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Vintage Mall, 2nd floor Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar

Dachigam Shootout Leaves 1 Dead

Police Identifies Slain As Terrorist Involved In Gagangir Attack



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist, alleged to be the mastermind of the October 20 attack in central Kashmir that left seven people dead, was killed in an encounter with security forces in the Dachigam forest area on Tuesday. Officials said, the terrorist of the banned Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) was identified as Junaid Ahmed Bhat. He was involved in other crimes, including shooting at non-locals in south Kashmir last year.

The October 20 strike along with a Pakistani terrorist near a tunnel construction site in Gagangir, a place close to tourist spot Sonamarg, resulted in the deaths of a local doctor and six others. Following the attack, Bhat was listed as a 'Category A' terrorist, indicating him to be most wanted. According to the officials, security forces, acting on specific intelligence, launched a cordon-and-search operation near a fish farm in Dachigam late on Monday. Initial gunfire exchanges occurred but the [More on P10](#)

5 Soldiers Killed Along LoC In 3 Yrs: Centre

The Government of India Tuesday revealed that five soldiers have lost their lives along the Indo-Pakistan border over the past three years. Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai, provided this [More on P10](#)

6 SECURITY FORCES ARE CONDUCTING FURTHER SEARCHES in the upper reaches of Dachigam to locate any additional terrorists who may have been with Bhat.

CM Directs Officials To Ban Re-employment, Extensions Reviews GAD Functioning & Establishment Of 'Raabta'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday directed officials to completely ban re-employment, extensions, additional charges and attachments, except under extraordinary circumstances, by the general administration department. He also called for linking the Samadhan grievance redress system with the Chief Minister earlier held discussions on key aspects, including the working of J&K Public



Service Commission, J&K Service Selection Board promotions, cadre management, training, transfers, and other administrative matters. Emphasizing

the need to address stagnation among JKAS officers, the Chief Minister directed the department to propose actionable solutions. [More on P10](#)

Reviews Civil Aviation Projects

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday chaired a meeting here at Civil Secretariat to evaluate the functioning and working of the Civil Aviation Department. The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Additional Chief Secretary Dheeraj Gupta, Secretary Civil Aviation Aijaz Asad, representatives from the Airports Authority of India, and the [More on P10](#)

J&K's Drug Crisis: 26% Of Prison Inmates Linked To Narcotics

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a grim reminder of the growing menace of drug abuse in Jammu & Kashmir, as many as 26 percent of inmates in the Union Territory's prisons are there for drug-related offences.

The latest data released by J&K Prison department shows that out of 5335 persons languishing in different jails as on October 31, 2024, 1413 were arrested or detained under "The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985" - the law used to combat narcotics and psychotropic



substance abuse in India. Of these 1413 inmates, 23 are convicts, 1242 are under-trials and 148 are detenues, the data reveals. According to

data, 28 females are also among the 1242 under-trials languishing in jails under the NDPS Act-1985. The age-group wise breakdown of under-trials shows

that 277 are in the age group of 19-25, 429 in age-group of 26-35 years, 325 in age-group of 36-45 years, 173 in age-group of 46-60 years and 38 beyond 60 years ago.

As per statistics, all 23 convicts are less than 60 years of age.

Among detenues, 40 are in the age-group of 19-25, 59 in 26-35, 36 in 36 to 45 and 13 in 46-60.

Notably, as part of its efforts to eradicate the menace of narcotics from the Valley, the administration is confiscating properties of drug peddlers in Kashmir. The authorities say that this [More on P10](#)

Phased Winter Vacation From Dec 9 Likely

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has proposed winter vacations in a phased manner from the second week of December for Kashmir schools and winter zone schools of Jammu.

As per the proposal submitted by the DSEK, the winter vacation for classes up to 2nd primary has been proposed from December 9 of 2024 to February 24 of 2025.

Also, the vacation for classes from 3rd primary to class 12th has been proposed from December 16 of 2024 to February 24 of 2025.

The proposal [More on P10](#)

LG Stresses On Modernization Of Police Forces Chairs Review Meeting Of Home Department

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday stressed the importance of modernising and strengthening the police force and allied organisations to effectively address security and law-and-order challenges in the Union Territory.

Chairing a high-level meeting to review the functioning of the home department, he directed officials to complete all projects under the Security-Related Expenditure (SRE) and the Prime Minister's



Development Package (PMDP), a Raj Bhawan spokesperson said.

At the meeting, the LG was briefed on matters related to SRE, manpower

deployment, infrastructure development, and key issues pertaining to subordinate departments, including Jammu and Kashmir [More on P10](#)

FUNDRAISER - FOR CANCER

WE NEED YOUR HELP



Help Save A Life

Mother Helpage JK Seeks Your Compassionate Support For: Patient Name: Manzoor Ahmad Baba S/o: Late Abdul Ahad Baba R/o: Illahi Bagh Buchpora Srinagar Diagnosis: Sigmoid Colon Cancer 3rd B Stage of Adenocarcinoma Cost: 6,00,000. our team visited the patient & find the need genuine please come forward to help this patient

Patient's Family Message

We have used up all our savings to pay for expenses that amounted to a lot. We can't bear any more expenses and need your help immediately. We need a huge amount to complete the medical procedure. My father is closest to my heart, and I can't see him in this condition.

Please help in this hour of need by kindly contributing towards the treatment. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!



Mother Helpage
Jammu and Kashmir



9469667777

A/C No. 047201010001092
Bank Name. Jammu Kashmir Bank
IFSC Code. JAKA0SAADIQ

'World Disability Day' Marked As 'Black Day' In Srinagar

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Handicapped Association observed World Disability Day as a "black day". They staged a protest in Srinagar's Press Enclave on Tuesday.

The protesters, holding banners and raising slogans, called for immediate government action to improve the welfare of the disabled community. They demanded a comprehensive overhaul of the existing system, citing the need for a special recruitment drive for qualified disabled individuals and revision of the reservation system in government jobs from

horizontal to vertical. The protesters emphasized the urgency of increasing the monthly pension for persons with disabilities from Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000, providing low-interest subsidized loans, and implementing 4% reservation in MGNREGA works, assemblies, municipalities, and educational institutions. They also stressed the importance of vertical reservation in government and semi-government jobs, as well as access to low-interest loans and subsidies. The association urged the administration to prioritize their [More on P10](#)

Ladakh, GOI Reach Understanding On Key Demands

» 95 % Jobs To Be Reserved For Ladakhis » Women To Have 33 % Reservation In Hill Councils

Agencies

Srinagar: The talks between leadership of Ladakh and the Government of India on Tuesday reached an understanding over job reservation, political reservation for women in the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils of Leh and Kargil and recognition of Bhoti and Urdu languages as official language of the Union Territory.

Former minister and senior leader of Apex Body Leh, Chering Dorjay said that as per understanding reached

between the two sides, 95 percent of jobs in the government sector would be reserved for Ladakhis. "The vacant post of medicos and engineers would be immediately referred to the Union Public Service Commission," he said.

He said the Government of India has agreed to recognise Bhoti and Urdu as official languages of the UT.

He said there will be 33 percent reservation for Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils of Leh and Kargil. [More on P10](#)

DEVI AHILYA UNIVERSITY, INDORE
(Formerly University of Indore), NAAC "A+" Grade

RESULT NOTIFICATION
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Rayees Ahmad Itoo S/O Mohd. Ashan Itoo bearing University Registration No: ISR/XI/Comp.Sc/987/21



Who pursued Ph.D Programme on whole time basis in the Discipline of Computer Sciences, School of Computer Science & Information Technology (SCSIT), Faculty of Engineering Science submitted thesis titled "Opinion Mining and Sentiment Analysis using Machine Learning Techniques for Social Networking sites" Under the Joint Supervision of Dr. Yasmin Shaikh, Associate Professor and Dr. Sanjay Tanwani, Professor, SCSIT DAVV, Indore is declared qualified for the award of Doctorate Degree (Ph.D) on 23-10-2024.

No: Ph.D. Cell/2024/1488

Sd/Vice Chancellor
Devi Ahilya University, Indore

Dated: 02/Dec/2024
mja

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Pesticides Licence under name and style Dar Agro Solutions. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Plant Protection Officer Lal Mandi Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Ishfaq Ahmad Dar
S/O Gulam Mohammad Dar FKO
R/o Tapper Waripora Pattan

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Faisal Muneer Mattu S/o Muneer Ahmad Mattu R/o Zangam Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 29-09-2011 occurred at Home

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Fertilizer Licence under name and style Shah Hamdan Fertilizer and Pesticides Imam Sahib Shopian. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agriculture Officer Shopian within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Aamir Yousuf Paul
S/o Mohammad Yousuf Paul fko
R/o Losdanow Shopian

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Quratul Nisa D/o Abdul Majeed Bhat R/o Nehalpora Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 03-03-2011 occurred at Home

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing c/id no: 0211010042383 from M S J S ENTERPRISES (PROP. JAVID AHMAD BHAT) to M S COLOR WORLD & SHADES (PROP. UMAN JAVID BHAT). If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the PDD Division Pulwama within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
UMAN JAVID BHAT S/o Javid Ahmad Bhat
R/o Jahangir Colony Old Barzulla Srinagara x

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Fertilizer Licence under name and style Dar Agro Solutions. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Ishfaq Ahmad Dar S/O Gulam Mohammad Dar FKO
R/o Tapper Waripora Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Digital DOB certificate of my daughter who was born on 20-07-2010. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Pattan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mohd Maqbool Lone F/o Seerat Maqbool
R/o Tapper Pattan ko

Government of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION AWANTIPORA

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

NIT No: Fresh-98/EAA/RNB/2024-25/7174-84 Dated: 03/12/2024

E-tenders (In single cover system) from qualified contractors registered with the J&K UT Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments are invited for Snow Clearance (Stage-wise) on a Percentage Rate basis for a contract period of one year that may be extended to three years depending on the performance of the successful bidder.

E-tenders (In single cover system) from qualified contractors registered with the J&K UT Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments are invited for Snow Clearance (Stage-wise) on a Percentage Rate basis for a contract period of one year that may be extended to three years depending on the performance of the successful bidder.

Name of work Stage No.	Name of the Road	Road length	Stage Length in KMs	Earnest Money	Class of the Contractor	Tender Document Cost
Restoration of road surface under the jurisdiction of PW (RnB) Sub-Division Pampore on emergency basis by way of Snow clearance (Stage contract -12) for the year 2024-25	Ladho Nagbal, Jeevan Sahab Gujjarbasti Incl, Allied Links	5.00	39.75	5000	DEE to AAY	500
	Ladhoo Mandakpal Incl. Ladhoo To Batopora	2.75				
	Ladhoo To Naimessahab Incl, Allied Links, Interior Roads Of Mandakpal And Mandakpal Shar Road	7.50				
	Shar Shooting Lodge To Badflow Incl. Canal Road	5.00				
	Shar Wahabsahb Road, Shar Gujjarbasti Road, Shar Batopora With Allied Links Interior Roads Of Shar And Ladhoo.	13.00				
	Interior Roads Of Chandhara & Krinchoo	6.50				

1 The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, (if any), 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 dates given below:-

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03/12/2024
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 03/12/2024 .
3. Bid submission Start Date	03/12/2024
4. Bid Submission End Date	09/12/2024 upto 1.00 P.M
5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	09/12/2024 at 3.00 PM in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Awantipora

2 Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3 All bidders are required to submit bid security or earnest money for an amount of Rs.5000/= at the time of tendering in the form of CDRs, FDRs, or BGS pledged to the authority responsible for receiving bids, (Executive Engineer R&B Div. Awantipora in this case Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora. In strict accordance with the Government's circular and other instructions as required, the successful bidder will be required to provide performance security in the amount of Rs.10,000/= at the time of contract award. Following the fixing of the contract in favour of the successful bidder, the unsuccessful bidders will receive the earnest money/bid security. The successful bidder's performance security will be released only after completed successful performance of the Contract.

3 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. Awantipora (tender receiving authority).

4 The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

5 The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws 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 three days from the date of intimation.

c. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 15 days.

No.Fresh- 98/EAA/RNB/2024-25/7174-84
DIPK-8981/24 DATED: 03/12/2024

Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
Draftsman Tech.officer Executive Engineer, R&B Division Awantipora

Email: eornkupwara@gmail.com

(Government of Jammu and Kashmir)
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KUPWARA

Public Notice

Prime Minister Awas Yojana (Urban) 2.0

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs invites citizens to learn more about the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0), aimed at providing affordable housing for all by 2024. This mission seeks to provide sustainable and inclusive housing with access to basic services to the urban poor, particularly the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), Low-Income Groups (LIG), and Middle-Income Groups (MIG).

Key Components of PMAY-U 2.0:

- Beneficiary-Led Construction (BLC): Assists eligible families in constructing new houses or enhancing existing houses on their own land.
- Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP): Promotes the construction of affordable housing with partnerships between public and private sectors, benefitting low-income households.
- In-Situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR): Uses land as a resource to provide homes to slum dwellers, aiming for a slum-free urban India.
- Credit-Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS): Provides interest subsidy on housing loans for EWS, LIG, and MIG segments for purchasing, constructing, or improving a house.

Who is Eligible?

- Families without a pucca (permanent) house in any part of India.
- Income categories targeted include EWS (up to Rs. 3 lakhs/year), LIG (Rs. 3-6 lakhs/year), and MIG (Rs. 6-18 lakhs/year).
- Women, SC/ST/OBC, and other marginalized groups are encouraged to apply.

How to Apply?

- Visit the official PMAY-U website: <https://pmaymis.gov.in>.
- Fill out the online application with the necessary personal, income, and Aadhaar details. Submit the form after verification.
- Beware of Frauds: No fees are required for application submission. Avoid unauthorized agents and report any fraudulent activity to Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Kupwara.

For further assistance: Contact "Housing for All section" Of Municipal Council Kupwara & helpdesk No = 9797227008.

No: MC/Kup/2024-25/283-84
DIPK-NB-2617/24
Dated: 03/12/2024

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council
Kupwara

GOVERNMENT OF (U.T) JAMMU & KASHMIR
Office Of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt.

Ground Water Division Srinagar
Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar.

E-mail:-phgwd@yahoo.com, Tel./FaxNo:-0194-2411285

Extension Notice 4th

Subject: 1. Construction of 02 No. of Bore Wells at different spots in Block Kalaroose in Bandi, Datta in District Kupwara.

2. Construction of Bore Well Near Kawari Bridge at Showkat Ali Dar and others, Mohalla Kawari District Kupwara.

Reference: This office e-NIT No. 24-JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2024-25, issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/24-25/Corrs./ 6373-82, dated: 15-10-2024. Bearing Tender ID No. 2024_PHE_260360_3 & 4.

Due to "No Response" for the above mentioned works advertised vide e-NIT No. and Tender ID No's under reference. Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 30-11-2024 Up-to 11:00 AM are extended as per the details given below:-

S. No.	Item	Fresh Date
1.	Period of submission of bids	07-12-2024 Up-to 11:00 AM
2.	Date of opening of tenders	09-12-2024 11:00 AM

NOTE:

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid e-NIT issued vide above referred endstt: nos.

Sd/= Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt.
Ground Water Division Srinagar.
DIPK-8905/24 dated: 03-12-2024

Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION ZAINPORA
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No:- Fresh38/ZNP/RnB/e-Tendering/2024-25 Dated:- 02-12-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from reputed Regd. Architectural /Structural Consultancy firms for providing Architectural/structural Engineering Consultancy services in respect of the work namely

S.No	Name of Work	Major Head	Consultancy charges	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Completion (calendar days)	Class of Contract
1.	Providing Consultancy services and other allied services for the Project namely "Construction of 08 Roomed Double Storey Building at HSS Zainapura Shopian" including ETS Surveying, Soil Investigation, Providing of Architectural Drawings as per client's Requirement, Structural drawings Vetted by DIQC/NIT, Preparation of DPR and detailed Bill of quantities (BoQ) (complete job)	4202 Secondary Education	0.50% of the Project Cost (Treated as 100 in the percentage BOQ)	Rs. 1000/-	Rs.10000/-	15 Days	Regd. Consultancy Firm
2.	Providing Consultancy services and other allied services for the Project namely "Construction of 08 Roomed Double Storey Building at HSS Barbhugh ImamSahib Shopian" including ETS Surveying, Soil Investigation, Providing of Architectural Drawings as per client's Requirement, Structural drawings Vetted by DIQC/NIT, Preparation of DPR and detailed Bill of quantities (BoQ) (complete job)	4202 Secondary Education	0.50% of the Project Cost (Treated as 100 in the percentage BOQ)	Rs. 1000/-	Rs.10000/-	15 Days	Regd. Consultancy Firm
3.	Providing Consultancy services and other allied services for the Project namely "Construction of 08 Roomed Double Storey Building at HS Landoora" including ETS Surveying, Soil Investigation, Providing of Architectural Drawings as per client's Requirement, Structural drawings Vetted by DIQC/NIT, Preparation of DPR and detailed Bill of quantities (BoQ) (complete job)	4202 Secondary Education	0.50% of the Project Cost (Treated as 100 in the percentage BOQ)	Rs. 1000/-	Rs.10000/-	15 Days	Regd. Consultancy Firm

Position of Funds: - Available.

