata Vaishno		21:20
		Devi Katra		

Days of Run: 04081 Ex. New Delhi on 11.10.2024 and 04082 Ex. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on 12.10.2024

Accommodation: 1stAC, AC2Tier, AC3Tier, Sleeper & General. Stoppages: Sonipat, Panipat, Karnal, Kurukshetra Jn, Ambala Cantt, Dhandari Kalan, Jalandhar Cantt, Pathankot Cantt, Jammu Tawi and Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan stations.

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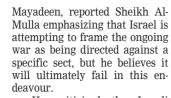
قبرستان خشخاش باغ سعیده کدل سرینگر میں انجام دی جائے گی۔

Iraq Blasts Israel For Threats to Sayyed Sistani

Agencies

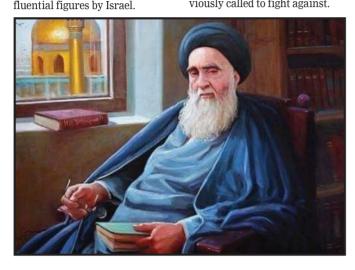
Baghdad: Iraq has condemned Israel for threats to Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Ali al-Sistani. Israeli Channel 14 recently leaked an image revealing what it described as "Israel's target list" of prominent regional leaders.

Among those listed was Iraq's highest religious authority, Sayyed al-Sistani, who was marked as a legitimate target. The leak has raised serious concerns, further highlighting the escalating tensions in the region and the potential targeting of informatic formula targeting of informatic formula targeting of in-



He criticized the Israeli threats against Sayyed al-Sistani, asserting that they aim to expand the scope of the war to distract from its losses and crimes in Gaza and Lebanon.

Sheikh also pointed out that the Israel government was courting criminal gangs, like ISIS, which Sayyed al-Sistani has previously called to fight against.



The Iraqi President's office has issued condemnation of Israeli media for targeting Iraq's highest religious authority.

Iraq's Head of the Islamic Scholars Association, Sheikh Khaled Al-Mulla, has condemned the threats made by the Israel against prominent religious figures, including Najaf-based Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Ali alsistani, stating that these actions confirm that Israel is waging a religious war against Muslims.

Pan Arab news channel Al

Sheikh Al-Mulla referenced a previous warning from Sayyed Khamenei regarding Israel's attempts to incite discord among Muslims, stating that the scholars possess significant wisdom to counter these threats.

Commenting on this issue, the Iraqi government stated that both the government and the people of Iraq have made every effort to prevent the escalation of war, but the Israeli entity and its government have only exacerbated the situation.

Iran FM In Saudi For Talks On Gaza And Lebanon

Agencies

RIYADH: Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi arrived in the Saudi capital on Wednesday, Saudi state media reported, for what his office said would be talks on efforts to end Israeli military operations in Gaza and Lebanon.

The Saudi Al Ekhbariya channel broadcast footage of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan greeting Araghchi and his delegation in Riyadh.

Earlier on Wednesday Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on X that Araghchi's visit would focus on stopping "the Israeli regime's genocide & aggression" and aimed to "alleviate the pain and suffering of our brothers and sisters in Gaza and Lebanon".

Israel has been waging a year-long war against Hamas in Gaza that was triggered by the Palestinian militant group's unprecedented attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023.

Hezbollah, based in Lebanon, began firing on northern Israel in the wake of that attack, and since last month Israel has significantly ramped up its strikes targeting Hezbollah leaders and infrastructure.

Both Hamas and Hezbollah are part of Iran's "Axis of Resistance" of militant groups in the region.

Araghchi's visit to Saudi Arabia comes as the region awaits Israel's response to an Iranian missile attack on its territory last week.

Baghaei said the meetings in Riyadh were "in furtherance of our diplomatic efforts, in coordination with countries of the region".

In Beirut on Friday, Araghchi said Tehran supports efforts for a "simultaneous" ceasefire in Lebanon and the Palestinian territory.

The Islamic republic called Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack on Israel "a turning point in the history of the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people against Israel". Restored ties

Iran and Saudi Arabia resumed relations in March 2023 under a surprise China-brokered deal following a seven-year rupture.

Iran has repeatedly accused its arch-foe Israel of committing genocide and war crimes since the Gaza war began.

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter and custodian of Islam's two holiest sites, paused US-brokered talks on recognising Israel after the Gaza war broke out.



Netanyahu Threatens Lebanon With Destruction 'Like Gaza'

Agencie

Jerusalem: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Lebanon Tuesday it could face destruction "like Gaza" as Israel ramps up its ground offensive against Hezbollah along the southern section of the Lebanese coast.

Netanyahu's stark warning came as the Israeli military deployed more troops and urged civilians in coastal areas to evacuate.

"You have an opportunity to save Lebanon before it falls into the abyss of a long war that will lead to destruction and suffering like we see in Gaza," Netanyahu said in a video address directed to the people of Lebanon.

"I say to you, the people of Lebanon: Free your country from Hezbollah so that this war can end."

Hezbollah earlier said it fired rockets at the Israeli port city of Haifa, after the Israeli military reported 85 projectiles crossing from Lebanon.

Israel expanded operations in Lebanon nearly a year after Hezbollah began exchanging fire in support of its ally, Hamas, following the Palestinian group's deadly attack on Israel on October 7, 2023.

While battling Hamas in Gaza, Israel has vowed to secure its northern border with Lebanon to allow tens of thousands of Israe-

New Delhi: Researchers have

sounded an alarm on a possibly "ir-

reversible climate disaster" as 25

of the 35 planetary vital signs that

help track climate change every

coming more frequent, and intense

and emissions from fossil fuels

are at an all-time high - these are

a couple of the 25 vital signs, the

international team, including re-

searchers from the Potsdam Insti-

tute of Climate Impact Research,

scribed included Earth's average

surface temperature, ocean heat,

global sea levels and human popu-

lation -- all touching record highs.

The human population has been

Other vital signs they de-

Germany, said in a report.

Extreme weather events be-

Press Trust Of India

year hit record levels.

lis displaced by Hezbollah's crossborder fire to return home.

Both Hamas and Hezbollah have pledged no let-up against Israel, and on Tuesday Hezbollah's deputy leader Naim Qassem said the group would make it impossible for Israelis to return to the north.

Israel launched a wave of strikes against Hezbollah strongholds in Lebanon on September 23, leaving at least 1,150 people dead since then and forcing more than a million people to flee.

Israeli attacks have mainly targeted Hezbollah strongholds in southern and eastern Lebanon, as well as south Beirut.

Evacuation warning

While the coast has not been spared, Israel's latest evacuation warning suggests it is extending its offensive northwards.

On its Telegram channel, the Israeli military said its 146th Division began "limited, localised, targeted operational activities" against Hezbollah targets and infrastructure in southwestern Lebanon.

A day earlier, the military had warned people to stay away from the the southern part of Lebanon's Mediterranean coast, with a spokesman saying Israel would "soon operate in the maritime area against Hezbollah's terrorist ac-

Earth's 25 Vital Signs Hit Extremes

Researchers Sound Alarm On

'Irreversible Climate Disaster'

increasing at roughly two lakh a

perience of devastating heatwayes

of 2024 across Asia, including the

longest one ever in India, much

more frequent and extreme, the

authors said in the analysis, titled

'The 2024 State of the Climate Re-

port: Perilous Times on Planet

Earth' and published in the jour-

hit record lows in terms of both

trous oxide -- potent greenhouse

gases -- have reached unprece-

dented levels, they added. Nitrous

oxide levels were found to have

increased by roughly 40 per cent

Consumption of coal, oil and

MAKERS

between 1980 and 2020

N E W S

mass and thickness, they added.

Greenland and Antarctic ice

Emissions of methane and ni-

Climate change made the ex-

day, they said.

nal Bioscience.

tivities" south of the Awali river. In Sidon, fishermen stayed

ashore and the seafood market was unusually quiet.

"Fishing was the way we supported our children. If we

supported our children. If we don't go out to sea, we won't be able to feed ourselves," said fisherman Issam Haboush. The Israeli military said it

The Israell military said it hit Hezbollah's south Beirut bastion, where a strike last month killed the militant group's leader Hassan Nasrallah.

Hezbollah later said it repelled Israeli troops who "infiltrated from behind" a UN peacekeepers' position in the southern border village of Labboune.

Hezbollah defiant

Hezbollah's deputy leader said despite Israel's "painful" strikes, the group's leadership structure was in order and its military capabilities were "fine".

"Netanyahu says he wants to bring back" the displaced to their homes in northern Israel, Qassem said.

But "we say that many more residents will be forced to flee" their homes, he warned.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant later said Hezbollah "is a battered and broken organisation, without significant command and fire capabilities, with a disintegrated leadership following the elimination of Hassan Nasrallah".

gas together rose by 1.5 per cent

in 2023, compared to that in 2022,

while use of fossil fuels remains

roughly 15 times that of solar and

wind energy, the researchers said.

of the 35 vital signs to be touching

reversible climate disaster. This

is a global emergency beyond any

doubt. Much of the very fabric of

life on Earth is imperilled," the au-

new phase of the climate crisis"

could be unravelling, they said

and emphasised that current poli-

cies place the planet on track to

achieving 2.7 degrees Celsius of

warming by 2100 -- far exceeding

the Paris Agreement goals of 1.5

record extremes.

thors wrote.

degrees Celsius.

In 2023, the team had shown 20

"We are on the brink of an ir-

A "critical and unpredictable

Cancer Drugs: Study Reveals 'Major Disparities' Between Rich, Poor Nations

Press Trust Of India

New cancer drugs launched each year increased from 0.5 in the 1990s to over eight in 2022 among high-income countries, whereas they increased from 0.1 to 1.5 a year among uppermiddle-income countries, according to a global analysis revealing "significant" and "widening" disparities.

New drug launches remained minimal in lower-middle-income and low-income countries, it found.

Published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Global Health, the analysis highlighted significant disparities in both availability and timeliness of these medicines worldwide, according to researchers.

The inequities could explain the poor cancer outcomes across many countries, especially the low- and middle-income ones, where mortality-to-incidence ratios have been studied to be higher, despite overall cases being lower, the researchers, including those from The Pennsylvania State University, US, said.

The measure 'mortality-to-incidence ratio' is used to compare inequities in cancer outcomes. It is calculated by dividing the deaths due to cancer by the case count in a given year.

The disparities are likely to worsen with low- and middle-income countries expected to bear the major brunt of the

projected surge in global cancer cases in the years to come, the researchers added.

Over the study period, from 1990 to 2022, 568 new anti-cancer drugs were found to have been launched. The



researchers included nearly 4,200 drug launches and regulatory approvals from across 111 countries in their analysis.

The data was taken from Pharmaprojects, a commercial database tracking global pharmaceutical research and development (R & D) activities in over 150 countries. Data from World Bank and Global Cancer Observatory was also used in the study.

Of the 568 new cancer drugs, the US saw the most launches at 345, followed by Japan and Canada at 224 and 221, respectively, the researchers found.

Over 190 of the new drugs were launched in the UK and 169 in China during 1990-2022.

Turkish Pilot Died Mid-flight, What Happened Next?



Agencies

Ankara: A Turkish Airlines pilot died after collapsing mid-flight, forcing the Turkish national carrier to make an emergency landing in New York, the airline said on Wednesday.

