

# KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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## 'Exact A Price': LG Vows Revenge

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said security forces will avenge the construction workers' death in the brutal attack in Ganderbal, and "exact a price" that the terrorists will remember for the time to come. Sinha called for justice to the victims as he blamed Pakistan for "still trying to kill innocent people" in the region to disrupt peace. Seven persons including a local doctor and six non-local labourers were killed while five others sustained injuries in a terror attack at an under-construction tunnel at [More on P10](#)



## Won't Let 'Vested Interests' Prevent Dev: CM

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said he will not allow "vested interests" to prevent the benefits of peace and development from reaching the people of Jammu and Kashmir, who "enthusiastically" participated in the recent elections. The statement comes a day after a deadly terror attack at a tunnel construction site in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal left seven people, including a doctor and six migrant labourers, dead. Talking to reporters here, [More on P10](#)



## A Despicable Act: Shah

Condemning the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said those involved in this heinous act will not be spared and they will face the harshest response from the security forces. A doctor and five labourers were killed in indiscriminate firing by terrorists at a tunnel construction site on the Srinagar-Leh national highway on Sunday, officials said. "The dastardly terror attack on civilians in Gagangir, J&K, is a despicable act of cowardice. Those involved in this [More on P10](#)

## GAGANGEER TERROR ATTACK

# Shattered Dreams, Unmet Promises: Families Mourn Their Dead

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Just two weeks ago, the house echoed with laughter as hundreds gathered for his daughter's wedding. On Monday, cries of anger and anguish rang through Dr Shahnawaz Dar's residence in Budgam's Nayidgam village and the streets around it, the celebration so quickly giving way to mourning.

Slogans of 'Naara-e-Takbeer, Allahu Akbar' (Allah is the greatest) were heard as several thousands paid their last respects to the 52-year-old killed in a terror attack on Sunday in Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir. The doctor and six labourers were gunned down by terrorists at a tunnel-construction



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

site on the Srinagar-Leh National Highway.

The Nayidgam village, situated just a short distance from the ancestral village of banned Hizbul

Mujahideen chief Syed Sallahudin, was enveloped in mourning as the community came together to honour the memory of the beloved doctor.

"This has come like a bolt of lightning from the sky. The family was still celebrating the wedding and now this news," said [More on P10](#)

## Karwa Chauth & The Call That Never Came

Dressed in her finery, she waited for the phone to ring so she could break the Karwa Chauth fast she had kept for his long life. What came instead was the pronouncement of his death - Shashi Abrol had been killed in a terror attack in Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

News of his death came late on Sunday night, long after the moon had risen, the sight millions of Hindu women look out for to break their daylong fast on the day. Fate could not have dealt Ruchi Abrol a crueler blow.

Shashi Abrol, an architectural designer, was among the seven people killed when terrorists attacked a tunnel construction site on the Srinagar-Leh national highway on Sunday. The attack took place when the team had returned from work to their camp late in the evening. The morning after, his wife held on to their three-year-old daughter, angry, anguished and bewildered at the same time. The couple also has a son studying engineering. "I spoke to him [More on P10](#)

## Shot While On A Phone Call With Wife

Gurmeet Singh, who was among seven persons killed in a terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal, was speaking to his wife on the phone when he was hit by a bullet, his father said on Monday. A doctor from Kashmir and six non-local labourers were killed while five

people sustained injuries in the terror attack at an under-construction tunnel at Gund on Sunday. Gurmeet Singh, 45, hailed from village Sakhowal in Punjab's Gurdaspur district and had been working in a company as a construction worker. "He was speaking to his wife over a mobile [More on P10](#)

## J&K MLAs Take Oath, Omar Takes Pledge In Kashmiri

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The newly elected members of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly were administered oath on Monday by pro-tem speaker Mubarak Gul, with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah taking the pledge in the Kashmiri language.

The 54-year-old Leader of the House was the first MLA to be administered the oath.

Omar Abdullah, son of Farooq Abdullah and his British wife Mollie Abdullah, had often faced criticism for not being able to speak his native language.

While the third generation politician from the Abdullah family is fluent in English, his fluency in vernaculars like Hindi, Urdu and Kashmiri was poor at



the start of his political career in the late 1990s.

However, during his first tenure as chief minister from 2009 to 2014, Omar Abdullah took lessons to improve his speaking skills in these three languages. And on Monday, he took the oath

as MLA in Kashmiri. Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary took oath in English.

The oath-taking ceremony of the MLAs marks an end to the six-year-long legislative hiatus. There are 51 first-time members [More on P10](#)

## Omar Vacates Budgam, Retains Ganderbal Seat

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has vacated the Budgam assembly seat and retained the Ganderbal constituency, Pro-tem speaker Mubarak Gul announced in the House on Monday. Abdullah won both the seats in the recently held assembly polls. The Ganderbal seat is considered an Abdullah family stronghold. [More on P10](#)

## LG's Power To Nominate 5 MLAs HC To Take Final Call On December 5

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A special division bench of the J&K and Ladakh High Court on Monday admitted a plea challenging the power vested in the J&K Lieutenant Governor to nominate five members to the Legislative Assembly of the Jammu and Kashmir.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation by one Ravinder Kumar Sharma, a bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Rajesh Sekhri issued notice to centre and J&K government after hearing senior counsel Abhishek Singhvi and others for petitioner, and Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General of India through Video Conference. Other counsel appeared physically before the court.

"Having heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the material on record, we are of the opinion that the writ petition, inter-alia, raises the following debatable question of law: "Whether Sections 15, 15-A and 15-B of the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019, making provision for nominating the members of Legislative Assembly over and above the sanctioned strength of the Legislative Assembly, and which have the potential of converting the minority government into a majority government and vice versa, is ultra vires the Constitution being in violation of basic structure of the Constitution?" the court said and admitted the PIL. "List for final consideration on 5th December 2024." Sharma, a former member of legislative council and senior vice president of Pradesh Congress Committee, was also present in the court. The petition challenged the provisions of [More on P10](#)



## No Talks With Pak Till...: Dr Farooq

Former chief minister and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Monday lashed out at Pakistan for perpetrating terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, saying Islamabad will have to stop terror incidents here if it wants to have friendly relations with India. Abdullah said there can be no talks between New Delhi and Islamabad till the neighbouring country stops killings in Jammu and Kashmir. "I do not know what action India should take, that is the domain of the central [More on P10](#)



## Islam Deplores Such Acts: Mirwaiz

Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq Monday condemned the killing of six workers and a doctor in a terror attack on a construction site in Gagangeer area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, terming it "outrageous". In a statement, Mirwaiz stated that he is deeply saddened by the outrageous killings in Gagangeer. "Islam, like all religions, deplores such inhuman behavior. Every life is precious, and to be lost in this manner is extremely painful. Another grim reminder of the unending cycle of violence and uncertainty we [More on P10](#)



## Condemn Senseless Violence: Mehbooba

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President, Mehbooba Mufti in a post also condemned the attack "Unequivocally condemn this senseless act of violence against two labourers in Ganderbal. Deepest condolences to their families," Mehbooba Mufti said in a social media post. Peoples Conference (PC) Chairman, Sajad Gani Lone said that the killings were an 'insane act of madness'. [More on P10](#)

## HC Seeks Status Report On Polythene Bags Ban In J&K

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has sought a report from authorities regarding steps taken to ban polythene bags in Jammu and Kashmir.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation filed by an NGO Environmental Policy Group, a division bench of Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta also directed the authorities to provide information about the steps as regards awareness among the public for avoiding polythene bag use.

"The respondents are also directed to report what steps they are taking with regard to ban on polythene bags and also disclose what steps they have taken with regard to organizing awareness amongst the

citizens of the Union Territory for avoiding the use of polythene bags," the court said, adding, "To this extent, status report be also filed."

The court also granted last and final opportunity to authorities including the central government as regards implementation of the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 in J&K.

On 8 July 2024, last and final opportunity was granted to counsel for the authorities for filing a status report, failing which, cost of Rs.50,000 was directed to be imposed.

"Though, the status report has been filed by respondent No. 3 (State of Jammu and Kashmir through Principal Secretary to Government) and 17 (Director, [More on P10](#)

## Restoration Of Academic Sessions Back In Focus In Kashmir

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Minister for Education, Sakina Itoo, announced on Monday that the government would seek suggestions from all relevant stakeholders regarding the possible restoration of the academic session that was shifted from November-December to March in 2022.

Speaking to reporters during the JK Science Congress 2024, held at Women's College MA Road, Srinagar, Itoo said, "We will seek suggestions from all stakeholders with regard to the restoration of the academic session." She emphasized that a decision would be made only after consulting with the appropriate parties. "Today, I will chair a review meeting with



the officials of the education department," she added.

The call for a review of the academic calendar has sparked public interest and received support from various quarters. Peoples Conference chairman, and MLA Sajad Lone expressed his backing on social media, tweeting, "I personally

fully support restoring the academic session to examinations in November. Apart from the weather variables, it gives our students an academic head start. Most admissions happen from June onwards. Our students would get 6 extra months to prepare for entrance examinations and admissions. Climatically, the academic session in Kashmir is ideal for end-of-year exams, and academically, it gives our students a vital advantage. I fail to understand why it was changed."

The move has also garnered attention from Kashmiri people. Ishfaq Ahmad tweeted, "I was keenly waiting for this statement from your side. It's the most awaited demand of students. I hope [More on P10](#)

## India, China Reach Deal On LAC Patrolling

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: India on Monday announced it has reached an agreement with China on patrolling along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, in a major breakthrough in ending the over four-year-long military standoff that paves the way for a likely meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Russia this week. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, at a media briefing on Modi's visit to Russia for the BRICS summit, said the agreement was firming up following negotiations by the two sides over the last several weeks and that it will lead to a resolution of the issues that had arisen in

2020. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said Indian and Chinese soldiers will be able to resume patrolling in the way they had been doing before the border face-off began and the disengagement process with China has been completed.

Prime Minister Modi and President Xi are likely to hold a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in the Russian city of Kazan either Tuesday or Wednesday.

It is understood that the agreement will facilitate patrolling in Depsang and Demchok areas as there were major unresolved issues in these two areas.

The ties between the two Asian giants nosedived significantly [More on P10](#)

# 'Cancer Patients Nearly 5 Times More Likely To Experience Bankruptcy'

SIANS

Cancer patients are nearly five times more likely to experience bankruptcy, as financial fallout can follow patients with cancer and their families in the form of lower credit scores other monetary challenges years after a cancer diagnosis.

For patients with bladder, liver, lung, and colorectal cancers, the impact on credit scores was larger compared with other types of cancers, said researchers at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School in Boston in the US.

"These are the first studies to provide numerical evidence of financial toxicity among cancer survivors. Previous data on this topic largely relies on subjective survey reviews," said Benjamin C James, chief of general surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and associate professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School.

The first study included 99,175 people who had a cancer diagnosis from 2010 through 2019 and 188,875 non-cancer patients to serve as a control.

Researchers matched patient registry data with Experian credit bureau data to evaluate objective financial markers of financial toxicity.

Patients with cancer had higher

rates in total debt collections, medical collections, and bankruptcies. Cancer patients are nearly 5 times more likely to experience bankruptcy. The cancer patients also had average credit scores nearly 80 points lower. The second study used a sample



of 7,227 patients with colorectal cancer and identified a number of factors that correlated with lower credit scores.

The study also found that declines in credit scores are larger for people with bladder, liver, lung, and colorectal cancers, and persist for up to 9.5 years after diagnosis. However, Dr James noted that the researchers did not directly correlate cancer prognosis with financial toxicity, but that some more aggressive cancers actually have less financial

toxicity than cancers with a good prognosis.

"There are certain factors that are associated with worse financial toxicity, including being under the age of 62, identifying as Black or Hispanic, not being married, having an area deprivation index

below the median, not owning a home, and having an income below a median of \$52,000 a year," Dr James noted.

The studies followed up on findings from the 2015 North American Thyroid Cancer Survivorship Study, which showed that 50 per cent of thyroid cancer survivors encountered financial toxicity due to their diagnosis.

"Further research is needed, but I think financial security should be a priority in cancer care," said the authors.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of son in his school records has been wrongly written as Mohtasham Hassan while his correct name is Mohtasham Hassan Bhat which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Principal Blue Bells School Khanyar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Riyaz Ahmad Bhat  
 F/o Mohtasham Hassan Bhat fako

## اطلاع عام

میونسٹریل انتہا ناگ کے ریکارڈ / سرٹیفیکٹ میں میرے بیٹی **AHLUM** کے والد کا نام **JAVEED AHMAD DHOBI** اور والدہ کا نام **JAVEED AHMAD** درج ہوا ہے جبکہ والد کا درست نام **GAZALA JAVAI** اور والدہ کا صحیح نام **GAZALA NAZIR** ہے۔ اب اس کی درستی کرانی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو ہوا ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر سب سے پہلے ہی اور ایس ایم انتہا ناگ کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

JAVEED AHMAD DHOBI F/O AHLUM JAVEED

GAZALA NAZIR M/O AHLUM JAVEED

R/O EIDGAH COLONY JANAGLATMANDI, ANANTNAG inf

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

### Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB)

CPO Chowk, Panjirthi, Jammu/Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar

www.jkssb.nic.in

## NOTIFICATION

Subject: Document Verification of candidates falling under consideration zone for Graduate Level Posts – regarding.

The Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), vide Notification No. JKSSB/COE0EXAM(UT)/21/2024-06 (7483967) dated: 12-06-2024, issued the Result/Score-sheet of the candidates who appeared in the OMR based written examination held on 02-06-2024 for the following Graduate Level Posts:

S.No.	Advertisement No.	Item No.	Department	Name of Post
1	04 of 2020	65	Culture	Record Keeper
2	05 of 2020	156	Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs	Sub-Editor
3	06 of 2020	212	Hospitality and Protocol	Storekeeper (For Delhi)
4	06 of 2020	229	Home	Assistant Labour Procurement Officer
5	04 of 2022	78	Home	Computer Assistant
6	06 of 2020	186	Higher Education	Computer Assistant
7	06 of 2020	199	Higher Education	Computer Assistant
8	05 of 2020	169	ARI and Training	Copy Holder (English)
9	05 of 2020	170	ARI and Training	Copy Holder (Urdu)
10	05 of 2020	175	ARI and Training	Copy Holder
11	05 of 2020	176	ARI and Training	Proof Reader
12	05 of 2020	177	ARI and Training	V-Copy Holder

Accordingly, keeping in view the need and objective to fill all requisitioned vacancies, the candidates who are falling under the consideration zone for the aforementioned posts, given in Annexure "A" to this notification, are hereby called upon to appear physically before the designated Document Verification Committees of the Board for the verification/scrutiny of their documents/certificates as per the schedule and venue indicated against each.

In case, any item number/advertisement notification not being reflected in Annexure "B" against any candidates name/roll number, such candidates are advised to submit clubbing requests as per the format enclosed (Annexure C) on 23-10-2024 & 24-10-2024 at JKSSB, Central Office, CPO Chowk, Panjirthi, Jammu/JKSSB, Central Office, Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar. No further claim in this regard shall be entertained by JKSSB after the expiry of the stipulated period or through any other medium.

The candidates are required to produce following documents/certificates in original, along-with one set of self-attested copies, before the designated Document Verification Committee:

- Copy of Application Forms.
- Two passport size recent colour photographs.
- One original photo ID Proof i.e. Aadhar card/Voter Card/Pan Card/Passport etc.
- D.O.B Certificate (10th Diploma/Marks card).
- Valid Category Certificate, if belongs to reserved categories.
- Domicile Certificate.
- Marks Sheet of Matric/Matric with Science.
- Graduation Degree.
- Prescribed Qualification/Certificates/Diploma/Experience certificates as per Advertisement Notifications.
- Bonafide certificate on the format prescribed by the Board duly issued by the Controller/Registrar of the concerned Institute/Board in respect of candidates, who have obtained the qualification/Diploma from outside the UT of J&K.
- Checklist sheet/form to be submitted by candidates at the time of their D.V. (as per Annexure-D).
- The candidates must also submit their order of preferences for various items/posts/advertisements (as per Annexure-E) in offline mode to the Document Verification committees.

The candidates who fail to appear before the respective Document Verification Committee(s) on the scheduled date shall forfeit their right to selection.

No.: JKSSB/COE0EXAM(UT)/21/2024-06 (7483967)  
 DIPK-6543/24  
 Dated: 21-10-2024

Sd/-  
 Reyaz Ahmad Malik (JKAS)  
 Controller of Examinations  
 J&K Services Selection Board

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Ruksana Akhter W/o Tariq Ahmad Bhat R/o Sariwarpora Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla intends to apply in the department of tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under name and style of **TREMENDOUS TRIPS TOUR AND TRAVES** agency situated at Sariwarpora Pattan under tourist trade act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas I will submit state domicile, qualification, pan card, experience (min 5yrs) character (police verification) back statement (10000) site plan, affidavit, rent deed, daily attested by sub registrar printing material (letter head visiting card), photograph of the unit (indoor & outdoor) and 2 passport size photograph of the department of tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency. Now as per J&K registration of tourist trade act 1978/82/2011/12 before my case is processed for registration by the competent authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/financial institutions/bank organization etc. For objection, if any and the same should reach to the assistant Director tourism Gulmarg registration (email id info@tremendoustrips.in) within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 15 days shall be entertained. fko

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

### E-AUCTION NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division:

Catalogue No.	Auction Start Date/Time	Name of work
EAFZR-SLR24-65	05.11.2024 at 11:00 hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR Compartment: 14630/F1, 14730/R1, 14730/F2, 14028/R1, 14028/F1, 22424/F1, 14674/F1, 12238/F1, 15212/F1, 14036/R1, 14036/F2, 14036/F1, 12238/F2, 12238/R1, 16318/F1 & 15532/F1
EAFZR-SLR24-66	06.11.2024 at 11:00 hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR Compartment: 12014/F1, 14601/F1, 14601/R1, 14601/F2, 14614/R1, 12032/F1, 12412/F1, 12242/F1, 14505/F1, 14028/F2, 14618/F1, 14624/F1, 19326/F1, 14650/F1, 12030/F1 & 14604/F1.
EAFZR-SLR24-67	08.11.2024 at 11:00 hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR Compartment: 14614/F1, 14508/R1, 12474/F1, 14508/F2, 14633/F2, 14634/R1, 22486/F1, 14633/R1, 14634/F2, 14508/F1, 14654/F1, 12266/F1, 14654/F2, 14634/F1, 14034/F1 & 22430/F1.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in 3267/2024  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

## Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama.