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice	02/12/2024
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 02/12/2024 06:00 P.M to 12/12/2024 06:00 P.M
3. Bid submission Start Date	02/12/2024 from 6:00 P.M
4. Bid Submission End Date	12/12/2024 upto 6:00 P.M
5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	13/12/2024 at 12:00 PM in the Office of the Executive Engineer, (R&B) Division Zainpura.

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 schedule of dates given below:-

Note :-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy. Any short fall found in the soft copy will render the Bid rejected.

- The Consultancy tender has been floated to fulfill the Departmental exigency & shall not claim any preferential right to the consultant/Bidder for award of Contract for a Particular Project. The Department reserves the right to float the separate Tender for a project involving Specific Technical expertise.
- The bidders are advised to quote their percentage (Depreciation) for the estimated rate i.e. 0.50% of the project cost which is treated as 100 in the BOQ and the quoted rates will be calculated accordingly.
- The Department reserves the right to cancel the consultancy tender in case of unsatisfactory performance by the Consultant without assigning any reasons thereof.
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit equal to Rs.25,000/- in the shape of CDR/FDR within 02 days after opening of Bids which shall be released after successful completion of contract 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 in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpura (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

No:- R&B/ZNP/DIV/3890-97
DIPK-8926/24
DATED: 03/12/2024

Sd/-
(Er. H.M. Jahangir)
Executive Engineer,
(R&B) Division Zainpura.

از نیابت پٹن
عنوان:- درخواست منجانت سلیمنڈرچونڈر غلامی الدین میر ساکنہ ماموستہ تحصیل پٹن نسبت لیگل بیر

اشہار ہرخاص و عام
معاملہ مندرچونڈر عنوان الصبر میں درخواست ساکنہ پٹن حصول لیگل بیر تفصیلاً زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں رپورٹ پٹن ہوائی حلقہ سے طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنہ کا والد موتی غلامی الدین میر مومدر 03-12-1972 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے اور موتی مذکور کے ورثان جائز درجڈل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

غلام حسن بیر پرموتی حیات موجود
فتح محمد بیر پرموتی --
سلیمہ دختر موتی --
مہسانہ عرش --
مہسانہ پوش --
سناوڈن بیر پرموتی فوت شدہ
نذیر احمد بیر --
مہسانہ شائمانی زوجہ موتی فوت شدہ

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کلمہ نہیں ہے۔ مرنفٹکیلیت زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی مزایا عتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشورہ اخبار رسالت دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عتراض یا اعتراض وادالت حذا کو قریبی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرسے بعد کوئی عتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
ناصب تحصیلدار FKO



Residents Decry Noise Pollution From Mobile Vendors Using Loudspeakers

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The residents of various parts of Srinagar city, including upper and downtown areas, have raised concerns over the use of loudspeakers mounted on vehicles to sell vegetables and other goods, stating that the constant noise is causing significant inconvenience.

Many families, particularly those with elderly or ill members or young children, are struggling to cope with the disturbance. Several residents from Srinagar city said these loudspeakers continue all day, terming it unbearable.

"My father is unwell and needs rest, but the noise keeps him agitated," said Amina, a resident from Sonwar. "The problem is if one vehicle goes, another arrives, and we are frustrated with this continuous noise."

Another resident, Mubashir from Chattabal, said, "Our children can't study properly because of the noise. 'Sale sale, 150 rupees sale'—this is what we are hearing all day," he said, adding, "Once the sale is over, another vendor shouting 'Tamatar, Mattar, Gougii' arrives, and because of this, we are frustrated and can't even stay peaceful at our homes."

Residents have requested the authorities to regulate this practice and take action on this—(KNO)

INSTALLATION OF FARE METERS:

Traffic Police Sets December 10 As Deadline For Auto Rickshaws

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar Traffic Police has issued a stern warning to auto rickshaw operators, directing them to install fare meters by December 10 or face legal action.

Notably, this move comes as part of an intensified campaign against traffic violations across the Kashmir Valley.

A senior traffic police officer said that while they could begin enforcement immediately, the authorities have provided a 10-day grace period, considering the livelihoods of auto



rickshaw operators.

"We can even start taking action now. But it is a matter of their livelihood, so we have given 10 days' time for auto rickshaws to install fare meters," the officer stated.

The fresh drive targets commercial vehicles in Srinagar, with the authorities stating that failure to comply with the directions will result in strict legal action.

Notably, the initiative aligns with a broader crackdown on traffic violations that has already seen thousands of vehicles seized across the valley.

2 Drug Peddlers Arrested In City

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Jammu and Kashmir police in Srinagar on Tuesday said to have arrested two drug peddlers and recovered psychotropic substances from their possession.

"A police party of Police Post Banamohallah at a checkpoint established at Baddamb road near Stadium intercepted a vehicle (Venue) bearing registration number UP16CN-8991, coming from Barbarshah towards Baddamb, with two persons on board. During the search of the vehicle, 13 bottles of Codeine Phosphate were recovered. Both the accused have been identified as Ilyas Ahmad Dar son of Mohd

Ramzan Dar resident of Dar Mohallah Old Barzulla, Sanat Nagar and Manzoor Ahmad Dar son of Late Bashir Ahmad Dar resident of Tengpora Srinagar. They have been arrested and shifted to a police station. Vehicle used in the commission of crime have also been seized," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to Kashmir Observer.

Accordingly, police said that a case under FIR number 50/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered at the police station and further investigation has been taken up.

Meanwhile, police urged people to cooperate with police in curbing the menace of drugs from the society. We reassure the community members that Police will act tough against the criminals as per the law.

Foot Bridge At Pantha Chowk Awaits Completion, Residents Suffer

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The inordinate delay in the construction of a footbridge over the river Jhelum at Pantha chowk has left the local residents anguished, who according to them are being forced to use the shikaras to cross the water body.

Pertinently, the local said the construction work on the footbridge was started in the year 2017. However, according to them, the work remained unfinished, forcing the locals to rely on the boats to cross the river Jhelum, which puts a risk to the lives of the people.

The incomplete project poses daily challenges for commuters and raises concerns about potential disasters, especially during adverse weather conditions.

Despite years of work, only the stairs and fencing of the bridge have been completed, with ongoing construction progressing at a sluggish pace.

The residents are now urging authorities, including PWD Minister, MLA Lal Chowk, and Deputy Com-



missioner Srinagar to intervene into the matter and expedite the process.

"The lack of a proper crossing is a disaster waiting to happen. We have to rely on boats, which is unsafe, especially for children and the elderly," said a local resident.

He said despite the incompleteness of this bridge we are now forced to travel from two shores of Jhelum via boat, which is a threat to life, another local said.

Meanwhile, DC Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-ud-din has said that the work on the said bridge is going on and it will be formally thrown open to the public by this week.

"The work on the said bridge is going on and will be formally thrown open to the public by this week. Visited personally last month to check the progress. We are committed to complete all incomplete projects in Srinagar," Dr Bilal wrote on X—(KNO)

Grand Mufti Bereaved, Cousin Passes Away

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Grand Mufti Kashmir, Mufti Nasirul Islam's cousin Mufti Ejaz Ahmad Farooqi passed away at Aarifeen colony near grid station at Malla Bagh Bagh, Srinagar. He was laid to rest at Makbarye-e-Sheikh-ul-Islam at Maharaj Gunj.

The congregational fateha Khawani will be observed after Namaz-e-Zuhr after Friday prayers. Meanwhile, Mirwaize-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq has expressed deep sorrow and grief over the demise of Mufti Ejaz Ahmad Farooqi, a prominent member of the Mufti family,

who resided in Mirwaiz personally visited the residence of the late Mufti Ejaz to offer his condolences to the late Mufti's young son, Mufti Haider Ahmad Farooqi, and to Mufti Azam, Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam, praying to Almighty Allah to grant the Mufti family and their relatives patience.

He also prayed for Jannatul-Firdous to the departed soul. It is noteworthy that besides the relationship between the Mirwaiz and Mufti families, there have also been close ties and associations. The late Mufti Ejaz Ahmad Farooqi was also a close relative of Mufasssire Quran Mirwaiz Yusuf Shah Sahib (RA).

Admin Celebrates 'International Day Of Persons With Disabilities'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: To mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the District Administration Srinagar organized a function at Abhinandana Home, Solina.

The programme with a global theme for this year, 'Amplifying the Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future' was hosted by the District Social Welfare Office in collaboration with the Commissionerate of Person with Disabilities.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat was the chief guest on the occasion, while Commissioner for Person with Disabilities, Mohammad Iqbal Lone attended the function as guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the day recognizes the important role that persons with disabilities play in creating a more inclusive and sustainable world for all. He outlined that the day is also aimed to encourage integration of specially-abled people in every aspect of social, political and cultural life.

He underscored that several initiatives have been taken by the Government to address the needs and aspirations of PwDs, besides to honor and empower them. He highlighted different welfare schemes and programmes launched for the socio-economic upliftment of persons with disabilities.



Dr Bilal also held a detailed interaction with the staff and management. He interacted with the PwDs to encourage and boost their morale and confidence. He also stressed the concerned Staff to work with added zeal and dedication besides treating the students in a compassionate manner.

In his address, Dr. Bilal announced on-the-spot admission to a vocational training program and College admission to 12th-pass students.

During the programme, the Deputy Commissioner also felicitated the Distinction Holders and other beneficiaries with Appreciation Certificates and Prosthetic Aids.

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, detailed the implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016 and the J&K RPWD Rules, 2021, while also addressing the resolution of grievances registered through the Commissioner's Office.

The event provided a comprehensive overview of achievements in key areas such as Unique Disability ID (UDID)-Enabling centralized identification and benefits for PwDs, Social Security-Expanding financial and community support, Health, Education and Improving infrastructure and mobility for PwDs. The inclusive leadership and strategies to advance disability rights in Jammu and Kashmir were also deliberated during the event.

- 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)

PRAYERS

FAJR	5:50
ZUHR	12:17
ASR	3:45
Magrib	5:26
ISHA	6:49

HIJRI CALENDAR
1 Jumada al-Sani
1446

This Day In History

- 1110- Syrian harbor city Saida (Sidon) surrenders to Crusaders
- 1259- Treaty of Paris: English King Henry III and French King Louis IX end 100 years of conflict between the Capetian and Plantagenet dynasties
- 1489- Battle of Baza - Spanish army captures Baza from Moors
- 1534- Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent occupies Baghdad
- 1563- Council of Trent holds its last session, after 18 years. Last ecumenical council for more than 300 years.
- 1644- First European peace congress opens in Munster
- 1655- Middelburg, Netherlands forbids building of synagogue
- 1674- Father Marquette builds first dwelling in what is now Chicago
- 1676- Battle of Lund: A Danish army under the command of King Christian V of Denmark engages the Swedish army commanded by Field Marshal Simon Grundel-Helmfelt
- 1682- First General Assembly in Pennsylvania (Chester)
- 1688- General John Churchill (later 1st Duke of Marlborough) changes allegiance from James II to William of Orange
- 1691- Emperor Leopold I takes control of Transylvania
- 1691- Spanish king Carlos II names Maximilian II as Viceroy of Southern Netherlands
- 1783- General Washington bids officers farewell at France's Tavern, NYC
- 1791- Britain's "The Observer" is first published, the oldest Sunday newspaper in the world
- 1798- Rebellious Flemish farmers occupy Hasselt
- 1834 - First US dental society organized (NY)
- 1835 - First US mutual fire insurance company issues first policy (Rhode Island).
- 1847 - Frederick Douglass publishes first issue of his newspaper "North Star".
- 1854 - Eureka Stockade: In what is claimed by many to be the birth of Australian democracy, more than 20 goldminers at Ballarat, Victoria, are killed by state troopers in an uprising over mining licences.
- 1863 - Confederate General James Longstreet abandons his siege at Knoxville, TN.
- 1878 - Settlers arrive at Petach Tikvah, Israel.
- 1910 - Neon lights first publicly displayed (Paris Auto Show).
- 1912 - Turkey, Serbia, Montenegro, Greece & Bulgaria sign weapons pact
- 1912 - First Balkan War: The Naval Battle of Elli takes place.
- 1917 - The Supreme Allied War Council, meeting at Versailles to define war aim, fails to reach an agreement.
- 1920 - Turkey & Armenia agree to peace treaty.
- 1922 - First successful technicolor movie (Tall of the Sea), shown in NYC.
- 1934 - Italian colonial Tripoli & Cyrenaica annexed to Libya.
- 1943 - Battle of Monte Cassino, Italy begins.
- 1946 - US government asks UN to order dictator Franco out of Spain.
- 1948 - Chinese refugee ship "Kiangya" explodes in E China Sea killing 1,100.
- 1952 - Marcos Perez Jimenez elected president of Venezuela.
- 1956 - Britain and France pull troops out of Egypt.
- 1965 - USSR launches Luna 8; it crashes on the Moon.
- 1967 - 1st human heart transplant performed by Dr Christian Barnard in South Africa.
- 1967 - Former Indonesian president Sukarno placed under house arrest.
- 1971 - Indo-Pakistani War of 1971: India invades West Pakistan and a full scale war begins claiming hundreds of lives.
- 1973 - Pioneer 10 passes Jupiter (1st fly-by of an outer planet) [Dec 4-GMT].
- 1985 - 23rd Shuttle Mission (61-B)-Atlantis 2-lands at Edwards AFB.
- 1989 - Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President George H. W. Bush, declare the Cold War over.
- 1991 - Hulk Hogan defeats Undertaker to become 4th time WWF champion.
- 1992- US President George H. W. Bush orders 28,000 US troops to war-torn Somalia
- 1993- A truce is concluded between the government of Angola and UNITA rebels.
- 1996- NASA's 1st Mars rover launched from Cape Canaveral
- 1998- The Unity Module, the second module of the International Space Station, is launched
- 2005 Tens of thousands of people in Hong Kong protest for democracy and call on the Government to allow universal and equal suffrage

REMEMBRANCE

" Sufi Sahab "

Six Years Have Passed
Yet Your Absence
Echoes In Our Hearts.

یہ نکلن، یہ قبر یہ جنازے رسم شریعت ہے اقبال
مرتا انسان تب ہی جاتا ہے جب یاد کرنے والا کوئی نہ ہو۔

Deeply Remembered by:
Your Son, Daughters, Grand Children, Mueen & family members

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ

**OFFICE OF THE
BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER PATTAN**

e-mail: bdopattan@gmail.com

Subject: Auction of old construction material.

AUCTION NOTE

Open auction of construction material of old damaged building dumped in the office premises of Block Development Officer Pattan is scheduled to be held on 07.12.2024 at 11.00 AM in the office premises. All the interested persons are hereby invited to participate in the auction. The terms and conditions laid down for the purpose will have to be followed by the participants of the auction in letter & spirit. The undersigned will have the final authority to accept or reject the final bid.

No: - BDO/PB/Actt./Estt./ 1684-88
Dated: - 02 /12 /2024
DIPK-8929-24
DT: 03/12/2024

Sd/-
Tawheed Ahmad (JKAS)
Block Development Officer
Pattan

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
R&B DIVISION AWANTIPORA**

E-mail: rbdivisionawantipora@gmail.com,
NO: T-1/EEA/7186-89 Date: 03/12/2024

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Subject: 1. Restoration of road surface under the jurisdiction of PW (RnB) Sub-Division Pampore on emergency basis by way of Snow clearance (Stage contract-12) for the year 2024-25

Reference: 1. Fresh-94/EEA/RNB/of 2024-25/6868-78 Dated: 23/11/2024

it is for the information of all registered contractors/ Firms/ Agencies that the above subjected work advertised vide this office above referred NIT is hereby cancelled due to zero responses received and shall be invited afresh.

Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-
Draftsman Tech. officer Executive Engineer
DIPK-8980-24 R&B Division Awantipora
DT: 03/12/2024

Gaza, Ukraine Wars, Regional Tensions Boosting Arms Sales: Report

Agencies
Sweden: Sales by major arms makers were boosted last year by wars in Ukraine and Gaza and tensions in Asia, with marked increases for manufacturers based in Russia and the Middle East, a report said Monday.
Sales of arms and military services by the world's 100 largest arms companies totalled \$632 billion in 2023, up 4.2 percent, according to a report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
Revenues had dipped in 2022 as global weapons makers struggled to meet the increase in de-

stitute said.
"A lot of them specialise in either a component of something or build systems that require one set of supply chains," allowing them to react more quickly, Nan Tian, Director of SIPRI's Military Expenditure and Arms Production Programme, told AFP.
Among the leading producers, US companies recorded a 2.5 percent increase in their sales last year and still account for half the world's arms revenues, with 41 US weapons producers in the world's top 100.
Lockheed Martin and RTX (formerly Raytheon Technologies), the world's two largest arms makers, on the other hand, report-



mand, but many of them managed to increase production last year, the authors of the report noted.
In a sign of this surge in demand, all 100 companies tracked achieved sales in excess of \$1 billion last year for the first time.
"There was a marked rise in arms revenues in 2023, and this is likely to continue in 2024," Lorenzo Scarazato, a researcher with the SIPRI Military Expenditure and Arms Production, said in a statement.
Sales from the world's top 100 arms companies "still did not fully reflect the scale of demand, and many companies have launched recruitment drives, suggesting they are optimistic about future sales," Scarazato added.
Smaller producers have been more effective in meeting the demand linked to the wars in Gaza and Ukraine, growing tensions in East Asia and rearmament programmes in other regions, the in-

ed a fall in revenue of 1.6 percent and 1.3 percent respectively.
Such behemoths "often depend on complex, multi-tiered supply chains, which made them vulnerable to lingering supply chain challenges in 2023," Tian said.
Russia's Rostec surges
In Europe, home to 27 of the top 100, arms makers on average saw an increase of just 0.2 percent.
But European groups manufacturing complex weapons systems were still in the process of honouring old contracts last year, so the revenues do not reflect the influx of orders since then.
"At the same time, a number of other European producers saw their arms revenues grow substantially, driven by demand linked to the war in Ukraine, particularly for ammunition, artillery and air defence and land systems," SIPRI noted.



"Apocalyptic": UN Chief On Situation In Gaza Amid Israel-Hamas War

Agencies
Cairo: The United Nations chief said Monday the situation in war-torn Gaza was "appalling and apocalyptic", warning conditions faced by Palestinians in the territory may amount to the "gravest international crimes".

Israel's retaliatory campaign has killed 44,429 people in Gaza, according to figures from the territory's health ministry that the UN considers reliable.

In remarks read out on his behalf at a Cairo conference aimed at increasing humanitarian aid, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged the international community to "build a foundation for sustainable peace in Gaza and across the Middle East".
The war in Gaza broke out when Palestinian group Hamas attacked southern Israel on October 7, 2023, resulting in 1,208 deaths, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally of Israeli official figures.
Israel's retaliatory campaign has killed 44,429 people in Gaza, according to figures from the territory's health ministry that the UN considers reliable.
Guterres highlighted the devastating toll of the conflict and the urgent need for international action.
"Malnutrition is rampant... Famine is imminent. Meanwhile,

the health system has collapsed," he said.
The UN chief added that Gaza now has "the highest number of children amputees per capita anywhere in the world", with "many losing limbs and undergoing surgeries without even anaesthesia".
The secretary-general also criticised the severe restrictions on aid delivery, calling the current levels "grossly insufficient".
According to UNRWA's count, only 65 aid trucks per day had been able to enter Gaza this past month, compared to a pre-war average of 500.

International aid organisations have repeatedly raised alarm over the deteriorating conditions in Gaza, warning that civilians are on the brink of famine.
They have said aid shipments reaching the enclave are now at their lowest since the start of the war.
Israel, which early in the conflict imposed a complete siege for a period on the Hamas-ruled territory, has blamed aid issues on what it says is the inability of relief organisations to handle and distribute large quantities of aid.
UN's Guterres said on Monday that the blockade of aid to Gaza "is not a crisis of logistics" but rather "a crisis of political will and of respect for fundamental principles of international humanitarian law".
UNRWA said all the attempts it made to deliver aid into northern Gaza had either been "denied" or "impeded" between October 6, 2024 and November 25, amid fierce fighting in the area.

Guterres said UNRWA is an "irreplaceable lifeline for millions of Palestinians", adding that "if UNRWA is forced to close, the responsibility of replacing its vital services ... would rest with Israel".

Extremists Clashing With Syrian Army 'Ready For Peace With Israel': Ex-intel official

The Cradle
Jerusalem: Israeli scholar of Arab culture and ex-military intelligence Lieutenant Mordechai Kedar stated he is in contact with Syrian armed opposition factions and that they are ready for a peace deal with Israel.

They have conveyed to Tel Aviv that they are planning to open an Israeli embassy in Damascus and Beirut," Kedar reported.
"Today, we are with the Syrian revolutionaries, but tomorrow, I don't know. The rebels in Syria will get rid of the Iranian presence and Hezbollah, so they must be supported. If they are good with us, we will support them, and if not, we will not support them," he added.
Foreign-backed Syrian opposition leaders made similar offers to Israel during the US-led covert war to topple Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his government starting in 2011.
In April 2014, a senior Syrian opposition activist appealed for collaboration with Israel to topple the Syrian government, claiming that "the revolution created a historic opportunity for peace between the nations."
Kamal al-Labwani, a physician and former decade-long political prisoner, told Israeli media that

he believed "we [the opposition] have shared interests with Israel."
"Iran, Hezbollah, and Al-Qaeda are the joint enemies of Israel and the Syrian people. We must collaborate against them," the influential activist said.
However, Israel gave direct support to the Syrian Al-Qaeda affiliate, the Nusra Front, led by Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, a former leader in the Islamic State in Iraq.
The Nusra Front later changed its name to Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which is the extremist group currently attacking Aleppo.
In 2015, the Wall Street Journal reported that Israel was treating Al-Qaeda fighters from the Nusra Front who were wounded fighting the Syrian army.
In 2019, outgoing Israeli Army Chief of Staff Gadi Eisenkot acknowledged for the first time that Israel had indeed provided weaponry to Syrian opposition armed groups such as the Nusra Front and the Free Syrian Army (FSA).

Flights Resume Between Mashhad And Dammam



Agencies
DUBAI: Iran Air on Tuesday resumed flights between Mashhad and Dammam after a nine year hiatus, the Iranian Student News Agency (ISNA) reported.
"A deputy from Iran's em-

bassy, the representative of Iran Air and representatives from Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Civil Aviation welcomed arriving passengers in Dammam and stressed the need to facilitate the movement of people between the two countries," ISNA said.

40 Years After Horrific Bhopal Gas Leak, Ailments Rise At Faster Pace Among The Affected

Press Trust Of India
Bhopal: An organisation working with survivors of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy, the world's worst industrial disaster, on Monday said ailments were being detected among those affected at a rate much higher than those who remained unexposed.

not previously associated with gas exposure, like diabetes and hypertension, were found to be consistently and significantly shooting up in the last 16 years. Diabetes was found to be five times higher among the gas-exposed patients compared to the non-exposed. Hypertension was found to be over three times higher," Arya said.
Gynaecologist Dr Sonali Mittal said hormonal conditions such as early and premature menopause were 2.6 times more frequent in gas-exposed women than those who were not exposed.
"Kidney-related conditions, possibly ignited by the initial injury from MIC (Methyl Isocyanate) exposure, have remained seven times higher in the exposed group. Acute conditions like myocardial infarction and ischemic heart diseases were found to be 4.5 times more prevalent in the gas exposed population," pointed out physician Dr B Raghuram.
Shedding light on the neurological conditions, physician Dr P K Aswathi said hemiplegia and neuralgia were found to be almost four times more common in the gas-exposed group.
"Neuropathy, likely influenced by factors such as diabetes, was found to be seven times more prevalent in the exposed population. We also found that hypothyroidism, a metabolic disorder, has been rising over the past seven years in both populations but remains 1.7 times higher in the gas-exposed group," Awasthi said.

The outcome was based on analysis of clinical data of 16305 gas-exposed and 8106 unexposed patients, the Sambhavana Trust Clinic functionaries told reporters here.
These patients received care at their facility in the last 16 years, they said, adding the data highlighted the need for continued medical research and sustained health-care services for the victims.
In the intervening night of December 2-3, 1984, highly toxic gas methyl isocyanate (MIC) leaked from the Union Carbide factory, killing 5,479 people and maiming more than five lakh others.
"Rates of diseases known to disproportionately affect gas-exposed populations, such as respiratory illnesses and mental health disorders, remained significantly higher throughout the last 16 years. Both obstructive and restrictive types of respiratory diseases were 1.7 to 2 times higher in the gas-exposed group compared to the unexposed population," physician Dr Usha Arya of the Trust said.
"Depression was found to be 2.7 times more prevalent in the gas-exposed group. Conditions

CBSE Mulls 2 Levels For Science, Social Science For Classes 9-10

Press Trust Of India
New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is considering introducing two levels of science and social science — standard and advanced — for students in Classes 9 and 10, according to officials.
The board already offers two

While the syllabus for students opting for maths (standard) and maths (basic) is the same, the question papers and the difficulty level of the questions in the board exam differ," a senior CBSE official said.
"The objective behind offering science and social science at two levels for Classes 9 and 10 is to allow students with the aptitude for



levels of mathematics for Class 10 students. Its curriculum committee has approved the idea, which is in line with the new National Education Policy (NEP). However, the board's governing body is yet to give its nod.
According to the NEP, all subjects and corresponding assessments, beginning with mathematics, could be offered at two levels with some students studying subjects at the standard level and others at the advanced level.
"The proposal was approved by the curriculum committee. However, the logistics and the framework are yet to be worked out. Currently, we offer only one subject at two levels in Class 10.

these subjects to study them at an advanced level before they take up these subjects in class 11," the official added.
CJI Khanna recuses self from hearing pleas against exclusion of CJI on panel selecting CEC, ECs' The board has not yet decided on the timeline for introducing this option as NCERT textbooks as per the New Curriculum Framework (NCF) are not yet ready.
CBSE is also yet to decide on the plan for scheduling the two rounds of board examinations as recommended in the new NCF. The ministry's initial plan was to introduce biannual board exams from the 2024-25 academic session. However, it has been pushed back.

NEWS MAKERS

The Actress is seen smiling as she poses with her makeup artist. Her makeup game looked on point with bold black eyeliner, glossy pink lips, and a dewy finish



Here's What Aishwarya Rai Is Focusing On Amid Separation Rumours With Abhishek

Aishwarya Rai is back to fulfilling her professional commitments amidst separation rumours with her husband, Abhishek Bachchan. After attending the Global Women's Forum in

Dubai, the actress was recently spotted returning to Mumbai. Aishwarya has dived straight back into work, and a new picture

from the set has captured fans' attention. Celebrity makeup artist Adrian Jacobs shared a selfie with Aishwarya on his Insta-

gram story and captioned the post, "A lovely day at work @aishwaryaraibachchan_arb."
In the image, the actress is seen smiling as she poses with her makeup artist. Her makeup game looked on point with bold black eyeliner, glossy pink lips, and a dewy finish. Rumours surrounding Aishwarya and Abhishek's marriage have been gaining momentum for some time. The couple has frequently been the subject of divorce speculations, with interest spiking after their separate appearances at Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's wedding earlier this year.
Most recently, their divorce rumours made headlines after Rai's name at an event was displayed without the 'Bachchan' on a screen at an event in Dubai.

Politics A 'Sea Of Unsatisfied Souls' Where Everybody Is Sad: Gadkari

Union minister Nitin Gadkari has said politics is a "sea of unsatisfied souls" where every person is sad and aspiring for a higher post than his current position.
Life is a game of compromises, compulsions, limitations and contradictions, Gadkari added while speaking at the launch of a book, titled '50 Golden Rules of Life', in Nagpur on Sunday.
Whether a person is in family, social, political or corporate life, the life is full of challenges and problems and the person should understand the "art of living" to face them, the senior BJP leader said.
The minister recalled a programme he had attended in



Rajasthan where he said, "Politics is sea of unsatisfied souls, where every person is sad... the one who becomes corporator is sad because he did not get the chance to become MLA, and an

MLA is sad because he could not get a ministerial berth."
"The one who becomes a minister is sad because he could not get a good ministerial department and could not become chief minister, and chief minister is in tension because he does not know when the high command will ask him to leave," the BJP leader said.
The problems in life pose a big challenge and facing them and moving forward is the "art of living", he said.
Gadkari said he remembers in his political life a quote from former US President Richard Nixon autobiography which says 'A man is not finished when he is defeated. He is finished when he quits'.

J&K Has Over 43,000 Lakhpati Didis: GoI

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Government of India on Tuesday informed the House that Jammu and Kashmir has a total of 43,050 Lakhpati Didis.

The figures were revealed through a written reply by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Dr. Chandrakant Pemmasani.

In a written reply, he said that the Lakhpati Didi initiative is one of the outcomes of DAY-NRLM. A structured approach has been adopted to make SHG members "Lakhpati," i.e., to ensure they earn a minimum income of Rs 1 lakh per year on a sustainable basis.

He said that the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) is a centrally sponsored scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development.

"It is being implemented across the country (except Delhi and Chandigarh) with the objective of alleviating rural poverty, primarily by organizing rural poor women into Self Help Groups (SHGs) and continuously nurturing and supporting them. The aim is to help them achieve

a significant increase in income over time, improve their quality of life, and lift them out of abject poverty," the Minister said.

He said that the NAMO Drone Didi Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare aims to provide drones to 15,000 SHG members under DAY-NRLM from 2023-24 to 2025-26. "In 2023-24, fertilizer companies, using their own resources, distributed 503 drones to SHG members," he said.

"Under DAY-NRLM, 10.05 crore women have been mobilized into 90.87 lakh SHGs as of October 2024. DAY-NRLM is a process-driven program where various benefits, such as Revolving Fund, Community Investment Fund, and Bank Linkage, are extended to SHGs based on their eligibility and requirements," he added.

"The Ministry has commissioned impact evaluation studies to assess the financial independence of SHG women through interventions under DAY-NRLM. An impact evaluation study of DAY-NRLM was conducted in 2019-20 by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, with support from the World Bank," he said.

Kashmir Upper Reaches Receive Fresh Snowfall, Several Roads Closed



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The upper reaches in the Kashmir Valley received fresh snowfall, while some plains were lashed with rain on Tuesday, causing temperatures to drop, officials said here.

An official said that upper reaches including Gurez, Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Karnah and Zojila Pass experienced fresh snowfall.

He said that many roads, including Bandipora-Gurez and Srinagar-Ladakh roads, were

blocked due to accumulation of snow.

The official added that snow clearance operation has been initiated this morning to restore it and ensure the roads are cleared.

According to the meteorological department weather is expected to remain dry from December 4 to 7. "On December 8, there will be generally cloudy conditions with light rain and snow in higher reaches at isolated places. From December 9 to 12, dry weather is again anticipated."

Distt. Admin Ganderbal Commemorates 'International Day Of Persons With Disabilities'



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The District Administration Ganderbal, in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and She Hope Society for Women Entrepreneurs, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities at the Government Boys Higher Secondary School Dudderhama, Ganderbal.

This year's theme, "Amplifying the Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future," highlighted the indispensable role of persons with disabilities in building a more inclusive and sustainable society.

The event was presided over by District Development Commissioner (DDC) Ganderbal, Shyambir.

District Social Welfare Officer, Deputy Chief Education Officer and representatives from civil society organizations were present at the event. Attendees included persons with disabilities, their families, and volunteers, creating an atmosphere of inclusivity and celebration.

The program featured cultural performances, skits, and the distribution of Niramaya Health Insurance cards and legal guardianship certificates.

The DDC distributed 27 Nira-

maya Health Insurance cards and 12 legal guardianship certificates to beneficiaries, emphasizing the government's commitment to supporting the rights and welfare of persons with disabilities.