The plane had taken off from the western US coastal city of Seattle on Tuesday evening, airline spokesman Yahya Ustun wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

"The pilot of our Airbus 350... flight TK204 from Seattle to Istanbul collapsed during the flight," he wrote.

"After an unsuccessful attempt to give first aid, the flight crew of another pilot and a copilot decided to make an emergency landing, but he died before landing."

The 59-year-old pilot, who had worked for Turkish Air-

6

After an

unsuccessful attempt to give first aid, the flight crew of another pilot and a co-pilot decided to make an emergency landing, but he died before landing

lines since 2007, had passed a medical examination in March, which gave no indication of any health problems, Ustun wrote.

Iran's Top Commander Survived Beirut Strike

ubai: The top Commander of Iran's Quds Force Esmail Qaani is in 'good health', the force's deputy commander Iraj Masjedi said on Monday, after Iranian security sources told Reuters he had been out of contact

since strikes on Beirut last week.

"He is in good health and is carrying out his activities. Some ask us to issue a statement... there is no need for this", Masjedi was quoted as saying by state media in reference to Qaani.

One of the officials speaking to Reuters said Qaani was in Beirut's southern suburbs, known as the Dahiyeh, during a strike last week that was reported to have targeted senior Hezbollah official Hashem Safieddine. The official said he was not meeting Safieddine.

Israel has been hitting multiple targets in Dahiyeh as it pursues a campaign against Iran-backed Lebanese group Hezbollah. Tehran named Qaani the head of the Revolutionary Guards Corps' overseas military-intelligence service after the United States assassinated his powerful predecessor Qassem Soleimani in a drone strike in Baghdad in 2020.

Ratan Tata Critical, Under ICU In Mumbai Hospital

atan Tata, chairman emeritus of one of India's biggest conglomerates, Tata Sons, is in critical condition in intensive care at a Mumbai hospital, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said on Wednesday.

Mr Tata, 86, said on Monday he was undergoing routine medical investigations due to his age and related medical conditions. A representative for Tata

did not immediately respond to a request for an update on his condition on Wednesday. In a statement published

on his social media profiles on Monday, Mr Tata said he remained in good spirits and that there was no cause for concern. Mr Tata became chairman of the autos to steel conglomer-

ate in 1991 and ran the group

founded by his great-grandfa-



ther more than a hundred years ago until 2012.

He founded telecommunications company Tata Teleservices in 1996 and took IT company Tata Consultancy Services public in 2004.

After stepping down, he was conferred with the title of chairman emeritus of Tata Sons, Tata Industries, Tata Motors, Tata Steel and Tata Chemicals, the company website says.

Comedian Takes Netanyahu to Court

n October 7, Bassem Youssef and Sudanese filmmaker Amjad Al-Nour, who is also a journalist for Al Jazeera, released a satirical song titled 'Bibi's Trial,' which takes a jab at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's crimes against humanity, and how they have been trivialised and defended by the USA.

That the song released on October 7 was no coincidence—it marked a year to Hamas' attack on Israel and Israel's subsequent escalation and launching of a full-blown war on Gaza.

The song imagines a fictitious International Criminal Court trial where Netanyahu is being prosecuted. Youssef, known for his sharp political humour, plays the presiding judge, delivering a guilty ver-



dict for Netanyahu in a dramatic fashion.

However, the trial quickly shifts as a US lawyer, portrayed by Al-Nour, hijacks the proceedings, convincing the jury and the audience to side with Netanyahu through slick manipulation.

A clever critique of global politics unfolds as the entire courtroom, including Youssef as the judge, become puppets to the American lawyer, donning US flags and dancing in submission to "Yankee supremacy" (read, US influence).

The lyrics are a scathing commentary on how the United States has repeatedly shielded Israel from accountability for its military actions in Gaza and the wider Palestinian territories.

Poll Results Rebuff To BJP **Machinations: CPI (M)**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The contrasting results thrown up by Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana state election provide 'valuable lessons' for secular forces in the struggle against BJP in the days to come, CPI(M) said on Wednesday.

"The unambiguous mandate of the people in Jammu & Kashmir is a rebuff to the machinations of the BJP Central government to scuttle the democratic aspirations of the people through abrogation of Article 370, abolition of statehood through bifurcation of the state into two Union Territories and the manipulative delimitation of the constituencies", CPI (M) said in a statement.

"In Haryana, the BJP managed to secure a majority of seats in a close fight with the Congress, but with a narrow margin of 0.6 per cent vote share over Congress. Its success is marked by micro-caste mobilization and insidious communal propaganda. The Congress will have to introspect as to the other factors responsible for this verdict", the statement reads.

Khyber Cement Partners With Bureau Of Indian Standards For "Driving Sustainability Through Standards"



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Khyber Cement, the leading brand from Jammu & Kashmir, has collaborated with The Bureau of India Standards (BIS) to flag off a Bike Rally to commemorate World Standards Day 2024. The rally will conclude in the heroic Siachen Base Camp with 16 riders taking part in it. Khyber Cement's support for this event marks a significant step in the company's ongoing efforts to contribute to the welfare of Kashmir beyond business through such meaningful initiatives.

The 10-day rally, themed 'Driving Sustainability through Standards' was flagged off on October 9th at Nehru Park in Srinagar, with riders travelling through challenging terrain to raise awareness about the role of standards in promoting sustainability. This initiative also promotes organizational sustainability by implementing proactive oversight measures that enhance transparency and ethical practices.

Speaking about the initiative, Mr. Umar Tramboo, Director of Corporate & Strategy emphasised the importance of such collaborations, stating, "For us at Khyber Cement, sustainability transcends not just corporate responsibility, but it also represents our dedication to safeguarding the future for generations come. Our partnership with BIS for this rally is a part of our constant efforts to drive positive change in the region, from supporting environmental causes to ensuring transparency in all our business practices."

Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Mir, the

Head of Commercials, Legal & Regulatory Affairs said, "Khyber Cement proudly joins hands with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to celebrate World Standards Day 2024, reinforcing our commitment to quality and excellence in construction. As a sponsor of the bike rally, we stand united in promoting industry standards for a safer and stronger tomorrow."

Smt Sneh Lata, Dy Director General North of BIS added, "This initiative of a bike rally to Siachen Base Camp at Ladakh represents our mission to reach new horizons. By upholding standards, we drive innovation and build trust, ensuring that our products and services meet the highest benchmarks. I extend my best wishes to the team for a successful and fulfilling journey."

Khyber Cement, the leading ce-

ment manufacturer in the region, has long been committed to aligning its business practices with the broader goal of environmental responsibility and community development. By collaborating with the Bureau of Indian Standards for this initiative, the organization has once again demonstrated its commitment to fostering positive change in Jammu & Kashmir, in line with its 'Dil Se Banao' philosophy. This collaboration is part of the company's wider efforts, which focus on supporting events and programs that promote social, environmental, and economic sustainability for the betterment of Kashmiris. As the riders now continue their journey to the Siachen Base Camp, this event stands as a powerful reminder of the impact that businesses can have when they align with global goals such as sustainability.

Govt Suspends Principal BHSS Sopore

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department suspended Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Principal of Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS) Sopore.

The suspension comes under Rule 31(1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control, and Appeal) Rules, 1956.

As per Government Order, the suspended principal will remain attached to the Chief

Education Office, Baramulla, during the suspension period. The Director of School Education, Kashmir, has been appointed as the inquiry officer and tasked with conducting an investigation into the matter.

The report, along with recommendations, is expected to be submitted within 15 days. In the interim, the Drawing and Disbursing Powers of BHSS Sopore have been transferred to the Principal of Girls Higher Secondary School, Sopore, until further orders—(KNO)

Rise In Vision Problems Linked To Excessive Screen Time, Doctors Warn

Agencies

The increasing use of digital devices has largely contributed to the rise of vision problems, according to doctors.

They said that prolonged screen time forces the eyes to focus closely for extended periods, leading to discomfort commonly referred to as "computer vision syndrome" or digital eye strain. Symptoms include dry eyes, headaches, blurred vision, and neck or shoulder pain.

Children, în particular, are at a heightened risk of developing myopia (nearsightedness) at a younger age due to excessive screen time.

Dr Tariq Qureshi, a noted ophthalmologist and former Principal of GMC Anantnag, said it is important to conduct regular eye check-ups, saying elderly patients should have examinations every six months. He said that agerelated macular degeneration has doubled in prevalence over the past decade.

"Early detection and treatment are crucial to addressing sight-related issues," Dr Qureshi said, recommending that children undergo annual

Dr Shugufta, an ophthalmologist at GMC Srinagar,



identified preventable causes of blindness, including refractive errors, cataracts, glaucoma, and the rapidly increasing cases of diabetic retinopathy in India. She stressed the importance of maintaining eye health through a balanced diet rich in green leafy vegetables, fresh fruits, and lean meats like fish.

She said regular eye examinations are essential, as many preventable causes of blindness do not present symptoms until substantial damage has occurred.

"For those with diabetes, hypertension, and other systemic diseases, more frequent evaluations for eye conditions are necessary," she added.

Dr Sheikh Sajad, an ophthalmologist at SKIMS Bemina, highlighted recent advancements in technology and research, including gene therapy for genetic eye conditions like Leber congenital amaurosis. He said that artificial intelligence is now being utilised to enhance the speed and accuracy of eye disease diagnoses.

"Preventive technologies, such as wearable devices and mobile apps, are also available to track symptoms and remind patients of eye exams," he said

Dr Sajad said that early warning signs of serious eye diseases can include blurred vision, floaters, flashes of light, changes in night vision, and redness or pain. He recommended a nutrient-rich diet, staying hydrated, reducing screen time, and minimizing exposure to blue light from screens to maintain eye

ECI Expresses Gratitude To MHA Officials, Security Forces, **IAF For Peaceful J&K Polls Observer News Service**

SRINAGAR: Election Commission of India (ECI) Wednesday expressed its gratitude to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) officers, security forces and the Indian Airforce officers for their contribution towards peaceful Assembly polls in J&K held after a decade.

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India Rajiv Kumar commended the exemplary role played by coordinated efforts of security forces with election officials which result-ed in minimal re-polls & near zero instances of violence in last Lok Sabha polls.

"Assembly elections witnessed a massive meticulous deployment of forces. EC salutes Commitment of forces in maintaining peace & working hand in hand with election officials for a peaceful & intimidation free environment for voters in regions with a history of violence & insurgency," Kumar said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also congratulated the newly elected members of J&K

He stated that the peaceful electoral process and participation of millions of voters is testimony to vibrant democracy and people's faith in democratic values of the country. In a post on X, LG Sinha, said that J&K stands taller, guided by principles of good governance, people-first, social justice and social harmony.

"My heartiest congratulations to all the members elected to the Legislative Assembly and NC-led alliance for victory in the polls. Best wishes to them in the service of people. The Constitution of India is our guiding light & I urge all to work together for the growth of J&K & welfare of people," he said. The LG thanked the people for empowering and strengthening democracy in J&K. "I laud the efforts of CEO J&K, EC officials, IKP and security forces for working tirelessly and diligently to uphold the sanctity of the ballot and successfully completing transparent, free & fair election," he said.

Jamaat-E-Islami Terms **Election Performance 'Positive Restart' Despite setbacks**

SRINAGAR: Reacting to reports that Jamaat-e-Islami failed to make an impact in the recently concluded assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir, the party's spokesperson described their performance as a positive restart.