TENDER NOTICE  
 E-NIT No: 63/EEP/RNB/of 2024-25/5258-68 Dated: 18/10/2024

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Earnest Money (In %age.)	Time of Completion in working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Accounts	Administrative Accord Approval No:	Call No:
1.	Renovation of meeting/conference hall CMO office Pulwama	9.51	600/-	2% of Adv. cost	35 working days	CEE,DEE	District capex	175_DDPC of 2024 dt.10.08.2024 and CMO's No. CMOP/PLG/works/4491 Dated.17]-.2024	1st call

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

- Date of Issue of Tender Notice: 18-10-2024
- Bid downloading Start Date: 18-10-2024 from 10:00 A.M
- Bid submission Start Date: 18-10-2024 from 10:00 A.M
- Bid Submission End Date: 29-10-2024 upto 04:00 P.M
- Date & time of opening of Bids (Online): 30-10-2024 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama
- Submission of Performance Security (PS): Within three (03) days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest successful bidder has to provide 5% of allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and EMD of 2% shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance security.

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

2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama

3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

4. EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama

5. The Contractors are advised to visit the site and to be aware of the conditions for launching at site of work before quoting the rates.

6. The contractor shall also be responsible for any theft/ damage to any of the component at site and the cost of damage/ theft if any shall be deducted from the work done or CDR of the Contractor till completion of work and handing over.

7. The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama within three (03) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP

Head Draftsman  
 DIPK-6504/24 dated: 21-10-2024

Executive Engineer  
 R&B Division Pulwama

## Tourism Department

shopiandubjanauthority@gmail.com  
**Office Of The Chief Executive Officer Tourism Development Authority**  
**Shopian-Dubjan-Peer-Ki-Gali**

NOTICE INVITING FRESH E-BIDS  
 Fresh E-OUTSOURCE NOTICE NO. 04 of 2024-25 Dated: 18.10.2024

Fresh e-outsource bids (in single cover system) are invited for and on behalf of Hon'ble Lt. Governor UT of J&K on unit rate basis from General public for outsourcing of the following asset as per the details hereunder:-

S.NO	Description of assets with Location.	Document fee	Minimum Bid for First 365 days (with Security De- (Non-refundable) 10% increase on compound basis for (CDR/FDR) every subsequent 365 days spell).	Outsourcing period.
1.	Tourist Reception Centre at Bohrialhan Shopian.	Rs 700/-	Rs 2,50,000/-	20000/- 1095 days
2.	Tourist Cafeteria at Shirmal Shopian with allied facilities of Parking Area, Children Amusement Park & Gender Based Toilet.	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 1,00,000/-	15000/- 1095 days
3.	Single Bedroom Hut No. 1 at Bohrialhan Shopian.	Rs 300/-	Rs. 25,000/-	10000/- 1095 days
4.	Single Bedroom Hut No. 2 at Bohrialhan Shopian.	Rs 300/-	Rs. 25,000/-	10000/- 1095 days
5.	Single Bedroom Hut No. 3 at Bohrialhan Shopian.	Rs 300/-	Rs. 25,000/-	10000/- 1095 days
6.	Coffee Shop at Batapora Bus Stand Shopian.	Rs 200/-	Rs. 20,000/-	3000/- 1095 days
7.	Coffee Shop No. Lat Mini-Secretariat Ahnama Shopian.	Rs 200/-	Rs. 20,000/-	3000/- 1095 days
8.	Coffee Shop at Heerpora Shopian.	Rs 200/-	Rs. 20,000/-	3000/- 1095 days
9.	Toilet Block at Dubjan Shopian.	Rs 200/-	Rs. 10,000/-	2000/- 1095 days

The bidding document consisting of details of assets, terms and conditions etc. can be seen / downloaded from the website WWW.Jktenders.gov.in as per scheduled dates given below:

Date of issue of Tender Notice	18-10-2024
Date of On-line Publication	18-10-2024
Downloading of Document	21-10-2024 10:00 AM to 28-10-2024 04:00 PM
Uploading of documents/ submission of Bids	21-10-2024 10:00 AM to 28-10-2024 04:00 PM
Date & Time of opening of Bids (online)	29-10-2024 at 12:00 PM

- The Bid/s should be accompanied with CDR as indicated above pledged to Accounts Officer Tourism Development Authority, Shopian-Dubjan-Pir-Ki-Gali and the document fee in the shape of DD pledged to Accounts Officer TDA Shopian-Dubjan-Peer-Ki-Gali.
- Amount shall start from Minimum Bid indicated against each item excluding taxes.
- The conditional offers shall not be entertained.
- The Outsourcing deed shall come into force with effect from the date of Allotment/LOI onwards.
- The successful Bidder shall have to deposit 100% of the total cost of Annual bid amount prior to issuance of formal allotment/Signing of Agreement against a proper receipt. If the successful bidder fails to do so, then the action under rules shall be initiated and the claim if any of the 1st Successful Bidder will be rejected out-rightly and the defaulter will not be allowed to participate in future bidding.
- The Outsourcing Committee/Authority reserves the right to cancel, accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason thereof.
- There shall be an increase @ 10% (compound escalation) of bid amount every year.
- The Instructions/General Guidelines and other Terms and Conditions of the E-Bid Contract are mentioned in the Instructions/General Guidelines/ Terms and Conditions page attached to this E-Auction Notice which shall remain binding on the Contract/Agreement.

NO:- CEO/SDPKG/2024-25/ 306-310

DIPK-NB-1880/24

Dated: 21-10-2024

Sd/-  
 Accounts Officer,  
 Tourism Dev. Authority,  
 Shopian-Dubjan-Peer-Ki-Gali.

## Fun Fair Event 'Ikhwat Samkhow-3' Concludes At IDPS Srinagar



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The International Delhi Public School (IDPS) Srinagar organized a two-day fun fair, Ikhwat Samkhow-3, the event concluded successfully at its Zakura campus, attracting thousands of visitors from across Kashmir.

The event was inaugurated by Chief Guest MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar, along with Guest of Honor MLA Zadibal Tanveer Sadiq, Retired Justice Muzaffar Jan and other notable personalities in attendance.

The fair featured over 46 stalls, offering a variety of local products, food, art, and more. More than 2000 students participated in cultural performances that reflected the rich heritage of Kashmir, including traditional Kashmiri songs, Punjabi, Hindi, Dogra Ladakhi dances, and skits. This celebration of culture, creativity, and community was well-received by all attendees, including students, parents, school staff, and local businesses.

Chairman of IDPS Srinagar, Showkat Chowdhary, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the event, and all the dignitaries for their presence and unwavering support. The enthusiasm of our students, parents, teaching and non-teaching staff, and the local community has made this fair a true celebration of talent and collaboration.

Special thanks to the stall owners for adding such vibrancy to the event. The overwhelming response from the public shows the importance of such initiatives, which bring together education and real-world experience."

Showkat Chowdhary further stated, "Our focus at IDPS has always been on the holistic development of students, and the success of Ikhwat Samkhow-3 underscores the importance of providing them with real-world experiences. I am grateful to all our guests, participants, parents, and school staff for their collective efforts in making this event a memorable occasion."

Managing Director of the Chowdhury Group, Babar Chowdhary, also conveyed his appreciation: "I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the students, parents, and school staff for making Ikhwat Samkhow-3 such a success. The dedication of everyone involved, from the organizers to the visitors, is commendable. These events are essential for fostering entrepreneurship and creativity among students, and I am proud of the hard work that went into it by all."

Babar added, "It's inspiring to see our students embrace entrepreneurship and creativity with such passion. Events like this fun fair are critical stepping stones in shaping their futures. I sincerely thank everyone involved for their hard work and dedication in ensuring the event's success."

The presence of esteemed guests, including Chief Guest MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar and Guest of Honor MLA Zadibal Tanveer Sadiq, along with Retired Justice Muzaffar Jan, underscored the event's importance in promoting holistic education. Their encouragement and advocacy for student development through practical exposure were highly appreciated by the entire IDPS community.

## 2-Day 'JK Science Congress' Commences At Women's College M.A Road



Syed Mohammad Burhan

**SRINAGAR:** Two-day J&K Science Congress 2024 commenced at Government College for Women, M.A. Road, Srinagar on Monday. The event, themed "Scientific Endeavors, Innovations and Exploring New Possibilities," is organized in collaboration with the J&K Science, Technology & Innovation Council.

In her address, Minister for Higher Education Sakeena Masood Ito, who was the chief guest on the occasion said that scientific innovations are breaking barriers and opening new possibilities and we must use this to improve the lives of common people. She emphasized the need to bring research to the grassroots level and called for more collaboration between academia and industry.

"We are living in an era where science and technology are revolutionizing every aspect of our lives, scientific innovations are breaking barriers and opening new possibilities. We must harness this potential to improve the lives of common people," said Ito who also holds the portfolios of Health & Medical Education, School Education and Social Welfare Departments.

While she complimented the organizers for holding the Science congress, the Minister emphasized that the need of the hour is to take the research to a grassroots level where people can take advantage of technological innovations.

Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar, Prof. Mohammad Mobin said research and Development

stands at the cornerstone of academic institutions, serving as a catalyst for innovation, knowledge and advancement, and societal progress.

"The significance of R&D in academic institutions extends beyond the confines of traditional education. It propels institutes to the forefront of global competitiveness, positioning them as the hub for cutting-edge research, interdisciplinary collaborations and intellectual contributions," Mobin said.

Mobin further said that the Cluster University has completed the formalities required for admission to PhD program.

"We are going to issue notification for admission in our five constituent colleges very soon. We have identified around 50 potential research supervisors across disciplines who are eligible to guide PhD students," he said.

Commissioner Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Dr. Rashmi In her address said that the New Education Policy encourages multidisciplinary education.

"It also leaves a lot of scope for skill enhancement, entrepreneurship, project-based and experiential learning. Similarly, we should also explore pooling of resources to get the best of the available infrastructure and human resources in the colleges," said Dr. Rashmi, referring to the concept of Cluster University with its constituent colleges.

Commissioner Secretary Science and Technology, Shri Saurabh Bhagat underlined the role of Science and Technology in propelling the major economies of the world. Shri Bhagat

also referred to the vibrant culture of Startups emerging in the country for which he credited the efficient educational system as a key contributor.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Keynote Speakers, Dr. Ashoo Grover, Deputy Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi

Earlier, in her welcome address Principal of the host college, Prof. Ruhi Jan Kanth said the theme of the Science congress reflects the pressing issues of our time.

Referring to the rich history of the institution, she said, "This College has played a key role in women emancipation and empowerment since 1950. The college alumni have made their mark in different fields of life and they serve as brand ambassadors of their alma mater."

Additional Director, JK ST&IC, Dr. Nasir A Shah spoke about the broad objectives of JKST&IC and the various schemes implemented for promotion of research & development and innovation.

Director Colleges, Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Nodal Principal, Prof. Seema Naz, senior office bearers including Registrar, Controller of Examinations and Deans of various faculties besides Principals of various degree colleges were also present on the occasion.

The Science Congress Souvenir, college magazine 'The Pamosh', newsletter 'College Times' besides books authored by some faculty members of the host college were also released by the guests.

## Winter Flower Seedlings Sale Begins At Floriculture Nursery

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal today kick-started the sale of winter flower seedlings (Hybrid, Open pollinated) at Floriculture nursery Lalmandi Srinagar.

Director inspected different sections/ Hi Tech Poly houses of the floriculture nursery and inter-

acted with the concerned technical experts.

After initiating the proceedings, sharing his views, the Director said that the department has introduced many initiatives to extend the activities under the floriculture development scheme.

Iqbal said home gardening is a new emerging trend in Kashmir and landscape gardening is

now an integral part of home gardening. The department is endeavoring to develop organized commercial floriculture units which in turn will help in entrepreneurship development and livelihood security aiming at youth, small land holding farmers, he added.

Owing to the geo climatic conditions of the region and being one of the top

tourist destinations in the country cut flowers, ornamental and aromatic floriculture has huge potential of employment generation, he added.

Director asked the concerned officers to organize awareness/ training programs for farmers, educated youth, so that they could get employment opportunities in Floriculture activities.

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

**AIRPORTS**  
SHIEKH UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

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

**HIGHWAY STATUS**  
• Sgr-Jammu highway - ( Open )  
• Mughal Road - ( Open )  
• Srinagar-Leh - ( Open )

**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
18 Rabi-ul-Sani  
1446

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5:19
ZUHR	12:16
ASR	4:13
Magrib	5:55
ISHA	7:14

### This Day In History

- 362- The temple of Apollo at Daphne, outside of Antioch, is destroyed in a mysterious fire
- 794- Emperor Kanmu relocates Japanese capital to Heiankyo (now Kyoto).
- 1335- Ex-emperor Hanazono (95th Emperor of Japan) becomes a Zen priest
- 1383- The 1383-85 Crisis in Portugal: A period of civil war and disorder begins after King Fernando dies without a male heir to the Portuguese throne
- 1575- Foundation of Aguascalientes (one of 32 Federal Entities of Mexico)
- 1633- Battle of Liaoou Bay: Dutch East India Company defeated by Chinese Ming naval forces in southern Fujian sea
- 1707- Scilly Naval Disaster: shipwreck of four Royal navy warships and loss of 1400 men during a storm off the Scilly Isles - will prompt 1714 British Act of Parliament competition to find longitude at sea
- 1708- Great Alliance occupies Rijssel
- 1721 - Tsar Peter the Great becomes "All-Russian Emperor"
- 1746 - Princeton University (NJ) received its charter
- 1797 - Andre-Jacques Garnerin makes 1st parachute descent from a balloon in Paris
- 1799 - Russia leaves second anti-French Coalition
- 1812 - Duke of Wellington seizes Burgos, Spain
- 1861 - 1st telegraph line linking West & East coasts completed
- 1862 --Battle at Old Fort Wayne, Indian Territory
- 1879 - Thomas Edison perfects carbonized cotton filament light bulb
- 1897 - World's first car dealer opens in London
- 1913 -Explosion at Dawson NM coal mine kills 263 mine workers
- 1928 - China expels all Russian instructors & civil servants
- 1946 - 2 British ships sink near Albania
- 1948 - Egyptian flagship King Farouk sunk by Israel
- 1953 - Laos gains full independence from France
- 1954 - West Germany joins North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- 1956 - Great Britain performs nuclear test at Maralinga Australia
- 1961 - 75,000 Flemings demand equal rights & Flemish language in Belgium
- 1962 - Cuban missile crisis: US President John F. Kennedy addresses TV about Russian missile bases in Cuba and imposes a naval blockade on Cuba, beginning the missile crisis
- 1964 - French philosopher and author Jean-Paul Sartre refuses Nobel prize
- 1964 - US performs underground nuclear test at Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- 1966 - USSR launches Luna 12 for orbit around Moon
- 1973 - Israeli troops reconquer mountain Hermon
- 1973 - Security Council Resolution 338-cease fire to Yom Kippur War
- 1975 - Soviet spacecraft Venera 9 soft-lands on Venus, becoming the first lander to return images from the surface of another planet
- 1975 - Turkish diplomat shot to death in Vienna
- 1975 - World Football League disbands after the Week 12 of their second season
- 1978 - Pope John Paul II is inaugurated as Pope
- 1981 - US national debt tops \$1 trillion
- 1981 - USSR performs underground nuclear test
- 1989 - Red Khmer occupies Pailin in Cambodia
- 1992 - Space Shuttle STS 52 (Columbia 13) launches into space
- 1993 - Russian cosmonaut Aleksandr Serebrov makes record 9th space walk
- 1997 - Coldest World Series game Marlins vs Cleveland (38°F)
- 1997 - Compaq testifies Microsoft threaten to break Windows 95 agreement if they showcased a Netscape icon
- 2006 - Panama Canal expansion proposal is approved by 77.8% of voters in a National referendum held in Panama
- 2008 - India launches its first unmanned lunar mission Chandrayaan-1.
- 2008 - Google Play is launched, the official app store for the Android operating system
- 2018 - Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison makes a public apology to victims of child sexual abuse in institutions
- 2019- UK parliament approves Brexit deal to leave the EU but rejects legislation to fast-track it to meet October 31 deadline
- 2019- US drug company Biogen claims to have created 1st drug to slow advance of Alzheimer's disease called aducanumab

### Hakim Family Bereaved

**FATEHA KHAWANI ON WEDNESDAY**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Zawar Hakim Muzaffar Ali son of late Hakim Muhammad Jawad of Hakim Mohalla Baghwanpora Lal Bazar, Srinagar**, who passed away on **Sunday, October 20th, 2024**, after a brief illness.

The deceased was a staunch follower of Ahlul Bayt (AS).

His congregational Fateha Khawani will be held on **Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024** at their ancestral graveyard at **Hakim Mohalla, Baghwanpora at 7:15 am**. After that a day-long condolence meeting will be held at **Imambar-gah Hazrat Abul-Fazal Abbas (AS)** at **Hakim Mohalla Baghwanpora Lal Bazar**.

**BEREAVED**

Hakim Showkat Ali (Brother), Hakim Rahil (Son), Syed Mujtaba Hassan (Son-in-law), Engineer Nawab Ali, Agha Syed Raza Rizvi

INFO

### MIR FAMILY BEREAVED

شعبہ سیاحہ میں گم ہو گئی ہے راہ حیات تم تخیل کے اکھاڑ بہت اندھیرا ہے

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that **Haji Abdul Hameed Mir** passed away on (20-10-2024) for heavenly abode. His congregational Fateha Khawani will be held on **23-October-2024 (Tuesday)** at **10:30 am** at our ancestral graveyard **Malkha Near Zaroo Gun Factory**.

*May Almighty Allah Rest His Soul In Peace & Grand Him Jannat-UL-Firdous. (Ameen)*

**BEREAVED FAMILY**

## OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER

**8 WEEK FREE GROUP THERAPY**

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

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

**KASHMER / Kashmir American Society of Healthcare, Medical Education & Research in collaboration with HPVVT Help Poor Voluntary Trust is initiating a free 8 weeks Group Therapy for the individuals suffering with OCD by a team of consulting clinical psychologists led by leading consultant clinical psychologist of I & K.**

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

You do not have to fight your battles alone.

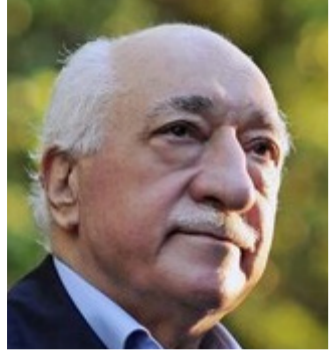
There is no need for referral, simply call us for registration.