Additionally, the DDC handed over an electric wheelchair worth Rs 3 lakh to an eligible beneficiary, further strengthening the support for individuals with disabilities.

The Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme, launched by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, provides health insurance coverage of up to Rs 1 lakh, renewable annually. This scheme benefits individuals with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, and Multiple Disabilities.

In his address, the DDC appreciated the efforts of the organizers and reaffirmed the administration's full support for initiatives aimed at the welfare of persons with disabilities. He encouraged stakeholders to continue their dedication to creating an inclusive environment.

The Executive Director of She Hope Society delivered an informative presentation on the Niramaya scheme, underlining its critical role in empowering persons with disabilities.

Proposed Pahalgam Railway Sparks Outrage Among South Kashmir Farmers

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Local farmers in the Anantnag-Bijbehara region of South Kashmir have launched protests against the proposed expansion of the railway network to Pahalgam, citing concerns over the destruction of orchards and fertile fields.

Political parties have also joined the chorus of opposition, demanding that the state and central governments reconsider the plan.

The central government has proposed extending the railway line from Anantnag to Pahalgam, a key tourist destination and the base camp for the Shri Amarnath Yatra. While a regional survey for the project is underway, the move has triggered alarm among local farmers, who fear that hundreds of acres of agricultural land will be rendered barren.

Farmer Aqib Mir voiced concerns about the devastating impact on the region's economy. "This area is one of the most fertile in Kashmir, with orchards of apple, plum, cherry, peach, apricot, almond, and walnut. Paddy is also grown



abundantly. Destroying this farmland will lead to a shortage of food grains and ruin livelihoods," he said. Protests have been intensifying, with demonstrations held earlier this week, including a sit-in. Dr. Bashir Ahmad Veeri, NC MLA from Bijbehara, met with protesting farmers and strongly condemned the project. "We do not need this railway line. The central government must not impose decisions on the people without their consent. If this railway line is constructed, it will destroy the agricultural economy and uproot small farmers," Veeri said, adding that locals are prepared to intensify their agitation to save their land.

JKAP Chairman Altaf Bukhari echoed similar concerns, stating that the proposed route cuts through vital agricultural areas. "The railway line will devastate the livelihoods of small farmers. The government must respect the will of the people and cancel this project," he said.

Farmers argue that the existing transportation network to Pahalgam is sufficient. Mir Aqib, a local farmer, said, "There is already a well-connected all-weather road from Anantnag to Pahalgam, with regular bus and taxi services. What is the need for a railway line that destroys our orchards and farms? This project serves no local interest."—(KNO)

POWER WOES

Kashmir Needs 1700 MWs Of Power To Overcome Unscheduled Cuts

Agencies

SRINAGAR: There is a huge gap of nearly 200 MWs to overcome the unscheduled power and distress cuts in Kashmir as at present less than 1500 MWs are available against a total requirement of 1700 MWs.

Top officials in the Power Development Department (PDD) said that the local DISCOM in Kashmir valley was not getting the same amount of power in which the consumers could not face distress cuts and unscheduled power cuts.

"Right now, we require at least 1700 Megawatts to provide distress free power to our consumers as per the load curtailment schedule so that there are no unscheduled power cuts," the official said.

He said, "Right now KPDCIL is getting less than 1500 MW of power. However, the con-

cerned authorities are saying that the DISCOM was getting 1500 MW."

"KPDCIL is capable of supply-



ing and providing 2200 MWs of power. There is no issue of carrying capacity. The issue is all about the availability of power," he said.

About the power generation from the power plants of Kashmir region, the official

said, "We are generating only 50-60 MWs of power. The local power generation has really gone down."

In Jammu and Kashmir, the power generation from the state pool has reduced by nearly 80 percent.

A top official of the Power Development Department had said that there was a high demand of power from the second week of November.

"As of now we are only able to generate a total of 200-260 Megawatts of power from the UT pool," the official had said.

About the power curtailment in Kashmir region, the official had said, "In urban areas there is a power curtailment of over 6 hours and over eight hours of power curtailment in rural areas."

In the meantime, PDD is likely to announce a new power curtailment schedule in the coming days in view of a dip in power generation—(KNO)

WORLD DISABILITY DAY

Supreme Court Guidelines Not Being Implemented, Says Padma Shri Awardee

Agencies

SRINAGAR: On World Disability Day, Javed Ahmad Tak, a Padma Shri awardee and a specially-abled person from south Kashmir, expressed serious concerns over the non-implementation of Supreme Court guidelines and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Tak said that despite the clear directives, including reservations in promotions for employees with disabilities, the J&K government has failed to enforce these policies, which has left many persons with disabilities in a state of stagnation and discontent.

"It is unfortunate that people with disabilities continue to protest on World Disability Day to press for their rights. Such protests reflect the marginalised position of this community," he lamented. "World Disability Day is not about charity; it's about enhancing the capabilities of persons with disabilities and ensuring their full inclusion in society."

Despite the launch of the 'Accessible India Campaign' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Javed criticised the minimal progress made on the ground, claiming that only "superficial" changes have been made, and most funds allocated for accessibility have lapsed.

The government should have issued a directive mandating accessibility in all new public buildings, including facilities

like ramps and lifts, to ensure that persons with disabilities are not sidelined, he said.

"The absence of special educators, disabled-friendly washrooms in schools and suitable teaching materials is a major barrier for disabled students. How can they attend school without proper provisions?" Tak asked.

He said the government has failed to implement the four per cent job reservation for people with disabilities, a policy that remains largely ignored in many sectors.

Javed further said that while the government has exempted persons with disabilities from exam fees, in practice, students are often asked to submit fees, and even clerks are unaware of the exemption. He lamented that the community is often treated as invisible and that the government's failure to provide basic assistance, such as necessary medicines and related support, is a direct violation of their rights.

Tak also raised concerns about the social security pension for people with disabilities in Jammu and Kashmir, which is only Rs 1,000—far below the range of Rs 5,000 to Rs 15,000 provided in other states and Union Territories. He called for an immediate increase to Rs 6,000 per month and demanded that heads of families with disabilities be exempted from electricity and water charges, and provided free ration to support their livelihoods.

Mohammad Rafee, a wheelchair-bound person from Srinagar, said that while World Disability Day is celebrated with much fanfare, the commitment to addressing the challenges faced by persons with disabilities often wanes after the day's events.

"In Kashmir, individuals must pledge to address these challenges, but too often, the commitment fades away," he said. Rafee said there are issues like inaccessible infrastructure, attitudinal barriers, health access, stigmatisation, and the lack of employment opportunities.

Mudasir Ahmad, Principal of Abhinandan Home Srinagar, highlighted the remarkable achievements of students with disabilities, despite facing numerous challenges. "Our deaf and dumb students have outperformed their non-disabled peers, securing top positions in events like the Kashmir Marathon," he said. "They have also shown exceptional talent in painting, sports, and vocational training, proving that disability is not a limitation."

Mudasir added that the educational landscape in Jammu and Kashmir is struggling to meet the needs of students with disabilities due to a severe shortage of special educators. "At least 300 special educators are needed to cater to students with disabilities, especially at the college level where there is no support for 12th-pass students with disabilities," he said. —(KNO)

International Day Of Persons With Disabilities

Sakeena Itoo Distributes Motorized Tricycles At Jammu



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities commemorated at Convention Centre, here, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo distributed 10 motorized tricycles (scooties) to individuals with disabilities as well as cheques of Rs 50,000 to Scheduled Caste (SC) beneficiaries under the Income Generation Component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Principal Secretary, School Education, Suresh Kumar Gupta; Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Sheetal Nanda; Director Social Welfare Jammu,

DSWOs and other officers were also present on the occasion.

Interacting with the beneficiaries on the occasion, Sakeena Itoo highlighted that these motorised tricycles will enhance mobility as well as make them self dependent. She added that these tricycles will enable recipients to navigate daily life with greater ease and engage more actively in society.

"Today, we renew our commitment to creating an inclusive society where every individual, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to thrive", Sakeena said, while underscoring the significance of such initiatives.

She also engaged with beneficiaries who received cheques of Rs 50,000 on the occasion.

'Tourism Projects Worth Rs 519.58 Cr Completed In 2016-17 In J&K, Ladakh'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Minister of Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, informed the Lok Sabha that several projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Tourism scheme between 2016 and 2017 have been completed, with a total investment of Rs 519.58 crore in J&K and Ladakh.

The Minister in a reply has mentioned that the completed projects include the development of the Jammu-Srinagar-Pahalgam-Bhagwati Nagar-Anantnag-Salamabad Uri-Kargil-Leh route at a cost of Rs 77.33 crore, Development

of tourist facilities at Jammu-Rajouri-Shopian-Pulwama at a cost of Rs 81.60 crore, Development of tourist facilities and construction of assets in lieu of those destroyed in the 2014 floods under the PM Development Package at a cost of Rs 90.43 crore, Development of tourist facilities at Mantalai and Sudhmahadev at a cost of Rs 91.99 crores, Development of tourist facilities at Anantnag-Pulwama-Kishtwar-Pahalgam-Zanskar Padum-Daksum-Ranjit Sagar Dam at a cost of Rs 86.39 crore and Development of tourist facilities at Gulmarg-Baramulla-Kupwara-Kargil-Leh at a cost of Rs 91.84 crore.

INDIAN RAILWAYS

"PUBLIC NOTIFICATION"

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25 kV, 50 Hz, AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all time and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Division	Section	Kilometer		Date of Energization
		From	To	
Firozpur	Energization of additional CB in SVDK/SSP (Km Location 78/25, chainage 78/987.40 to Km Location 79/1, chainage 79/08.30) for SVDK trip shed of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway.	OHE KM 78/25, Chainage KM 78/987.40	OHE KM 79/1, Chainage KM 79/08.30	13.12.2024

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/
Traction, Jammu Tawi
Firozpur, Northern Railway

3718/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No:- 241-2024-25-DEN-TRACK-FZR Date: 02.12.2024
DEN/Track/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www Ireps.gov.in with closing date- 23/12/2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Packet System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
29.11.2024	09.12.2024	23.12.2024 15:00 Hrs	
S. No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	
1.	241-2024-25-DEN-Track-FZR	Loading, unloading, leading and stacking of P-way material from different stations in connection with P-way renewal works i.e. Gaziabad, Lucknow, Khalispur, Kandrori to Track Depot Dhillwan and other places over Firozpur Division under DEN/Track/Firozpur.	
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money /	Validity of Offer /	Period of Completion
3,42,74,019/-	3,21,400,00/-	60 Days	12 Months
Similar nature of work - "Any Engineering work or transportation work".			
Note. 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.			

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3713/24

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION- IIND, RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR

Email id: std2rajbagh@yahoo.in Fax No. 0194-2310042

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Due to poor response, eNIT No. STD-II / 25 of 2024-25 Dated 11-10-2024 stands cancelled.

No:-STD-II/3389-91/TS Sd/-
Dated:02-12-2024 Executive Engineer,
DIPK-NB-2629-24 Sub Transmission Division-II,
DT: 03/12/2024 Rajbagh, Srinagar.

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KO VIEW

Rising Heart Attacks

Come winter, the heart attacks show a sharp surge in number. This is because cold and harsh weather often lead to reduced physical activity during winter. This inactivity can result in weight gain, higher blood pressure, and increased cholesterol levels, collectively raising the risk of heart issues. Reports citing the senior cardiologists in the Valley have indicated a 20 to 40 percent likelihood of increased heart attacks during the winter season. The winter is very harsh in the Valley and its onset brings with it several health-related ailments. However, the incidence of heart attacks has increased in recent years. Its victims have not just been elderly people but increasingly younger individuals are facing serious heart-related issues.

However, these issues are not traceable to weather changes, even though it is a factor. Health experts have pointed to increasing substance abuse, and sedentary lifestyles as the primary culprits. Some even have blamed the post-Covid complications, albeit there is still no conclusive evidence.

Similarly, a sedentary lifestyle, excessive consumption of junk food, and widespread smoking, especially among young people, are also contributing factors to the elevated risk of heart attacks. According to the National Health Family Survey 5, a substantial percentage of men in Jammu and Kashmir are smokers of cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Experts have also sounded alarm on the escalating problem of substance abuse among the youth. The use of opioids, inhalants, and particularly heroin, has surged, leading to overdose-related deaths and heart attacks. A survey conducted by the Union Ministry of Health has revealed that around 9 percent of the population of Jammu and Kashmir has diabetes. The reason for this is again our unhealthy lifestyle. A significant number of people don't exercise, nor do we eat balanced food.

One more factor that has affected the health of a large mass of people is the stress and depression which has now become veritably an epidemic in Kashmir. According to a study carried out by the Doctors Without Borders in 2016, nearly 1.8 million people in the region suffered from mental health disorders. But it is clear that the number has since only further risen. We need to have a proper study to get an estimate of how many are afflicted by the disease now. Compounding the growing mental health burden in the UT is the lack of adequate mental health services, creating a significant treatment gap. Last year, in a welcome effort toward prioritizing mental health, J&K had set up a dedicated mental health authority. The primary objective of this authority is to oversee and regulate all mental health facilities within the region, ensuring they are properly registered and conform to established guidelines.

That said, we need a proper investigation of the growing incidence of heart attacks in the UT. And more importantly, we need to improve and upgrade the health infrastructure to ensure swift medical attention to the people when they suffer from heart attacks. As of now, many lives are lost as the patients can't be moved to hospitals quickly enough to be administered treatment. It is time the government pays attention.



Did you know?

Understanding Sharia-Compliant Mutual Funds in India

Irshad Mushtaq

A Sharia-compliant mutual fund adheres to the principles of Islamic finance, allowing Muslim investors to engage without compromising their religious beliefs. These funds invest in companies that comply with Sharia law, avoiding sectors such as alcohol, gambling, pork, and interest-based financial services. In India, there are currently two mutual funds and one exchange-traded fund (ETF), known as Nippon Shariah Bees, that are considered halal investments. These investments, also referred to as Shariah-compliant, ethical, or halal mutual funds, draw their benefits from the avoidance of social harm and exploitative practices, such as lending money at high interest rates. Interest, known as Riba, is considered haram in Islam because it is seen as exploitative and unethical, often benefiting the lender at the borrower's expense, regardless of the borrower's outcome. Islamic finance, therefore, seeks to eliminate Riba in favor of more equitable financial practices. Historically, a monthly investment in a Sharia-compliant mutual fund has proven beneficial. For example, since 1996, a monthly savings plan of 1,000 in Tata Ethical Mutual Fund would have grown to 5.66 crores over 28 years, with an annual return (CAGR) of 17.25%. This means an investment of 32.6 lakhs would grow to 5.66 crores. Since its inception in 2009, Tata Ethical Fund has seen a CAGR of 17.94%. The portfolio of Tata Ethical Fund includes sectors such as IT, petroleum, pharmaceuticals, construction, gas, agriculture, chemicals, and oil. Importantly, there is no exit load after one year, allowing investors flexibility in management. Regarding ETFs, Nippon Shariah Bees has shown impressive performance. Since its start at 75 in 2009, it has grown to 544, marking a 620% growth. In the past five years alone, investments have appreciated by 114%. In essence, Sharia-compliant mutual funds offer a viable investment route for those seeking to reconcile financial goals with religious convictions, providing historical returns that underscore their potential viability in diversified portfolios.

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

The Future Of Electric Mobility In India



Sheikh Yameen

India lies at the forefront of a critical transition: shifting from fossil-fueled transportation to electric mobility in this changing world. It is no longer an industrial trend, but rather a must brought about by economic, environmental, and social imperatives. Behind the transformation of this shift lies the promise of clean air, reduced carbon emissions, and an optimistic sustainable future. So how does this sit with India and what does it mean for the country's future transport?

Why India Needs Electric Mobility Now?

India ranks as the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases (GHG). With transportation accounting for 10% of these emissions, the sector's impact on air quality and public health is undeniable. Fourteen of the 20 most polluted cities globally are in India, with Delhi frequently topping the charts. These staggering statistics underscore the urgent need for cleaner alternatives.

Dependence on imported crude oil stands at 85% of the country's needs, creating another angle of urgency. Automobiles alone account for 55% of this demand. A shift toward electric vehicles can reduce the environmental burden while strengthening energy security.