Shamim Ahmad Thoker, head spokesperson for the Jamaat-e-Islami panel, said the party's results were commendable given they only had a few weeks to campaign. He said that long-established parties have struggled to make a mark, yet candidates backed by Jamaat-e-Islami performed well.

"For instance, Sayar Ahmad Reshie from Kulgam garnered over 25,000 votes against a candidate supported by a coalition of three major parties: CPIM, NC, and Congress," he said. "Securing 25,000 votes against a five-time MLA is no small feat."

Thoker acknowledged that

many Jamaat-e-Islami supporters chose to abstain from voting due to various apprehensions. A different outcome could have been possible had they participated, he said.

He expressed gratitude to all workers who supported Jamaat candidates, saying the party operated without funds, relying instead on community support.

Looking ahead, the spokesperson expressed hope that the INDIA alliance, which secured a majority, will meet the expectations of the people and fulfill the promises outlined in their manifestos.

Regarding future strategies, Thoker said the Jamaat panel will reconvene to discuss their next steps in upcoming meetings.

Notably, this was Jamaat-e-Islami's first electoral participation since 1987, with party members previously opting out of elections to protest the alleged rigging of that year—(KNO)

Upcoming CM To Wear Crown Of Thorns: Dr Farooq



Agencies

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah Wednesday said that the just concluded Assembly polls in J&K were "damn difficult" and that the uncoming Chief Minister will have to wear a crown of thorns given huge responsibilities.

'The Assembly polls were damn difficult for the National Conference. All powers had united against us. But people stood with us and gave us a majority," Dr Farooq told reporters at his Gupkar residence. He said that the upcoming Chief Minister will have to wear a "crown of thorns" given huge responsibilities on his shoulders. "The road ahead is very tough but we have to walk over it," he said.

On BJP winning the majority of seats in Jammu, the NC chief said like the then Governor General of Pakistan, late Muhammad Ali Jinnah thought once that Kashmir was in his pocket, BIP has the same belief about Jammu. "It is up to Jammu people now whether they want to remain in BJP's pocket or join the fight for dignity," he said. "Jammu people ignored NC but NC didn't ignore them and the party will show Kashmir and Jammu are of equal importance."

Replying to a query that Jammu people have doubts whether they would have share in the governance, Dr Farooq said: "We didn't ignore Jammu, but Jammu people ignored us. We will show Jammu that we will treat Kashmir and Jammu equally and there will be no injustice. Jammu is as dear to us as Kashmir is. Hope people of Jammu understand how dangerous the BJP is for them."

He said the Jammu areas where people voted for BJP lack proper roads. About elections that gave a majority to NC, Dr Farooq said that it was a damn difficult election as all forces were against NC. "But people stood against all odds and defeated the designs. Now it is our responsibility to serve

people back," Dr Farooq said. About the swearing in ceremony, he said INDIA alliance leaders have to come for a meeting after which there will be swearing in ceremony. "We have invited many leaders including Sonia Gandhi, former PM Devi Goda and other dignitaries," he said. "But we have to meet first. The NC legislature party is meeting tomorrow and we will also meet Alliance partners. After that we will go to Rajbhawan to stake a claim on the government."

On who was going to be the CM, Dr Farooq said he would like to see his son Omar as the CM of I&K. "But final decision will be taken by the Legislature party and the Alliance partner," he said.

He said the huge responsibility on the shoulders of NC leaders is to pull out the J&K from the mess it has been plunged into for the past ten years. On nomination of five MLAs reportedly by the LG Manoj Sinha, Dr Farooq said he (LG) can't do it as it will be unconstitutional. "If he still does, we will challenge it in the court of law," he said. Asked who would be the CM, Dr Faroog said he wants his son to lead J&K but the final call will be taken after the Alliance meeting. NC got a huge mandate of 42 seats while as reports suggest that six legislators who fought independently in Jammu will also join the party shortly. BJP swept Jammu by bagging 29 seats. The elections witnessed the downfall of Congress that gained only six seats. PDP also shrunk to just 3 seats—(KNO)

PCC Chief Visits Abdullahs' To Express Greetings On **Behalf Of Party**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chief Tariq Hameed Karra today visited the Abdullahs' to extend greetings on behalf of Congress party for National Conference's clean sweep in the Assembly polls.

He said there would be discussions on contentious issues like Article 370 with the NC and Congress leadership in future. "I had only come to see Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to extend greetings on behalf of the Congress party.

As already stated by Omar sahab, NC will hold a legislature party meeting first and then a meeting with Alliance where the model of governance will be discussed," said Karra while speaking to reporters outside the Gupkar residence of Abdullahs.

Replying to a query whether Congress was demanding Deputy Chief Minister's post, Karra said nothing of that sort has been discussed today. "I came to taste sweets and extend greetings. These things will be discussed in the Alliance meeting," he said.

Karra, while answering another question as to what was the Congress stand on Article 370, said that these are contentious issues and will be discussed in future. "Let the LP of NC take place first and then there will be an Alliance meeting as well," he said.

Earlier, Omar Abdullah had said that after LP and Alliance meeting tomorrow, they will stake claim on government formation in a next few days by visiting Raj Bhawan-

The Heart Of A Lawyer Should Be Like A Tiger: Justice Atul Sreedharan

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Legal Services Authority in collaboration with The School of Law, University of Kashmir, today organized a significant awareness-cum-interaction programme at Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir.

The event was presided over by Justice Atul Sreedharan, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, J&K Le-

gal Services Authority. Today's event marked the first official programme chaired by Justice Sreedharan after being appointed as the Executive Chairman of J&K Legal Services Authority, setting a strong precedent for future initiatives aimed at enhancing legal literacy and access to justice across the Union Territory.

On arrival, Justice Sreedharan, who was accompanied by Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and Abdul Bari, Joint Registrar Protocol, High Court of J&K and Ladakh was warmly received by Professor Nilofar Khan, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mohammad Hussain, Head and Dean, School of Law, University of Kashmir and other faculty members.

The event started with playing of University Tarana followed by NALSA theme song.

Addressing a large gathering of law students and faculty members of law department and School of Law, Justice Sreedharan shared profound insights on the role of judges and legal practitioners. He remarked, "As judges, we judge the case before us, not the human beings involved, al-

though the repercussions of our judgments affect people deeply." He encouraged students to expand their horizons by reading books beyond legal texts, emphasizing that such readings can greatly enhance their skills in

professional careers. Elaborating on the point, Justice Sreedharan mentioned, "A book on corporate affairs may not seem relevant to a lawyer practicing on criminal side, but it can provide immense help whenever he gets a chance to deal with a case involving corporate issues." Justice Sreedharan also under-

scored the importance of reading biographies of legal stalwarts, noting that such reading provides valuable lessons for aspiring lawyers. He further emphasized that the qualities essential for success in the legal profession include Hard work and commitment to the case handed out to him by a

litigant. He further said that the heart of a lawyer should be like a tiger-bold and fearless in pursuing a client's case while being fair to the court. He added that respect for seniors and learning the court craft from them are the two biggest traits of an advocate which are key to success in this field.

Professor Nilofar Khan, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, in her address expressed deep gratitude to Justice Sreedharan for sparing valuable time to mentor the budding law students. Informing the gathering, she said that the Alumni of Law Department, University of Kashmir are not only leaving an indelible mark within and outside UT

of J&K but also all over the globe. She also highlighted the potential role, law students can play in

governance of the nation as also the critical role of the judiciary in ensuring social justice and access to justice. She urged the law students to stay prepared for challenges ahead, especially with the impact of technology on the legal system and advised them to be knowledgeable, open to learning, and compassionate.

In his welcome address, Professor Mohammad Hussain, Head and Dean, School of Law, University of Kashmir, highlighted the collaborative efforts between the University of Kashmir and the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKSLA).

He emphasized the pivotal role of budding law students in shaping the future of the legal profession, stating that hard work, determination, and consistent efforts are the key elements of suc-

cess. However, he stressed that these qualities must be accompanied by a fair code of discipline and a commitment to punctuality to truly excel in their careers.

The event also witnessed various gueries raised by the students in the interactive session that were answered by the Chief Guest to their satisfaction.

Lastly, a skit on free legal aid was presented by the law students of Drama and Theatre Society of Law School which creatively showcased the importance of legal aid in providing justice to marginalized communities and highlighted how legal assistance can transform the lives of those who cannot afford it.

Dr. Mir Junaid Alam, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Kashmir presented formal vote of thanks.

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📏 KO VIEW

Unity Over Fracture

he deep import of Tuesday's Assembly election result is still being processed across Jammu and Kashmir. And it will continue to be analyzed in the coming days. The voters of the union territory have delivered a clear message through their electoral choices. More so in Kashmir Valley where a crowded electoral scene was threatening to divide the mandate But the voters united in the face of such attempts. As the National Conference (NC) and Congress alliance bask in their win, it is the wisdom of the voters that has actually won. For their preference showed a profound understanding of the electoral strategies at play.

This election highlighted a deep awareness among Kashmiri voters about the dangers of a fractured mandate. This could have produced a government comprising smaller parties and independents without a meaningful governance agenda. But people in the Valley rallied to vote largely for the National Conference, the main regional party, just as the voters in Jammu did so for the BJP.

Now that the NC-Congress coalition is set to form the government, having secured the clear majority, it is important that both Kashmir and Jammu regions have a stake in the elected government. More so, when both the regions have been seeking a democratically elected government over the past five years.

That said, the victory does not mean an easy path ahead for the NC-Congress alliance. They now face the daunting task of governing with their hands tied. Being a union territory, an elected chief minister in Jammu and Kashmir will have fewer powers. Most of the authority is vested in Lieutenant Governor. Unless the LG-CM relationship is managed and negotiated well, this could give rise to recurrent friction akin to what has been happening in New Delhi between the LG and the AAP government. .The promises made during the campaign, by the NC -such as the restoration of statehood and Article 370-are unlikely to be fulfilled under the current framework - more so, the latter which is considered a fait accompli by the BJP. This casts doubt on the alliance's ability to deliver on some major points

But the initial signs show an attempt by the NC to reach out to the central government. Omar Abdullah's acknowledgment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's wishes shows a cautious optimism about collaboration with the Centre. PM Modi also lauded the NC for its performance, while acknowledging the importance of these elections. In a post on X, he assured the people that his government "will keep working for the welfare of Jammu and Kashmir." Here's hoping that the spirit of coop eration between the two continues as this is very critical for the good governance in the union territory.



Did you know?

Creating a Successful Investment Portfolio Requires Patience

Irshad Mushtag

reating a successful investment portfolio in the stock market requires an understanding of basic principles and a commitment to long-term strategies rather than short-term trading. Here's a structured approach o creating a portfolio that maximizes your investment potential:

The stock market by understanding its basic logic and the stock market by understanding its basic logic and the stock market by understanding its basic logic and the stock market by understanding its basic logic and

Separate investing from speculative trading. Avoid becoming a screenbased trader who reacts to minute-by-minute fluctuations—a strategy that often leads to losses. 2. Adopt an Investor Mindset:

Embrace the role of being an investor instead of a trader. Investing is about long-term growth and stability. Recognize that even high-quality stocks can decline temporarily. Pa-

tience and discipline are essential as these fluctuations are normal

Understand that investments require time to mature and may not yield immediate returns. Patience can turn temporary declines into long-term gains. Educate yourself on money management techniques to minimize risks.