Happy & Healthy minds Office, HPVVT Building (First Floor), Dareskh Kadal Chowk, Srinagar

**9070806160**

## Self-exiled Turkish Spiritual Leader Fethullah Gülen Dies In Pennsylvania

**Agencies**  
SAYLORSBURG: Fethullah Gülen, a reclusive US-based Islamic cleric who inspired a global social movement while facing accusations he masterminded a failed 2016 coup in his native Turkey, has died.



Abdullah Bozkurt, the former editor of the Gülen-linked Today's Zaman newspaper, who is now in exile in Sweden, said Monday that he spoke to Gülen's nephew, Kemal Gülen, who confirmed the death. Fethullah Gülen was in his eighties and had long been in ill health.

The state-run Anadolu Agency quoted Turkish Foreign Ministry Hakan Fidan as saying the death has been confirmed by Turkish intelligence sources.

Gülen spent the last decades of his life in self-exile, living on a gated compound in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains from where he continued to wield influence among his millions of followers in Turkey and throughout the world. He espoused a philosophy that blended Sufism — a mystical form of Islam — with staunch advocacy of democracy, education,

science and interfaith dialogue. Gülen began as an ally of Turkish leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but became a foe. He called Erdogan an authoritarian bent on accumulating power and crushing dissent. Erdogan cast Gülen as a terrorist, accusing him of orchestrating the attempted military coup on the night of July 15, 2016, when factions within the military used tanks, warplanes and helicopters to try to overthrow Erdogan's government.

Heading a call from the president, thousands took to the streets to oppose the takeover attempt. The coup-plotters fired at crowds and bombed parliament and other government buildings. A total of 251 people were killed and around 2,200 others were wounded. Around 35 alleged coup plotters were also killed.

Gülen adamantly denied involvement, and his supporters dismissed the charges as ridiculous and politically motivated. Turkey put Gülen on its most-wanted list and demanded his extradition, but the United States showed little inclination to send him back, saying it needed more evidence. Gülen was never charged with a crime in the US, and he consistently denounced terrorism as well as the coup plotters.

In Turkey, Gülen's movement — sometimes known as Hizmet, Turkish for "service" — was subjected to a broad crackdown. The government arrested tens of thousands of people for their alleged link to the coup plot, sacked more than 130,000 suspected supporters from civil service jobs and more than 23,000 from the military, and shuttered hundreds of businesses, schools and media organizations tied to Gülen.



## India And China Reach Agreement On Patrolling Along LAC in Ladakh

**Press Trust Of India**

New Delhi: Indian and Chinese negotiators have reached an agreement on patrolling along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said on Monday.

The foreign secretary said the Indian and Chinese negotiators were in touch over the last few weeks to resolve the remaining issues.

**The announcement on the breakthrough comes a day ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's travel to the Russian city of Kazan to attend the BRICS Summit.**

It is understood that the agreement pertains to patrolling

in Depsang and Demchok areas.

The announcement on the breakthrough comes a day ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's travel to the Russian city of Kazan to attend the BRICS Summit.

Though there is no official announcement, it is expected that Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping will hold a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit.

## Polio Is Rising In Pak Ahead Of A New Vaccination Campaign



**Agencies**

ISLAMABAD: Polio cases are rising ahead of a new vaccination campaign in Pakistan, where violence targeting health workers and the police protecting them has hampered years of efforts toward making the country polio-free.

Since January, health officials have confirmed 39 new polio cases in Pakistan, compared to only six last year, said Anwarul Haq of the National Emergency Operation Center for Polio Eradication.

The new nationwide drive starts Oct. 28 with the aim to vaccinate at least 32 million children. "The whole purpose of these campaigns is to achieve

the target of making Pakistan a polio-free state," he said.

Pakistan regularly launches campaigns against polio despite attacks on the workers and police assigned to the inoculation drives. Militants falsely claim the vaccination campaigns are a Western conspiracy to sterilize children.

Most of the new polio cases were reported in the southwestern Balochistan and southern Sindh province, followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and eastern Punjab province.

The locations are worrying authorities since previous cases were from the restive northwest bordering Afghanistan, where the Taliban government in September suddenly stopped a door-to-door vaccination campaign.

## 'Shame Of Century' UN Rapporteur Says World Body Crumbling Amid Inaction On Gaza Genocide

**Agencies**

United Nations: The UN's special rapporteur on the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories has described Israel's ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip as "the collective shame of the century" amid the failure of the international community to protect Palestinians' rights.

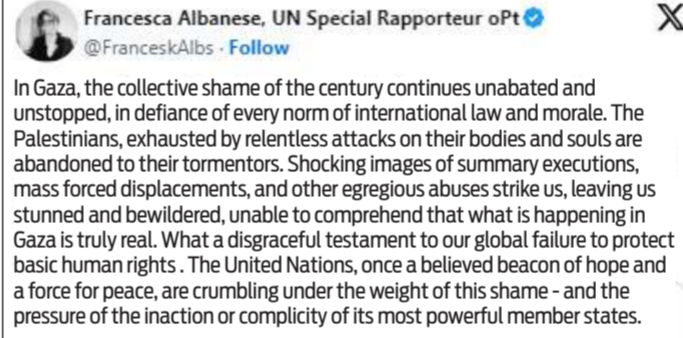
Francesca Albanese made the remarks in an X post on Sunday, as more than a year of the Israeli onslaught has flattened Gaza, killed tens of thousands of innocent people, and displaced almost the entire population in the besieged territory, often multiple times.

"In Gaza, the collective shame of the century continues unabated and unstoppable, in defiance of every norm of international law and morale," she said.

"The Palestinians, exhausted by relentless attacks on their bodies and souls are abandoned to their tormentors."

Albanese also noted that "summary executions, mass forced displacements, and other egregious abuses" that are being perpetrated by the occupation forces against Palestinians in Gaza are all "a disgraceful testament to our global failure to protect basic human rights."

"The United Nations, once a believed beacon of hope and a force for peace, are crumbling under the weight of this



shame - and the pressure of the inaction or complicity of its most powerful member states," she emphasized.

Israel unleashed its brutal Gaza offensive on October 7, 2023, after the Hamas resistance group carried out its historic operation against the usurping entity in retaliation for the regime's intensified atrocities against the Palestinian people.

The Tel Aviv regime has so far killed at least 42,603 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured 99,795

others, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

In a violation of international law, Israel has issued mass evacuation orders in Gaza and deliberately targeted schools and hospitals, used as shelters by displaced Palestinians.

The US and its allies, which have been supporting Israel, have prevented the UN from putting an end to the brutal aggression against the Gaza Strip despite an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe there.

## Priyanka To File Nomination For Wayanad Bypoll

**Press Trust Of India**

New Delhi : Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will file her nomination for the Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll on Wednesday, party sources said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chiefs Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi will be present on the occasion, they said.

Before filing the nomination, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi will lead a roadshow from Kalpetta New Bus Stand at 11 AM. The nomination will be filed before the district collector at 12 noon on October 23, they said.

Priyanka Gandhi is the UDF candidate for the Wayanad parliamentary bye-election.

"The Congress general secretary will officially file her nomination on Wednesday before the Returning Officer in Kalpetta," a source said.

Congress Chief Ministers, along with prominent national and state leaders, are also likely to be present to show their support, the sources said.

With the Election Commission (EC) announcing the bypoll to the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat last week, the stage was set for Priyanka Gandhi's electoral debut from the Kerala constituency that could see her enter Parliament five years after joining active politics.

Soon after the EC announced the Wayanad bypoll, the Congress declared that Priyanka Gandhi (52) would be its candidate from the seat in Kerala.

With the Congress field-



ing the AICC general secretary from Wayanad, party workers had put up posters in the constituency which had "Wayanadinte Priyankari (Wayanad's beloved)" written on it.

Days after the Lok Sabha polls, the Congress had announced in June itself that Rahul Gandhi will retain the Rae Bareilly parliamentary constituency in Uttar Pradesh and vacate the Wayanad seat in Kerala, from where his sister Priyanka Gandhi will make her electoral debut.

If elected, this will be the first time that Priyanka Gandhi will enter Parliament as an MP. This will also be the first time that the three Gandhi family members -- Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka -- will be in Parliament together.

The EC last Tuesday announced bypolls to the Wayanad and Nanded Lok Sabha seats as well as in 48 Assembly constituencies.

The bypoll to the Wayanad parliamentary seat and 47 Assembly seats will be held on November 13, along with the first phase of polling for the Jharkhand Assembly. The results will be announced on November 23.

## Elon Musk Promises To Give Away \$1 Million Each Day Until November's US Election

**B**illionaire Elon Musk promised on Saturday to give away \$1 million each day until November's election to someone who signs his online petition supporting the U.S. Constitution.

And he wasted no time, awarding a \$1 million check to an attendee of his event in Pennsylvania aimed at rallying supporters behind Republican Donald Trump. The winner was a man named John Dreher, according to event staff.

The money is the latest example of Musk using his extraordinary wealth to influence the tightly-contested presidential race between Trump and his Democratic rival Kamala Harris.

Musk started America PAC, a political action organization he founded in support of Trump's presidential campaign. The group is helping mobilize and register voters in battleground states, but there are signs it is having trouble meeting its goals.

The Harrisburg event is the third in as many days in Pennsylvania, where Musk is painting November's election in stark terms and encouraging supporters to vote early and get others to do the same.

He said on Saturday that if Harris wins, it will be "the last election," suggesting the U.S. will no longer exist.

He also said the two assassination attempts against Trump prove he is ruffling feathers and upending the status quo in ways Harris won't. He said that's why no one is trying to kill Harris.

"Assassinating a puppet is worthless," Musk said, reiterating an argument he has made in a social media post.

The petition Musk is asking people to sign reads: "The First and Second Amendments guarantee freedom of speech and the right to bear arms. By signing below, I am pledging my support for the First and Second Amendments."



### NEWS MAKERS

## 'Give Us What You Stole From Us,' Australian Senator Yells At King Charles During Royal Visit

**A**n Indigenous senator told King Charles III that Australia is not his land as the British royal visited Australia's parliament on Monday.

Sen. Lidia Thorpe was escorted out of a parliamentary reception for the royal couple after shouting that British colonisers have taken Indigenous land and bones.

"You committed genocide against our people," she shouted. "Give us what you stole from us — our bones, our skulls, our babies, our people. You destroyed our land. Give us a treaty. We want a treaty."

No treaty was ever struck between British colonisers and Australia's Indigenous peoples.



Charles spoke quietly with Albanese while security officials stopped Thorpe from approaching.

"This is not your land. You are not my king," Thorpe yelled as she was ushered from the hall.

Thorpe is renowned for high-profile protest action. When she was affirmed as a senator in 2022, she wasn't allowed

to describe the then-monarch as "the colonising Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II".

She briefly blocked a police float in Sydney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras last year by lying on the street in front of it. Last year, she was also banned for life from a Melbourne strip club after video emerged of her abusing male patrons.

Albanese, who wants

the country to become a republic with an Australian head of state, made an oblique reference to the issue in his speech welcoming the monarch.

"You have shown great respect for Australians, even during times when we have debated the future of our own constitutional arrangements and the nature of our relationship with the Crown," Albanese said. But, he said, "nothing stands still".

Opposition leader Peter Dutton, who wants to keep the British king as Australia's monarch, said that many supporters of a republic were honoured to attend a reception for the Charles and Queen Camilla at Parliament House in the capital Canberra.

## Woman Kills Self As Husband Arrives Late On Karwa-Chauth, He Commits Suicide In Shock

**A**woman committed suicide following which her husband also hanged himself to death in shock after the couple had an argument over him coming home late on the night of Karwa-Chauth, police said on Monday.

The incident took place in Harmara area on Sunday when Ghanshyam Bunkar (38) came home late at night leading to a verbal spat with his wife Mona (35), they said.

According to police Mona left home in a fit of rage around 12.30 am and Ghanshyam also followed her. Shortly after that, the wife jumped in front of a moving train and shocked by her death the husband returned home and hanged himself while their two children were sleeping in a separate room, the police said.

Before killing himself, Ghanshyam sent a message to his brother on WhatsApp informing about his wife's suicide.

Harmara SHO Uday Bhan said that the husband worked in the private sector.

He said that the bodies have been sent for postmortem.



**Shortly after that, the wife jumped in front of a moving train and shocked by her death the husband returned home and hanged himself while their two children were sleeping in a separate room, the police said**

## LG Visits SKIMS Hospital



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday visited SKIMS Hospital in Srinagar to inquire about the health of civilians, who were injured in Gagangir terror attack.

Team of senior doctors briefed the Lt Governor on the health condition of the injured and medical procedures being followed. The Lt Governor has also directed the officials to provide all the support to the affected families.

The Lt Governor has directed for a coordinated anti-terror op and asked the J&K Police, security forces to exact a price that

will be remembered by the terrorists and their associates for time to come.

The Lt Governor has posted on X: "Visited the Hospital in Srinagar to inquire about the health of construction workers, who were injured in Gagangir terror attack. I pray for their speedy recovery. Directed the officials to provide all the support to the affected families.

The brutal and savage attack against construction workers will be avenged. I've asked the J&K Police, security forces to exact a price that will be remembered by the terrorists and their associates for time to come.

## Hajj 2025: Last Date For Advance Payment Extended To Oct 31

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Haj committee of India (HCoI) has extended the last date for deposit of the advance Haj amount for Hajj 2025 from 21 October to 31 October 31, 2024, by 23:59 hours, asking selected pilgrims to submit their documents by 5 Nov 2024.

In a circular issued by the Hajj Committee of India, states that requests from State Haj Committees, various organizations, and individuals were received, seeking an extension in the last date for submitting the advance Haj amount of Rs 1,30,300.

"Now, we have received numerous requests from State Haj Committees, various organizations, and individuals seeking an extension of the last date for depositing this advance Haj amount. In response, the deadline for depositing the advance Haj amount has been extended to 23:59 hours on 31.10.2024," reads the circular.

Notably, according to an earlier circular the last date for submitting the advance Haj amount was set as 21.10.2024.

"It is essential that Haj pilgrims adhere to the specified deadline for both the advance Haj amount deposit and the submission of documents to the concerned State Haj Committee. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of their Haj seats," states the circular.

Pertinent to mention here that as per the officials at Jammu and Kashmir state Haj committee of total provisionally selected pilgrims for Hajj 2025, there was still at least a 30 per cent pendency for those who are yet to submit the advance amount.

Meanwhile, outlining the procedure, circular states that payments can be made through online methods or bank branches, and documentation must include the Haj Application Form, medical certificates, passport copy with declaration and undertaking—(KNO)

## CM Omar Pays Tributes To Police Martyrs On Commemoration Day

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday paid homage to police martyrs on Police Commemoration Day during a solemn ceremony at the Police Martyrs Memorial here at Zewan.

Accompanied by members of his Council of Ministers, Javed Ahmad Rana and Javid Ahmad Dar, as well as Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, the Chief Minister led the gathering in offering floral tributes to honor the sacrifices of the brave policemen.

Among the recently elected Members of the Legislative As-

sembly, Farooq Ahmad Shah, Sheikh Ahsan, Mushtaq Guru, and Rafiq Ahmad Naik, also participated in the tribute ceremony, laying floral wreaths at the memorial in recognition of the courage and dedication of the martyrs.

In addition to the Chief Minister, several senior officials were present to pay their respects, including Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Director General of Police J&K Nalin Prabhat, Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti Shaleen Kabra, and Principal Secretary Home.

After the tribute ceremony, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah visited a blood donation camp set up as part of the event.



CRAFTING TRADITION WITH EVERY WEAVE – a skilled artisan in Srinagar weaves a wicker basket, keeping the centuries-old Kashmiri handicraft alive. KO PHOTO/ QURAT ULAIN

## GAGANGIR TERROR ATTACK

# Security Forces Launch Massive Combing Operation

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** Security forces launched a large-scale combing operation in the area adjacent to tourist spot Sonmarg on Monday, a day after a horrific terror attack at a tunnel construction site in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal claimed seven lives.

National Investigation Agency (NIA) agents scoured the scene for crucial evidence as army, CRPF, and police units spread out across the hills surrounding the construction area to track down the perpetrators and their accomplices involved in one of the deadliest attacks on non-local labourers in the Kashmir valley. The assailants believed to be Pakistani terrorists, meticulously studied the site layout before executing their plan. They first targeted the labourers' mess before proceeding to the officers' quarters.

Officials suspect that the attackers may have had prior knowledge of the site, potentially having worked there previously or receiving support from locals present at the location. Eyewitnesses recounted the cold-blooded firing by the attackers. The officials said CCTV footage from the area is being scrutinised.

The Resistance Front, a shadow organisation linked to the banned Lashker-e-Taiba, has claimed responsibility for the barbaric act. In a region that has been plagued by terrorism for over three decades, this area had not experienced such a violent incident before.

The attack, which left a doctor and six labourers dead, unfolded when the staff had returned to their camp late in the evening after working on the tunnel project. The terrorists, two in number, indiscriminately opened fire on the group.

Among the deceased were Dr Shah Nawaz Dar, Faheem Nasir, Kaleem, Mohammad Hanif, Shashi Abrol, Anil Shukla and Gurmeet Singh.



## Protests Against Killings In Many Parts

Protests against the killings also erupted in various parts of Kashmir, with demands for justice for the victims and calls to end terrorism. Demonstrations were held in solidarity with the victims, emphasising a united stance against violence and terrorism.

The biggest protest march was held at Pulwama where youth held placards demanding an end to the bloodshed. They also demanded justice for the victims of the terror attack.

The protesters were carrying a huge banner that read 'Pulwama stands against terrorism'. A similar protest was also held at Ghanta Ghar in Kulgam town.

In Jammu, organisations held protests condemning the terror attack and demanding swift action against those responsible, attributing the violence to external forces attempting to disrupt peace and stability in the region.

The NIA's investigative team visited the site to gather crucial evidence that could aid in identifying the attackers.

gion's progress and development.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha vowed to avenge the brutal attack, holding Pakistan accountable for instigating violence in the area.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah also lashed out at Pakistan, saying Islamabad will have to stop terror incidents here if it wants to have friendly relations with India.

He said there can be no talks between New Delhi and Islamabad till the neighbouring country stops killings in Jammu and Kashmir. "How can there be talks? You kill our innocent people and then you call for talks. First, stop the killings," Abdullah said.

Meanwhile, sombre scenes unfolded in the Nayidgam area of central Kashmir as thousands came together to bid a final farewell to Dr Shah Nawaz Dar.

The atmosphere, which was filled with the joy of his daughter's wedding festivities just a fortnight ago, now resonated with cries of sorrow and lamentation as the community mourned the loss.

The village, situated just a short distance from the ancestral place of banned Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, came together to honour the memory of the doctor. Slogans demanding an end to senseless violence echoed through the village, accompanied by cries of "Dar Saheb Zindabad" and calls for a "revolution" in the wake of his sacrifice.