Government Moves So Far

The journey for the country toward electrification has taken off with full-fledged government initiatives through National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) and Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) schemes. Initiatives like these push in the direction of EV production and consumption and offer a direct subsidy to consumers besides bringing down the GST rate for buying EV.

The PLI scheme further strengthened the industry, making local manufacturing of advanced battery technologies even more encouraging. Meanwhile,

states were active in announcing EV-friendly policies, including road tax waivers and mandates for electrification of public transport.

Such policies are already showing results. India's 4W EV penetration, though modest at 2% in FY24, is expected to reach 18% by FY30. Two-wheelers (E2W), the most preferred mode of transport, are pacing the change with an 8% penetration that is expected to reach 40% in the same time.

A Dynamic Ecosystem Taking Shape

Not just vehicles, the Indian EV revolution is holistically an ecosystem of manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, and developers of infrastructure. It's here that Tata Motors, Ather Energy, and new-age startups like Curve Electric are actually forging the landscape by driving innovation and creating new job opportunities.

India's EV ecosystem is slowly coming of age. Charging points—an important part of the adoption of electric vehicles—are slowly being installed across urban and rural localities. A much more ambitious government plan is that of an EV charging kiosk at every petrol pump in the country. Battery-swapping technology is also gaining importance; it can be a swifter and much more efficient process for fleet operators and logistics companies.

The Economic Case for EVs

Transitioning to EVs is not just an imperative on environmental grounds but also presents an opportunity in the economic realm. Import dependence on oil will reduce, and manufacturing in the country will increase, saving billions of dollars annually. The industry is equipped to take on a sea of jobs through the manufacturing, infrastructure, and allied industries. Other than the subsidy they receive, consumer's financial benefits also include lower maintenance costs and reduced dependency on fossil fuels in the case of EVs, thereby saving money across the lifecycle. Innovations in the financing models, such as battery-

It can unlock the true potential of EVs in India, considering the overall global trends. It has seen even Norway and China move ahead with penetration rates of 93% and 40%, respectively. These success stories offer lessons to important points like incentivization, development of infrastructure, and raising public awareness

as-a-service and leasing options, are making these vehicles accessible to the average Indian.

CONQUERING OBSTACLES

The promise is huge, though with some persisting challenges—a cost of an electric vehicle on the very high side at the outset, charging infrastructure sparse, and no location-specific supply chain. However, India has been quite resilient in its handling of such challenges, and so was India's EV sector. Another promising solution can come in the form of PPPs. Companies such as Curve Electric are actively working with local authorities to develop e-bike sharing systems and charging networks. Such initiatives will not only speed up access to EVs but also raise confidence among consumers toward such emerging technology.

A Glimpse of the Future

The entire electric mobility "ecosystem" is expected to grow from \$34 billion by FY24 to an astonishing \$238 billion by FY30. That's a healthy compound an-

nual growth rate (CAGR) of 38%. Growth in the sector would cut across the economy-at-large—from logistics and public transport to more.

It can unlock the true potential of EVs in India, considering the overall global trends. It has seen even Norway and China move ahead with penetration rates of 93% and 40%, respectively. These success stories offer lessons to important points like incentivization, development of infrastructure, and raising public awareness.

The Human Element: Stories of Impact

There is a human value lost so readily in the statistics and policies around this change. Imagine a young professional commuting to work on an electric two-wheeler in New Delhi, breathing cleaner air during commutes and saving on transport. Imagine a logistics firm in Mumbai using electric delivery vans, reducing carbon imprints. These are stories of how EVs do not only transform industries but transform lives.

Conclusion

The Time Has Come That it may well be India's chance to lead the cusp from non-renewable to electric mobility rather than a compulsion. It could emerge as a global leader in the sustainable transportation endgame with the right mix of policy support, technology innovation, and public-private collaboration. Tough but promising times lie ahead—a time for acceleration. The mission of Curve Electric exceeds just being a business opportunity; it's about changing the world, one vehicle at a time.

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

Sheikh Yameen is the CEO & co-founder of Curve Electric & can be reached on sheikhyameen3480@gmail.com



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

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Promoting Knowledge & Education Through More Public Libraries in Kashmir

I am writing to bring attention to the pressing need for an increased number of public libraries in the beautiful region of Kashmir. Public libraries serve as invaluable institutions that foster knowledge, literacy, and community development. However, the scarcity of such facilities in Kashmir hinders the region's progress and deprives its residents of the myriad benefits that public libraries offer.

Kashmir, known for its rich cultural heritage and intellectual traditions, deserves to have robust public

libraries that cater to the diverse educational needs of its populace. These libraries would serve as intellectual hubs, facilitating the exchange of ideas, promoting literacy, and nurturing a love for learning among individuals of all ages. They would provide a sanctuary for students, researchers, and the general public to access a wide range of books, periodicals, and digital resources.

A well-established network of public libraries in Kashmir would address several critical issues facing the region. Firstly, it would bridge

the educational divide by providing access to resources for students who may not have access to a personal collection or digital devices. This would help level the playing field and enhance educational opportunities for all, promoting a more inclusive society.

Secondly, public libraries would foster a culture of reading and lifelong learning. They would encourage intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and imagination among the residents of Kashmir. Reading is not only a means of personal growth but also

an essential tool for societal progress. Libraries would enable individuals to explore diverse perspectives, promote cultural understanding, and contribute to the overall intellectual development of the region.

Furthermore, public libraries would become vibrant community spaces, hosting various educational and cultural events. They could serve as venues for author talks, book clubs, workshops, and exhibitions, bringing people together.

Basit Hussain

A decade of service and empowerment for the Divyangjan

Shri Narendra Modi

Today, the 3rd of December, is a very important day. Today, we mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This is a day to salute the courage, determination and achievements of persons with disabilities.

For India, this day is sacred. Respect for Divyangjan is deeply embedded in our cultural ethos. Our scriptures and ancient texts teach us to respect everyone and their innate potential.

A verse from the Ramayana states:

उत्साहो बलवानार्य, नास्त्युत्साहात्परं बलम्।
सौत्साहस्यस्ति लोकेऽस्मिन्, न किञ्चिदपि दुर्लभम्।

It means that for those with determination and zeal, nothing in the world is impossible. Today, our Divyangjan exemplify this spirit, becoming a source of strength and pride for the nation.

This year, the occasion is even more special as we celebrate 75 years of the Constitution. Our Constitution inspires us to work for equality and to reach the person at the last mile.

Inspired by the values enshrined in our Constitution, we have laid a strong foundation for the progress of Divyangjan over the past 10 years. In this period, numerous policies have been formulated, and several



significant decisions have been taken for their welfare.

These decisions illustrate that our government is guided by the values of inclusion, sensitivity and commitment to all-round development. In this spirit, today serves as an occasion to reaffirm our dedication to the well-being of our Divyang brothers and sisters.

Since my early days in public life, I have always strived to make the lives of Divyangjan easier. After becoming Prime Minister, I have worked to transform this spirit of service into a national mission. One of our first actions in 2014 was to replace the term "Viklang" with "Divyang". This was not merely a change in terminology; it ensured their dignity and recognised their contributions. This decision sent a clear message that the government envisions an inclusive environment where physical challenges do not become barriers, and every individual is given the respect and opportunities they deserve to contribute to nation-building according to their talents. On various occasions, my Divyang brothers and sisters have blessed me for this decision. Their blessings have become my greatest strength in working towards their welfare.

Every year, numerous programs are organised across the country to mark Divyang Diwas. I still vividly remember that nine years ago, on this very day, we launched the Sugama Bharat Abhiyan. Over the years, the way this initiative has empowered Divyangjan fills me with immense satisfaction. Powered by the resolve of 140 crore Indians, this initiative has paved the way for a more inclusive India.

The policies of previous governments often left Divyangjan lagging in accessing opportunities for government jobs and higher education. We changed that scenario. Reservation policies were reformed and over the past 10 years, the expenditure on the welfare of Divyangjan has been tripled, reflecting our deep commitment to addressing their needs and unlocking new opportunities.

These decisions have opened new pathways of opportunity and progress for Divyangjan. Today, our Divyang companions are proudly contributing as dedicated partners in nation-building.

I have personally witnessed the immense potential of young Divyangjan in India. The honour our athletes have brought to the nation in the Paralympics reflects

this incredible energy. To channel this energy into driving the nation's progress, we have connected our Divyang friends with skill development programs, aiding their potential to contribute meaningfully to India's growth.

These training programs are not merely government initiatives. They have boosted the confidence of our Divyangjan and empowered them with the spirit of self-reliance to seek employment and build their lives with dignity.

The core principle of our government is to ensure that the lives of my Divyang brothers and sisters are easier, more convenient, and dignified. It was with this spirit that we implemented the Persons with Disabilities Act. This historic legislation expanded the definition of disability from 7 to 21 categories. For the first time, acid attack survivors were also included under its ambit. Today, this law is serving as a powerful tool for empowering Divyangjan to lead more self-reliant and empowered lives.

These laws have also transformed societal perceptions of Divyangjan. Today, our Divyang brothers and sisters are fully contributing to the development of a prosperous India.

Indian philosophy teaches us that every individual in society possesses unique talents; we only need to bring them to light. I have always believed in the remarkable abilities of my Divyang friends, and I say with immense pride that over the past decade, my faith in them has only deepened. It fills me with great joy to see how their achievements are reshaping our society's aspirations and giving it a new direction.

When our athletes, adorned with Paralympic medals, visit my home, my heart swells with pride. Every time I share the inspiring stories of my Divyang brothers and sisters during Mann Ki Baat, I am overwhelmed with joy. Whether it is education, sports, or startups, they are breaking barriers, reaching new heights, and actively contributing to the nation's development.

I firmly believe that when we celebrate 100 years of independence in 2047, our Divyangjan will stand as a source of inspiration for the entire world. Let us resolve today to work toward this goal.

Together, let us create a society where no dream is too big and no goal is out of reach. Only then can we truly build an inclusive and developed India. I see a crucial role for my Divyang brothers and sisters in achieving this vision.

Once again, I extend my best wishes to all Divyangjan on this special day.

The author is the Prime Minister of India



Children with Disabilities: Co-curriculars Help With Learning Disability

Mohammad Hanief

Learning disability is described as certain kinds of learning problems that can cause someone to have trouble learning or using certain skills (such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, reasoning, and doing math). Due to such academic difficulties, kids may feel insecure and frustrated when they are unable to complete the academic difficulties that have been placed before them.

They can find a method to express themselves outside of the classroom through co-curricular activities, which can help them feel successful about accomplishing something in a different way. Eventually, these students will need special guidance and support from their educators.

Participation of children with disabilities in sports and cultural activities, programs, promotes physical, emotional, and social wellbeing. Co-curricular activities can make a huge difference in a life of children with special needs (CWSN). These activities can enhance learning, while offering ways for students to express themselves and explore their strengths. Out of home, to the Resource Room, (irrespective of their disability), to the playground, on the stage, facing the teachers, peers and at times general public also showing their talents, academic, and sporting prowess speaks volumes of the overall development of CWSN. Participation in cultural programmes and curricular activities is a source of inspiration and development of self-confidence.

Behaviour which cannot be inculcated through academic activities can be developed through co-curricular activities and other recreational programs. Descriptive exploratory survey design was employed in the present study to answer the research questions. The findings of the present study revealed that children with special needs voluntarily participates in sports and cultural activities and CWSN are competent of performing with regular students in sports and recreational activities in areas such as Drawing, Music, Dance, and Sports, in preparation of illustrative aids as well. The impact of participation of CWSN in these activities on their development was reflected in; confidence in self leading to the development of self concept.

Extracurricular activities (ECAs) are a



core part of the student experience, especially regarding skills and personal development, sense of belonging and graduate outcomes, as has recently been emphasised by universities. Indeed, they are often used to distinguish graduates in job applications. However, students with a disability are under-represented in these opportunities and suffer as a result.

A learning objective has to be set in order to improve the student's writing skills. This objective cannot be directed towards perfection because it is hardly possible for an autistic child to acquire the writing skills of the same level as in case with an ordinary child. By the end of the experiment the student will demonstrate his ability to understand the information, to discuss it, and to reflect his ideas in writing.

Taking into account the disability of the student, no separate activity can be offered

in order to meet the learning objective. Instead, a set of activities implemented step-by-step is better to use. Since the student in question has kinesthetic style of learning, multisensory learning seems to be the most appropriate and beneficial for him due to his visual learning (reading) being his major strength. If the student is able to read, he is able to perceive pictures/objects and interpret their meaning. The set of offered activities consists in playing associations through describing the qualities of given objects first orally and then in writing. The second stage of the experiment will consist in skipping the discussion stage and offering the student to write about the object at once.

Improving the writing skills of the students in regular education classroom could be achieved through the like activities. Considering the fact that the regular students' general reading and writing skills are better,

the activities should be more complicated. For example, the pictures can be used instead of the objects (because describing the objects is too easy for the fifth grade). The students can be offered to describe two pictures separately and then to compare them. This can not only improve their writing skills, but give them an idea of a proper essay structure and make the flow of their thoughts more logical.

Education is not merely obtaining a degree or boosting the intelligence of students but also an all-around holistic development of an individual-physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, and moral development. It goes beyond only helping pupils achieve academic success or increase their intelligence. Collectively, all educational activities result in total development in all spheres. In the teaching of academic subjects, the cognitive aspects are fostered

more, but the emotive and psychomotor aspects are not. Co-curricular activities and programs that take place outside of the typical classroom but in some way support academic learning from the classroom curriculum are known as co-curricular activities. Co-curricular activities aid them to enjoy and at the same time benefitting their growth.

Diversity groups are more likely to get involved with causes that concern them directly, so peer mentoring, awareness days or student-staff partnerships aimed at improving the student experience can all be ways to engage these students. When these events are targeted well, there is potential for students to become experts, be validated and have a say in how they are represented. For example, an awareness day for a disability could include a screening of a movie that a student chose to represent their experience and share with others.

The benefits of physical activities are universal for all children, including children with special needs. The participation of children with disabilities in sports and recreational activities promotes inclusion, optimizes physical functioning, and enhances overall well-being. Despite these benefits, children with disabilities are more restricted in their participation, have lower levels of fitness, and have higher levels of obesity than their peers without disabilities.

Developing inclusive schools that cater to a wide range of pupils in both urban and rural areas requires: the articulation of a clear and forceful policy on inclusion together with adequate financial provision; an effective public information effort to combat prejudice and create informed and positive attitudes; an extensive programme of orientation and staff training; and the provision of necessary support services.

To conclude co-curricular, improve academic performance by fueling learning, stimulating creative thought, and building a passion for particular subjects. It enhances social skills, which are important skills to build for college, career, and life in general, and provides students with a chance to build friendships. It also can develop or help a student to find a new interest, talent, or career goal.

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

Insulin Resistance May Make Men More Prone To Common Heart Valve Disease

IANS

Insulin resistance can increase the risk of aortic stenosis—a common heart valve disease—in men over the age of 45, finds a study on Wednesday.

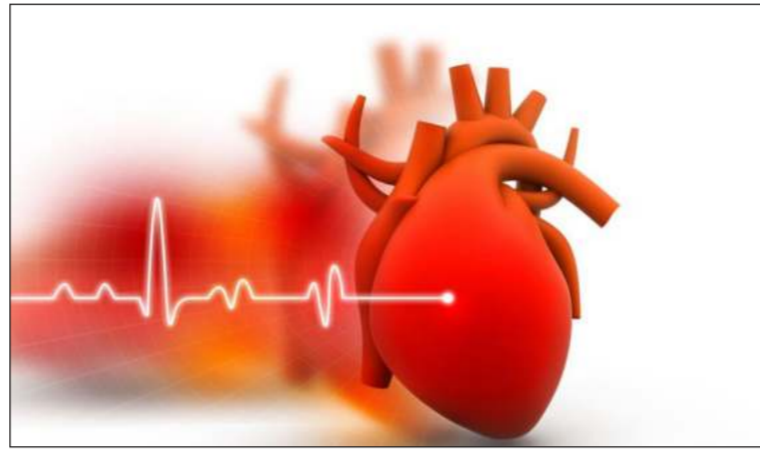
The study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Annals of Medicine* may open doors to new treatments for aortic stenosis, which can lead to life-threatening heart failure.

Aortic stenosis occurs when the aortic valve narrows or does not open fully, reducing blood flow from the heart to the body. If not ad-

ressed timely, the valve will gradually thicken and stiffen, making the heart work harder to pump blood.