4. Sector and Stock Selection:

- Identify promising sectors with positive government intervention and long-term growth potential.

 Choose stocks within these sectors that demonstrate strong earnings and
- Diversify by investing in quality stocks across different sectors.

5. Invest in Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) and Mutual Funds:

Use ETFs to gain exposure to various industries with less single-company risk Consider emerging mutual funds, especially if you lack confidence in smallcap or micro-cap stocks.

6. Leverage Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs):

ity risks over time.

7. Avoid High Leverage and Intraday Trading:

Focus on creating a quality portfolio for the long term and avoid strategies that involve high leverage or day trading, as these increase risk. Remember, successful investing is about building a diversified portfolio that reflects your risk tolerance and investing horizon. Regular portfolio review and adjustments, based on changing market conditions and personal fi-

nancial goals, will also aid in maximizing returns.

Learn from the insights of @Irshad Mushtaq, Writer, Investor, Entrepreneur & Founder of M I Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at

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India's Incubation Ecosystem

A Vital Force for Entrepreneurial Growth



Azra Mufti

recent report sheds light on the dynamic yet still developing nature of India's startup incubation ecosystem. Jointly conducted by NSRCEL at IIM Bangalore and CREST at IIT Madras, the India Incubator Kaleidoscope 2024 report reveals that over 1,100 active incubators now operate across the country. This impressive number underscores India's commitment to fostering innovation and supporting entrepreneurs at all stages. Yet, as India strives to solidify its position as a global startup hub, the report also highlights areas where further development is urgently needed.

The diversity of incubators across India's major cities reflects the unique startup needs in different regions. For instance, Chennai leads in academic incubators, which account for 82% of the city's incubator landscape. Meanwhile, Bengaluru and Gurugram are industry-focused, with incubators that make up 71% and 84% of their respective ecosystems. Notably, 45% of India's incubators are concentrated in the Southern region, further solidifying its reputation as the powerhouse of Indian innovation.

ndian innovation.

Yet, while the density of incubators in the density of the ing, it remains significantly below gl dards. India has only 0.8 incubators p people— a stark contrast to the 8 to tors per million people in countrie United States and China. Moreover, of Indian startups are currently incu a mere 10% of incubators support a s 98% of these startups. These figures an urgent need to activate underutil bators and expand the reach of incubat vices, particularly to underserved region

The Positive Impact of Incubation on Star

Incubation provides tangible benefits for startups, enhancing their chances of success by connecting them with essential resources Incubated startups are 11.7% more likely to secure first-round funding within a year and they file patents at five times the rate of nonincubated startups. Under the Atal Innovation Mission's TIDE 2.0 framework, incubators are organized into three tiers-G3, G2, and G1each with specific roles designed to build a robust and scalable ecosystem.

The framework's structure allows G3 incubators, often affiliated with academic institutions, to focus on outreach in underserved areas, while G2 incubators provide large-scale training and support. At the top level, G1 incubators offer advanced resources and supervision, ensuring that startups in all regions re-



star Global

Yet, while the density of incubators is rising, it remains significantly below global standards. India has only 0.8 incubators per million people— a stark contrast to the 8 to 10 incubators per million people in countries like the United States and China.

Policy median startups are CLIMATE

ernment bodies, and CSR initiatives. LBIs are critical in building social capital and addressing socio-economic disparities. On the other hand, Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) target tech-driven ventures, particularly those affiliated with prestigious institutions like the IITs and IIMs, providing access to cutting-edge research and industry networks.

Accelerators and Traditional Incubators: Balancing Speed and Flexibility

India is also home to several accelerators that focus on rapid growth. Programs like Techstars, Axilor Ventures, and Y Combinator India offer structured, time-bound initiatives that combine seed funding, mentorship, and investor connections. While accelerators often work on a compressed timeline, traditional incubators, such as the Indian Angel Network (IAN) Incubator and NASSCOM 10K Startups, provide long-term resources to startups across various industries. Together, these incubators and accelerators cater to startups' diverse needs, ensuring flexibility in the paths available to entrepreneurs.

Beyond Numbers: The Need for Strategic 1111

Steps taken to cut Carbon upsemissions ..

ceive adequate support. This tiered approach exemplifies India's commitment to a comprehensive support system that nurtures startups from the ground up.

A Spectrum of Incubator Types: Serving **Diverse Needs**

Incubators in India are not one-size-fits-all; they cater to a variety of startup types and social objectives, Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs), for instance, prioritize startups with a social impact, often supporting underserved communities through funding from NGOs, gov-

ties more inclusive, particularly fortudents women founders, and those fr Incubators have proven to be more than just

physical spaces, they are catalysts for growth, innovation, and resilience. As India's startup ecosystem matures, incubators must evolve in tandem ensuring that the next generation of entrepreneurs can thrive on a global season. By enhancing access to incubation, expanding resources, and fostering a culture of inclusive entrepreneurship, India can unlock its full po-

tential as a global leader in innovation. The path ahead may be challenging, but the opportunities are boundless, and the future of Indian entrepreneurship shines brighter than ever.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer The author works with Indian Institute of Management Jammu



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Simple Pleasures

ESPITE living in the digital age, there are some habits which many of us simply cannot give Preferring to read a printed book over the online version is one such. There are multiple reasons why a large swathe of Indian readers always prefer hard copy of books to online reading. Psychologically, the 'ownership' factor could be a key reason, besides the nice feeling you get while touching a new book, its fragrance, pleasure of turning the pages, easy portability, leisure reading - all make a physical book comfortably win over an e-book. However splendid the cover image of an e-book may look on screen, it is still an image

rather than a physical thing. Another major disadvantage with an e-book is that you cannot look at more than one page at once. In fact, a study from West Chester University of Pennsylvania reveals that students who read on iPads had lower reading comprehension than when they read traditional printed books. A good physical book is like

a full course of a sumptuous meal, whereas an e-book is just fast food. Said the noted American novelist Harper Lee: "The book to read is not the one that thinks for you, but the one which makes you think.'

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On World Mental Health Day

It is Time to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace

Arshid Qalmi

s the world moves into an era where professional life often blurs with personal life, and the workplace becomes an all-encompassing environment, the importance of mental health has never been more critical. This year, the theme for World Mental Health Day is "It is Time to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace" calls for a radical and necessary shift in how we view and address mental wellbeing in professional settings. This theme reverberates with urgency, especially in regions like Kashmir, where the socio-political backdrop adds unique dimensions to the challenges employees face.

Mental health in the workplace is a silent epidemic, globally under-recognized and often inadequately addressed. From corporate offices to educational institutions, from government services to healthcare workers, mental health struggles are common but rarely spoken about. Stress, anxiety, depression, and burnout plague professionals at all levels, leading to reduced productivity, poor job satisfaction, and, ultimately, a decline in the quality of life.

In Kashmir, the situation is further compounded by the backdrop of political instability, which infiltrates the social fabric and seeps into work environments. Employees are not just battling professional stress but are also constantly weighed down by the anxieties of an uncertain future, frequent disruptions, and the pressure to meet expectations in a fragile environment. The scars of conflict, woven into the mental health narrative, make this issue deeply personal and pervasive.

In an ideal world, workplaces would be environments of growth and self-actualization, where individuals are empowered to perform at their best without compromising their well-being. However, the reality is often quite different. The constant pressure to meet targets, the fear of job insecurity, long working hours, and the expectation of being perpetually available can be mentally exhausting. This "always-on" culture blurs



the boundaries between work and personal life, eroding the time needed to decompress, reflect, and rejuvenate.

In Kashmir, where mental health issues are compounded by societal stressors, we find ourselves at the intersection of personal vulnerability and professional strain. The trauma from conflict seeps into workplaces, exacerbating the mental toll on employees. Studies have shown that unresolved workplace stress leads to physical health issues, increased absenteeism, and an overall decrease in productivity.

It is clear mental health in the workplace is not just a personal issue; it's a collective responsibility. Leaders and employers need to recognize that mental health is fundamental to organizational success. A mentally healthy workforce is more engaged, motivated, and resilient, qualities that are crucial in today's competitive and volatile world. For organizations, the time has come to break the stigma around mental health. Kashmir's workplaces need to be pioneers in this change, considering the unique emotional and psychological terrain its people navigate. Employers must foster an environment where mental well-being is valued as highly as physical health, where seeking help is encouraged, and where managers are trained to be empathetic and understanding.

Organizations should have clear policies that outline support systems for employees, such as access to counselling, flexible working hours, and mental health days. These policies should be easily accessible and integrated into the company

culture. Supervisors and managers should be trained to recognize the signs of mental distress. They must know how to approach employees with sensitivity, provide support, and avoid stigmatizing conversations. Like vacation time, mental health breaks should be part of company policy. In high-stress regions like Kashmir, where employees juggle societal stress along with work-place demands, such breaks are even more vital. Encourage an open culture where employees can voice their struggles without fear of judgment or reprisal. Creating safe spaces within the organization, where conversations about mental health are normalized, is crucial for long-term change.

For Kashmir, mental health in the workplace isn't just a matter of professional efficiency it's a human imperative. The region's enduring political tensions, coupled with economic challenges, mean that stress levels among professionals are disproportionately high. We must also remember that workplaces in Kashmir have a broad socio-cultural impact; they shape not only the economic landscape but also the psychological resilience of the community.

The unique social fabric of Kashmir, with its deeply entrenched sense of community, can also be leveraged as a support system. Workplaces should aim to nurture this sense of community by promoting solidarity, peer support, and collective healing. Whether it's through group therapy sessions, team-building activities focused on mental health awareness, or simply fostering a culture of care, workplaces can become sanctuaries of emotional well-being.

World Mental Health Day 2024 offers a unique opportunity for organizations, policymakers, and individuals to rethink how we approach mental health at work. In Kashmir, where historical, social, and political factors amplify the stress of daily life, prioritizing mental health is not just an option it's a necessity.

The time has come to recognize mental health not as a peripheral issue but as central to the functioning of any successful organization. As individuals, let us encourage open dialogue, practice self-care, and support our colleagues. As leaders, let us commit to creating environments where mental well-being is prioritized, where policies are put in place, and where the culture of care extends beyond lip service.

Kashmir can become a beacon of progress by taking bold steps to ensure that workplaces are not just spaces of labor but spaces of growth, healing, and support. As we step into the future, let us remember that a mentally healthy workforce is not only an ethical responsibility but also a foundational pillar of sustainable success. It is time to prioritize mental health in the workplace now, more than ever.

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The Impact of AI in the Mental Health Field

Like it or not, AI is transforming healthcare

Kavtee Gillis

The advent of artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping many areas of our lives, including how we search for and receive information about our mental health. Like all technology, AI has its benefits and its risks. Much like the advent of the internet and telehealth, which increased access to underserved populations, AI increases accessibility by giving information to those who need it when they need it.

However, this increase in information availability raises concerns about the risks. Due to a lack of oversight of the information given to vulnerable populations, many clinicians worry that the integration of AI into the mental health field offers more challenges than opportunities.

