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Benefits

New Railway Lines

- Creating more job opportunities with development of the area
- To enhance connectivity in Mayurbhanj and Kendujhargarh districts of Odisha

20

- To facilitate transportation of raw material from the mineral rich areas Dandbose Airport
- Promoting regional air-connectivity program of the Government of India 'Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik' (UDAN) Scheme
- Boost the economy and tourism sector

Tribal Research & Development Centre

- To stimulate research studies, brainstorming and discussions into all aspects of 'tribal lifestyle, behaviour, lives and livelihoods, heritage and culture' etc.
- To act as a Skill Training and Entrepreneurship Development Hub oriented towards technology and economic activity

Sub Divisional Hospital

- To provide expanded range of healthcare services
- To improve availability of modern and advanced healthcare facilities





KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Saturday | 07-12-2024

IIT Indore Designs Technology To Protect Farmers' Fruits And Vegetables, Extend Their Shelf Life

Press Trust of India

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore have developed a special LED light-based storage technology that protects farmers' fruits and vegetables from getting spoiled and helps extend their shelf life, an official said on Wednesday.

The technology employs photodynamic inactivation (PDI) of microbes using a specially designed kit, which utilizes a safe, derivatized vitamin B2 spray as a photosensitizer and a flash visible light source at effective wavelengths of 455 and 476 nm (nanometres), he said. This combination destroys microbes on open and packed food items, ensuring complete sterilization and preventing microbial reproduction, the official explained.

He said this innovative technology can prove to be very beneficial, especially for cultivators with small farms who want to keep their produce safe in their home until they get better prices.

"With the help of our technology, fruits and vegetables can be preserved for 30 to 40 days without cold storage in a 10x10 square feet room at a cost of only

fko

fko

fko

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FKO

Rs 1,000 per month," IIT Indore professor Debayan Sarkar told PTI.

He said under this technology, blue and green LED light of special wavelength is cast on fruits and vegetables and a special spray of vitamin B2 is done on them as a photosensitizer, thus protecting them from getting spoiled, extending their shelf life and keeping them fresh longer.

The system has been linked to a mobile application that allows farmers to monitor fruits and vegetables even while staying away from their storage rooms, Sarkar maintained.



The name of my daughter has been wrongly written in her adhaar card bearing adhaar no: 7905-2245-8938 as Azmat Parveen while her correct name is Azmat Aashiq which needs to be correced. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/ she may file his /her objection in the concerned adhaar office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Parveena Bano

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mother Of Azmat Aashiq R/o Laolipora Tehsil Pattan

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th)under Roll No:. 113005057 Session: Ann-Reg. 2024 Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent. Board against my mother's name as Rubeena Begum instead of Mubeena Begum

Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Owais Ahmad Dar F/N: Mohammad Shafi Dar M/N Mubeena Begum DOB 15-10-2007 Residence: Hajin Sonawari Mobile: 7051920295

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving licence bearing Licence no JK0520090021814 as GH Hassan wani S/O AB Samad wani R/O Palhallan pattan while my correct name is Gulam Hassan wani S/O AB samad wani R/O Palhallan which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Sopore within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Gulam Hassan wani S/O AB samad wani R/O Palhallan fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

Electricity Connection bearing C.ID no; 0217010000734 which

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

Executive magistrate ist class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth
Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mushan Zehra (dob: 01-03-2022) & Gazee Hussain (DOB: 03-07-2019 wards of Aabid Hussain Hajam R/o Gund Ibrahim Tehsil Singhpora District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as Mushan Zehra (dob: 01-03-2022) & Gazee Hussain (DOB: 03-07-2019 occurred at SDH Pattan

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Abdul Zeyaan S/o Imran Gani Mangral R/o Delina Baramulla Tehsil Baramulla District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 28-06-2021 occurred at SDH Pattan

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

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mohammad Salman Bhat S/o Aijaz Ahmad Bhat R/o Wanigam Payeen Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 14-11-2024 occurred at SDH Pattan

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

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

No:-244-2024-25-ADEN-1-FZR & 245-2024-25-ADEN-1-FZR & 246-2024-25-ADEN-1-FZR & 247-2024-25-ADEN-2-FZR& 248-2024-25-ADEN-2-FZR. Da

ADEN-2-FZR& 248-2024-25-ADEN-2-FZR. Date: 02.12.2024 DEN/HQ/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India Invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on <u>www.ireps.gov.in</u> 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. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to <u>www.ireps.gov.in</u>

60 Days	07 Months
SSE/P-Way/LNK under ADE Validity of Offer	EN- 2/FZR. Period of Completion
ou Days	07 Months
Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
SSE/P-Way/KKP under ADE	· · ·
raising of Track, screenin	07 Months g, destessing of track, pre & pos
Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
SSE/P-Way/Moga under AD	DEN- 1/FZR.
60 Days	07 Months
Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
SSE/P-Way/MKS under ADI	EN- 1/FZR.
	23/12/2024 15:00 Hrs
g Date	Single Packet System Bid Closing Date/Time
	SSE/P-Way/MKS under ADI Validity of Offer 60 Days SSE/P-Way/Moga under AD Validity of Offer 60 Days raising of Track, screening/Reg SSE/P-Way/KKP under ADE Validity of Offer 60 Days SSE/P-Way/LNK under ADE Validity of Offer