## Strengthen Mechanism For Monitoring Crimes Against Women: LG

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** On the occasion of 'Police Commemoration Day', Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha laid wreath at Martyrs Memorial, Armed Police Complex, Zewan and paid tributes to brave police officers and personnel who have laid down their lives in line of duty. He also paid homage to civilians martyred in the Gagangir terror attack.

"I salute the brave hearts of our Police. Their legacy will live on in our hearts. On this day, let us commit ourselves to uphold the values they stood for—courage, unity and service to the nation," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor lauded the unparalleled contribution of Jammu Kashmir Police and Security Forces in ensuring a safe and secure environment for the citizens. He paid his respect to the families of the martyrs, and reiterated his commitment towards the welfare of the Police personnel and their family members.

"Our promise to you and to the entire region is to carry forward the legacy of peace and stability that our brave soldiers fought so hard to protect. Success of our Police, security forces in combating terrorism has brought normalcy to J&K paving the way for rapid development and economic growth," he said.

Speaking on the transformational journey of J&K under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Lt Governor

urged every citizen to remain united and vigilant against forces that seek to disrupt peace and harmony.

"Peace and Stability has enabled smooth conduct of Parliamentary Elections, J&K Assembly polls and peaceful and successful conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. Now, it is time for all to leverage the dividends of this peace, especially the youth, who are the future of this region. Let us pledge to support our Police, Army and CAPFs as they continue to safeguard our safety and well-being," the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also asked the Police officials and personnel to constantly review and strengthen the mechanism for monitoring the crimes against women, children, weaker sections of the society and ensure strict action.

He further suggested launching a dedicated campaign for a drug-free Jammu Kashmir, and paying special attention to the training and re-skilling to enhance awareness, capabilities and coordination among the police personnel for effective counter-terrorism operations.

Nalin Prabhat, DGP J&K read the names of brave hearts of Police who attained martyrdom during the year fighting crime and ensuring safety of the nation.

The arms were reversed and a two-minute silence was observed to honour the Martyrs. The Lt Governor also visited the Blood Donation Camp organized to mark the occasion.

## BJP Ready For Opposition Role In J&K

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has officially accepted its role in the opposition and pledged to confront the government over "threats" to nationalism and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "development agenda".

Senior BJP leader Sunil Sharma, said the party is committed to upholding the rights of the people from the opposition benches. He acknowledged the people's mandate and expressed commitment to be a strong voice for their interests.

On the party's poor performance in Kashmir, Sharma said they are disappointed over not securing more seats but expressed optimism given the party's increasing vote share. "While we aimed for a greater presence, we are pleased with our growing support in Kashmir. Our party remains a formidable competitor to regional parties in several constituencies," he said.

The BJP leader accused the National Conference (NC) and other regional parties of making false promises to the public, claiming these will soon be exposed. "The

NC is misleading the people on crucial issues, including Article 370 and statehood," he said.

Highlighting the successful implementation of welfare schemes such as Ayushman Bharat health insurance, the free grains scheme, and the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi, Sharma said the BJP is committed to the development of Jammu and Kashmir. "We will not tolerate any threats to nationalism or the development agenda laid out by Prime Minister Modi," he asserted, vowing to confront ruling parties on these matters.

Sharma added, "BJP is dedicated to advocating for developmental programmes initiated by the central government, including the Jal Jeevan Mission and free ration schemes. The party will confront any attempts to mislead the people of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly regarding statehood."

He expressed confidence in strengthening the BJP's presence in the region moving forward. "The BJP's position in the opposition will focus on development, security and strong nationalism," he added.



**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION-IV KHANYAR, SRINAGAR.**  
Email: emre.ediv@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2477608 Fax No.0194-2470276

**E-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE**  
e-NIT No. 32 /EDIV, dt: 19.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir , Executive Engineer, Electric Division-IV Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors/firms Notice for Improvement of LT network at 100 KVA Sheikh Mohalla Dagpora (Phase I&II) within the jurisdiction of ED IV Khanyar under (HT/LT improvement capex 2024-25 PDDSS20221000283)

S.No	Particulars	Funds	Estimated cost (Rs in Lacs)
1	Improvement of LT network at 100 KVA Sheikh Mohalla Dagpora (Phase I&II) within the jurisdiction of ED IV Khanyar under (HT/LT improvement capex 2024-25 PDDSS20221000283)	Available	11.34

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	24.10.2024; 12:00 Hrs		
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	30.10.2024.2024 ; 16:00 Hrs		
iii)	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/Clarifications	24.10.2024 ; 10:00 Hrs to	24.10.2024 ; 16:00 Hrs	
iv)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	24.10.2024 ; 16:10Hrs to	30.10.2024 ; 16:00 Hrs	
v)	Submission of Hard Copy (end) Date & Time	Shall be communicated letter		
vi)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	31.10.2024 at 14:00 Hrs		
vii)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders		
viii)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Soft Copy Electronically and Hard Copy in the office of Executive Engineer, Electric Division IV., Srinagar		
ix)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Only) (Non-refundable)		
x)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 23000 (Rupees twenty three thousand only)		

DIPK-NB-1899-24  
DT: 21/10/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Electric Division IV, Srinagar

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION- GANDERBAL.**  
Email: Edgbl123@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2416237 Fax No. 0194-2416237

**e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE**  
e-NIT No. EDG/V/089 of 2024-25, dt:19.10.2024

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	Installation of LT Poles at various spots at ward No 3 and 8 at Halqa Theeru.	1.38

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	19.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	07.11.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	19.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 07.11.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	08.11.2024 at 13:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vi)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System website <a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a>
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.200.00 (Rupees Two Hundred Only) (Non-refundable) [Treasury Receipt/ Demand Draft]
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.2,800/= (Rupees Two Thousand Eight Hundred only)

DIPK-NB-1909-24  
DT: 21/10/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Electric Division Ganderbal

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# Impose Moratorium on Buying Excavators, JCBs and L&T cranes

Hundreds of earthmovers and hydraulic cranes have been procured in the last 5-10 years in J&K without any Govt control. This has plundered our mountains, karewas, rivers and rural landscape



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat



are our Forest Officers serious about it, nor the engineers.

**Riverbed Mining**

Heavy duty earth movers, excavators and cranes are being used extensively in J&K for mining in Riverbeds. One can see JCBs and L&T cranes in the streams and rivers of Kashmir and Geology and Mining Department, Irrigation and Flood Control Department along with J&K Fisheries Department have maintained a criminal silence. This author has been fighting these people in the court of law especially in the National Green Tribunal.

More than Rs 35 Crores penalty was imposed on the J&K Govt for allowing illegal mining and discharge of liquid waste in Doodh Ganga. In March this year, acting swiftly on my application against use of JCBs and L&T cranes in Doodh Ganga Justice Sudhir Aggarwal, Member NGT passed an order and imposed an interim penalty on contractors namely Danish Yousuf and Rouf Ahmad on for contravening the terms and conditions outlined in the environmental clearance granted for their mining lease. The contractors were directed to deposit Rs 16 lakhs as penalty in two months with the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Board.

“The said amount shall be subject to final computation of environmental compensation by JKPC,” said the NGT order. The aggrieved party went to Supreme Court and obtained a stay order but this author is fighting that case through my counsel Senior Advocate Anita Chenoy and Advocate Rahul Chowdhary and I am sure the penalty money would be realized soon.

**Heavy machines and RBM**

As per J&K Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2016, the use of heavy machinery like JCB and L&T Cranes are banned for Riverbed Mining. This is not allowed by J&K State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (JKSEIAA) as well, when they give Environmental Clearance. While issuing the EC, they make the lease holder/ project proponent sign the agreement wherein they are prohibited from using such heavy machines.

In spite all these legal bindings, the use of machines is in full swing. The newly posted DC Shopian Mr Shahid Saleem has launched an offensive on use of JCB machines and illegal mining. I hope other DCs will also be proactive like him. In Bandzoo Pulwama, a Punjab based contractor has sublet the riverbed mining work illegally to some people. They are involved in illegal mining in the Sarara stream using JCB machines. When locals raised their voice, police and authorities harassed them.

In Sonium Pattan in district Baramulla, a local stream was diverted to create a so called playground. In Charar Sharief and Chadoora areas, Karewas have been bulldozed in the last 5 years to excavate clay, sand and bajri. These activities are flourishing at the cost of ecology and environment and this entire trade is done because people can freely buy JCB excavators, L&T cranes and other equipment without any checks and balances. Even a Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) licence holder can operate a crane, JCB or L&T crane. There is also no registration number needed. This can be disastrous in the years to come, especially for J&K.

**Conclusion**

Let a moratorium be imposed by the government on further purchase of these machines in J&K now in view of environmental destruction. Only those people involved in genuine construction trade should be allowed to procure new machines. All the existing JCB and L&T crane owners are asked to get themselves registered with some Govt authority. Lastly, the Govt must make use of Drone technology to check illegal mining.

*Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He also is Anant Fellow for Climate Action*

“  
Only those people involved in genuine construction trade should be allowed to procure new machines. All the existing JCB and L&T crane owners are asked to get themselves registered with some government authority

KO VIEW

## Gagangir Attack

The attack on the construction site at Gagangir, killing seven persons including a doctor, has once again brought militancy into the front and centre of the political discourse in Kashmir. The killings follow the peaceful elections which has brought the NC-Congress coalition to power and should thus be a source of deep concern for not just the newly elected government but also the central government. The attack was also the biggest in terms of killings after the June 9 shooting on a pilgrim bus in Reasi district of Jammu region in which seven pilgrims, the driver, and the conductor died, while 41 others were injured. A few days before the Gagangir attack, militants killed a non-local labourer in Shopian.

In addition to the scale of attack in Ganderbal, its target is equally deserving of attention. The construction site belonged to Apco Infratech, a UP-based firm building the 6.5 km Z-Morh tunnel for all-weather connectivity between Gagangir and the tourist hub of Sonamarg, which, in turn, connects Kashmir valley to Ladakh. The attack's real intent thus seems to be to harm the project. If anything, it shows the militancy is getting more ambitious and choosing to hit the targets that are of strategic value to the country.

This is not to downplay the gains made on the security front in the valley in recent years. Militancy has by and large shrunk into insignificance in the region. Jammu division, on the other hand, has been in the news this year for security reasons. Militancy in the region has revived after over a decade of absence. Recurrent attacks have brought the region to the edge. It is believed that the militants mounting these attacks have infiltrated from across the border, although the exact number is not known. The dense forests of the region have made it difficult for security forces to track them, and their presence in Jammu has caught security forces off guard. The situation is made even more concerning by the fact that the forest area where the militants are hiding extends to Shopian in South Kashmir, the district that until 2020 was a hotbed of militancy. But so far the militants have chosen to stay in Jammu only, possibly because the region has a lower concentration of security forces than the Valley and also a warmer climate throughout the year.

However, the Gagangir attack shows that the militants now threaten peace in the Valley. This calls for the government to rethink its security strategy. After the return of militancy in Jammu, the government can ill-afford to let the violence return to the Valley. But a strictly security driven approach is hardly the answer, the central government also needs to embark on a political outreach to people.

According to a report published by Financial Express last year, it took 15 years for JCB India to sell 50,000 excavators in the country but more than 50,000 units were sold in the year 2022 and 2023 (until mid October) alone. The newspaper quoted Deepak Shetty, CEO and Managing Director, saying that JCB India is at number three in excavator manufacturing in the world behind China and the US and is soon going to be the second largest manufacturer in the world. From manufacturing around 85,000 units annually, India is all set to manufacture more than 2,50,000 units in another 6 years i.e 2030. This is because of the execution of heavy infrastructure projects like roads, railways and mining. For construction companies and contractors who are associated with construction business procuring earth moving equipment like hydraulic cranes, excavators etc is understandable but in Jammu & Kashmir these heavy machines have been purchased by every Tom, Dick and Harry. Even in remotest villages, we see such machines and there are no checks and balances from the government's side at all. Infact, there are no government regulations and the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) is also not applicable for such machines.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) in July 2020 clarified that the heavy road making machinery is not a motor vehicle and is not covered under MV Act. The Ministry requested the States and UTs not to insist upon registration and driving licence for these machines. This was especially meant for road building and rehabilitation equipment like cold recycling machines, soil stabilization and machines. But under this garb, the excavators, hydraulic cranes and bull dozer owners take undue benefits and they are involved in all sorts of illegal work as well.

**NREGA work using JCB excavators**

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MG-NREGA) was enacted in 2005 as a landmark legislation that promised to provide 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. This was meant to benefit the poor and marginalized communities in rural areas who live below the poverty line (BPL). Such people do not have sufficient funds to provide for the necessities of their life. The government, therefore, introduced NREGA for them so they won't have to travel to towns and cities for jobs which can be provided to them locally in their own village. The works done under NREGA would also benefit the villages by getting better infrastructure like lanes, drains, small roads, wells, washrooms, check dams, rainwater harvesting pits etc. Instead of making poor and marginalized people to do this work, some local rich people started using earth movers, excavators like JCBs. In Jammu & Kashmir especially, the majority of the NREGA work is done by JCBs under the garb of land leveling and playground construction etc. In every village of J&K, one can find one or two JCB excavators and they not only do the NREGA work but are also involved in all sorts of illegal work like illegal riverbed mining, clay mining and digging up forest land to make small roads etc. There is another aspect like low wages under NREGA which allows local panchayats to get the works executed by JCBs. Fake job cards are made and payments go into their accounts and these people are relatives and friends of local Panchayat members and JCB owners and the payment is then accordingly distributed. Even the snow clearance work which should be done manually or by using snow cutting machines in rural areas is done by JCB cranes. This is not only illegal but also damages the roads. Infact, former MP Lok Sabha from Baramulla, Mohammad Akbar Lone, had raised this issue with Govt of India in 2021 and written a letter to Union Minister of Rural Development for bringing snow clearance work under MG-NREGA.

The end result of using JCB excavators in MG-NREGA works is that we have damaged the village landscape especially in the hilly region of J&K. The soil in mountains and Karewa has loosened due to massive excavation and there is soil erosion taking place in rural areas especially in Budgam, Baramulla, Pulwama and other districts.

**Use of JCBs in JJM projects**

With an aim of providing clean drinking water to every household in India, the Government of India launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) around 5 years back. This centrally sponsored

scheme was formally launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15th August 2019. The aim of JJM is to provide 'Functional Household Tap Connections' (FHTC) to every rural household in India by 2024. The Jal Jeevan Mission -JJM is aimed at creating a people's movement — Jan Andolan for water. Pertinently in Jammu & Kashmir a major chunk of annual budget has gone to the water sector. More than Rs 5000 crores (Rs 50 Billion) have been allocated by Government of India to J&K under Jal Jeevan Mission last year. We can see many large scale projects being executed by the PHE-Jal Shakti Department across J&K.

At a time when massive work is being executed under this national flagship programme we see our roads being damaged in many areas to lay drinking water pipelines. In fact the damage being caused to roads to lay water pipelines is not a new thing which can be attributed to JJM alone but has been prevalent in the past also due to lack of governance and proper coordination. It is quite evident that there is hardly any coordination between the Public Works Department - (PWD-R&B), PM Gram Sadak Yojna - PMGSY & PHE Jal Shakti Departments. Roads which were metalled and blacktopped have been dug up by the contractors using JCB cranes within months and nobody knows will these roads be ever repaired back.

The use of JCBs is done even in forest areas to lay the water pipelines. This is done in clear violation of Forest and Environmental laws. I have seen JCB excavators in deep forests of Doodh Ganga forest range, even 2 to 3 kms upper area of Haijan Branwar in Budgam. The JCB excavators have mutilated the green meadows and forest landscape. This work could have been done manually by local people which would have generated employment for the poor population of Neegu, Jabbad, Branwar villages. After digging the meadows and laying pipe lines, the excavated spaces have not been filled back and they look so shabby. This is not only in Budgam but we see such works done in every district. Neither



**Did you know?**

## The Rollercoaster of Stock Market Investments: A Tale of Resilience and Strategy

Irshad Mushtaq

The stock market—a thrilling rollercoaster where every twist and turn mirrors the emotional highs and lows investors face. Consider the Nifty index, an embodiment of market dynamism and investor emotion. Beginning its climb from a humble 1,300 in 2004 to a respectable 6,000 by 2008, Nifty's trajectory was not without its stomach-churning plunges. In the aftermath of global financial upheavals, it tumbled to 2,500, a drop that tested the nerve of even the steadiest investor. Yet, like a phoenix, it rose from the ashes, achieving a remarkable 12,000 by the dawn of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic introduced another unforeseen dip, pulling Nifty down to 8,000. But as with every downturn, there followed an upward swing, elevating it to an astonishing 26,000 by 2024. And now, it faces another modest decline. These fluctuations are the sinews of the stock market, where patience becomes more than a virtue; it transforms into a strategy. Investing is more than just navigating these fluctuations; it's about preparation. Large-cap stocks often stand as the bastions of stability, recovering swifter than their smaller counterparts. They shoulder the winds of market turmoil, followed by the steady resolve of mid-caps. Yet, in this dance of capital, small-cap and micro-cap stocks stumble more than they stride, offering both intrigue and risk. An investor's map is drawn with wisdom and foresight—70% in steadfast large-caps, a portion in the adventurous mid-caps, and a calculated dabble in small and micro-caps. For those hesitant to pick stocks as if blindfolded in a serendipitous token toss, ETFs and mutual funds are your compass, offering a diversified, balanced path through the market storm. The essence of success lies in discipline and stoicism, particularly when the market sky turns gray. These downturns, while daunting, present opportunities. Seize them not with panic, but with purpose. They are the moments to acquire value, to reassess and strengthen your portfolio. This is the journey—a labyrinth of hope, strategy, and response. Though the ride may be turbulent, with every peak and trough, embrace it. These rides on the Nifty rollercoaster are not just about financial investments; they are about investing in patience, wisdom, and an enduring belief in the power of calculated risks.