Benefits of AI in Therapy

Al offers several advantages to therapy

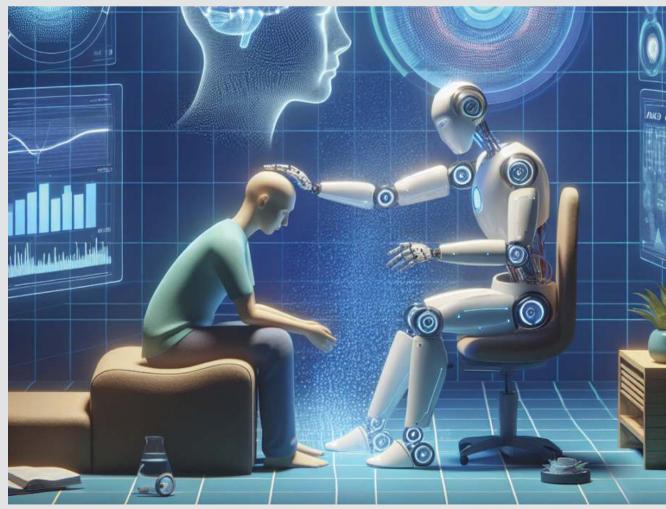
1. Increased Accessibility and Convenience

Al-powered tools, such as chatbots and search engines, offer increased accessibility to mental health support. These tools can provide immediate, 24/7 support, breaking down barriers related to time, location, and availability. For some individuals in underserved or remote areas, AI very well might serve as a stand-alone resource, as it offers support that might otherwise be inaccessible.

2. Early Detection

"The evolution of AI has contributed effectively to the early detection, diagnosis, and referral management of mental health disorders" (Thakkar et al., 2024). Research has found that AI has shown promise in detecting medical and mental health conditions such as Autism, seizures, and even the early stages of schizophrenia.

Furthermore, AI has been able to detect cognitive decline in those at risk, such as the elderly: "AI-powered sensors can detect changes in behavior patterns and alert caregivers or healthcare providers to potential emotional distress or cognitive decline" (Thakkar et al., 2024). With early detection, caregivers and medical providers are better



able to provide the best possible support available to patients who need it.

3. Support for Mental Health Professionals

Al can assist therapists by providing datadriven insights and recommendations. For instance, Al can analyze session notes to detect patterns or progress that might not be immediately apparent to the therapist. It can also automate administrative tasks, such as scheduling and documentation, allowing therapists to focus more on direct client interaction.

Limitations and Challenges

Despite these benefits, however, many mental health clinicians understandably remain concerned about the risks and challenges associated with Al's rising presence.

1. Ethical and Privacy Concerns

One of the primary apprehensions of mental health clinicians include issues related to ethical and privacy concerns. Al systems often require access to sensitive personal data, which raises questions about data security and confidentiality.

Therapists apply ethical principles and moral reasoning in practice, often address-

ing sensitive issues with intuitive perspective and experience—something that can't be replicated with a machine. Al systems may struggle with ethical complexities and moral considerations in the same way a human therapist can, but without the human "gut feeling" that can help with reasoning.

2. Lack of Human Touch

While AI can offer some support and provide information, it lacks the human touch that is essential for therapeutic relationships. Research shows that the therapeutic relationship, rather than any specific modality used, is the biggest predictor of suc-

Therapy is not just about providing solutions but also about fostering a supportive and empathetic relationship, which, at least at this time, AI may struggle to deliver. As is not surprising, empathy, emotional understanding, and the personal connection between therapist and client are difficult for AI to replicate

As therapists, we often rely on judgment and intuition developed through experience to interpret clients' needs, emotional states, and non-verbal cues. Over time, we learn to adapt therapy in real-time based on the evolving needs of the client, including adjusting approaches and techniques as needed. Al lacks the ability to do this, instead relying on superficial, surface-level conversations. So, while it might be beneficial for getting information about what types of therapy your insurance may cover, for example, it will likely fail to offer support other than a simple "sorry to hear that" type statement, which can feel cold and dismissive.

3. Lack of Oversight

There is a risk that individuals may become overly reliant on AI for mental health support, potentially neglecting the value of human interaction and professional guidance. A significant risk associated with AI in therapy is the lack of oversight and regulation. AI systems may operate with unchecked biases or inaccuracies, which run the risk of leading to harmful recommendations to those who need support (Espejo et al., 2023).

Like It or Not, It's Here to Stay

As Al technology continues to advance, it is likely that we will continue to see its integration into the mental health field. When used correctly, Al tools can complement, rather than replace, traditional therapeutic methods.

For those of us who struggle with adaptation to new technologies, it is to our benefit to learn the basics of how to use and even how to recognize Al. Even if we do not plan to use it in our practice, having a basic understanding of its presence and availability can help empower us as clinicians in a changing world

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

Study Finds New Ways To Prevent, Treat Type 2 Diabetes

ANI

ancreatic cells, like human cells, have a limit to how much stress they can handle before they start to break down. Through overstimulation of these cells, certain stresses like inflammation and hyperglycemia lead to the onset of type 2 diabetes.

As it turns out, pancreatic cell stress tolerance to two distinct types of molecular stress is correlated with DNA sequence variations that are known to raise an individual's risk for diabetes. These findings were made by researchers at The Jackson Laboratory (JAX). Stress and inflammation may increase the risk of failure or death of the insulin-producing cells in individuals with these genetic alterations in the pancreas.

"Ultimately we want to develop new ways to prevent and treat type 2 diabetes by targeting the genes and pathways that are perturbed in people who are most susceptible to the disease," said Michael L. Stitzel, associate professor at JAX and co-senior author of the new study with JAX professor Dugyu Ucar, published in the Oct. 8 advanced online issue of Cell Metabolism. "These findings give us new insight into

some of those genes and pathways."

The work points toward dozens of genes that connect cell stress and diabetes risk, including one that is already under investigation as a drug target for type 2 diabetes complications.

When living cells face challenges, including damage, inflammation, or nutrient changes, they activate protective responses to try to cope with and reverse the stress. But over time, sustained stress can overwhelm the cells, causing them to slow down or die.

In the pancreas' islet beta cells, two types of cell stress have previously been implicated in the development of type 2 diabetes.

In both cases, the stress can eventually lead islet beta cells to stop producing insulin or die off.

Stitzel and his colleagues wanted to know what genes and proteins were used by islet cells to respond to both ER stress and cytokine stress.

"Researchers have completed multiple studies looking at what molecular pathways are important in regulating insulin production in happy, healthy islet cells," said Stitzel. "But we were working on this hypothesis that islet cells are not always happy. So what pathways are important when the cells are under stress, and how do diabetes-linked DNA sequence changes in



each of us affect them?"

Stitzel's group exposed healthy human islet cells to chemical compounds known to induce either ER stress or cytokine stress. Then, they tracked changes to levels of RNA molecules in the cells as well as how tightly or loosely packed different stretches of DNA were inside the cells-a proxy for what genes and regulatory elements are being used by the cells at any given time.

To analyze the results, the team collaborated with Ucar, a professor and com-

putational biologist at JAX . Together, the scientists found that more than 5,000 genes, or nearly a third of all the genes expressed by healthy islet cells, change their expression in response to ER stress or cytokine stress. Many were involved in the production of proteins, which is crucial for islet cells insulin-producing role. And most of the genes were only involved in one or the other stress response, raising the idea that two separate stress pathways play a role in diabetes.

In addition, around one in eight regulatory regions of DNA typically used in islet cells were altered by stress. Importantly, 86 of these regulatory regions had been previously found to contain genetic variants in people most at risk of type 2 diabetes.

"What this suggests is that people with these genetic variants may have islet cells that respond worse to stress than other people," said Stitzel. "Your environment things like diabetes and obesity--pulls the trigger with type 2 diabetes, but your genetics loads the gun."

Stitzel hopes that the new list of regulatory regions and genes eventually lead to new drugs to prevent or treat diabetes by potentially making islet cells more resilient to stress.

The researchers homed in one gene that was altered by both ER stress. Called MAP3K5, the gene was shown to alter islet beta cell death in mice containing a diabetes-causing mutation in the insulinencoding gene.

In the new paper, Stitzel and his colleagues showed that higher levels of MAP3K5 led to more islet beta cells dying in response to ER stress. Eliminating or blocking MAP3K5, on the other hand, made the islet cells more resilient to ER stress and less likely to die.

Myntra Concludes Festive Sale With 1.5 Mn New Customers

Press Trust Of India

ashion and lifestyle e-commerce platform Myntra concluded its Big Fashion Festival (BFF) sale on Tuesday and onboarded 1.5 million new customers during the period.

Around 80 per cent of the new customers belonged to non-metro cities, reflecting a strong festive shopping senti-



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The 3X value

constructs were a major pull for customers, which made shopping even more rewarding. We expect the buoyant shopping sentiment to carry on in the weeks to come

ment across the country, Myntra said in a statement.

The retailer said the BFF sale turned out to be "its outstanding and biggest edition by far", with the platform registering 390 million visits a 100 per cent growth in orders per minute at peak.

Categories with heightened demand included women's ethnic wear, men's occasion and casual wear, and sports footwear.

"This BFF, shoppers from all over the country thronged the Myntra platform to leverage the value-driven offers for buying millions of products across fashion, beauty and lifestyle.

"The 3X value constructs were a major pull for customers, which made shopping even more rewarding. We expect the buoyant shopping sentiment to carry on in the weeks to come," Neha Wali, Senior Director, Revenue and Growth, Myntra, said.

The BFF sale commenced on September 26, 2024, with 24hour early access for Myntra Insiders.

Researchers Sound Alarm On 'Irreversible Climate Disaster', Earth's 25 Vital Signs Hit Extremes

Press Trust Of India

esearchers have sounded an alarm on a possibly "irreversible climate disaster" as 25 of the 35 planetary vital signs that help track climate change every year hit record levels.

Extreme weather events becoming more

frequent, and intense and emissions from fossil fuels are at an all-time high - these are a couple of the 25 vital signs, the international team, including researchers from the Potsdam Institute of Climate Impact Research, Germany, said in a report.

Other vital signs they described included Earth's average surface temperature, ocean heat, global sea levels and human population -- all touching record highs. The human population has been increasing at roughly two

lakh a day, they said

Climate change made the experience of devastating heatwaves of 2024 across Asia, including the longest one ever in India, much more frequent and extreme, the authors said in the analysis, titled "The 2024 State of the Climate Report: Perilous Times on Planet Earth' and published in the journal Bioscience.

Greenland and Antarctic ice hit record lows in terms of both mass and thickness, they added.

Emissions of methane and nitrous oxide -- potent greenhouse gases -- have reached unprecedented levels, they added. Nitrous oxide levels were found to have increased by roughly 40 per cent between 1980 and 2020.

Consumption of coal, oil and gas together rose by 1.5 per cent in 2023, compared to that in 2022, while use of fossil fuels remains

roughly 15 times that of solar and wind energy, the researchers said.

In 2023, the team had shown 20 of the 35 vital signs to be touching record extremes.

"We are on the brink of an irreversible climate disaster. This is a global emergency beyond any doubt. Much of the very fabric of life on Earth is imperilled," the authors wrote.

A "critical and unpredictable new phase of the climate crisis" could be unravelling, they said and emphasised that current policies place the planet on track to achieving 2.7 degrees Celsius of warming by 2100 – far exceeding the Paris Agreement goals of 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The authors highlighted several climate tipping points, or 'points of no return', that may be fast approaching and can potentially

trigger irreversible catastrophic changes. Some of these points included the collapse of major ice sheets and forest dieback—it refers to the slow, eventual death of trees which can threaten the resilience of a forest ecosystem.