Researchers from the Kuopio University Hospital, in Finland identified several biomarkers—fasting insulin, insulin at 30 minutes and 120 minutes, proinsulin, and serum C-peptide—related to high insulin resistance in people with aortic stenosis.

A person is said to be insulin resistant when his or her body is unable to respond well to insulin. This prompts the body to produce more insulin than normal to manage blood sugar levels.



Importantly, the team found that these biomarkers remained significant predictors of aortic stenosis, even after adjusting for other known risk factors, such as body mass index (BMI) and high blood pressure, or excluding participants with diabetes or an aortic valve malformation.

“This novel finding highlights that insulin resistance may be a significant and modifiable risk factor for aortic stenosis,” said lead author Dr. Johanna Kuusisto, from the Kuopio University Hospital, in Finland.

As insulin resistance is becoming increasingly common, “managing metabolic health could be a

new approach to reduce the risk of aortic stenosis and improve cardiovascular health in ageing populations”, Kuusisto added.

For the study, the researchers analysed data from 10,144 Finnish men aged 45 to 73 years old, all initially free of AS. After an average follow-up period of 10.8 years, 116 men (1.1 per cent) were diagnosed with aortic stenosis.

While weight control and exercise are known to improve insulin sensitivity, Kuusisto called for further studies to explore how these lifestyle modifications can help prevent the heart condition.

ROYAL SPRINGS GOLF COURSE, SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E-NIT No. 30of 2024-25 Dated 30.11.2024

For and on behalf of the Secretary Royal Springs Golf Course, e-tenders are invited on two cover system by Executive Engineer Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar by e-tendering mode on Percentage basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State UTI, PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earned Money (In Rs)	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	Up-gradation of 14th and 5th Tea Shelters at RSGC Srinagar	3.00	6,000/- in shape of CDR or FDR in favour of Executive Engineer RSGC	550/- Non Refundable in shape of DD in favour of Secretary RSGC or Bank Challan SB-0229040100012341 J&K Bank Brain Branch Nishat Srinagar	30 days	DEE Class	5452 Tourism

Position of AA: Accorded

Position of TS: Obtained

Special conditions:-

- No exemption is allowed and so all bidders must Upload Proof of EMD and Tender Processing Fee.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason at any stage.
- Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of documents of valid registration card with renewal of 2024-25 /PAN/GST registration with latest renewal for the month of October 2024 OR 2nd Quarter (i.e. July 2024 to September 2024). However successful bidders shall produce the original copies of same before issuance of contract.
- The typographical error in the BOQ like Unit of Item Quantity of Item etc, if any found during e-NIT or after end date of NIT shall be rectified in the allotment as per the estimate.

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	30.11.2024 4:00 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 02-12-2024 to 07.12.2024 (4.00PM on wards)
3	Bid submission Start Date	02.12.2024 4:00 PM on wards
4	Bid Submission End Date	07.12.2024 upto 03:00
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	09.12.2024 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer RSGC Srinagar
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids(Online)	10.12.2024 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer RSGC Srinagar

General Conditions:

- The financial bid (BOQ) of only eligible, responsive bidders shall be opened on line on the date mentioned above in the office of Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar. In case of any avoidable circumstances the tenders shall be opened on the next working day or any subsequent date convenient to the Authority.
 - The 1st lowest bidder (Successful) has to submit performance security @ 5% of the Contract Value or Below %age of un-balanced cost to be deposited on quoted bid by LI in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar drawn from nationalized/ Scheduled bank preferably J&K Bank which should reach to the office of Executive Engineer, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar within 05 days from the date of opening of on line bids. In case of failure the bid shall be treated as non-responsive.
 - The bids for the works shall remain valid for 90 days from the date of opening of tenders.
 - The department shall not be responsible for any technical error or delay in submission of on line bids due to any reason.
 - The department can modify the terms and conditions, specification of work if need arises before the deadline date of receipt of tenders.
 - The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ down loaded should be used for filling the item rate/ Percentage inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
 - Un-balanced Bid: In case of un-balanced bids, the intending bidders shall have to upload an additional performance Security in the shape of CDR or FDR, as per following scale. The performance security shall be released after successful completion of work.
- | S No | Below %age of un-balanced Bid viz-a-viz advertised cost | Additional performance Security to be deposited on quoted bid by LI |
|------|---|---|
| 01 | upto and including 15% below | Nil |
| 02 | >15% upto and including 20% below | 5.00 % of advertised cost |
| 03 | >20% upto and including 25% below | 10.00 % of advertised cost |
| 04 | >25% upto and including 30% below | 15.00 % of advertised cost |
| 05 | >30% below | 20.00% of advertised cost |
- The Contractor is bound to work/ supply the material of best quality as per specifications. Any material found Substandard/ defective shall not be entertained and contractor is bound to replace it immediately at his own cost.
 - The date of start of work shall be reckoned within 3 days from the date of issue of LOI /allotment.
 - In case of delay in completion of the work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to 10% of the allotted cost shall be imposed.
 - No advance payment shall be paid to the Service/ contractor.
 - The contractor shall ensure execution of an agreement with the Department within 15 days from the date of issue of LOI/allotment.
 - All disputes and differences between the parties arising out any relating to the NIT, Letter of Intent, Allotment, work done bills and agreement to be signed between the Officer of RSGC and the contractor including interpretation of its terms and conditions shall be preferable to Secretary, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar whose decision shall be final and binding upon all the parties
 - The bidders are advised to quote their rates in Percentage which includes Income tax, GST, Labour cess etc
 - The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a breach of the contract.
 - The tender is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in the NIT/ Agreement
 - All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in PWD form-25 double /FC-31.
 - Any item found to be necessary execute on site not covered by allotment the same shall be paid on in vogue rate along allotted percentage.
 - The DLP shall be reckoned from the date of successful completion of work shall be upto the period of not less than Six Months.
 - Rates should be quoted in INR inclusive of all taxes / Charges/ FOR.
 - No escalation of rates shall be allowed whatsoever during the period of rate contract.
 - In case of the unsuccessful tenderer the CDR/ FDR shall be released after completion of the rate contract with successful tenderer.
 - The EMD in shape of CDR/ FDR with validity of not less than 24 months from any nationalized/ Scheduled bank preferably J&K Bank pledged to Executive Engineer RSGC and should be uploaded on the portal with tender.

Executive Engineer
Royal Springs Golf Course
Srinagar.

No: RSGC/EE/2024-25/292-94

DIPK-NB-2638/24 Dated: 03/12/2024

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL AND HOSPITALS DIVISION HANDWARA

E-mail, id, xenmhdhandwara@gmail.com

e-NIT No: 35 of 2024-25

Date: 26-11-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from eligible registered/reputed firms with J&K UT Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:

Name of the Work	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Contract Period	Accord of Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
General overhauling of hot water generators and allied items at Trauma Hospital Kangan.	2.13	200	4300	07 Days	Accorded	Accorded

Position of funds: Available with the intending department

Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 26-11-2024 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 26-11-2024 (18.00 hrs).

Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 27-11-2024 (10.00 hrs) to 06.12.2024 (16:00hrs) in two (02) covers.

Opening of Bids:- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 07.12.2024 at 14.00(hrs)

No: M&HDH/TS/3068-74

DIPK-8925/24

Dated: - 03/12/2024

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
M&HD, Handwara

Study Reveals Increased Risk Of Pregnancy Complications Due To Pollution

Press Trust Of India

Exposure to PM2.5 pollution is linked to higher inflammation levels among pregnant women, which can potentially result in adverse birth outcomes, such as low birth weight and preterm birth, according to a study.

The findings, published in the journal *Science Advances*, provided a new understanding of the biological routes through which air pollution affects pregnancy and birth outcomes, researchers said.

Particulate matter (PM) 2.5 pollution is caused by particles sized 2.5 micrometres or less. Common sources are vehicular and industrial emissions, while natural ones can include carbon from wildfires and dust.

The study, led by Harvard University's School of Public Health, US, found that exposure to PM2.5 can influence the histones of pregnant women. Histones are proteins found in chromosomes, vital to DNA structure and cell function.

Air pollution can, thus, disrupt the normal balance of cytokine genes – genes involved in producing immune responses – and lead to increased inflammation in both women and foetuses, the researchers said.

Among pregnant women, the increased inflammation could be



related to adverse pregnancy outcomes, they said.

“Our findings highlight the importance of minimising air pollution exposure in pregnant women to protect maternal and foetal health,” co-author Youn Soo Jung, a research associate at Harvard University's School of Public Health, said.

“Policy interventions to improve air quality as well as clinical guidelines to help pregnant women reduce their exposure to pollution could have a direct impact on reducing pregnancy complications,” Soo Jung said.

While previous studies have found links between PM2.5 exposure and complications in maternal and child health including low birth weight and developmental delays, the study is the first to ex-

amine the effects of PM2.5 on maternal and foetal health at a cell level, the authors said.

The study involved both non-pregnant women and 20-week pregnant women. Average exposure to PM2.5 was calculated using air quality data from the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Within each cell, the researchers were able to map changes to histones – the proteins that help control the release of cytokines, which are known to help regulate inflammation.

“These modifications in specific histones and cytokines could indicate the toxicological mechanism of PM2.5 exposure in inflammation, inflammasome pathway, and pregnancy complications,” the authors wrote.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Seeds Licence under name and style Dar Agro Solutions . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Ishaq Ahmad Dar S/O Ghulam Mohammad Dar
R/o Tapper Waripora Pattan

FKO

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION AWANTIPORA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Single Cover System

E-NIT No: 99/EEA/RNB/Of 2024-25/7190-99

Dated: 03/12/2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage 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	Adv. Cost (Incl. GST) (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Money (Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (days)	M.H.OF Account	AAA No & Dated	Class Of Contractor
1.	Construction office Building at ECSD Pampore (Code PDDSS202100209)	18.92	800/-	2% of Advertised Cost	90 working days	UT Capex Budget-2022-23 (KPDCI)	SE/Proc/KPDCI/10 of 2022 Dated:28.06.2022 & TS: 42-SE/PS of 2022-23 Dated: 24.12.2022 and SE Proc Circle PDD's Authorization Letter No: SE/Proc/TS/373-75 Dated: 04.11.2024.	BEE,CEE
2.	Construction of fencing around Stock Yard Pampore (Under code PDDSS202100631).....(Phase-I)	7.50	300/-	2% of Advertised Cost	20 Working Days	UT Capex Budget-2024-25 (KPDCI)	SE/Proc/KPDCI/6 of 2024 Dated: 24.07.2024	CEE, DEE
3.	Construction of fencing around Stock Yard Pampore (Under code PDDSS202100631).....(Phase-II)	7.50	300/-	2% of Advertised Cost	20 Working Days	UT Capex Budget-2024-25 (KPDCI)	SE/Proc/KPDCI/17 of 2024 Dated: 23.10.2024	CEE, DEE

Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of funds: - Available
Project Authority: KPDC

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 schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03 /12/2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	03 /12/2024
3	Bid submission Start Date	03 /12/2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	18 /12/2024 upto 3.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	19 /12/2024 at 11.30 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora. (tender receiving authority).

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

1.1 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 Awantipora within 07 (Seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee (bid security) should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.

2. 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/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 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 Allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

3. All Bidders shall to quote the rates in BOQ including GST. GST @ 18% or as admissible will be added separately at the time of issuance of Allotment by the allotting authority.

DIPK-8999/24

dated: 03-12-2024

Sd/-
Draftsman

Sd/-
Technical Officer

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Awantipora

Vibrant Industries Imperative For Economic Growth, Employability: Dy CM



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Chowdhary, Tuesday said that a vibrant industrial sector is imperative for socio-economic development of an area and steps are underway to catalyze the process.

The Deputy Chief Minister was addressing the officers during a review meeting held here today to review the working of Industries and Commerce (I&C) Department.

Director Industries and Commerce Department Jammu, Dr. Arun Manhas, Joint Directors I&C Department Jammu, General Managers of I&C Department Jammu Division and other senior officers were present in the meeting.

While emphasising on ensuring employability of local youth in the industry, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the sector has the potential of being one of the major job providers to the youth. He directed the officers to ensure that more employability of local youth is ensured in all industrial estates and industries across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Deputy Chief Minister also asked the officers to strictly implement the guidelines so framed for establishing industrial units. He asked the officers to undertake regular inspections of the industrial estates ensuring that there is no violation vis-a-vis working conditions and environmental concerns. He also directed for complying with the environmental concerns, keeping in view the fragile ecology of Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Director I&C Department, Arun Manhas gave an overview of various schemes being implemented by the Industries Department.

Later, a delegation of All Jammu and Kashmir Patwar Association comprising District President Kishtwar, District President Poonch, District President Rajouri and other executive members called on the Deputy Chief Minister and submitted a memorandum of their demands including grade pay, delimitation of patwar halqas and creation of new Girdawar circles, DPC in Jammu province and other related demands.

APD Minister Calls For Quality Check Of Livestock Fodder In J&K

Stresses strengthening dairy, poultry sectors for enhanced economic opportunities for farmers



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Minister of Agriculture, Javed Ahmad Dar, Tuesday called for enhanced efforts in improving the quality of livestock fodder and strengthening the dairy and poultry sectors in Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking during a review meeting of Animal Husbandry department, the Minister highlighted that strengthening these sectors would not only uplift the livelihoods of farmers but also create significant economic opportunities across Jammu and Kashmir.

Javed Dar asserted on creating fool-proof mechanism for quality check of fodder/feed used for breeding of livestock for production of dairy and poultry in J&K.

The meeting focused on critical initiatives under HADP, including dairy sector strengthening, poultry production enhancement and development of sustainable fodder resources.

The Minister took detailed

review of Integrated Dairy Development Programme, Integrated Feed/Fodder Development Programme, IPDP implementation and status of flagship programmes including strengthening farms, hatcheries, Animal welfare activities, functioning of veterinary centres and other activities.

Earlier, the senior officers from Animal Husbandry Department briefed the Minister regarding initiatives undertaken to improve livestock productivity and support farmers in the Jammu region.

Javed Dar stressed the need for evolving a robust quality check mechanism for livestock fodder, emphasizing its role in enhancing the health and productivity of livestock. He also underscored the importance of effective coordination between departments, innovative approaches to fodder development, and leveraging modern technology to achieve maximum output in dairy and poultry sectors.

The Minister said that the dairy and poultry sectors hold immense potential for contributing to the economic growth of Jammu and Kashmir.

LS Passes Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill Allowing 4 Nominees In Bank Accounts

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which allows bank account holders to have up to four nominees in their accounts.

Another proposed change relates to redefining 'substantial interest' for directorships, which could increase to Rs 2 crore instead of the current limit of Rs 5 lakh, which was fixed almost six decades ago.

The Bill piloted by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was approved by a voice vote.

Replying to the debate on the Bill, Sitharaman said depositors will have the option of successive or simultaneous nomination facility, while locker holders will have only successive nomination.

She also said that since 2014, the Government and the RBI have been extremely cautious, so that banks remain stable.

"The intention is to keep our banks safe, stable, healthy, and after 10 years you are seeing the outcome," Sitharaman said.

The bill proposes to increase the tenure of directors (excluding the chairman and whole-time director) in co-operative banks from 8 years to 10 years, so as to align with the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh Amendment) Act, 2011. Once passed, the bill would allow a director of a Central



Cooperative Bank to serve on the board of a State Cooperative Bank.

The bill also seeks to give greater freedom to banks in deciding the remuneration to be paid to statutory auditors.

It also seeks to redefine the reporting dates for banks for regulatory compliance to the 15th and last day of every month instead of the second and fourth Fridays.

"The proposed amendments will strengthen governance in the banking sector and enhance customer convenience with respect to nomination and protection of investors," Sitharaman said while moving the bill for consideration and passing.

Opposition members fiercely criticised the bill with TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee describing it as a "donkey passage towards privatisation of the Indian banking sector".

While the bill ostensibly seeks to improve bank guarantees and investor protec-

tion, its real intent is to reduce the government's minimum holding in public sector banks from 51 to 26 per cent, he argued.

Banerjee also flagged cybersecurity concerns, emphasising the need for robust IT systems to detect fraud and ensure strict adherence to data privacy regulations.

Congress Member Karti Chidambaram also raised the issue of rising cyber frauds in the country and wanted to know what the government was doing to stop that.