*Learn from the insights of @Irshad Mushtaq, Writer, Investor, Entrepreneur & Founder of MI Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at [misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com](mailto:misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com)*

## The Road to Recovery from Addiction

Rutba Riyaz

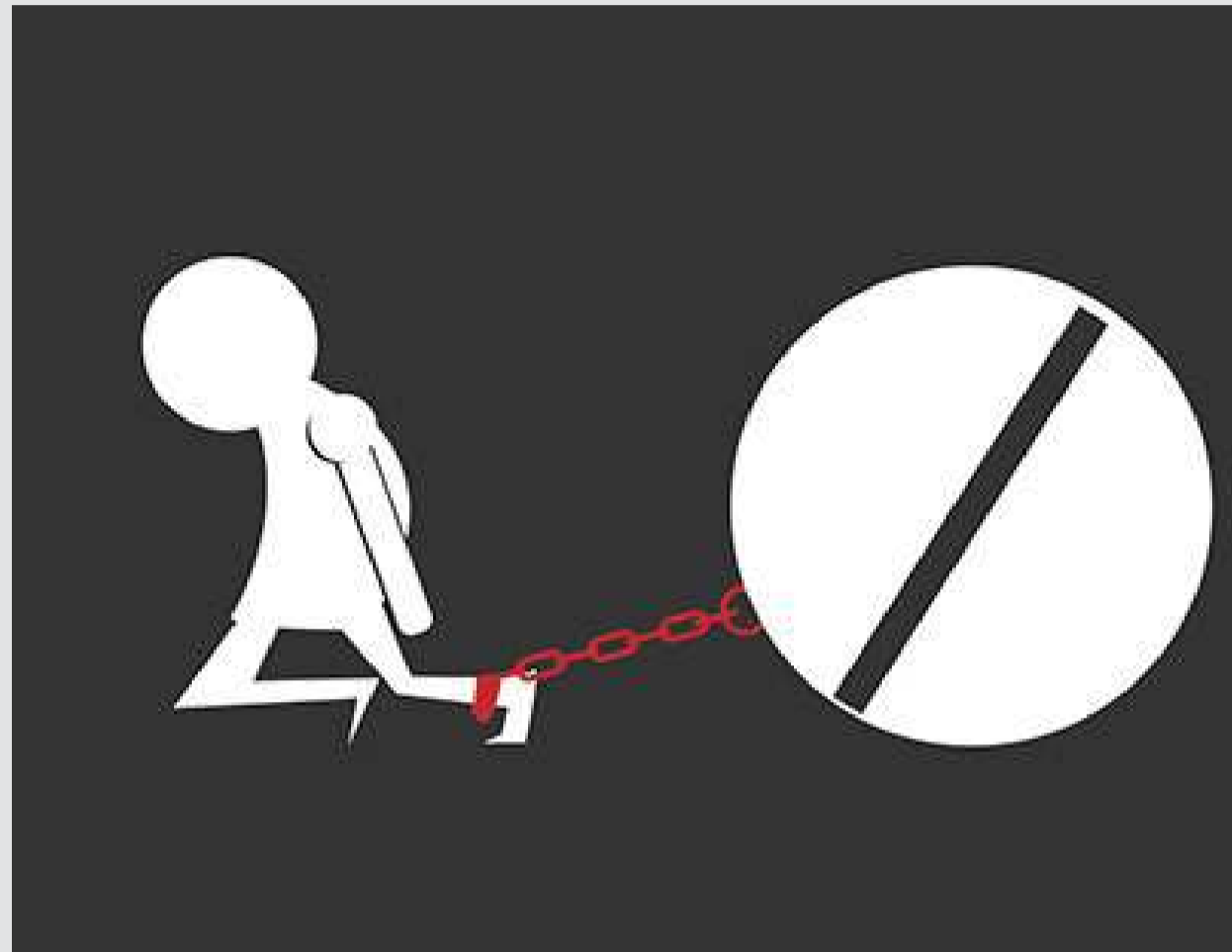
The issue of drug and alcohol addiction persists, becoming a pervasive and devastating problem that impacts neighbourhoods, families, and lives. Despite the discrediting of their condition and stigmatisation, real individuals still suffer.

Defining addiction is not an easy task, as it is a multifaceted problem. People who are struggling with addiction often feel that their impulse to use drugs or alcohol is taking them further than they can manage, despite the severe consequences that come with it. But it's not just a matter of choice -- it goes beyond what people think, as many misinterpret. The fight is intense, with roots frequently linked to mental health disorders, trauma, social pressures and genetic predispositions.

But addiction has far-reaching consequences for others. Devastated families are confined in the cycle of abuse as their loved ones become strangers. Parents remain powerless as their children plunge into darkness, while the addicted parents' neglect and turmoil cause harm. Communities are also burdened by the overwhelming need for treatment and support, which strains public health systems.

The more powerful and dangerous substances become, the more frequently the human toll is on drugs. Synthetic opioids, including fentanyl, are responsible for unprecedented overdose rates that persist in many countries due to the opioid crisis. Those affected by these deadly and potent drugs find it harder to recover. Why?

It's not just punishment or isolation that can help overcome addiction. Although substance abuse is often viewed as a criminal offense, this approach has



not been effective in reducing addiction or providing long-term solutions. The focus of the conversation is now on

treatment strategies, with a focus on rehabilitation and support. The provision of comprehensive addiction treatment

should encompass medical services, psychological counselling and long-term follow-up to prevent relapses. Advocates

also recommend this type of treatment.

Treatment centres alone are insufficient in fighting addiction. Preventive actions hold equal significance, if not more significant. A reduction in addiction can be achieved through educational initiatives for the youth, public awareness campaigns, and greater support for mental health services... It is imperative that communities provide resources that address not only substance abuse but also the mental health issues that often arise with it.

There is a growing realization that managing addiction involves breaking down the stigma that prevents people from seeking help. Those with addiction are often too afraid of judgment, shame and social condemnation to reach out. Let us encourage a more compassionate conversation, one that centres on healing rather than condemnation.

Addiction sufferers require constant support to overcome their challenges. The journey is a personal and professional endeavour. It's not without its fair share of failure. When people are able to take responsibility, respond appropriately and with empathy, make meaningful changes in society as individuals. To heal, communities must address addiction as a public health crisis, rather than merely exhibiting moral failure.

In this battle, one cannot be complacent. It is imperative to address the crisis with a national perspective, taking into account treatment, prevention and rehabilitation. The only way to achieve hope and a brighter future for those affected by addiction is by breaking free from the chains of drug and alcohol addiction.

The author is an intern with Kashmir Observer

## The Boy Behind the Fire

He was the son his mother boasted about: He memorised the entire Quran as a boy, and rose to the top of his university class. He wanted to become a doctor. But most of all, Shaaban al-Dalou dreamed of escape.

Since Israel launched its devastating retaliation for the Hamas-led attack just over a year ago, al-Dalou wrote impassioned pleas on social media, posted videos from his family's small plastic tent and even launched a GoFundMe page calling out to the world for help getting out of the Gaza Strip.

Instead, the world watched him burn to death.

Al-Dalou, 19, was identified by his family as the young man helplessly waving his arms, engulfed in flames, in a video that has become a symbol of the horrors of war for Gazans, trapped inside their blockaded enclave as the international community looks on.

On October 14, Israel said it conducted a "precision strike" on a Hamas command centre operating near Al Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al Balah, a coastal city in central Gaza. Dozens of families like the Dalous, forced to flee their homes, had set up tents in a parking lot inside the hospital compound. They had hoped that international laws forbidding most attacks on medical facilities would ensure their safety.

The Israeli military said that the fire that erupted afterwards was probably caused by "secondary explosions", without specifying what that meant. It added that "the incident is under review".

As fire consumed the Dalou family's tent, al-Dalou's father, Ahmed, ran back inside. He carried his young son, and then his two older daughters, out to safety. By the time he turned back, it was too late for his eldest son.

"I could see him, sitting there, he was lifting his finger and praying," he said, referring to the shahada, a creed of faith recited upon birth and at death. "I called out to him: 'Shaaban, forgive me, son! Forgive me! I can't do anything.'"

Al-Dalou died the day before his 20th birthday. The moment of his death was not only seared into his father's memory -- it was circulated around the world.

The images of people in that camp burning alive, among them also al-Dalou's mother, prodded even Israel's staunchest ally, the US, to question that attack.

Linda Thomas-Greenfield, the US ambassador to the United Nations, said on



Shaaban al-Dalou, who was burnt alive in a tent following an Israeli strike near the Al Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al Balah in central Gaza

Wednesday that she had "watched in horror as images from central Gaza poured across my screen".

Al-Dalou, who had become sickly from trauma and malnutrition amid the ever-worsening siege, often confided in his aunt, Karbahan al-Dalou, about his ideas for escaping Gaza.

"His plan was to get himself out, and then find a way to get out his sisters and his brothers and his parents," she said in an

interview with The Times, as she sat in the hospital room of her daughter Tasnim, who was recovering from shrapnel injuries to her stomach from the same strike.

Al-Dalou also turned to the Internet, contacting activists abroad who have helped Gazans set up fund-raising pages online.

"You have to open your heart for us. I am nineteen and I buried my dreams," he wrote in one Instagram post. "Support me to find them again!"

The campaign raised over \$20,000. But even if it had been enough to pay the exorbitant fees to arrange an escape out of Gaza for him and some of his relatives, the effort was futile: Since May, Israel has closed the Rafah border crossing into Egypt, making such exits impossible.

In a text exchange from May that his aunt showed The Times, al-Dalou asked her if his recurrent illnesses might qualify him for a medical evacuation, which have occasionally taken place. She replied that it was unlikely, and that even a friend "whose sister lost an eye, they are struggling to find a way to get her out".

Yet she said her nephew, who often joined her in her tent for lunch, seemed unflappable. He would watch the news, analyse speeches by Israel's Prime Minister, and tell her: "Be optimistic, all will be well. God willing, God will help us, auntie," she recalled.

It was a different story among his friends, said his cousin and schoolmate Mohyeddin al-Dalou. During the war, the two often whiled away wistful evenings on the beach.

Al-Dalou used to spin dreams of going abroad to get a PhD in software engineering, which he had studied in his last two years at Al-Azhar University in Gaza. He had already forsaken his ambition to become a doctor, his cousin said, because his family could not afford the cost of those studies.

As the war dragged on, he said, al-Dalou's vision of escape transformed from travelling to dying.

"More and more, he would tell me that he wanted to be martyred, he wanted to be with his friends who were martyred, with his grandfather and grandmother in heaven," he said.

Just 10 days before the attack that killed him, al-Dalou had a brush with death when Israel struck the mosque near the hospital, where he had been reciting the Quran and spent the night. Israel also said at that time that it was targeting a Hamas command centre.

In that blast, which the local authorities said killed

26 people, a piece of shrapnel cut across al-Dalou's neck, behind his ear. "His stitches hadn't even been removed yet," his aunt said, breaking down into sobs.

In a social media post after the mosque strike, al-Dalou described waking up in the hospital, shouting to the medics that he had reached heaven with a friend, Anas al-Zarad.

Al-Dalou appeared especially tormented in recent posts over the recent death of that friend, posting pictures of them together as boys and teenagers, laughing and joking.

"I've never felt anything more terrifying than the thought of the dead being absent," he wrote in one post. "The human mind, with all its brain cells and all of its capacity to absorb and to create, is helpless in the face of this absence."

Those who now face that same rupture in al-Dalou's absence recall a young man far wiser than his years, whose ambition and energy seemed boundless, and who made everyone his friend.

Karbahan, his aunt, remembered the way his mother, Alaa, had treated al-Dalou "more like her brother than her son", with lots of teasing and intimate conversations.

Al-Dalou's mother once sold her gold bracelets to fund his high school studies. When the war began last year, his aunt said, al-Dalou used the money he earned working in software engineering online to buy them back for her.

She said al-Dalou also used his money help his father and uncle, Karbahan's husband, set up a falafel stand by their tent outside the hospital, as a way to earn money after the two brothers' small clothing factory was destroyed in the war.

Al-Dalou's father said he saw their relationship as something beyond that of father and son.

"He kept my secrets, and I kept his," he said, his face and arms heavily bandaged from burns. "We were friends, and I was proud of that."

As he stood watching the fire that took his wife and son's lives, he said he kept speaking to al-Dalou: "I told Shaaban that I've never felt so broken the way I feel broken now. I've never felt so defeated like I feel defeated now."

His last memory of them is from a day before the fire. The three of them had gone to the beach, chewing sunflower seeds and chatting. "Now, well," he said, "God rest his soul."

On Friday, the elder al-Dalou was dealt another blow: His youngest son, 10, died from the severity of his burn injuries despite his father's efforts to rescue him. He was buried alongside his mother and his brother.

The article was originally published by New York Times News Service

# Study Links Having Extra Y Chromosome With Doubling Risk Of Autism

Press Trust of India

An abnormality in one's sex chromosome in the form of an extra Y chromosome has been related with a doubled risk of having autism, according to a study that offered a "new explanation" for why autism is more prevalent in men.

The Y chromosome should be looked at more closely for identifying autism risk factors, researchers said.

However, some individuals carry an abnormal number of X or Y chromosomes, such as XXY or XYY, which is a genetic condition known as 'sex chromosome aneuploidy'.

Autism, a neurodevelopmental condition in which one displays repetitive behaviours and has affected social skills, has been studied to be nearly four times more common among men, compared to women, indicating a strong gender aspect to the skewed ratio.

Researchers, including those from the Autism and Developmental Medicine Institute, US, looked at autism diagnoses in people having abnormal sex chromosomes and found that those having an extra Y chromosome -- XYY or XXY -- were twice as likely to be diagnosed with autism.

Having an extra X chromosome did not affect autism risk, they said. The team analysed genetic and autism diagnosis data on 1,77,416 pa-



**Having an extra X chromosome did not affect autism risk, they said. The team analysed genetic and autism diagnosis data on 1,77,416 patients, of which 350 had abnormal sex chromosomes.**

tients, of which 350 had abnormal sex chromosomes.

Further, having XYY chromosomes was found to increase autism risk more than having XXY.

Published in the journal Nature Communications, the results suggested a risk factor linked to the Y chromosome, as opposed to the protective effect known to be associated with the X chromosome, the authors said. Protection provided by the X chromosome is considered to lower risk of autism in women, according to a predominant theory in the research field

called the 'female protective effect'.

The study's findings pointed towards the need to look for autism risk factors on the Y chromosome, rather than limiting oneself to protection rendered by the X chromosome, the authors said.

Therefore, they called for further research to identify specific autism risk factors associated with the Y chromosome.

The participants were included from the Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research (SPARK) study and MyCode Community Health Initiative, both in the US.

**Cell:-8899458717**

**ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC) & MEMBER OF TURKEY**

**T.A:-SHAH FAISAL COLONY, SOURA, NEAR MUFTI AZAM**  
**P.A:-NAGBAL PEER MOHALLA, KHALMUL**

## PRESS RELEASE



"I" "thursday" Or " Friday" In "oct". J&k Union Territory. "i" Senior Officiality Member Of " (O.I.C)" Organization Of Islamic " Cooperation" & And " Member Of "turkey". "i" " I Mr " Tabish Irshad Zarkoob, "I Applicate Honourable Oath" L.g, Lieutenant Governor" In Union Territory. " I Visit Chashma – Shahi On " 25/9/2024. I Message Popular Union Territory Development As Worry. I Experience For Drugs Youth In Terfere. Has Formally. Formaligy Circular One's Jammu & And Kashmir" I Peaceful Or Hopeful Union Territory. I Required Prefaire Social and Internal Sharing ."i Thursday Or Friday. " In 2024. October,, "j&k,, Union Territory Day Of Wednesday Or Monday Appointed My Mother,, In Senior Official superintendent Of Police Consultant Soura Police Station ." I Alsay's . The Division Union Territory Jammu & And Kashmir. U.T., 2024. " I Already " Post Office Buchpora " Srinagar" J&k -U.T., 2024. Direction I Take 15 Days For Files " Arrive Formal Formalities. On "Rule & And Regulations" Off Indian " Constitution Off " Chief Minister" D.r,, Omar Farooq " Abdullah". "i Senior Officiality Press Released The New Abbournely. Profile Reality. One's Indain Authentic For Union Territory. " I Essential Formalities Of Security And And " S.S.P" Security" "I.G. P" Security. In Raj Bhawan In Talk My Senior Officiality Officers In Post Office Buchpora And Security. Considered Chairship Off "(O.I.C)" And Turkey" "i,, Popular The " Ceremony". In " Meet" Too Future As" "( O.I.C)" " Organization Off " Islamic Cooperation " And " Turkey",, In Appointed " Relation Authentic Basic " Rules" One's Following. " Principles." I" My Talk Official Senior In Monday In " 14/10/2024,, "i A Wait For Filies And Evidences One's For " Security" And Allow " Chair – Union Territory,, One's Off Required Permanent " Order's Government Of India. They Securely Media In Message Off Union.