Tree cover loss around the world was found to have increased from 22.8 mega hectares a year in 2022 to 28.3 mega hectares a year in 2023.

"We're already in the midst of abrupt climate upheaval, which jeopardises life on Earth like nothing humans have ever seen," lead author William Ripple, from the University of Oregon, US, said.

As the "future of humanity hangs in the balance", the researchers called for bold, transformative change, including measures targeted at reducing overconsumption and human population.



Online applications from the domiciles of UT of Jammu & Kashmir are invited from the eligible candidates for the position of **Junior Technical Assistant (Medical Lab Technology)** purely on contractual basis initially for a period of six months. The detailed employment notice is available on the University website www.iust.ac.in.

No: IUST/Reg/Adm/E/24/416

Sd/-

Dated: 08-10-2024

Sd/-Registrar

DIPK-NB-1640/24 dated: 09-10-2024

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Department of Education
Office of the Chief Education Officer Kupwara

Email;ceokupwaral 11@gmail.com

ph. /fax: 01955252209

Subject Final seniority list of Contingent/Local Fund Paid workers of District Kupwara as it stood On 01-06-2024 whose engagement falls up to 23-08-201 (both qualified and Unqualified)

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Tentative seniority list of Contingent/Local Fund Paid workers of District Kupwara as on 01-06-2024 (both qualified and un-qualified) were kept available in Zonal Education Offices of this district / Official WhatsApp groups for inviting of objections, if any, from the concerned, regarding which notification was duly published through Information Department Vide this office No; CEOKUP/NT/Sen- list/CPW/2024/44/8491-8515, in the newspapers, Tameel- Irshad and Brighter Kashmir dated: 08-06-2024

Whereas, the correction lists of these contingent /Local fund paid workers were received from the concerned Zonal Education Officers by this office, and necessary corrections made by the concerned Zonal Education Officers were made in the tentative Seniority list, already published and a final Seniority list of the Contingent/Local Fund paid workers as on 01-06-2024, whose engagement falls up to 23-08-2011, were prepared.

Whereas, now the Final seniority list of contingent /Local Fund paid workers as on 01-06-2024 District Kupwara is hereby kept available in all higher secondary schools, Zonal Education Offices, High Schools of this district and also all Officials WhatsApp groups for further records and reference to General Public as well as the CPW,s through this notification

No; CEOKUP/NT/Sen-list/CPW/2024/44/.14412-596 DIPK-5694/24 dated: 09-10-2024

(Abdul Majeed Dar) Chief Education Officer Kupwara



Telcos Monthly Average Revenue Per User Climbs 8% To Rs 157.45 In Jun Qtr: TRAI

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: In signs of improving financial metrics of telecom firms, the monthly average revenue for mobile services rose over 8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 157.45 per user in the quarter ended June 2024, according to a Trai report.

The monthly average revenues are applied to the service of the service

The monthly average revenue per user (ARPU) for wireless service stood at Rs 153.54 in the January-March period, thus translating into a 2.55 per cent sequential increase.

In its quarterly performance

In its quarterly performance indicator report, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said the Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) of the telecom service sector for the reporting quarter increased by 0.13 per cent on a quarterly basis to Rs 70,555 crore.

On a year-on-year basis, AGR grew by 7.51 per cent.

The number of telephone subscribers in India increased to 1,205.64 million against 1,199.28 million in the previous quarter, registering a growth of 0.53 per cent.

Wireline subscriptions came in at 35.11 million, an uptick of 15.81 per cent on an annual

With a net rise of 5.04 million subscribers during the quarter, the total wireless subscriber base increased 0.43 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 1,170.53 million at the end of June 2024 from 1,165.49 million at the



end of March 2024. The wireless subscriptions grew 2.36 per cent year-on-year.

per cent year-on-year.
Wireline teledensity increased from 2.41 per cent at the end of March 2024 to 2.50 per cent at the end of June 2024

Wireless Tele-density rose 0.21 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 83.45 per cent at the end of June 2024 compared to 83.27 per cent.

The overall teledensity in India increased to 85.95 per cent quarter-on-quarter from 85.69 per cent.

While rural teledensity advanced to 59.65 per cent in June against 59.19 per cent in March, urban teledensity declined from 133.72 per cent to

133.46 per cent.
The total number of internet subscribers grew 1.59 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 969.60 million as of June 2024

million as of June 2024.
The Internet subscriber base includes 28.85 million narrowband subscribers and 940.75 million broadband users.

Gold Prices Fall Rs 600 To Rs 77,700; Silver Tumbles Rs 2,800

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Gold prices depreciated for the second straight day by Rs 600 to Rs 77,700 per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday amid muted domestic demand. On Tuesday, the precious metal closed at Rs 78,300 per

10 grams. Silver also tumbled Rs 2,800 to Rs 91,200 per kg against Rs 94,000 per kg in the previous

94,000 per kg in the previous close, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per

Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity plunged Rs 600 to Rs 77,300 per 10 grams.

Traders said muted demand in the domestic demand led to the fall in prices of the yellow

In futures trade on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold contracts for December delivery rose Rs 29 or 0.04 per

cent to Rs 75,190 per 10 grams. Silver contracts for December delivery also soared Rs 754 or 0.85 per cent to Rs 89,483 per kg on the exchange.

In the Asian trading hours, Comex futures slipped 0.03 per cent to USD 2,634.50 per

"Gold prices continued to decline on Wednesday due to a decrease in the safe haven premium, and chances of the US



Federal Reserve easing the rate more aggressively declined," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

However, silver quoted 0.75 per cent higher at USD 30.83 per ounce in the international markets.

Gold and silver saw a sharp sell-off following reports that Hezbollah is seeking a ceasefire discussion with Israel, leading market participants to anticipate potential de-escalation in the Middle East and book profits on their long positions, Rahul Kalantri, VP Commodities, Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

According to Praveen Singh, Associate VP of Fundamental Currencies and Commodities at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, gold may see some recovery later in the day in the wake of the upcoming US CPI inflation data. However, the upside is likely to be capped unless geopolitical tensions flare up further or the US yields dip significantly.

RBI Retains FY25 Growth Forecast At 7.2%

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank on Wednesday retained the growth projection for the current fiscal at 7.2 per cent on the back of robust consumption and investment momentum.

It, however, lowered the GDP estimate for the second quarter to 7 per cent from 7.2 per cent earlier. Real gross domestic product (GDP) also grew slower at 6.7 per cent in Q1:2024-25 from earlier projection of 7.1 per cent.

jection of 7.1 per cent.
Further, RBI revised upwards growth forecast for the third and fourth quarters from 7.3 per cent and 7.2 per cent respectively, to 7.4 per cent.

respectively, to 7.4 per cent. In August policy also, RBI had projected the real GDP growth at 7.2 per cent for the fiscal.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das while announcing the bimonthly monetary policy said India's growth story remains intact as its fundamental drivers – consumption and investment demand – are gaining momentum.

"Prospects of private consumption, the mainstay of aggregate demand, look bright on the back of improved agricultural outlook and rural demand. Sustained buoyancy in services would also support urban demand. Government expenditure of the Centre and states is expected to pick up pace in line with the Budget



Estimates," he said.

Investment activity would benefit from consumer and business optimism, the government's continued thrust on capex and healthy balance sheets of banks and corporates.

"Taking all these factors into consideration, real GDP growth for 2024-25 is projected at 7.2 per cent, with Q2 at 7 per cent; Q3 at 7.4 per cent; and Q4 at 7.4 per cent. Real GDP growth for Q1:2025-26 is projected at 7.3 per cent. The risks are evenly balanced," he said.

High frequency indicators available so far suggest that domestic economic activity continues to be steady, he said, adding, the main components from the supply side –agriculture, manufacturing and services – remain resilient.

Agricultural growth has been supported by above

normal south-west monsoon rainfall and better kharif sowing, he added.

Stressing that the Indian economy presents a picture of stability and strength, he said the balance between inflation and growth is well-poised and India's growth story remains intact.

Das further said, the prevailing and expected inflation-growth balance have created congenial conditions for a change in monetary policy stance to neutral.

"Even as there is greater confidence in navigating the last mile of disinflation, significant risks to inflation from adverse weather events, accentuating geopolitical conflicts and the very recent increase in certain commodity prices continue to stare at us. The adverse impact of these risks cannot be underestimated."

RBI Enhances UPI Lite Wallet Limit To Rs 5,000

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI- The Reserve Bank on Wednesday announced the increase of the UPI Lite wallet limit to Rs 5,000 and per-transaction limit to Rs 1,000, in order to encourage wider adoption of the popular instant payment system through mobile phones.

A limit of Rs 500 per

A limit of Rs 500 per transaction and an overall limit of Rs 2,000 per UPI Lite wallet, is presently applicable, with the facility of auto-replenishment.

Unveiling the October bimonthly monetary policy, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das also said the pertransaction limit in UPI123Pay will be enhanced to Rs 10,000 from the current Rs 5,000.

UPI123 was launched in March 2022, with a view to enable feature-phone users to use UPI. This facility is now available in 12 languages.

In another customer-friendly initiative, Das announced a beneficiary account name look-up facility for Real Time Gross Settlement System (RTGS) and National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) systems will be introduced.

Payment Systems like UPI and IMPS provide a facility to the remitter to verify the name of the receiver (beneficiary) before initiating a payment transaction.

There have been requests



to introduce such a facility for RTGS and NEFT systems, the Governor said.

"Accordingly, to enable remitters in RTGS and NEFT to verify the name of the beneficiary account holder before initiating funds transfer, it is now proposed to introduce a 'beneficiary account name look-up facility'," he said.

Remitters can input the account number and the branch IFSC code of the beneficiary, following which the name of the beneficiary will be displayed.

This facility will increase customer confidence as it would reduce the possibility of wrong credits and frauds, Das said.

The Central bank will also create 'Reserve Bank Climate Risk Information System (RB-CRIS)' amid climate change emerging as one of the significant risks to the financial system.

Das said it is crucial for

regulated entities to undertake climate risk assessments for ensuring stability of their balance sheets and that of the financial system.

Such an assessment requires, among other things, high quality data relating to local climate scenarios, climate forecasts, and emissions, he said.

The available climate-related data is characterised by various gaps such as fragmented and varied sources, differing formats, frequencies and units. To bridge these gaps, Das said the Reserve Bank proposes to create a data repository -- RB-CRIS -- comprising two parts.

The first part will be a webbased directory, listing various data sources, (meteorological, geospatial, etc.) which will be publicly accessible in the RBI website. The second part will be a data portal consisting of datasets (processed data in standardised formats).

Cabinet Okays Fortified Rice Supply Under Welfare Schemes Till Dec 2028 At Rs 17,082 Cr Cost

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday decided to continue the supply of free fortified rice under the food law and other welfare schemes till 2028 with an outlay of Rs 17,082 crore, a move aimed at reducing anaemia and micronutrient deficiency.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The rice fortification process involves the addition of Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) enriched with micro-nutrients (iron, folic acid, Vitamin B12) as per standards prescribed by food regulator FSSAI to regular rice (custom milled rice).

Information & Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the total financial implication to supply free fortified rice will be Rs 17,082 crore, fully funded by the Centre.

"The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the universal supply of fortified Rice under all schemes of the Government, including Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and other welfare schemes etc in its present form, from July 2024 and up to December 2028," according to an official statement.