Chidambaram also said that the tyranny of KYC should be stopped as multiple calls are being received by people from their banks in a year for updating the KYC details even though nothing has changed.

"In order to make life easier for the customer they must simplify and mandate that if there is no change (in KYC) there is no reason to update your KYC multiple times in a year," he said.

Public Sector Banks Safe, Stable; Performed

'Exceptionally Well' In Recent Years: Sitharaman

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said that the public sector banks are safe, stable and healthy and have performed "exceptionally well" in recent years earning Rs 85,520 crore profit in the first six months of the current fiscal.

Replying to a debate on the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, the minister said that all the Public Sector Banks have turned profitable. The Bill, which amends the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980, was later passed by the Lok Sabha by a voice vote.

She further said that total bank branches of scheduled commercial banks have increased by 3,792 in a year to reach 16,55,001 in September 2024. Out of this 85,116 branches are of public sector banks.

Stressing that the Indian banking system is critical to the growth of the nation, Sitharaman said, "Since 2014 we have been extremely cautious so that banks remain stable. The intention is to keep our banks safe, stable, healthy, and after 10 years you are seeing the outcome".

Banks are being profession-

ally run today, she said, adding the metrics are healthy so they can go to the market and raise bonds, raise loans and run their business accordingly.

Today, we have Rs 2.37 lakh crore deposited in the PM Jan Dhan Accounts. In 2014, the average balance of the PM Jan Dhan Accounts was Rs 1,065. It has now increased to Rs 4,397.

"Indian banks have performed exceptionally well in recent years. Highest-ever net profit of Rs 1.41 lakh crore was achieved in 2023-24 & Rs 85,520 Crore in the first half of 2024-25. Today, all the public sector banks have turned profitable. "As a sector, profitability of all scheduled commercial banks is the highest in multiple decades, with the Return on Assets at 1.3 per cent and return on equity at 13.8 per cent," Sitharaman said.

The minister said the intention of the nationalisation of the banks was to reach the rural areas. In its true sense, that objective was achieved in the last 10 years through the PM Jan Dhan Yojana.

Today, we have Rs 2.37 lakh crore deposited in the PM Jan Dhan Accounts. In 2014, the average balance of the PM Jan Dhan Accounts was Rs 1,065. It has now increased to Rs 4,397.

The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, proposes to allow a bank account holder to have up to four nominees in his/her account.

The bill also seeks to transfer unclaimed dividends, shares, and interest or redemption of bonds to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF), allowing individuals to claim transfers or refunds from the fund, thus safeguarding investors' interests.

As the banking sector has evolved over the years and with a view to improving bank governance and investor protection, it has become necessary to make certain amendments to five Acts, according to a statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill.

"The proposed amendments will strengthen governance in the banking sector and enhance customer convenience with respect to nomination and protection of investors," Sitharaman said while moving the bill.

Aviation Minister Naidu Moves Bill To Replace 90-Yr Old Aircraft Act

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Union Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammoohan Naidu on Tuesday moved a bill, which seeks to replace the 90-year-old Aircraft Act, for passage in Rajya Sabha.

The Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024, was passed in the Lok Sabha in the last session of Parliament in August this year.

Moving the bill for consideration and passage, Naidu said that the bill was taken up after a suggestion by The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to amend the principal act.

"We have organised everything in the bill which provides different section for powers of bodies like DGCA. So there is clear demarcation and indication on which each body has to do as recommended by ICAO," he stated.

Naidu mentioned that the aviation sector has the potential to drive the economy and should be expanded.

He informed the House that the number of airports has increased from 74 in 2014 to 157 in the country and the fleet size has also doubled from 400 (aircraft) in 2014 to 813.

"In the earlier Act, only the world maintenance was mentioned. There was no definition. Now we adding design and manufacturing also. We are also defining all these three terms (in the new law). We have brought the appeal system," he stated.

The minister explained that most of the times, we amend rules of the Act with backing of the principal act and that is why we are amending the



principal act. "We are giving strong legal backing to the rules under the Act," he stressed.

He also stated that today everybody wants to have an airport in their district.

"We want to cater to those dreams. We want to build those airports. We feel that if we cannot do it today, it will be a challenge tomorrow. The land is going to be scarce," he added.

The Bill seeks to resolve existing anomalies between various aviation laws and ensure a coherent regulatory environment with well-defined chapters and clauses.

With the proposed legislation, the ministry also aims to promote the ease of flying by having a robust regulatory framework, encouraging foreign direct investment, and ensuring compliance with international conventions and best practices.

Congress MP Syed Naseer Hussain raised the point that the name of the bill should not be in Hindi as 60 per cent of the population is non-Hindi Speaking.

He said that naming the bill in Hindi is an exclusionary trend as it is difficult for non-Hindi-speaking people to comprehend.

Rajya Sabha Passes Bill To Boost Investment In Oil And Gas Exploration

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Rajya Sabha on Tuesday passed a bill that seeks to amend existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas, and delink petroleum operations from mining operations to boost investment in the sector.

The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, introduced in the Rajya Sabha in August this year, was passed by a voice vote.

Replying to the debate on the bill, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that the oil and gas sector involves high investment and long gestation period.

"We need oil and gas sector for 20 more years. We need to bring this legislation here to provide a win-win confidence not only to our own operators but also to foreign investors so that they can come and do business here with a view to benefit everyone," Puri said.

He said policy stability, dispute resolution and sharing of infrastructure, especially for small players are new provisions in the bill.

The bill aims to decriminalise some of the provisions of



the original 1948, the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, by introducing "penalties, adjudication by an adjudicating authority and appeal as against the order of adjudicating authority".

The bill proposes to introduce 'petroleum lease' and expands the definition of mineral oils to include crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil and gas hydrate. This is with a view to raising domestic output and cutting reliance on imports.

Several opposition members demanded that the bill be sent to a standing committee for further scrutiny.

Opposition member N R Elango (DMK) demanded that the Bill must be referred to a select committee saying the "mining word is being replaced only to take away the rights of the states".

Government of Jammu and Kashmir UT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Final Seniority list of Junior Pharmacists District Cadre Budgam
Reference:- Administrative Department Health & Medical Education Circular No: 15-HME of 2024 Dated: 24-06-2024 duly endorsed by Directorate of Health Services Kashmir under No:-DHSK/Est/NG/E-7509487/5814-48 Dated: 27-06-2024,

CIRCULAR

Whereas, 1st Tentative Seniority list of Junior Pharmacists District Cadre Budgam whose initial posting is in District Budgam was issued by this office vide No:-CMOB/4753-79 Dated: 16-11-2024 and also disseminated among all DDO's for objection, if any.

Whereas, various representations has been received by this office alongwith supported documents for rectification, which were scrutinized and accordingly included in the 2nd tentative seniority list.

Whereas, 2nd Tentative Seniority list of Junior Pharmacists District Cadre Budgam was issued by this office vide No:- CMOB/5172-98 Dated. 27-11-2024 and also disseminated among all DDO's for objection, if any.

Whereas, one representation in favour of Shabir Ahmad Wani duly forwarded by Block Medical Officer Khag vide No:- BMOK/513 Dated: 30-11-2024 has been received by this office of his date of initial appt viz 27-07-1990 instead of 05-01-2008 alongwith supported documents for rectification, which were scrutinized and accordingly included in the final seniority list.

Now, final seniority List of Junior Pharmacists (borne on 2210) District Cadre Budgam is hereby framed and circulated among all concerned for information.

The list is available on DHSK website www.dhskashmir.org.

No:- CMOB/5412-37
Dated: 02/12/2024

DIPK-8924-24
DT: 03/12/2024

Chief Medical Officer,
Budgam

Government of Jammu and Kashmir UT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Final Seniority list of Junior Ophtho Technician (2210) District Cadre Budgam
Reference:- Administrative Department Health & Medical Education Circular No 15-HME of 2024 Dated: 24-06-2024 duly endorsed by Directorate of Health Services Kashmir DHSK/Est/NG/E-7509487/5814-48 Dated: 27-06-2024,

CIRCULAR

Whereas, 1st Tentative Seniority list of Junior Ophtho Technicians District Cadre Budgam whose initial posting is in District Budgam was issued by this office vide No.-CMOB/4131-48 Dated: 02-11-2024 and also disseminated among all DDO's for objection, if any.

Whereas, 2nd Tentative Seniority list of Junior Ophtho Tech District Cadre Budgam was issued by this office vide No:- CMOB/5199-5224 Dated: 27-11-2024 and also disseminated among all DDO's for objection, if any.

Whereas, one representation in favour from Arshid Hussain duly forwarded by Block Medical Officer Soibugh vide No:- BMOS/779 Dated: 30-11-2024 has been received by this office for inclusion of his name as per the SSRB merit alongwith supported documents. Besides a joint representation of Ophtho Technicians enlisted in the seniority list, for inclusion of their names as per the SSRB merit. The same has been rectified and accordingly final seniority has been framed as per the SSRB merit.

Now, final seniority list of Junior Ophtho Technicians (borne on 2210) District Cadre Budgam is hereby framed and circulated among all concerned for information.

The list is available on DHSK website www.dhskashmir.org.

No:- CMOB/5449-57
Dated: 02/12/2024

DIPK-8930-24
DT: 03/12/2024

Chief Medical Officer,
Budgam

'PRAGATI Platform & India's Digital Governance'

From Gridlock To Growth: Key Findings From Oxford's Said Business School Case Study

Observer News Service

Bengaluru: A new case study by Oxford's Said Business School being released at IIM Bangalore today reveals how India's PRAGATI platform is transforming the way large infrastructure and social development projects are implemented. The research, conducted with support from the Gates Foundation, documents how this digital governance innovation has helped accelerate 340 projects worth \$205 billion.

The key findings are:

PRAGATI for Infrastructure

Since its launch in 2015, PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) has helped accelerate 340 projects worth \$205 billion. The platform has supported unprecedented infrastructure development, including 50,000 kilometers of new National Highways and a doubling of airports. For every rupee spent on infrastructure, studies show a 2.5 to 3.5-rupee gain in GDP.

Leadership from the Top

At PRAGATI's core is Prime Minister Modi's direct involvement through video conference meetings, typically held once a month, with state chief secretaries and central ministry officials. This hands-on leadership, combined with digital monitoring

tools, has created a new culture of accountability. The Prime Minister's active engagement in reviewing specific projects helps break bureaucratic deadlocks and accelerate implementation.

Problem Monitoring and Resolution

PRAGATI has emerged as India's primary problem-solver for infrastructure bottlenecks. The platform's mere existence catalyzes resolution - officials often solve problems before they reach the Prime Minister's review. For projects that do come up for review, PRAGATI's integrated approach helps break long-standing deadlocks in areas such as land acquisition and environmental clearances.

A Digital Governance Ecosystem

PRAGATI operates within a broader ecosystem including PM Gati Shakti for infrastructure planning and PARIVESH for environmental clearances. This integration has dramatically reduced approval timelines - environmental clearances that once took 600 days can now be obtained in 70-75 days. The ecosystem uses sophisticated tools including drone monitoring and GIS-based mapping.

PRAGATI for the Social Sector

The platform's impact extends

beyond infrastructure to accelerating social development programs. Under PRAGATI's oversight, rural households with tap water connections increased from 17% to 79% in five years. The platform has also helped reduce government response time to citizen grievances from 32 to 20 days and supported initiatives like the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Collaboration Across States

PRAGATI has created a neutral forum where central and state governments work together effectively regardless of political affiliations. The platform embodies "Team India" - transcending traditional bureaucratic and political barriers to foster cooperation across India's federal structure. Several states have now created their own versions of PRAGATI.

Digital Governance Lessons for Global Leaders

The study offers key lessons for other emerging economies: the importance of high-level leadership in driving digital transformation, the value of regular review mechanisms, and the power of integrated platforms in accelerating development. The research suggests PRAGATI's approach could help other countries in the Global South overcome similar infrastructure and governance challenges.

Outreach Program On TDS Compliance Held At KU to Address Taxpayer Grievances

Observer News Service

Srinagar: An outreach program for sensitising the TDS deductors for ensuring better compliance and resolving their queries and taxpayers grievances was organised by the office of CIT(TDS), Chandigarh in collaboration with University of Kashmir at Gandhi Bhawan, Hazratbal Campus. The event was presided by Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Vikram Sahay, Pr. Commissioner of Income Tax, J & K and Ladakh and J. S Kahlon, Commissioner of Income Tax -1 (TDS), Chandigarh. Smt. Priyanka Singla, Addl. Commissioner of Income Tax (TDS), Range Ludhiana, Shakeel Ahmed Ganie, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar, Dharmendra Gupta, ITO (TDS), Jammu and Gulzar Ahmed Malik, ITO (TDS), Srinagar were also present. Senior police officers of the valley, Sh. Tahir Ashraf Bhatti, SSP(CID), Srinagar and Smt. Tanushree, SSP(CIA) also graced the occasion.

Senior management, representatives of government organisations, professionals and DDOs from University of Kashmir along with other tax deductors attended the program. The event was organised as an interactive session between the department and the attendees. During the event, the importance of Income Tax in general and TDS in particular as a vital and significant instrument of socio economic development was highlighted and



emphasised. While discussing the various responsibilities of deductors as entailed under the income Tax Act, the audience was profoundly engaged in a dialogic two way interaction and various queries raised by the attendees were addressed accordingly.

During the interactive session, Vikram Sahay, Pr. Commissioner of Income Tax, J & K and Ladakh reiterated the department's commitment in resolving the grievances of the taxpayers and the deductors while also emphasising on the importance of progressive

taxation and voluntary compliance for overall sound fiscal management of the country. J. S Kahlon, Commissioner of Income Tax-1 (TDS), Chandigarh, during the event interacted with the media fraternity and emphasised the role of TDS in the budgetary process of Government of India and taking the opportunity encouraged the deductors to educate themselves about the latest amendments in the law in order to render their duties effectively.

The stakeholders present in the meeting appreciated the efforts of the

Department in conducting outreach programmes in the Valley.

The officers and officials namely Prof. Naseer Iqbal (Registrar), Majid Zamaan (Controller Examination), Prof. M. S. Bhat (Dean Release), Smt. Zafira Bashir (Chief Accounts Officer), Prof. Maroof Qadri (Director IT and SS) of Kashmir University thanked the Income Tax Department for conducting the program. It was proposed and communicated that more such events may be organised for better awareness among the taxpayers and the TDS deductors.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Dachigam Shootout

forces opted to wait until the morning to avoid any escape by the holed-up terrorist.

The situation escalated into a gunfight early on Tuesday when the terrorists opened fire on the search party, prompting a retaliatory response from the security forces.

In the ensuing exchange, Bhat, categorised as a top terrorist by the LeT, was neutralised.

Bhat, a resident of Koimoh in Kulgam district, had gone missing last year, with intelligence agencies confirming his affiliation with the banned terror group.

The Kashmir Zone police confirmed Bhat's death, stating, "OP Dachigam: In the ongoing operation, one terrorist is killed and has been identified as Junaid Ahmed Bhat (LeT, Category A). The said terrorist was involved in civilian killings at Gagangir, Ganderbal, and several other terror attacks."

Security forces are conducting further searches in the upper reaches of Dachigam to locate any additional terrorists who may have been with Bhat.

Dachigam National Park, located on the outskirts of Srinagar, spans approximately 141 square kilometers and is situated in the Zabarwan Range of the western Himalayas.

This area has historically served as a route for infiltrating terrorists moving from north to south Kashmir.

5 Soldiers Killed

information in a written statement, stating that four soldiers were killed in 2021, while one soldier lost his life in 2022 along the Line of Control.

He said that close and effective coordination between intelligence and security agencies at the central and state levels has been established to tackle militancy-related matters. The Multi-Agency Centre has been strengthened to function 24/7 for real-time intelligence sharing and coordination with other agencies and states.

He said special forces have been raised by states and union territories to handle militant incidents, supported by Central Armed Police Forces and the National Security Guard.

"The government has also adopted a multi-pronged approach to prevent infiltration along the border. This includes round-the-clock border domination, regular patrolling, anti-tunnelling exercises, and strategic observation posts. Physical infrastructure, such as border fencing and floodlights, has been erected and maintained along the international border."

He added that vulnerable border outposts are regularly reviewed and strengthened by deploying additional manpower, special surveillance equipment, and other force multipliers.