" Territory" Off:-  
 "M.R., " I,, Tabish Irshad Zarkoob".  
 "AS,, Member Off :- (O.I.C)"  
**" ORGANIZATION OFF ISLAMIC COOPERATION,,**  
 "IN :- 2024,, OCTOBER,,  
 "(AND,,)"  
**" MEMBERATE SHIP'S OFF TURKEY"**  
 "IN:- 2024,, OCTOBER,,

**Tabish Irshad**  
 Organization of Islamic Cooperation  
 (OIC) & Member of Turkey

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT.  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla.**

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS  
 e-NIT No:- 66/6560-69/2024-25/RnB/Bla Dated 18.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors Regd. on JKPWDOMS With J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works. The Contractors should mandatorily be registered on JKPWDOMS for making online payment to the agency as per Govt. Order No.: 186-PW(R&B) of 2023 dated 08-05-2023:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Earnest money. (In Rs.)	Cost of T/ (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account	Project Authority	Position of AAA	Position of funds
1.	Construction of protection wall in Km 7th near H/o Mohd Maqbool Wani at Nowgam Kandi at Baramulla.	14.49	28980/-	600/-	30days	B,C&D	MH-4059-UT Sector	PWD (R&B)	Accorded	Available
2.	Upgradation of Degree College Uplina Road by way of GI, Gil and surface Drain at Baramulla.	7.80	15600/-	300/-	20days	C&D	MH-4059-D/S	District Development Commissioner Baramulla	Accorded	Available
3.	Upgradation of inner links at Delina Baramulla.	4.70	9400/-	200/-	15days	DEE	PRI Grants	District Development Commissioner Baramulla	Accorded	Available
4.	Restoration of damaged Guttyar road KM 1st near Govt Primary School Playground at Guttyar Baramulla.	4.63	9260/-	200/-	15days	DEE	PRI Grants	District Development Commissioner Baramulla	Accorded	Available

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

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	18.10.2024
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 19.10.2024 to 28.10.2024 4:00PM
3.	Bid submission Start date	19.10.2024
4.	Bid Submission End Date	28.10.2024 upto 4:00PM
5.	Date and time of Opening of Bids (Online)	29.10.2024 upto 11:00AM in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla

- Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 mentioning there in the name of work/ NIT No. in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.
- At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site at the office of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division Baramulla.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- The bidder shall be debarred for tendering process if:-  
 a) Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.  
 b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.  
 c) Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Besides, original documents related to bid be submitted physically by the bidder who is declared as LI immediately after opening of financial bid.
- Bidder shall upload a Self-Certified Performance declaration (Annexed format) in support of performance in respect of Works executed/ under execution by the agency during the year 2023-24.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid & no documents in terms of hard copies shall be entertained. However, in case of any clarification, the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
- The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No. 6560-69  
 DIPK-6558/24 Dated 21.10.2024

Executive Engineer  
 R&B Division Baramulla

GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer PCD(PHQ) J&K Jammu/ Srinagar**

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE  
 e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/63/2024-25 Dated: -19-10-2024

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of additional accommodation of Police Station Srigufwara (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	79.35lacs	4000/-	158700/-	180 working days	05-11-2024	"A"
2	Construction of LSQ/USQ block of Police Station Nihama Kulgam (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	106.15 lacs	4000/-	212300/-	210 working days	05-11-2024	"A"
3	Construction of LSQ/USQ block of Police Station D. K. Marg Kulgam (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	106.15 lacs	4000/-	212300/-	210 working days	05-11-2024	"A"
4	Construction of LSQ/USQ block of Police Station Litter Pulwama (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	212.31 lacs	4000/-	424620/-	365 working days	05-11-2024	"A"
5	Construction of LSQ/USQ block of Police Station Yaripora Kulgam (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	212.31 lacs	4000/-	424620/-	365 working days	05-11-2024	"A"
6	Construction of LSQ/USQ block of Police Station Sheergari Srinagar (Under Zero Terror Plan Phase-I)	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	114.14 lacs	4000/-	228280/-	210 working days	05-11-2024	"A"

- Date of Publishing 21-10-2024 at 1600 hours.
- The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1630 hours on 21-10-2024.
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 24-10-2024 to 04-11-2024 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 05-11-2024 on line.
- The complete bidding process will be on line.
- Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 05-11-2024 at 1100 Hrs.
- The lowest bidder i.e. LI shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.
- In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).
- The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.
- Earnest Money:- The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (LI) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer incharge.
- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.
- The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.
- Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.
- No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- The interested bidder can download the NIT/bidding document from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get (DSC) "Digital Signature Certificate" as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the bid. Bidders can get above mentioned digital certificate from any approved vendors. The Bidders, who already possess valid (DSC) Digital Signature Certificates, need not to procure new Digital Signature Certificate.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. The bids cannot be uploaded without Digital Signature. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para 2(III).
- Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids whatsoever reasons may be.
- All the required information for bid must be filled and submitted online.
- Bidders can contact the undersigned for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process.
- Original Registration certificate of GST No. shall be uploaded on line.
- The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>
- No construction material shall be supplied by Police Construction Division, PHQ. However, the brands of the material will be approved by Engineer in-charge of the concerned site in consultation with Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K.
- In case of any typographical error, if found in the rates or units etc. the same shall be corrected and paid as per sanctioned schedule of rates / LMR with contractor's Tender appreciation/depreciation.
- Any item of work not advertised in the rate list but found necessary during execution of work should be got approved by the competent authority before proceeding further beyond the allotment and payment for the same shall be made on sanctioned schedule of rates / LMR with contractor's overall appreciation/depreciation.
- In case of delay in completion of the work beyond scheduled period of completion (as per allotment), a penalty at the rate of 1% per week (on pro-rata basis) on the amount of allotted work shall be imposed on the contractors subject to a maximum of 10% of the contract value.

Sd/-  
 (Er. Neeraj Gupta)  
 Executive Engineer  
 PCD (PHQ) J&K Jmu/Sgr.

No:- e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2024-25/4830-39  
 DIPK-6522/24  
 Dated: 21-10-2024.

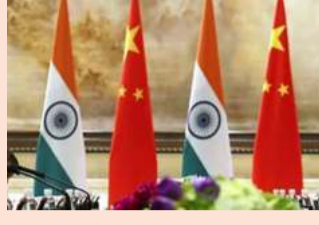


## No Direct Flights, Ban On Apps: Areas Hit By India-China's Strained Ties

Reuters

**NEW DELHI:** India and China have reached a deal on patrolling the Himalayan frontier, aiming to resolve a four-year military stand-off, Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said on Monday.

The two nuclear-armed neighbours have had tense relations since their troops clashed in 2020. Here are some areas affected by India's strained ties with China since then:



barring countries by adding an extra layer of vetting and security clearances, in what was widely seen as a move to stave off takeovers and investments by Chinese firms.

It has led to billions of dollars in proposed investment getting stuck in the approval process over the last four years, including the stalling or shelving of investment worth billions from companies like BYD and Great Wall Motor.

### MOBILE APPS BAN

Citing data and privacy issues, India has banned about 300 Chinese mobile apps including popular ones such as the battle-royale format game from Krafton Inc, a South Korean company backed by China's Tencent.

### XIAOMI ASSET FREEZE

Indian authorities last year accused Chinese smartphone company Vivo Communication Technology of breaching some visa rules and alleged it siphoned \$13 billion in funds.

India has frozen more than \$600 million in Xiaomi assets for alleged illegal remittances to foreign entities, accusing the company of passing them off as royalty payments.

Both Chinese companies deny any wrongdoing.

### NO DIRECT FLIGHTS

The two countries have not had any direct flights for four years. China has been pressing India to restart direct passenger flights and India's aviation minister said last month the two countries discussed an early resumption of scheduled passenger flights.

### VISA RULES FOR CHINESE TECHNICIANS

India increased scrutiny for visa applications from Chinese citizens in the wake of the border clashes. This hurt some of India's key manufacturing firms as stricter visa rules meant specialised engineers from China could not enter the country, leading to production losses.

After industry complaints, India recently decided to speed up processing of visas for Chinese technicians.

### NEW INVESTMENT VETTING RULES

In 2020, India stepped up scrutiny of investments from companies based in neigh-

## Gold, Silver Hit All-Time High On Diwali Demand

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Gold price surged by Rs 750 to hit a record high of Rs 80,650 per 10 grams while silver skyrocketed by Rs 5,000 per kg in the national capital on Monday, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Amid the intensifying conflict in the Middle East, an interest rate cut by the People's Bank of China (PBoC) aided the rally in the yellow metal as investors moved towards the safe haven assets, traders said.

Extending its gains for the fourth straight day, silver price zoomed by Rs 5,000 to hit a fresh record high of Rs 99,500 per kg from the previous close of Rs 94,500 per kg on Friday.

According to commodities market experts, the ongoing bullish sentiment in the silver market is primarily driven by industrial demand and gold's rally.

Silver's upward momentum appears strong. Investors are likely to continue to view dips as buying opportunities, keeping the white metal well-supported in the coming sessions, they said.

Additionally, gold of 99.5 per cent purity climbed Rs 750 to hit a record high of Rs 80,250 per 10 grams. The metal of 99.5 per cent purity had ended at Rs 79,500 per 10



grams while gold of 99.9 per cent purity had settled at Rs 79,900 per 10 grams on Friday.

Bullion traders attributed the jump in gold prices to pick-up in buying by local jewellery to meet increased demand in the festive and wedding season.

Further, a positive trend in the overseas markets as well as a fall in equity markets boosted the gold's safe-haven appeal, they added.

In July, gold and silver prices corrected sharply by 7 per cent in the local markets after the government slashed basic customs duty on gold and other metals.

However, the bullion prices rebounded as demand from Indian consumers increased due to ongoing festivals.

In futures trades on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold contracts for December delivery jumped Rs 493 or 0.63 per cent to Rs

78,242 per 10 grams. During the day, the precious metal had surged Rs 591 or 0.76 per cent to hit record Rs 78,340 per 10 grams.

Silver contracts for December delivery bounced Rs 2,822 or 2.96 per cent to hit a high of Rs 98,224 per kg.

"Silver prices have gained strong upward momentum. As gold prices soar, retail buyers are increasingly turning to silver, viewing it as a relatively cheaper alternative at these levels, especially with gold now touching Rs 78,000 for 10 grams.

"On the MCX, silver prices have surged to Rs 98,000, supported by Comex silver climbing to USD 34 per ounce. A breach of the USD 34-mark has triggered fresh buying interest in silver, as market participants anticipate further gains,"

Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, said.

## Sensex, Nifty Close Lower On Selling In Kotak Bank, FII Outflows

Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** Erasing initial gains, benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty closed lower on Monday due to a sharp fall in Kotak Mahindra Bank and relentless foreign fund outflows.

The 30-share Sensex declined by 73.48 points or 0.09 per cent to settle at 81,151.27 with 21 of its constituents ending lower and nine closing higher. The barometer shot up 545 points at the opening but succumbed to selling pressure later and hit a low of 80,811.23. The index gyrated 958.79 points between the day's high and the low level.

The NSE Nifty dipped 72.95 points or 0.29 per cent to 24,781.10.

From the 30 Sensex firms, Kotak Mahindra Bank tanked over 4 per cent after the company's quarterly earnings failed to cheer investors.

Bajaj Finserv, IndusInd Bank, Adani Ports, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finance, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever and JSW Steel were the other big laggards.



HDFC Bank climbed nearly 3 per cent after the firm on Saturday reported a 6 per cent increase in September quarter net profit to Rs 17,825.91 crore on a consolidated basis. On a standalone basis, the largest private sector lender's post-tax net grew to Rs 16,820.97 crore during the reporting period, as against Rs 15,976.11 crore in the year-ago period.

"The domestic market displayed considerable volatility, with key indices swinging between negative and positive terrain. Meanwhile, FIIs continued their strategic buying in China while selling off in India, driven by weaker corporate earnings and valuation concerns.

"Concurrently, domestic Q2 earnings have been mostly underwhelming, with major private sector banks notably disappointing. However, DIIs have offered some support, mitigating the market's decline," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, at Geojit Financial Services.

The BSE midcap gauge declined by 1.63 per cent and smallcap index went lower by 1.51 per cent.

Among the indices, services fell by 1.92 per cent, while oil & gas (1.68 per cent), industrials (1.65 per cent), realty (1.52 per cent), metal (1.44 per cent) and commodities (1.40 per cent) were among the losers.

## 'Housing Sales In 30 Major Tier II Cities Down 13% To 41,871 Units In Jul-Sep'

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Housing sales across 30 major tier-II cities fell 13 per cent to 41,871 units during July-September period on higher base effect and drop in new supply, according to PropEquity.

Data analytic firm PropEquity, which is part of listed entity P E Analytics Ltd, on Monday released the housing report of top 30 tier II cities.

Sales in top 30 tier-II cities have fallen by 13 per cent in July-September quarter of 2024 while new launches have declined by 34 per cent.

Housing sales fell to 41,871 units in the third quarter of 2024 calendar year as against 47,985 units in the same period last year.

Launches (new supply) fell to 28,980 units in July-September quarter of 2024 from 43,748 units in the same period last year.

The west zone comprising Ahmedabad, Vadodra, Gandhinagar, Surat, Goa, Nashik and Nagpur, contributed 72 per cent

to the total sales. Commenting on the data, Samir Jasuja, CEO & Founder, PropEquity said, "The decline in sales and launches is on account of higher base effect as year 2023 had recorded historic highs. The low cost of living, availability of skilled workforce and advantageous operational cost for companies besides good connectivity and infrastructure in State Capitals have been driving demand for homes. However, as seen from an all-India context, the top 30 tier 2 cities have been underperforming as sales and launches with respect to top ten cities are only 1/3."

Commenting on the report, Shashank Vashishtha, Managing Director, Exp Realty India, said, the housing market remains resilient despite fall in sales during September quarter. "These adjustments reflect a natural recalibration, offering homebuyers an opportunity as developers emphasise sustainable growth and affordability," Vashishtha added.

## Rupee Flat At 84.07 Against US Dollar

Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** The rupee on Monday settled flat at 84.07 against the US dollar amid strong American currency versus major rivals overseas and relentless foreign fund outflows.

Investors remained cautious and stayed away from riskier assets due to geopolitical uncertainties, forex dealers said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 84.06 against the greenback and stayed almost flat throughout the session. The unit finally settled at 84.07 against the dollar, unchanged from its previous session's closing level.

On Friday, the rupee slipped 1 paise to close at 84.07 against the US dollar, a tad higher from its all-time low of 84.09 recorded on August 5 this year.

Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, said the rupee traded slightly weak as the dollar index gained.

"The major weakness in the rupee stemmed from a downturn in capital markets, with broad-based selling observed in Indian markets. Foreign Institutional Investors (FI) were

net sellers...," he added. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.19 per cent to 103.50.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, surged 1.42 per cent to USD 74.10 per barrel in futures trade.

On the domestic equity market front, Sensex declined 73.48 points, or 0.09 per cent, to settle at 81,151.27 points. The Nifty also fell 72.95 points, or 0.29 per cent, to 24,781.10 points.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Monday, as they offloaded shares worth Rs 2,261.83 crore, according to exchange data. Analysts attributed the unabated outflow of FIIs to a further rate cut by the Chinese central bank and a muted sentiment towards domestic corporate earnings.

According to RBI data released on Friday, India's forex reserves declined by USD 10,746 billion to USD 690.43 billion for the week ended October 11. In the preceding week, the reserves had dropped by USD 3,709 billion to USD 701.176 billion.

## Govt To Extend UDAN Scheme For 10 More Years: Naidu



Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The government will extend the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN for 10 more years, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammoohan Naidu said on Monday.

UDAN has led to the birth and growth of regional airlines, generation of jobs and contribution to tourism, the minister said at a function in the national capital to mark eight years of the scheme. As many as 601 routes and 71 airports have been operationalised under the regional air connectivity scheme.

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) is aimed at enhancing regional air connectivity and making flying more affordable. It was introduced on October 21, 2016 for 10 years.

The minister said the scheme will be extended for another 10 years.

Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam said the ministry is looking at the financial viability aspects and streamlining of the procedures under the scheme.



## From AI Beds To Remote ICUs, Startups Are Plugging India's Health Gaps

Satviki Sanjay  
Sankalp Phartiyal

**NEW DELHI:** When racing-car engineer Mudit Dandwate nearly lost an uncle to undiagnosed sepsis in an Indian hospital, he made it his mission to improve patient monitoring in the country of 1.4 billion.

Dandwate, a consultant to sports carmakers such as McLaren at the time, decided to apply his experience with race cars to health care. He and a fellow engineer began working on a project to use the kinds of sensors used in Formula 1 cars that can monitor body's micro-vibrations to map health metrics in non-intrusive ways at hospitals.

"We use a lot of sensors, analytics, artificial intelligence to assess the health of a car," Dandwate, 33, told Bloomberg News in an interview. "And that's where my race car-engineering background helped, because we used some of the same methods to develop a sensor-based contactless patient monitoring system."

Hospitals across India - as in much of the world - are often understaffed and doctors and nurses overworked resulting in small delays in patient care that can lead to life-threatening complications.

Dozee is one of hundreds of

health-tech firms looking to use AI and other cutting-edge technologies to fill chronic, structural gaps in health-care delivery in the world's most populous nation.

From private equity giants like TPG Capital to the investment arms of big pharmaceutical firms like Novo Nordisk A/S, investors have bet a combined \$3.7 billion on Indian health-related startups since 2022, according to data aggregator Tracxn Technologies Ltd. This is half of the \$7.4 billion that health tech-focused firms have raised across the Asia Pacific region, according to Tracxn.

Bain & Co. expects health care innovation in India to be a \$60 billion opportunity by 2028, dominated by pharma services and health-tech.

### Surviving Covid

Despite the country's potential, at least 170 Indian health-tech startups have gone out of business since 2023, according to Tracxn data, as the world emerged from Covid shutdowns. Many of those that survived have seen their valuations drop significantly.

Most startups now see expanding at home and tapping more lucrative overseas markets as the two main pathways to scaling operations and one day turning profitable. (Bloomberg)

## Robust Domestic Engines Supporting India's Growth Outlook, Says RBI Bulletin

Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** India's growth outlook is supported by robust domestic engines and private investment showing some encouraging signs despite geopolitical tensions, the Reserve Bank's October Bulletin said on Monday. The global economy remained resilient in the first half of 2024, with declining inflation supporting household spending.

Stable growth momentum amid monetary policy easing is becoming the prevailing theme across most economies, according to an article on 'State of the Economy' published in the Bulletin.

"In spite of geopolitical tensions, India's growth outlook is supported by robust domestic engines," it said.

It also noted that some high-frequency indicators have,

however, shown a slackening of momentum in the second quarter of 2024-25, partly attributable to idiosyncratic factors like unusually heavy rains in August and September.

"Looking ahead, private investment is showing some encouraging signs in terms of leading indicators while consumption spending is shaping up for a festive season revival," said the article authored by a team led by RBI deputy governor Michael Debabrata Patra.

After remaining below target for two consecutive months, inflation surged in September, as an adverse statistical base effect was compounded by a resurgence in food price momentum.

The central bank said the views expressed in the Bulletin article are of the authors and do not represent the views of the Reserve Bank of India.

Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T)

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION VAILOO

### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No40/4995-5004 of R&B/Vailoo /2024-2025/e-tendering/ DATED:19/10/2024

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

S. No	Name of Work	Approved Amount (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.in form of Treasury challen / Receipt (in Rs)	Earnest Money (2% of Adv. Cost) (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Project Intending Department	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1	Development of parking area of Tourism Department at Kokernag by way of G1, G2 and Macadamisation	57.959	1600	115918	12 months	Tourism	AAY Class	UT Capex

Position of AA: Accorded

Position of TS: Accorded

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	19.10.2024		
2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents.	From	19.10.2024	04.00 pm
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From	19.10.2024	04.00 pm
4.	Bid Submission End Date	To	28.10.2024	04.00 pm
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	29.10.2024 at 10.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo		

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/ challan remitted in Head-0059 and Earnest Money for 2% of Advertised Cost in shape of CDR/ FDR only. Pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division vailoo (tender receiving authority) (Name of work or ENIT no. and Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury receipt/ challan)(Refer Govt. order No. A/ 24(2017)-65 DT: 07.06.2018 & Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ang/Kul' S No. 3867-70 dated: 04.08.2018 (The date of Treasury receipt/ Challan should be between the date of start of bid end Bid submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo (Tendering Inviting Authority). 5% Performance Security of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/ FDR by the Successful bidder. Minimum of Two bids are necessary to decide L-1 bidder in case of Contractors.

3. The 1st Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of allotted cost as performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR within 07 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of defective liability period of the work.

4. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security.

#### Additional Condition

a) All bidders having class A/B/C/D Registration cards other than Hot Mix Plant (HMP) have to upload an under taking starting therein the e-NIT No. Name of work and source of procurement of macadamization material within 40 kms from the work site

b) The Contractor / Plant holder has to purchase / utilize Bitumen of approved quality and Brand of his own and no departmental store shall be issued.