The rice fortification initiative will continue as a central sector initiative with 100 per cent funding by the central government as part of PMGKAY (Food Subsidy), thus providing a unified institutional mechanism for implementation, it added.

In line with the Prime Minister's address on 75th Independence Day on the neces-



sity of Nutritional Security in the country, the government said the initiative "Supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), other welfare schemes, Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS), PM POSHAN (Erstwhile MDM) in all states and Union Territories (UTs)" was taken up.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in April 2022, decided to implement the rice fortification initiative throughout the country in a phased manner by March 2024.

All three phases have been successfully completed, and the target of universal coverage of providing fortified rice in all government schemes was achieved by March 2024.

"According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) conducted between 2019 and 2021, anaemia remains a widespread issue in India, affecting children, women, and men across various age groups and income levels.

"Besides iron deficiency, other vitamin and mineral deficiencies, such as Vitamin B12 and folic acid, also persist, impacting the overall health and productivity of the population," the government said.

Over 130 Companies List Nearly 50,000 Opportunities On PM Internship Portal

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Nearly 50,000 internship opportunities have been offered by more than 130 companies so far on the portal for the Prime Minister Internship Scheme, which will start registration of applicants from October 12, sources said on Wednesday.

The portal was opened on October 3 for companies to post the opportunities.

The internship opportuni-

the internship opportunities have been offered by more than 130 companies, including Jubilant Foodworks, Eicher Motor, Larsen & Toubro, Tech Mahindra, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Bajaj Finance, and Muthoot Finance. The opportunities are spread across 22 sectors, according to sources at the corporate affairs ministry.

Further, the sources said the maximum internship opportunities are in the oil, gas & energy sector, followed by travel & hospitality sectors. Other segments include automotives, banking and financial services, infrastructure & construction, manufacturing & industrial, aviation and defence.

There is a significant increase

There is a significant increase

in the number of internship opportunities available before the portal opens for applicants on October 12. The number of opportunities available has surged more from around 16,000 on October 7 to nearly 50,000 on October 9, the sources said.

They also said the opportunities are available in more than 20 fields, including operations management, production & manufacturing, maintenance, and sales & marketing.

In terms of geography, the internship opportunities are now available in 650 districts across 36 states and Union Territories.

Under the scheme's pilot project, which is estimated to cost around Rs 800 crore, internships will start on December 2. It is expected to cover 1.25 lakh candidates in the current financial year ending March 2025.

'Over 34.84 Lakh IT Audit Reports Filed On E-Filing Portal Up To Oct 7'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- The finance ministry on Wednesday said more than 34.84 lakh audit reports, including about 34.09 lakh Tax Audit Reports (TARs), have been filed for assessment year 2024-25 on the e-filing portal till October 7.

The income tax department had extended the date for filing the audit report from September 30 to October 7.

There is an increase in the filing of TARs for the AY 2024-25 by around 4.8 per cent compared to the filings of TARs on the due date for AY 2023-24.

"To assist taxpayers, the department conducted extensive outreach programmes through emails, SMSs, webinars, social media campaigns and messages on the Income Tax portal to create and raise awareness among the taxpayers about filing TARs and other audit forms by the due date. Various user awareness videos were uploaded on

the Income Tax portal to provide guidance," the ministry said in a release.

It further said that these concerted efforts have been helpful to taxpayers and tax professionals in timely compliance in filing TARs.

According to the finance ministry, the e-filing Helpdesk team handled around 1.23 lakh queries from taxpayers during September and October 2024, proactively supporting them throughout the filing period.

The team assisted taxpayers and tax professionals in resolving complexities and facilitated the smooth submission of audit forms.

Helpdesk support was provided through inbound calls, outbound calls, live chats, WebEx, and cobrowsing sessions. The team also supported the resolution of queries received on the department's X handle through Online Response Management (ORM) and assisted them on various issues on a near real-time basis.

Hyundai Motor India's Rs 27,870-Cr IPO To Open On Oct 15

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI- Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL), the Indian arm of South Korean automaker Hyundai, on Wednesday said it has fixed a price band of Rs 1,865-1,960 per share for its Rs 27,870 crore initial public offering (IPO) that opens

for subscription on October 15.

The company held a roadshow for its IPO which would be the largest in India, surpassing LIC's initial share sale of Rs 21,000 crore.

Speaking to PTI, HMIL Chief Operating Officer Tarun Garg said the company expects a very good traction in demand of cars during the ongoing festival season and is not worried about the global headwinds faced by the automobile industry.

"We are not worried and we are seeing a very good traction because after a long time not just the Navaratra, Dussehra as well as Dhanteras are in the month of October. So it's a great sign for the auto industry," Garg said.

He said India is a very strong

growth market, which has consis-

tently been growing. "Some kind

of moderation and fluctuations will always happen. In any case, we have always seen the months of June, July, August, September because of heat, among others. But now we have entered the festival season. I don't think we are worried."

Speaking at the roadshow, HMIL Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Unsoo Kim said, "India is the most exciting market in the world. Hyundai Motor India benefits from parent Hyundai Motor Company's extensive global ecosystem, which gives it a strategic and competitive edge against the competitors."

HMIL commenced operations in India in 1996 and currently sells 13 models across segments.

"It is the right time to further Indianise Hyundai's operations and the IPO will ensure the company is even more dedicated to success in the domestic market, offering growth to shareholders and investors," Kim added.

HMIL's initial share-sale will conclude on October 17 and the bidding for anchor investors will open for a day on October 14, the company said.

'Investors Pushing Some NBFCs To Grow Fast'

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI- The Reserve Bank on Wednesday said it has come across instances of investors pushing some non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) to grow aggressively, which is leading to inappropriate business practices.

Flagging risks like poor customer service, entities' own finances coming under strain and even a possible dent to financial stability through such practices, Governor Shaktikanta Das warned that the RBI will "not hesitate" to take action against errant entities if they continue to

follow such practices.

Das made it clear that the risk is not at a systemic level and it is only a few entities where the RBI has observed certain issues.

served certain issues.

"...driven by the significant accretion to their capital from both domestic and overseas sources, and sometimes under pressure from their investors, some NBFCs -- including microfinance institutions (MFIs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) -- are chasing excessive

returns on their equity," he said.
Such tendencies are leading to

practices such as unreasonably high processing fees and frivolous penalties, he said, adding that the same is further accentuated by what appears to be a 'push effect', wherein business targets are driving retail credit growth rather than actual demand.

"The consequent high-cost and high indebtedness could pose financial stability risks, if not addressed by these NBFCs," Das said.

It is essential for entities to follow sustainable lending practices, a compliance first culture, strong risk management and be sincere on addressing customer grievances, he

"The Reserve Bank is closely monitoring these areas and will not hesitate to take appropriate action, if necessary," Das said, adding that the central bank will desire a self-correction by NBFCs.

Deputy Governor Swaminathan J said the strong messaging is aimed both at select set of errant NBFCs and also segments where the practices are doubtful and added that there are instances of elevated slippages and higher credit costs in

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

NC Legislatures

said the NC legislature party meeting will be followed by a meeting of the alliance partners to elect the leader of the alliance in the House.

"Then we will go to the Raj Bhavan to stake the claim for government formation and ask the LG to fix a time for swearing in," Omar Abdullah said, adding, "I hope the new government is in place in the next

However, NC president Farooq Abdullah asserted his supremacy over the choice of person who will head the government.

Reacting to his son's statement that the alliance will decide the chief minister, the NC patriarch said, "Whatever I have decided, only that will happen".

Farooq Abdullah said the aim of the NC-Congress government would be to minimise the differences between the two regions of the Union Territory and to build confidence among the Hindus.

Omar Abdullah said the NC-Congress government will pass a resolution demanding the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood in its first cabinet meeting.

"After the formation of the government, I hope in the first cabinet meeting, the cabinet will pass a resolution impressing upon the Centre to restore the statehood. The government should then take that resolution to the prime minister," Omar told reporters here.

He expressed hope that the government in Jammu and Kashmir will be able to run smoothly unlike in Delhi.

There is a difference between us and Delhi. Delhi was never a state. No one promised Delhi a statehood. Jammu and Kashmir was a state before 2019. We have been promised the restoration of statehood by the prime minister, the home minister and other senior ministers who have said that three steps will be taken in J&Kdelimitation, election and then statehood.

"Delimitation has happened, the elections have now taken place as well. So, only the statehood remains which should be restored," he added.

Asked how important was the need for coordination between the new J&K government and Centre, the NC leader said nothing can be achieved by having a confrontation with New Delhi.

"Let the government be formed first. This question should be posed to the chief minister. There should be a cordial relationship with New Delhi. My advice to him (CM) will be that we cannot address any issues by having a confrontation with the Centre.

"It is not that we will accept the BIP's politics, or that the BJP will accept our politics. We will continue to oppose the BJP, but it is not our compulsion to oppose the Centre," he said.

"It will be for the benefit of J&K and for the people of J&K to have a good relationship with the Centre," Omar said.

'The people have not voted for a confrontation. The people of J-K have voted because they want employment, they want development, they want the restoration of statehood, they want to address electricity and other issues and that redressal will not happen by having a confrontation with New Delhi," he added.

Omar said the NC would call a meeting of the legislative party on Thursday to start the process of government formation.

"I have spoken to NC president Farooq Abdullah and the party will call a legislative party meeting tomorrow. After that, there will be a meeting of the alliance partners where the alliance leader will be elected and then we will go to the Raj Bhavan to stake the claim for government formation," he said, adding, "I hope the new government is in place in the next few

To a question about whether the PDP would be a part of the coalition government, the NC leader said there were no discussions over that as of now.

"There has been no approach made to us by the PDP. We have made no approach to them. Given the results of this election, which I think is quite a setback to them, I think at the moment I can understand that there must be some internal discussion going on.

"At some points of time, if a channel of communication opens, we will sit down and talk to them. But it is not a priority for us at the moment," he said.

Omar said while he is humbled by the mandate of the people, he is also acutely aware of the responsibility that it places upon them.

'The people of J&K have gone unheard since 2018. Now the time has come for us to work for the benefit of the people of J-K. I am also acutely aware of the fact that there is a sharp divide between Kashmir and Jammu and therefore, the incoming government will have a major responsibility of giving a sense of ownership to the people of Jammu," he said.

The government that comes in in the next few days will not be a government of the NC or of the alliance, or it will not be a government of those that voted for the alliance, it will be a government for every single individual of J&K, regardless of who they voted for, or whether they voted at all, the NC leader said.

"A special emphasis will be laid to give a sense of ownership and voice within the government to those areas from where MLAs in this coalition will be less in number," he added.

On the issue of the nomination of five MLAs by the LG, the NC vice president advised Manoj Sinha not to do it "because even with nominating those five MLAs, the BJP will not be able to form the government".

"You will only nominate five MLAs to sit in the opposition and there will be a row, because we will then have to approach the Supreme Court and file a case against it. While we want to have a cordial relationship with the Centre, this move will create tension right from day one.

"The nomination of five MLAs will not have any impact on government formation. Some independents who won the election are already in touch with us and they will join us and we will increase our lead. The BJP will not gain anything by nominating these five MLAs," he added.

'Foolish To Seek

Article 370 or that Article 370 is not an issue for us now," Abdullah told reporters here when asked what the stand of the party would be on the matter after government formation.