J&K's Drug Crisis

move is part of ongoing efforts to curb drug trafficking and abuse in the region, aiming to dismantle the financial infrastructure of drug networks. (KNO)

Phased Winter

has been submitted in wake of the

prevailing weather conditions particularly the cold wave and dense fog in Kashmir Valley.

"The situation has necessitated to declare the winter vacation. Hence the proposal is submitted for your kind perusal and further necessary action and orders," reads a proposal submitted to the Principal Secretary School Education Department.

59 Dy SPs

Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari, Mohd Aslam, Ravinder Singh, Chhabil Singh, Mohan Lal, Mohd Aftab Awan, Farooq Ahmad Wani, Mohammad Usman, Nawaz Ahmad, Govind Rattan, Bikram Kumar, Garu Ram, Nihar Ranjan, Fahim Ali, Rameez Rashid, Abid Rashid Mir, Mohd Saleem Bhat, Shivender Singh Jamwal, Rameez Raja, Nikhil Rasgotra, Amit Kumar Sharma, Mubashir Rasool, Ravinder Singh, Sunny Gupta, Tariq Mahmood, and Devinder Singh Bhandral.

The promotions are based on recommendations from the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (PSC) as per Letter No. PSC/DPS/Home/6/2024-05. The regularisation of these officers is subject to any pending court proceedings or legal outcomes that may affect their status.

LG Stresses

Police, prisons, fire and emergency services, home guards, SDRF, prosecution, and forensic sciences.

Sinha reiterated the need for police modernisation and strengthening allied organisations to effectively handle emerging security and law-and-order issues.

He also stressed the importance of effective prison management, enhanced human resource strategies, and addressing matters related to internal security and the criminal justice system, the spokesperson added.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Principal Secretary (Home) Chandraker Bharti, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat, and other senior officials attended the meeting.

CM Directs Officials

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to grow," he remarked. To ensure streamlined governance, the Chief Minister gave directions to impose complete ban on re-employment, extensions, additional charges, and attachments, except in extraordinary circumstances.

He specifically called for a review of attachments in the Health & Medical Education and Education Departments.

"We must put an end to this practice," he asserted.

The Chief Minister also inquired about the status and performance of employees appointed under the PM Package for Kashmiri Migrants.

Earlier, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Sanjeev Verma, presented a detailed overview of the department's functioning, covering key sections such as administration, cabinet coordination, personnel management, cadre management, and transfer policies.

Discussions also focused on compassionate appointments under SRO-43

and the J&K Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme-2022, as well as service-related matters for All India Services and J&K Administrative Services.

The meeting reviewed IT initiatives like SPARROW, JKHRMS and officer training programs. Chief Minister directed the department to examine the re-appropriation of posts following the reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir and the creation of Ladakh Union Territory, noting discrepancies in the distribution of vacancies.

"The distribution of posts following the reorganization must be looked into. We need to address disparities and ensure that Jammu and Kashmir has adequate posts to meet administrative demands," the Chief Minister said.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the CM, Nasir Aslam Wani; Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Dheeraj Gupta; Commissioner Secretary GAD; and other senior officials.

In a separate meeting, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reviewed the establishment of Raabta - CM's Public Services and Outreach Office, a single-window interface aimed at enhancing government-citizen interaction.

On improving grievance redressal systems through Raabta, the Chief Minister said, "Raabta will serve as a bridge between the government and the people, ensuring timely delivery of public services and enhancing public participation in governance, and added that "it is a step towards a more responsive and citizen-centric administration."

Secretary Grievances, Aijaz Asad, presented the framework for Raabta, highlighting its role as a bridge

between the government and citizens. The platform will enhance public participation, ensure a responsive government, and enable the timely delivery of public services.

Citizens will be able to submit grievances and suggestions through both offline and online modes.

The meeting discussed the structure of the outreach office, including staffing requirements, deployment of senior officers, and technical and administrative personnel required to ensure efficient operations.

The integration of JK Samadhan, an existing grievance redressal platform, with Raabta was also deliberated.

The Chief Minister directed officials to integrate Raabta with JK Samadhan to create a unified and comprehensive grievance redressal system.

"By integrating Raabta with JK Samadhan, we are creating a unified grievance redressal system that will ensure faster resolutions and a more streamlined approach to addressing citizens' concerns," he noted.

BISAG's Additional Director General informed the meeting that the integration process is underway and will soon be operational, benefiting the public at large.

The meeting was attended by the Advisor to the CM, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Principal Secretary IT, and other senior officials.

Reviews Civil

Directors of Srinagar and Jammu Airports.

Key areas of discussion included the department's aircraft fleet, revamp plans, helicopter procurement, pilot training, and recruitment strategies.

The Chief Minister also reviewed budgetary allocations and financial progress under the Capex and Revex budgets.

A significant part of the meeting focused on the subsidized helicopter service operated under the Ministry of Home Affairs since April 2017.

It was noted that the service currently connects five approved routes - three in the Jammu region and two in Kashmir.

The Chief Minister directed officials to expand this service to include point-to-point routes, particularly to far-flung areas, while ensuring optimum utilization and sufficient load for each flight.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reiterated his commitment to modernizing civil aviation infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir, with the aim of boosting connectivity which would indirectly contribute to the growth of J&K's economy.

The meeting also included an evaluation of projects under the RCS-UDAN scheme. Separate presentations were delivered by the Directors of Jammu and Srinagar Airports regarding the ongoing and proposed expansion plans for these critical facilities.

The Director of Jammu Airport presented an update on the New Civil Enclave Project informing the meeting that the total cost of the project was Rs 861.37 crore and approved cost being Rs 697.83 crore.

The meeting was apprised about the project's completion period with physical progress of 16 % achieved ending November and financial progress as on 30.11.2024 recorded as 14%.

It was revealed that the project

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Rohit Puts In Double Shift As Scores Of Fans Add Colour To India Nets

Press Trust of India

ADELAIDE: India skipper Rohit Sharma did a double shift in the nets with plenty of fans adding colour to the visitors' near four-hour net session at the Adelaide Oval here on Tuesday.

With strong indications of Rohit coming down the batting order to let the form pair of Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul continue opening the Indian innings, the captain did show a lot of resolve while facing the Pink Kookaburra.

During the session, Indian team had four nets at the practice arena. In one such net, Jaiswal and Rahul took turns to bat while Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli were in the second net.

It was the third net where Rohit was clubbed with the inimitable Rishabh Pant while the final net was occupied by Nitish Kumar Reddy and Washington Sundar.

If one goes by popular perception, this is India's batting



line-up from No. 1 to 8 but at least one hour earlier along with Pant and other support staff. As is his wont, Rohit faced

a lot of side-arm throwdowns from Nuwan Seneviratne along with usual stuff from the right-arm specialist Raghavendra and Dayanand Garani.

The skipper made a conscious effort to leave deliveries on length but whenever anything short was dug in, he would pull effortlessly.

For the Australia-based Indian fans, the open session was like kids being in a candy store considering their proximity to the nets.

The Bengal fast bowling duo of Akash Deep and Mukesh Kumar (reserve pacer) looked impressive during the session. While Mukesh got his deliveries to move in the air creating some sort of a challenge for Virat Kohli, Akash did ask probing questions to Gill, who looked comfortable.

India's new pace sensation Harshit Rana also bowled briskly which must have impressed both his 'Guru' Gautam Gambhir and bowling coach Morne Morkel.

Short TAKES

Real Kashmir Take On Delhi FC At TRC In I-League Today



Real Kashmir FC will square off against Delhi FC in Round 3 of 2024-25 I-League on Wednesday at TRC Stadium in Srinagar. The match will kick off at 2:00 PM and will be broadcast on Sony Sports 2 and SSEN App.

The Snow Leopards have one win and one draw in their first two matches, while Delhi FC has drawn one and lost one. The Srinagar-based club has scored three goals and conceded one, while Delhi has scored one and conceded five.

Speaking at the pregame press conference on Tuesday, Real Kashmir coach Ishaq Ahmad wasn't ready to take their opponents lightly.

"Playing against Delhi FC will be a tough challenge. Despite their one loss this season, they have a strong squad. I hope our players will deliver positive results for the team," Ishaq said.

The renowned coach was also adamant that the Snow Leopards need to adapt to their strategies and eliminate mistakes from their game after their 1-1 draw against Gokulam Kerala FC. (Observer News Service)

J&K Rope Skippers Shine at IRSF National Championship In Goa



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The young J&K athletes from J&K showcased their talent at the 2024 IRSF National Rope Skipping Championship, held at the Indoor Stadium, Paddem, Goa, from December 1 to 3. The event was organised by the Indian Rope Skipping Federation and the Amateur Goa Rope Skipping Association.

Three talented girls from J&K made their mark, winning a total of six medals in various individual and team events. Imbisaat Abdullah bagged a silver and bronze medal in the Free Style and Double Dutch events, while Sadiya Fayaz earned silver and bronze medals in the Endurance and Double Dutch events. Mehvish Shabaan also secured two bronze medals in the Free Style

and Double Dutch events.

Mohammad Sufiyan, Secretary of the Rope Skipping Association of J&K, congratulated all the medal winners and expressed his appreciation for their hard work and dedication. He also appealed to the Indian Rope Skipping Federation to consider Srinagar, J&K, as the venue for the next National Championship, scheduled for June 2025.

Sports Events Held To Mark International Day Of Persons With Disabilities



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Several sporting events were held across Kashmir to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities on Tuesday.

The District Legal Services Authority Pulwama, in collaboration with District Social Welfare office Pulwama, organised a cricket match in commemoration of 'International Day of Persons With Disabilities' at Sports Stadium Pulwama.

The event was held under the chairmanship of Naseer Ahmad Dar, Chairman DLSA (Pr. District & Sessions Judge), Pulwama and under the supervision of Mudasar Farooq, Secretary DLSA Pulwama. On the occasion, Secretary DLSA presented a special address to the participants on the topic 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities'. He also inaugurated the cricket match involving specially-abled persons.

Secretary DLSA Pulwama in his concluding remarks stated that the office of DLSA Pulwama is al-

ways there to provide requisite support and assistance to specially-abled persons.

The programme was also attended by the Sports Department Pulwama, Chairman Handicapped Association Pulwama, Staff Members and PLVs of the DLSA Pulwama.

Meanwhile, the Department of Social Welfare and District Legal Services Authority Shopian organised indoor sports activities at Town Hall Shopian to celebrate the day.

The event featured indoor sports activities like carom and chess and witnessed enthusiastic participation by specially-abled persons.

Secretary, DLSA, addressing the gathering threw light on the rights and well-being of specially-abled persons. He said the day highlights the importance of inclusion, accessibility, and equality for persons with disabilities.

Other speakers discussed initiatives to empower specially-abled persons and ensure their inclusivity in society.

New Zealand Penalised WTC Points, Drop To Fifth In Table

New Zealand's aspirations of qualifying for the World Test Championship Final suffered a setback after they were docked three penalty points due to slow over-rate against England leading to a drop in the ranking table, the ICC stated on Tuesday.

The deduction is a welcome news for India, who enjoy pole position with 61.11 percentage points.

New Zealand now have a points percentage of 47.92 percent and can only move as high as 55.36 percent with victories from their remaining two fixtures against England. South Africa (59.26), Australia (57.26) and Sri Lanka (50) are placed second, third and fourth respectively.

While England are already out of contention of reaching next year's final despite the impressive eight-wicket triumph at Hagley Oval, the loss in competition points is a major blow to New Zealand who drop from equal fourth to outright fifth on the standings as a result.

It means the inaugural World Test Championship winners face a tough ask to qualify for next year's one-off Test in June 2025.

Man United To Open FA Cup Title Defense At Arsenal

Manchester United will start its FA Cup title defense with a trip to Arsenal in a third-round draw containing a host of intriguing English Premier League vs. lower league matchups.

Among the best were Tamworth, one of only two non-league clubs in the draw, getting to host Tottenham and Manchester City at home to Salford City — the team owned by members of Man United's famed "Class of '92" such as Ryan Giggs and Gary Neville.

Accrington Stanley, in sixth-to-last place in fourth-tier League Two, faces a daunting trip to Premier League leader Liverpool at Anfield. Chelsea, meanwhile, will host Morecambe, which is bottom of League Two.

The standout match features the competition's two most successful teams, with Arsenal having won the trophy 14 times compared to United's 13. Arsenal last lifted it in 2020 while United beat City in a second straight Manchester derby in the FA Cup final last season.

Religious Beliefs Put Two Captains In Spotlight During Premier League's Rainbow Laces Campaign

Agencies

LONDON: The captains of two English Premier League teams are in the spotlight for their choices last weekend when the competition celebrated LGBTQ+ inclusion in its campaign to promote equality and diversity.

Rainbow-colored captain armbands were issued to the 20 clubs for matches last weekend and the upcoming midweek round.

Ipswich's Sam Morsy was the only captain in action who didn't wear the rainbow armband, with the club saying he made the decision "due to his religious beliefs."

Morsy, a British-born Egypt midfielder, is a practising Muslim.

Ipswich said it "respect(s) the decision" of Morsy but is "committed to being a fully inclusive club."

"We will continue to grow an environment where all are valued and respected, both on and off the pitch," Ipswich said.

Crystal Palace will play Ipswich on Tuesday and its captain, Marc Guehi, wore a rainbow armband bearing the words "I love Jesus" on it during the match against Newcastle on Saturday. A heart was used instead of the word "love."

The England defender, who is a de-



vout Christian, could face punishment if it is judged to be a religious slogan. The laws of the game allow "initiative slogans/emblems" but don't allow "political, religious or personal slogans, statements or images."

The league's Rainbow Laces campaign, introduced in 2013, is in partnership with LGBTQ+ charity Stonewall and includes a range of activities to "highlight community and education initiatives designed to encourage discussion and promote allyship with LGBTQ+ communities," the competition said. Rainbow Laces branding

is widely visible within stadiums on things like corner flags and ball plinths.

In France, Nantes fined striker Mostafa Mohamed for refusing to play against Toulouse last year on the weekend teams wore rainbow-colored numbers on their jerseys to support the fight against homophobia. In May, Monaco midfielder Mohamed Camara was given a four-game suspension by the league for covering up an anti-homophobia message on the team's shirt during the club's final league game of the season. (AP)

Messi, Ronaldo Only World XI Nominees From Clubs Outside Europe As Voted By Players

Agencies

HOOFDDORP (NETHERLANDS): Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo are still popular and respected by their fellow players even though they no longer play for European clubs.

The 37-year-old Messi and 39-year-old Ronaldo were the only players not with clubs in Europe to be voted on a 26-man shortlist for the world team of the year organized by global players' union FIFPRO on Monday.

The other 24 nominees played in the past year with clubs in England, Germany, Spain and France, though Kylian Mbappé was the only French connection after spending last season at Paris Saint-Germain.

No player from any Italian club was selected, nor from any club in South America or Africa.

Eight players from Real Madrid, including Mbappé, Vinicius Júnior and Jude Bellingham were on the

shortlist, plus seven from Manchester City including Ballon d'Or winner Rodri, Kevin De Bruyne and Erling Haaland. Lamine Yamal, the



17-year-old from Barcelona who was the breakout star of Spain's European Championship title, also made it in polling by union members worldwide.

Messi, in Major League Soccer with Inter Miami, and Ronaldo, in Saudi Arabia with Al-Nassr, will find out on Dec. 9 if they are in the World XI lineup.

FIFPRO said the final team will include the highest-polling goalkeeper, plus

each of the top three vote-getters among defenders, midfielders and forwards. The final place goes to the outfield player with the next highest votes total.

Midfielders: Jude Bellingham (Real Madrid, England), Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City, Belgium), Phil Foden (Manchester City, England), Toni Kroos (Real Madrid, Germany), Luka Modric (Real Madrid, Croatia), Jamal Musiala (Bayern Munich, Germany), Rodri (Manchester City, Spain), Federico Valverde (Real Madrid, Uruguay).

Forwards: Erling Haaland (Manchester City, Norway), Harry Kane (Bayern Munich, England), Kylian Mbappé (Paris Saint-Germain/Real Madrid, France), Lionel Messi (Inter Miami, Argentina), Cole Palmer (Manchester City/Chelsea, England), Cristiano Ronaldo (Al-Nassr, Portugal), Vinicius Júnior (Real Madrid, Brazil), Lamine Yamal (Barcelona, Spain). (AP)



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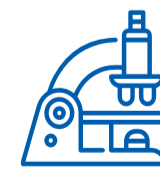
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