22 All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

DIPK-6547-24

DT: 21/10/2024

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

# J&K Media Delegation Tours Telangana Institutions

Observer News Service

Hyderabad: A media delegation representing various media outlets of Jammu and Srinagar are on a five day visit of various central government institutions based in Telangana. The tour is sponsored by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

Delegation, led by Tariq Rafter, Deputy Director of PIB Srinagar, visited the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) in



Hyderabad on Monday.

The delegation was briefed about the activities of INCOIS

by the senior scientist. INCOIS is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Earth Sciences

providing a range of services including potential fishing zones advisory, storm surge warnings, ocean state forecasts, coral bleaching alerts, tsunami early warnings.

Dr. Tummala Srinivasa Kumar, the Director of INCOIS, shared with the delegation how the organization delivers ocean data, information, and advisory services to various sectors such as society, industry, the government, and the scientific community, through sustained ocean

observations and continual improvements in information management and ocean modeling. The delegation also received insights from Ajay Kumar, Scientist D, INCOIS, about the organization's role in providing ocean information and advisory services during disastrous events like tsunamis and storm surges.

The media tour aims to provide the participants with a comprehensive understanding of key Central government institutions and landmarks in

Hyderabad & Telangana.

PIB Jammu & Kashmir is organizing this tour under the Central Sector 'Development Communication & Information Dissemination' to give the media persons the opportunity to witness the development of various GOI schemes in Telangana.

Earlier in the day, the delegation visited PIB Hyderabad, where Shrutti Patil, Additional Director General, briefed them about PIBs functioning in Telangana. She expressed that the press tour will

offer the media in J & K a chance to witness the development of various government of India schemes in Telangana. Dr Manas Krishnakant, Deputy Director & other officials of PIB Hyderabad also accompanied the media delegation.

Media delegation is scheduled to call on various ministers and the Governor of the state also in the next two days besides visiting several other institutions and cultural and historical sites of Hyderabad.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

## Shattered Dreams,

Ali Mohammad, a neighbour of the doctor. Dr Dar's funeral procession, marked by the poignant cries of women and the grief-stricken faces in the crowd, was taken to his ancestral graveyard through the village lanes.

He was laid to rest as the mourners, who arrived from Nayidgam in Soibugh area of Budgam and adjoining areas, demanded justice. The atmosphere of gloom was pierced by cries of "Dar Saheb Zindabad" and calls for revolution in the wake of his sacrifice.

By the time the ambulance carrying the mortal remains of the doctor reached his native village, the mourners' numbers had swelled and they hailed him as a martyr.

They participated in the prayers ceremony and paid their last respects. The doctor is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Mohsin, determined to fulfil his father's dreams, expressed his aspiration to become an IAS officer and serve the society, a legacy his father and the kind-hearted doctor leaves behind.

Neighbours and relatives remembered Dr Dar as a pillar of support, a fatherly figure who selflessly cared for not only his own children but also his siblings after the early loss of their parents.

"He was both our father and mother. He raised us after our parents left this world early. Today, we have really been orphaned," his sister said, tears rolling down her cheek.

Dr Dar was posted as a doctor at a tunnel construction site by APCO Infratech, an infrastructure company he was working for.

According to officials, the terrorists -- believed to be at least two -- opened indiscriminate fire on a group that had returned to their camp late in the evening. Five persons sustained injuries in the attack and are undergoing treatment.

The doctor's killing is a heinous crime, a neighbour said. "In Islam, we believe that killing an innocent is as good as killing all humans. Doctor sahib was innocent, he was kind and helped people in need," he added.

Six construction workers and a doctor were killed in a terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district last night. The terrorists opened fire on a camp housing workers of a private company, who were building a tunnel.

Both locals and non-locals were present at the campsite and at least two terrorists opened gunfire.

The victims were identified as Dr Shah Nawaz, a resident of Nayidgam Kashmir's Budgam, Gurmeet Singh from Punjab's Gurdaspur, Mohammad Haneef, Faheem Nasir, a safety manager, and Kaleem, were from Bihar, Anil Kumar Shukla, a mechanical manager from Madhya Pradesh, and Shashi Abrol, a designer from Jammu.

The attackers left behind an INSAS rifle. Also, two vehicles of the company were burnt in the incident. Police have stopped the media from reaching the site of the attack. Journalists were not allowed to move beyond Manigam, 50 km from the attack site because of the ongoing search operation, the police said.

Inspector general of police VK Birdi said the victims were transported to the hospital after being fired upon by terrorists, but they succumbed to their injuries. "The incident took place in a densely forested area, but security forces swiftly reached the location and cordoned off the area," he added. The attack was the deadliest on civilians in Jammu and Kashmir since the June 9 incident in Reasi when nine pilgrims were killed after the bus they were in plunged into a valley when it came under gunfire from terrorist

## Karwa Chauth

in the evening. He didn't mention any threats. I was going to the temple as part of my Karwa Chauth fast, and we had a brief conversation. I tried calling him after I returned but he didn't pick up. After that, his phone was switched off," a sobbing Ruchi told PTI.

"I waited for his call but had no idea about the attack," she added at her home in Jammu's Talab Tillo area, her mother-in-law by her side. No one told them what had happened until late at night. And then too, it came through the media, the family said.

Ruchi was refusing to break her fast, said her sister-in-law Divya.

"Her life is shattered. The festival of Karwa Chauth has turned into a day of catastrophe for us. Our dear Shashi Ji was killed in a cowardly act by terrorists," she said.

Anxiety mounted as the hours passed by. Ruchi had completed her rituals and was waiting for a video call from her husband, everyone unaware of the magnitude of the tragedy that had befallen them.

"We tried to comfort Ruchi as we grew worried when his phone switched off late at night. We only learned about his death through the media, which shocked us all," Divya said.

Shashi was the family's sole breadwinner. "What have they gained from this? How will she feed her children now? We curse them," she said.

Shashi, who had been working for the construction company APCO in Sonamarg for the past six years, had last come home two months

ago during his son's college admission.

"His aim was to see his son as a bright engineer," Divya said.

As news of Shashi's death spread, hundreds of neighbours, relatives and others visited the family home to offer their condolences.

The family criticised the government for failing to inform them promptly and urged the authorities to ensure the swift return of Shashi's body for the last rites.

"This is proof of how much peace and normalcy has been restored. Seven people were massacred. We lost our brother," Shashi's sister Urvashi said after the incident that came just four days after Omar Abdullah was sworn in as chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

The family called on the government to provide financial assistance.

J L Abrol, Shashi's father, said they had never anticipated any danger in Kashmir. "We demand a job for my daughter in law to feed the family," he said.

"There is no breadwinner left in the family. How will his wife, who is a homemaker, feed the children? She should be given a government job. It is the government's duty to take care of them," a cousin Navin Suri said.

According to Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Shishir Gupta, the loss cannot be compensated but the process to bring back Shashi's body is being fast tracked.

## Shot While

phone when this incident took place... He told his wife that he had been hit by a bullet," said Gurmeet's father Dharam Singh.

The family was later informed that he succumbed to his injuries, said Dharam Singh in Gurdaspur.

He said Gurmeet had been living in Kashmir for the past five years and had been associated with the company for many years.

Another relative said Gurmeet was the breadwinner of the family and urged the state government to extend all possible support to them.

The relative said Gurmeet is survived by his wife, two daughters, a son and parents.

The family members of Gurmeet were inconsolable following his demise in the terror attack.

On Sunday, unidentified terrorists carried out the attack when the labourers and other staff working on a tunnel project at Gund in Ganderbal had returned to their camp late in the evening.

The officials had said the terrorists -- believed to be at least two -- opened indiscriminate fire on the group of labourers that included both locals and non-locals.

While two labourers died on the spot, four others and the doctor succumbed to their injuries subsequently, the officials had said.

## 'Exact A Price':

Gund in Ganderbal district.

In a post on X, Sinha said, "The brutal and savage attack against construction workers will be avenged. I've asked the J&K Police, security forces to exact a price that will be remembered by the terrorists and their associates for time to come."

Addressing a function here earlier in the day, the LG said, "We won't forget yesterday's dastardly attack."

The LG said there was still a threat from the "neighbouring country". "It is still trying to kill innocent people in this region and to destabilise peace here," he added at the Police Martyrs' Day function.

Sinha said there was a need to stop drug smuggling and improve counter-insurgency operations.

"We need to stop drug smuggling here. We need to be aware of possible threats. We need to improve counter-insurgency operations," he said.

The J&K LG said while innocent people should be protected, the guilty should also not be spared.

The LG paid tributes to those killed in the line of duty and said their sacrifices will be remembered forever.

"Our forces have put up a brave fight against terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and to honour them, 'Balidan Stambh' was built. Their sacrifices are supreme," he said.

Sinha assured the families of security personnel killed on duty that their education, health, insurance cover and other things would be taken care of. "We are with them for their bright future."

He said people should respect the sacrifices of the forces as no nation can develop if it is not secure. "Whenever any incident happens, police have to bear the brunt. So I request people to respect the sacrifices of our forces and encourage them," he said.

"We should salute them because forces are neither Hindus or Muslims or Sikhs. For the peace in the region, I request the people of Jammu and Kashmir to equally participate in this growth process," he added.

## Won't Let

Abdullah said he will ensure that no obstacles impede the flow of developmental benefits to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The people have taken part in elections

with enthusiasm with the hope that there will be improvement in their lives. We will not step back from that mission," Abdullah said.

The chief minister had gone to the SKIMS Hospital at Soura to enquire about the condition of those injured in the terror attack in the Gagangir area of Ganderbal district on Sunday night.

Asked if those with vested interests were trying to target the development projects in Jammu and Kashmir, Abdullah said he would not allow that to happen.

"When did the vested interests want the situation here to normalise? This is nothing new. But we have defeated these very vested interests in the past and we will defeat them again," Abdullah asserted.

"We will not allow the development here to be stopped. If there are shortcomings in the security grid, we will remove them. I spoke to the DGP and we would advise all big projects not to take security issues lightly.

"Whatever they can do on their own, let them do it and let the security forces fill the gaps that remain," he added.

The chief minister termed the attack as "very unfortunate".

"Words are not enough to condemn this attack. What can be achieved by the use of terror against innocents? We have been seeing this for the past 35 years and nothing has changed in J&K.

"Whatever can be achieved for Jammu and Kashmir, it can be done in a peaceful atmosphere. Obviously, the reason behind this attack is to prove that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is not conducive," he said.

Abdullah said the administration, especially police and security forces, will have to be extra alert and ensure that such attacks are not repeated.

"We have seen such an attack on a big project after many years. Before this, an attack took place at an IRCON camp when a railway tunnel was being executed," he said.

On the oath-taking of MLAs earlier in the day, the chief minister said the first session of the Legislative Assembly will be held in the first week of November.

"Next month, the first week of November, the session of the legislature will take place. The legislature will start its work," he said. (PTI)

## A Despicable

heinous act will not be spared and will face the harshest response from our security forces," Shah wrote on X.

Expressing "immense grief" over the loss of lives, the home minister extended his sincerest condolences to the families of the deceased.

"Praying for the speedy recovery of those injured," he said.

The unidentified terrorists carried out the attack when the labourers and other staff working on the tunnel project at Gund in Ganderbal had returned to their camp late in the evening, the officials said.

While two labourers died on the spot, three others and the doctor succumbed to their injuries subsequently, the officials said, adding that five people are undergoing treatment for injuries.

## No Talks With

government. It is a problem for us and we have been going through it for years now. I have been seeing it for 30 years now. I have told them many times to stop it but their thinking is like that only.

"How can there be talks? You kill our innocent people and then you call for talks. First stop the killings," Abdullah said while commenting on the terror attack at a construction site in Ganderbal district on Sunday.

The former chief minister said the attack was a painful incident as it led to killing of poor people who had come here for earning a livelihood.

"It is a very painful incident. Poor labourers who come here for a livelihood so that they can feed their families back home. These beasts martyred them. There was one of our doctors with whom we serve the people. He also lost his life," Abdullah said.

Seven persons-- "one local doctor and six non-local labourers -- were killed while five others sustained injuries in the attack.

Abdullah said if the terrorists think they can establish Pakistani writ in Jammu and Kashmir by indulging in such acts, they are mistaken.

"What will these beasts get? Do they think that they will establish Pakistan here? We have been seeing it for many years that they (terrorists) are coming from there. We are trying to settle this problem so that we can come out of our difficulties. I want to tell the rulers of Pakistan that if they really want friendship with India, they should stop this. Kashmir will not become (part of) Pakistan," the NC president said.

He said Pakistan should allow people of Kashmir to live in peace and dignity and focus on their own country's development.

"Please let us live with dignity, allow us to develop. For how long will you put us in miseries? You started in 1947 by sending the tribal raiders and killing the innocents. Were you able to make it to Pakistan here? If you did not succeed in 75 years, how will you succeed

now?

"For Allah's sake look after your own country and focus on development and leave us at the mercy of our God. We want to remove poverty and unemployment here. It cannot be achieved through terrorism," he said.

Abdullah said the impact of the attack will be felt by all people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"How will we progress if this (bloodshed) continues? The time has come that they should stop it or later the consequences will be hard," he added.

## Islam Deplores

are suffering for decades," he said.

He also prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured and patience to the families of those killed.

Six construction workers and a doctor were killed a major terror attack on a construction site in Ganganger area of central Kashmir Ganderbal district late last evening.

## Condemn Senseless

"Strongly condemn the dastardly act of terror wherein two persons have lost their lives in Sonamarg. This is an insane act of madness. My thoughts with the families of these two families. May the perpetrators be brought to justice," Lone said.

## J&K MLAs

including BJP MLA from Kishtwar Shagun Parihar, who is the youngest member at 29. The NC veteran and MLA from Chrar-e-Sharief, Abdul Rahim Rather, is the oldest at 80.

Rather and party colleague Ali Mohammad Sagar (MLA Khanayr) have been elected to the assembly for a record seven terms.

While Sagar has been a member of the Legislative Assembly since 1983, Rather started his long stint as a legislator in 1977. However, the former finance minister lost the 2014 assembly elections.

The National Conference (NC) emerged as the single largest party in the assembly polls held in September and October.

The oldest political party of Jammu and Kashmir has formed the government with external support from the Congress, which has six MLAs.

Five independent MLAs, one MLA from the AAP, and the CPI(M) have also extended their support.

The BJP with 29 seats is the second-largest party -- its best-ever performance in J&K.

## Omar Vacates

The 54-year-old Abdullah was an MLA from Ganderbal from 2009 to 2014 during his first tenure as the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

With this, the strength of the National Conference in the 95-member house has been reduced to 41 but the party still enjoys a comfortable majority with the support of six Congress MLA, five Independents and one MLA each of the AAP and the CPI(M).

## HC To Take

J&K Reorganisation Act, empowering the LG to make nominations of five MLAs.

The petition contended that the LG is supposed to seek the aid and advice of council of ministers before making nominations, otherwise the provisions are ultra-vires to the basic spirit and structure of the Constitution, Sharma said.

In the recently concluded J&K elections, the National Conference-Congress alliance got a majority with 48 seats in the 90-member assembly.

## HC Seeks Status

Horticulture Planning and Marketing, JK Government). However, the rest of the respondents (authorities) have failed to file their status report in compliance with the aforementioned order," the court said, adding, "Last and final opportunity of four weeks is granted to the respondents for filing the status report, failing which, cost of Rs.50000/- shall be imposed upon the respondents." The PIL has been posted for further consideration on December 3.

The PIL filed by EPG is seeking implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules and has prayed the court to command the authorities to take a call forthwith and make arrangements for local segregation and treatment of the Solid Waste, to ensure that only 10% of such waste is taken to landfill sites and make effective planning in a way which would ensure conversion of possible waste into energy, organic compost and treatment of other solid waste under the Waste Management Rules. It also seeks direction to the authorities to treat and dispose of the Bio Medical waste generated across the State in all private, Government hospitals, nursing homes, clinics etc. in accordance with rules.

Besides, it seeks directions to the authorities to take steps for treatment of fruit and vegetable waste across the J&K as the same is being mixed with other non-biodegradable waste and finally dumped unscientifically at the landfill sites despite the fact that a proper mechanism is available for getting funding from Union Agriculture Ministry for Purchasing machines to process fruit/vegetable market waste which will be finally converted into organic compost.

Importantly also, the petitioner seeks

directions to the authorities to file a response with regard to the steps taken towards implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules of 2016 and Bio Medical Waste Rules, Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban/Grameen) and Fruit vegetable waste processing schemes of the Union Agriculture Ministry.

## Restoration Of Academic

you will raise it on the floor of the Assembly. Also, have a look at the reservation percentile."

Another X (formerly Twitter) user, Irfan Lone, applauded the minister, stating, "First politician so far who openly came in support of the November session. Good move, and I hope the government takes this suggestion seriously."

"The October/November session was introduced in the Kashmir division to give our students extra time for preparation for entrance exams. The issue should be highlighted in the interest of poor students of Kashmir division," tweeted Muzafar Lone in support of the move under government consideration.

With the government seeking feedback, the restoration of the academic session has once again become a topic of critical discussion, impacting the future of thousands of school going children in Kashmir.

## India, China

following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

The two sides disengaged from a number of friction points following a series of military and diplomatic talks in the last couple of years.

However, the talks hit hurdles in resolving the situation in Depsang and Demchok.

"Over the last several weeks, Indian and Chinese diplomatic and military negotiators have been in close contact with each other in a variety of forums," the foreign secretary said at the media briefing.

"As a result of these discussions, agreement has been arrived at patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, leading to disengagement and a resolution of the issues that had arisen in these areas in 2020," he said.

"We will be taking the next steps on this," Misri added.

In an interactive session at the NDTV summit, Jaishankar described the finalisation of the agreement as a "good development".

"We reached an agreement on patrolling and with that the disengagement that we have gone back to where the situation was in 2020 and we can say with that the disengagement process with China has been completed," he said.

"I think it is a good development; it is a positive development and I would say it is a product of very patient and very persevering diplomacy," the minister said.

To a question, Jaishankar indicated that India will be able to carry out patrolling in Depsang and other areas.

"So what has happened is that we reached an understanding which will allow the patrolling which you spoke about Depsang, that's not the only place," he said.

"There are other places also. The understanding to my knowledge is that we will be able to do the patrolling which we were doing in 2020 (prior to the standoff)," he said.

The external affairs minister said both sides have been holding negotiations to end the standoff since September 2020.

"On the one hand we had to obviously do the counter deployments, but side-by-side, we have been negotiating.