The NC leader expressed hope of getting some special provisions for J-K once a new government gets elected in the country.

"I have said this many times before the elections that hoping for the restoration of Article 370 from the people who snatched it will be foolish," he said.

"But we will keep this issue alive. We will continue to talk on this and hope that tomorrow there will be a change of government in the country, there will be a new setup with whom we can discuss this and get something for J-K," Omar added.

Over 76% Candidates

father and uncle were killed by terrorists in November 2018, polled 29,053 votes.

The BSP has fielded over two dozen candidates across Jammu region but barring its Kathua candidate Sandeep Majotra none of them made any impact on the ground. Majotra finished runner up from the constituency losing to BJP's Bharat Bhushan by a margin of 12,117 votes after securing

Majority of the BSP leaders also polled less votes than NOTA.

Overall, the votes polled by NOTA edged past 164 candidates across the 43 constituencies of the Jammu region.

The DPAP, facing its first assembly election after being formed by former chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad in September 2022, also failed to woo the voters. Its senior leader and former minister Abdul Majid Wani ended up fourth from Doda by getting only 10,027 votes, which is way short of the maximum requirement to save

the security deposit.

The seat was won by district development council member Mehraj Malik for the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) which has opened its account for the first time in the I&K assembly. Malik polled 23,228 votes, defeating BJP's Ganjay Singh by a margin of 4,538 votes. NC leader and former minister Khalid Najib Suharwardy was third and narrowly saved his security deposit by getting 13,334 votes.

Several other AAP and DPAP candidates not only lost their security deposit but also secured less votes than NOTA.

Former minister and J&K Apni Party leader Manjit Singh managed to save his security deposit by getting 13,161 votes and ending up third in Vijaypur constituency which was retained by former BJP minister Chander Prakash Ganga who got 32,859 votes against NC's Rajesh Kumar Pargotra's 13,819 votes.

However, Singh' other colleagues were not lucky to save their deposits and were among the 164 candidates who scored less than the votes polled by NOTA.

Most of the 123 independents also failed to make a mark with the majority of them ending up forfeiting their security deposits. However, the NC rebel candidates – Choudhary Mohammad Akram (Surankote), Payare Lal Sharma (Inderwal), Rameshwar Singh (Bani) - and Congress rebel candidate Satish Sharma (Chhamb) won their seats by defeating their rivals.

Missing Soldier

the missing TA soldier reached there on Wednesday. Junaid Ahmad Bhat, cousin of the slain soldier, said, "He had come home 10 days ago. I met him yesterday morning. He was a nice person." He said that Hilal had left behind a family, and it is very sad news for the whole village. Another villager said, "He was so young, and I appeal to the government to take special care of his family, as they have lost their breadwinner.

Meanwhile, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid rich tributes to fallen brave hearts and also laid wreaths on his

"I salute the supreme sacrifice of our Army brave heart Rfn Hilal Ahmad Bhat. His valour and sacrifice will never be forgotten. The entire nation stands firmly with the family of the martyr in this hour of grief," the LG said as per an official statement issued here. (KNO)

ECI Thanks MHA

deployment of forces. EC salutes Commitment of forces in maintaining peace & working hand in hand with election officials for a peaceful & intimidation

free environment for voters in regions with a history of violence & insurgency," Kumar

Case Filed

huge scholarship funds without proper accreditation, did not conduct examinations through the relevant body, and issued certificates of little-to-no value.

By bypassing the scheme's guidelines, these officials and institute owners allegedly conspired to misappropriate Rs 1.66 crore, the spokesperson said.

4 Independents

Mohammed Akram won from Surankote, defeating alliance candidate Mohammad Shahnawaz Chowdhary by a margin of 8,851 votes. Akram polled 34,201 votes. Senior Political leader Mohd Aslam Kohli of Surankote who was campaigning for Akram confirmed that the NC leadership is in touch with them and Akram decided to rejoin the party. Akram could not be reached out. Akram left NC after the alliance was formed and Congress leader Shahnawaz Chowdhary was declared the candidate for the alliance in Surankote

Dr Rameshwar Singh won from Bani, defeating BJP candidate and former MLA Jewan Lal by 2,048 votes. Singh secured 18,672 votes, while Lal polled 16,624 votes.

A senior NC leader said four independent MLAs who were part of the National Conference before the elections were in touch with the party leadership and will rejoin soon. The NC can stake claim to form the government on its own after the MLAs are back in its fold. The NC emerged as the single largest party in Jammu and Kashmir by winning 42 seats in the 90-member assembly, while the BIP retained its stronghold, Jammu, by bagging 29 seats and Congress bagged six. (KNO)

Asia's Largest

chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, at Hanle, Ladakh, on October 4, 2024," the statement said.

In his inaugural address, Mohanty applauded the collective effort that brought the MACE telescope to fruition.

He said the MACE observatory is a monumental achievement for India, and it places the country at the forefront of cosmic-ray research globally. The telescope will allow scientists to study high-energy gamma rays, paving the way for deeper understanding of the universe's most energetic events, Mohanty said. He emphasised the significant role that MACE project plays not only in advancing scientific research, but also in supporting the socio-economic development of Ladakh.



BSFRVEF

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VOX POP

UNRAVEL KASHMIR

Fans Throng Bakshi Stadium As International Cricket Returns To Kashmir



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Thousands of cricket lovers queued outside Bakshi Stadium on Wednesday to witness the first game of the 2024 Legends Cricket League finals leg as Toyam Hyderabad took on Southern Super Stars.

The recently revamped stadium is hosting a T20 league that features former international cricketers, giving fans a chance to witness the first international cricket match in Kashmir Valley in close to 40

In Wednesday's game, players like Martin Guptill,



overwhelming," a young fan told local news agency KNO.

The game itself turned out to be decent, with Hyderabad chasing down a target of 153 runs in 18.2 overs. Ravi Jangid top scored in the chase, scoring 42* in 48 balls. Jangid had also bowled 4 overs for 1 wicket and 24 runs, capping

off a superb all-round performance that won him the Player of the Match award. The g

India all-rounder Kedar Jadhav remarked on his experience of playing in Srinagar. "It is unforgettable playing

"It is unforgettable playing here. The energy of the crowd is electric, and I invite everyone from Srinagar to come and be a part of this beautiful

The game saw a total of 13 sixes and 23 fours, with the Srinagar crowd loving the spectacle.

The matchups continue today, Thursday, with India Capitals taking on Manipal Tigers at 7:00 PM.

DPS Srinagar Students Excel In UT Level Pencak Silat C'ship



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Delhi Public School, Srinagar, students have been lauded for their achievements at recently-concluded UT Level Pencak Silat Championship 2024. The event was held from September 21 to 23 at Indoor Hall Polo Ground here.

Six students from DPS Srinagar competed in the cham-



honour to the school and exemplified their commitment to achieving their goals," the school said in a statement.

The three-day event, organised by the Pencak Silat Association of J&K and J&K Sports Council. The best performers will now have the opportunity to represent J&K at the national level later this year.

J&K Bank Win 4-0 In Srinagar Premier League 2024

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank XI highlighted the lone match of the 2024 Srinagar Premier League on Wednesday at TRC Stadium here.

Bank XI took on Kashmir Arrows FC and a strong showing had them triumph 4-0. Charismatic Bank striker and captain Akif Reshi scored a hat trick, opening the scoreline in the 10th minute. He made it 2-0 in the 24th minute. Fuqan added the third in 30th minute to put the

game to bed even before the

half-time whistle. Akif made it 4-0 with his third goal of the game in the 60th minute, earning him the Player of the Match award.

In Thursday's game, Northall United FC will take on Real Kashmir FC at TRC Stadium, with kick off at 4:00 PM.

Arshdeep Enters Top 10 Among Bowlers In ICC T20I Rankings



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Riding on a string of impressive performances, Indian seamer Arshdeep Singh entered the top 10 among bowlers and was placed eighth in the ICC T20I rankings issued here on Wednesday.

The left-arm seamer, who returned 3/14 in the opening T20I against Bangladesh in Gwalior last Sunday, jumped eight spots with 642 rating points to reach the eighth position. He is the only Indian bowler in the top 10.

England's Adil Rashid continues as the top-ranked bowler in the shortest format followed by Akeal Hossain of the West Indies and Alghanistan's Rashid Khan at the second and third spots respectively.

Hardik Pandya, who blasted a 16-ball 39 with five fours and two sixes, moved up seven places to reach the 60th spot among batters.

The ace Indian all-rounder also returned 4-0-26-1 and moved to the third spot as he rose four positions in the list of top all-rounders, which is headed by England's Liam Livingstone with Nepal's Dipendra Singh Airee at the second position.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, who is not a part of the India squad for the three T20Is against Bangladesh, dropped one position to fifth and was leapfrogged by Pakistan's Babar Azam.

Washington Sundar also improved his ranking as he got to 35th among T20I bowlers, moving up four positions.

W<mark>illiamson To</mark> Miss Initial Part Of Away Test series v India

Press Trust of India

AUCKLAND: Senior batter Kane Williamson is set to miss the initial part of the upcoming three-Test series in India starting on October 16 due to groin strain, with New Zealand naming Mark Chapman as his cover in the 17-man squad here on Wednesday.

Williamson, who is dealing with a groin strain, will delay his depar-

ture to India where New Zealand will play three Tests at Bengaluru, Pune and Mumbai.

While senior batting all-rounder Michael Bracewell has been roped in only for the first Test in Bengaluru, spinner Ish Sodhi will be available only for the second and third Tests.

Tom Latham will be leading the Kiwis after Tim Southee stepped aside from the leadership role a few

Short TAKES

National Games In Uttarakhand From Jan 28 Next Year: IOA

The 38th edition of the National Games will be held in Uttarakhand from January 28 to February 14 next year, the Indian Olympic Association announced on Wednesday, saying that the schedule is subject to approval from its General Assembly later this month.

The IOA General Assembly is scheduled to be held on October 25

The Games will feature competitions in 38 sports and over 10,000 athletes, officials, and coaches are expected to participate.

Root Goes Past Gavaskar, Lara

Joe Root continued his record-breaking run in Test cricket. The England batter led the visitors' strong reply with a majestic unbeaten century on Day 3 of the first Test against Pakistan in Multan on Wednesday. Root brought up his 35th Test century from 167 balls as he went past Sunil Gavaskar, Brian Lara and Youns Khan, who had made 34 centuries in their

He looked poised to plunder more runs after cruising to 176 not out to guide England to 492/3 at stumps

Cole Palmer Wins England Fans' Player Of The Year

cole Palmer has been named the 2023-24 England men's Player of the Year, the Football Association said on Tuesday.

Chelsea midred Palmer, 22, was voted Three Lions fans' favourite player ahead of Real Madrid midfielder Jude Bell-

ingham, in second, and Arsenal forward Bukayo Saka - the winner of the previous two editions – in third.

Palmer made his England debut in a 2-0 home win over Malta in November 2023 and has gone on to earn nine senior caps.



In our latest podcast, we present Irshad Mushtaq, founder of MI Securities. In addition, he is a financial expert who has helped countless individuals and businesses navigate complex financial landscapes. In this episode, we discussed different investment strategies, personal finance tips, and wealth building. The full video will be released soon on our YouTube channel. Subscribe Kashmir Observer channel for the latest updates.







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