"We have been negotiating since September of 2020 when I met my Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Moscow," he said.

"It has been a very patient process," Jaishankar said, adding maybe it was more complicated "than it could have and should have been".

Jaishankar said there was peace and tranquility along the LAC before 2020 and "hopefully we will be able to come back to that".

"That was our major concern because we always said that if you disturb the peace and tranquility, how do you expect the rest of the relationship to go forward," he said.

On the difficult negotiations, Jaishankar said: "At various points of time, people almost gave up, you can say."

India has been maintaining that its ties with China cannot be normal unless there is peace in the border areas.

In all negotiations since the standoff began, India has been pressing the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to disengage from the Depsang and Demchok areas.

Last month, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks in the Russian city of St Petersburg with a focus on finding an early resolution to the row.

In the talks held on the sidelines of a conclave of BRICS nations, the two sides agreed to work with "urgency" and "redouble" efforts to achieve complete disengagement in remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh.

In the meeting, NSA Doval conveyed to Wang that peace and tranquility in border areas and respect for the LAC are essential for the return of normalcy in bilateral ties.

## I Am 100 Per Cent Pain-Free: Mohammed Shami Ready For Australia

Press Trust of India

Seasoned India pacer Mohammed Shami on Monday declared himself pain-free but insisted on proving his fitness in domestic cricket by playing at least "one or two" games to make a strong case for selection for the marquee tour of Australia starting next month.

Shami, who has not played since the ODI World Cup final last November, bowled full tilt in the nets after India's opening Test against New Zealand in Bengaluru on Sunday.

This was a few days after skipper Rohit Sharma revealed that he had swelling in his knees which has affected his rehabilitation from an ankle injury sustained last year.

"I am very happy with how I bowled yesterday. I was bowling from half run-up before that because I didn't want to

take too much load. But yesterday, I decided to go full tilt, and I bowled at a 100 per cent," the 34-year-old told reporters on the sidelines of an event in Gurugram on Monday.

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the sidelines of an event in Gurugram on Monday.

Shami was forced out of action for more than a year after suffering a knee injury during the 2015 ODI World Cup. The 34-year-old is now in a similar phase and he feels injuries only make you stronger.

"2015 also I was away for that long. Injury teaches you to fight against yourself, you have to keep frustration at bay, focus on fitness and game. It is difficult to get back on track after an injury.

"Injuries teach you patience and add purity to your game. After your comeback the main thing is if you can maintain your fitness. Yes rhythm is important but your skills won't leave you.

"You need to fight for regaining fitness," said Shami, who has taken 229 wickets in 64 Tests and 195 wickets in 101 ODIs.

## Jay Shah To Head ICC For Three Years

The ICC Board has recommended changes to the term of its Chair and Independent Director to two terms of three years, which, if implemented, would mean doing away with the current three terms of two years each.

The recommendation, if approved by the members, would mean that BCCI secretary Jay Shah, who is set to take over as the global cricket body's chief on December 1 this year, will head the ICC for three years, after which he can seek a second three-year term with the board's approval.

The bulk of Shah's first term will overlap with his cooling off period of three years in the BCCI, which would have started in September 2025.

One can be an office bearer in the Indian board for a cumulative period of 18 years with nine years in the board and an equal number of years in the state unit.

However, as per the Supreme Court-approved constitution, a person needs to go for a mandatory cooling off period of three years after he has been in the BCCI or its state unit as an office bearer for a consecutive period of six years.

During the ICC board meeting, the global body also approved a series of women's Associate Member T20 competitions to boost the competitiveness of smaller cricket-playing nations as it prepares for the expansion of women's events in the 2028-2031 cycle.



## UT Level Softball Tournament Kicks Off In Pulwama



Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** Department of Youth Services and Sports kick started its Inter-District UT Level Softball Tournament on Monday at Sports Stadium, here.

Teams from 12 districts, include four from Jammu, are participating in the tournament. The event is part of the DYSS' ongoing initiative to promote softball as a growing sport in Jammu and Kashmir and to identify budding talent for future national-level competitions.

In his inaugural address, Choudhary Mohammad Qasim District, Youth Services and

Sports Officer Pulwama, commended the young student participants for their enthusiasm and dedication to the sport. The softball toumey is being held under the leadership of the Director General of Youth Services and Sports J&K.

The tournament will continue until October 28, with the teams competing in various age categories. "The growing interest in softball across the UT is evident from the impressive participation this year, further bolstered by the ongoing efforts of the Department of Youth Services and Sports to promote lesser-known sports alongside popular ones like football and cricket," the department said in a statement.

## UT Level Cycling Championship Comes To An End In Budgam



Observer News Service

**BUDGAM:** Department of Youth Services and Sports in Budgam hosted the UT-Level Inter-District Cycling Championship for boys and girls in the Under-17 and Under-19 categories on Monday. The event took place along the scenic route from Holy Mission High School Narbal to Kunzar Park, with athletes from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir participating.

The event was flagged off by the Chief Guests, Abdul Ahad Wani, Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Narbal, and Mursaleen, Principal of Holy Mission High School Narbal. Guests of Honour included Ghulam Nabi Reshi, international Ski instructor, and Dr. Mohammad Akbar Khan, international cyclist.

The championship also saw the presence of Shakeel-ur-Rehman, Incharge Activity DYSSO Budgam, and Bashir Ahmad Sheikh, Incharge Activity Zone Narbal.

Here are the results of the championship:

**Girls Under-19 Category:**

1st Position: Soliha Manzoor, Green Valley Educational Institute, Srinagar  
2nd Position: Sereena Farooq, GHSS Narbal, Budgam  
3rd Position: Falak Zehra, GHSS Magam, Budgam

**Girls Under-17 Category:**

1st Position: Yumna Parvaiz, Kashmir Harvard, Srinagar

2nd Position: Nabila Khan, GHSS Harwan, Srinagar  
3rd Position: Fatima Zehra, MS Panjharwari, Srinagar

**Boys Under-19 Category:**

1st Position: Jahangir Ahmad Ahangar, BHSS Magam, Budgam  
2nd Position: Parvaiz Ahmad Mir, BHSS Budgam  
3rd Position: Salim Noor, BHSS Magam

**Boys Under-17 Category:**

1st Position: Ajmal Ashraf, CBHS Cheki Kawoosa, Budgam  
2nd Position: Aakif Noor, Sheikh-ul-Alam, Kawoosa  
3rd Position: Arsalaan Ahad Dar, Al-Ahad, Narbal

**Overall Team Standings:**

Boys Category: District Budgam emerged as the winner, with District Srinagar as runner-up.

Girls Category: District Srinagar claimed the winner's position, while District Budgam secured the runner-up spot.

The department said the event was widely appreciated for its excellent organisation and the competitive spirit displayed by the participants. "It served as a platform for young cyclists to showcase their talent and promoted physical fitness and sportsmanship among the youth of the region," it added.

## IUST Inter-Departmental Football Tournament Concludes

Observer News Service

**AWANTIPORA:** The closing ceremony of the Inter-Departmental Football Tournament at Islamic University of Science and Technology was held on Monday here. Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer and Chairman of the Sports Committee at IUST, was the Chief Guest, while Prof. Parvaiz Ahmad Mir, Director CIED IUST Foundation, was the Guest of Honour.

Wazir commended the efforts of the Directorate of Physical Education & Sports for successful conduct of the tournament and



distributed the awards among the players. He emphasized on the importance of sports in shaping the physical and mental well-being of students and reiterated the university's dedication to promoting sporting culture.

## Ronaldo, Al-Nassr's ACL Game Moved Amid Iran Security Fears

Agencies

Cristiano Ronaldo and Al-Nassr's AFC Champions League Elite game with Esteghlal of Tehran on Tuesday will be as closely watched in India as it is in Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said in a statement released last Tuesday that Esteghlal had to move its home fixture with Al-Nassr to the United Arab Emirates city of Dubai due to the security situation in Iran.

The decision was greeted by surprise in India as, on Oct. 7, the AFC ruled that Mohun Bagan Super Giants of Kolkata had been "considered to have withdrawn" from the second-tier AFC Champions League Two for refusing to travel to Iran to play its Oct. 2 fixture against Tractor SC in the northwestern city of Tabriz.

It is not only Al-Nassr's game that has been relocated. Tractor's home game against Ravshan of Tajikistan, scheduled for Wednesday, has been switched to become an away tie. Iran's national team also had to move its Oct. 15 World Cup qualifier against Qatar to Dubai.



"...(Mohun Bagan) notes that the AFC has indeed recognised the volatility of the situation in Iran and as such, has rescheduled or shifted venues for several games," a spokesperson for Mohun Bagan told Associated Press, adding that the confederation had taken the same geopolitical instability into account that the club had. "Failing to apply the same standard to Mohun Bagan would result in unequal treatment by the AFC."

According to the spokesperson, Mohun Bagan had made a request to the AFC that the game's date or venue be changed before it decided not to travel. "We consistently communicated concerns about the volatile and unsafe conditions in and around Iran,

particularly regarding the safety of players and staff," the official added.

The Indian Super League club said that it had appealed the decision to the relevant AFC committee and hoped to be reinstated into the tournament.

The AFC did not reply to an invitation to comment.

Al-Nassr has four points from the first two games and can take a big step towards the second round with a win. The revamped tournament now consists of two groups of 12 — divided into west and east geographic zones — with the top eight from each advancing to the Round of 16.

Nassr is going well in the Saudi Pro League with a 97th minute penalty from Ronaldo giving the team a

2-1 win over Al-Shabab on Friday to stay in third place.

"There are a lot of games at the moment and it is not easy," said Stefano Pioli, Al-Nassr's coach. "We will do our best to maintain our performances in the Asian Champions League."

Saudi Arabia has three of the four top teams in Group A. Al-Hilal is first and the four-time winner meets defending champion Al Ain of the United Arab Emirates and could welcome Neymar back to action after a year out through injury. Jeddah club Al-Ahli also has maximum points and travels to Qatar to face Al-Raiyan.

**Front runners meet in Eastern Zone**

In the eastern zone the top two meet. Gwangju FC of South Korea is making its first-ever appearance in an Asian competition and is the only team with two wins from two. It takes on Johor Darul Ta'zim of Malaysia.

Australia's Central Coast Mariners has lost both games so far and head to China to take on Shanghai Port, coached by former Australian international Kevin Muscat, also seeking a first win.

**GOVERNMENT OF UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL AND HOSPITAL DIVISION, ANANTNAG

Email Id: xenmhdang@gmail.com

**Subject: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 8 passenger (G+2) MRL Lift at Mini Secretariat Kulgam.**  
**Ref : Short Term e-NIT No : MHDA/TS/15 of 2024-25 Dated: 16-10-2024**

#### CORRIGENDUM

To ensure wider Participation following changes has been made in cover I of above e-NIT

Particulars	Please read	Instead of
Eligibility / Work Experience certificate (Cover 1 S.No.7)	1. OEMs • Manufacturing experience of the OEM shall not be less than 15 years. • The OEM should have at least 05 installations in the UT of J&K (List of such installations to be provided by the bidder) Or 2. Experienced firms having documentary proof of having successfully supplied, installed, tested and commissioned Lift (s) amounting to at least: • 80% of the estimated Cost in single work contract or • 50% of the estimated cost in two contracts each or • 40% of the estimated cost in three contracts each in the last (07) seven years in any Govt./Semi Govt. department along with satisfactory performance certificate issued by a competent authority not below the rank of Executive Engineer. (The Department may physically inspect the work as reflected by the Bidder in experience documents, before accepting the Bid). Or 3. Registered firms having tender specific authorization and also technical support from OEM.	1. OEMs • Manufacturing experience of the OEM shall not be less than 15 years. • The OEM should have at least 05 installations in the UT of J&K (List of such installations to be provided by the bidder) 2. Experienced firms having tender specific authorization and technical support from qualifying OEM and documentary proof of having successfully supplied, installed, tested and commissioned Lift (s) amounting to at least • 80% of the estimated Cost in single work contract or • 50% of the estimated cost in two contracts each or • 40% of the estimated cost in three contracts each in the last (07) seven years within the country in any Govt./Semi Govt. Department along with satisfactory performance certificate issued by a competent authority not below the rank of Executive Engineer. (The Department may physically inspect the work as reflected by the Bidder in Experience Documents, before accepting the Bid).
	Financial Turnover (Cover 1 S.No.8)	1. For OEM involved, Average Annual financial turnover of the bidder during the last three (03) years, ending March, 2024 shall not be less than 300 crores duly certified by a registered Chartered Accountant with proper UDIN number for the issued certificate.

No: MHDA/ TS-160/1696-97  
Dated: 19-10-2024  
DIPK-6552-24  
DT: 21/10/2024

Sd/  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical and Hospital Division  
Anantnag

## Supreme Court Agrees To Hear Petition Seeking Hearings In Hybrid Mode

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice on a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking the introduction of hybrid hearings in family courts across the country.

A bench, headed by CJI DY Chandrachud, agreed to examine and sought responses from the Centre, states, and Union Territories.

"Issue notice, returnable in six weeks," ordered the Bench, also comprising Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

The plea, filed by advocate KC Jain, said that the Family Courts Act was enacted with the objective of ensuring the speedy resolution of family disputes, yet over 11 lakh cases remain pending in family courts across the country.

"The significant delays in case disposal, particularly in matters of maintenance, child custody, visitation rights, restitution of conjugal rights, and divorce, are exacerbating the emotional and financial strain on litigants, particularly women and children,"

said the PIL. It also said that adopting an electronic mode of hearings in family courts would not only address the geographical and logistical challenges faced by litigants, particularly in cross-city/state marriages but would also ensure that justice is delivered in a timely and efficient manner.

The petition also highlighted the need for a centralised reporting and monitoring system for family court cases, which would track the type of case, the statute under which it is filed, and the time taken for disposal, allowing for data-driven policy interventions and more efficient management of family court resources.

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In October last year, the Supreme Court directed the implementation of a hybrid mode of hearings in the High Courts and Tribunals operating under all Union Government Ministries. Similarly, it had issued directions for virtual hearings in State Information Commissions established under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2006.



## Qarz-al- Hassan: Israel Targets Hezbollah Banking System



Agencies

BEIRUT — Israel's military carried out airstrikes overnight on targets in Lebanon that it says are linked to a financial institution that undergirds Hezbollah. Lebanon said it was assessing the damage.

Late Sunday an Israeli military spokesperson published messages online in Arabic instructing Lebanese civilians to move away from specific buildings that house branches of the bank, called Al-Qard Al-Hassan.

While United Nations representatives said the warnings sparked panic in parts of the Lebanese capital, Israel's foreign minister said 15 military buildings were struck and its military would continue to attack Hezbollah.

The U.S. has long sanctioned Al-Qard Al-Hassan, saying it is used to manage finances by Hezbollah, a powerful Lebanese movement that the U.S. designates as a terrorist organization.

A senior Israeli official on Sunday told reporters that Israel planned the strikes throughout Lebanon against several of the institution's branches that act like banks— what the official termed the organization's "economic strongholds."

But the official also acknowledged that while Al-Qard Al-Hassan is used in part to pay Hezbollah fighters and purchase weapons, it has also served hundreds of thousands of Lebanese civilians — the majority drawn from the country's impoverished communities — who simply used the system for their own banking needs. The intention was to create distrust between Hezbollah and those ordinary banking customers, the official said.

Maha Yahya, director of the Carnegie Middle East Center, wrote on social media that Al-Qard Al-Hassan was a "microfinance institution that "provides

small loans to low income individuals against specific assets" — in some cases allowing women to offer their jewelry as collateral, in a country where the mainstream internationally linked banking system has repeatedly collapsed.

Ihab Hamadeh, a member of the Lebanese parliament affiliated with Hezbollah's political wing, insisted that the group did not profit from Al-Qard Al-Hassan. He said the financial institution offers services to all Lebanese consumers and has granted some 5,000 scholarships to university students overseas. "We tell the depositors in Al-Qard Al-Hassan that you will not lose a single penny," he wrote on Telegram.

Some Lebanese news outlets and social media posts subsequently suggested that a hospital in the town of Baalbek had been evacuated due to its proximity to a strike on one Al-Qard Al-Hassan branch.

## Uniform Safety Standards Essential At Coaching Centres: Supreme Court

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday stressed on having "uniform standards" to the extent possible to ensure safety and security of students studying at coaching centres.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan was hearing a matter related to the deaths of three civil service aspirants at a coaching centre in the national capital in July due to the flooding in the building's basement.

On July 27, the three students drowned in the basement library of Rau's IAS Study Circle in Delhi's Old Rajinder Nagar area after it was flooded following heavy rains.

The top court was informed by senior advocate Siddharth Dave, who is assisting the top court as an amicus curiae, about the broad areas that required attention.

Dave referred to the aspects of fire safety, fee regulation, student to classroom area ratio, student to teacher ratio, installation of CCTVs, medical facilities, mental health care and counselling for those studying at coaching centres.

He suggested that all states be impleaded as parties in the matter.

The amicus further referred to the legislation dealing with coaching institutes in seven states. When Dave suggested some sort of an oversight, the bench said it should be permanent.

"It can't be that an unfortunate incident occurs and then suddenly one become aware of everything," the bench observed.

The top court pointed out the need to have uniform standards on the issue.

The respondent authorities were asked to offer suggestions to the amicus on the desirability of a comprehensive policy for coaching institutes, initially with respect to the National Capital Region (NCR).

The matter will be heard after two weeks.

While hearing the matter on September 20, the top court had directed a Union government-appointed committee probing the three deaths to submit an interim report about the measures it wanted to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

The top court had also asked the Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi governments to apprise it of the policy and legislative and administrative changes made to prevent such incidents in future.

It had said uniform initiatives should be taken in the entire NCR to prevent another Old Rajinder Nagar-type incident from happening.

The top court had said the panel could consider intervention at the legislative, policy, and administrative levels, apart from eliciting views of all the stakeholders before making its recommendations.

The top court had also said it would be covering the "wider canvas" and would examine the issue at pan-India level to ensure such incidents did not occur again elsewhere.

On August 5, the top court had observed that coaching centres had become "death chambers" and were playing with the lives of students.

It had taken cognisance of the matter while hearing a petition filed by an association of coaching centres challenging a December 2023 Delhi High Court order which directed the city's fire services and the civic body to inspect all coaching centres to ascertain if they were complying with fire safety norms.

The high court had transferred the probe into the death of the three students from Delhi Police to the CBI "to ensure the public has no doubt over the investigation".

The three UPSC aspirants who drowned were Shreya Yadav (25) of Uttar Pradesh, Tanya Soni (25) of Telangana and Nevin Delvin (24) of Kerala.

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



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