Possession Notice

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule

was earlier registered in the name	of AD Rashid Rather S/O AD
Sattar Raher R/o Gahind Shopian	is to be transfered into new
name as Mohd Altaf Rather S/o A	b Rashid Rather R/o Gahind
Shopian if anybody has any object	ion he/she may contact PDD
Office Sub Division Shopian within	17 days . After that no objec-
tion shall be entertained.	
Ab Rashid Rather	
S/o Ab Sattar Raher	fko
R/o Gahind Shopian	

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that, I, Ghulam Mohammad Bhat S/O Late Abdul Rehman Bhat R/O Alim Bhat Mohalla, Habak Shana Pura, Hazratbal, Srinagar, want to change the name of registered consumer of electric connection from my father's name viz Late Abdul Rehman Bhat S/O Late Shaban Bhat, to my name.

If anybody have any abjection in this regard, he/she may contact Executive Engineer, PDD, Division- IV (Khanyar), Sub-Division Zakura, Srinagar within seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Ghulam Mohammad Bhat S/O Late Abdul Rehman Bhat R/O Alim Bhat Mohalla, Habak Shana Pura, Hazratbal, Srinagar. Consumer No. 0204050001622 Consumer Category: Domestic

Consumer No. 0204050001622 Consumer Category: Domestic Mobile No. 9622637563

از نیابت پلیالن عنوان: در درخواست منجاب فیاض احمد ملک ولد محمد اکبر ملک ساکند پلیالن نسبت اجرائی EWS مرتفیکی یحق پسر خود ملک عدنان فیاض اشتهار جرخاص وعام معاملد مندر جوعنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درواست بغرض حصول EWS سرتفیکی یک پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس عیال ہے کہ سائل واقعی پلیالن کا سکونت دار ہے اور والد سائل کا مکان رہایتی 1868 19 موجود ہے اور مکان رہائتی رقبہ حون 6800 مربہ بن بتا ہے اسطر حسک رقب 12 مرله مکان وضحن ہے۔ کنہ کی مہوارہ آمد ٹی 2000 تک ہے ۔ سرتفیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کر لیے مال اگر کہ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عزریا عزاض ہوتو وہ پیدہ شتہرا خبار سات دن کے اندراندر آپنے عذر یا عز اس ودالت هذا کو فتر کی ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گز رے بیادکو یو عذریا عزائی تائل تول نہیں ہوتا۔ ن اگر FKO Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mohammad Ziyaan Rather S/o Mohammad Shafi Rather R/o Archanderhama Tehsil Singhpora District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 04-05-2002 occurred at SDH Pattan

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

Sr.DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (<u>www.ireps.gov.in</u>) against below title Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original /revised bids up to closing date and time only.

			÷	-		
Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect- T-46/2024- 25	Electrical Work in c/w Concrete path ways with proper illumination for approach to ART/ARMVs at Ludhiana Amritsar and Jammu and two rooms with toilet and one HRE (Hydraulic rerailling equipment) at Pathankot.	13,01,980.07р	26000.00p	6 Months	27.12.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
No. 251-Elect/T.Notice No. 40-Elect/2024-25 Dated: 05.12.2024 3756/2024						
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE						

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF School Education New Campus Bemina Sgr Public Notice

I have Passed/ appeared in SSE/HSE-II (Class 10th under Roll No 5127453 Session 2016 & 12th under Roll No. 5118205 Session 2018 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education the error committed by the Computer Error against my name as Omer Rashid Instead of Omer Rashid Khan Now, I have applied for the correction rectification of the error in the the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education New Campus Bemina, Srinagar if any person has any objection in this

regard, may file the same in the office of the Deputy Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained. This is published for the information of General public.

NAME: OMER RASHID KHAN S/O LATE ABDUL RASHID KHAN MOTHER NAME POSHA BEGUM DOB 07.01.2001 R/O KARIHAMA KUPWARA MOBILE NO: 9596843368

8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas Sajad Ahmad Wani of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Issued Demand Notice dated 16.02.2023 thereby calling upon the Borrower M/s M.A Constructions - Proprietor Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Wani to repay an amount of Rs.94,86,494.03 (Rupees Ninety Four Lac Eighty Six Thousand Four Hundred ninety four and Three Paisa Only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.01.2023 in the accounts of the borrow ,within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being Authorized Officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 2nd day of month December of the year 2024.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the sald property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the sald property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs 1,20,55,807.03 (Rupees One Crore Twenty Lac Fifty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seven and Three Palse only) together with future Interest thereon from 01.12.2024 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The attention of said legal heirs is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

(As per the schedule provided in mortgage deed/ latest particulars including any accreditations)

A piece of land measuring one (01) Kanal, falling under Khasra No 1232 min of Khata No. 621 of Khewat No 104 situated in Mouza Rawalpora Tehsil Srinagar South District Srinagar.

> (Ishfaq Sarwar Malik) Authorized Officer

Dated: 02.12.2024 Place: Rangreth

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Power Struggle Brews In J&K

Omar Govt At Odds With Raj Bhavan?



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Less than two months into its tenure, the newly elected Omar Abdullah government in Jammu and Kashmir is reportedly facing differences with the Raj Bhavan over several administrative issues, according to sources in the know.

Following the imposition of central rule in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018, the governor and subsequently, the current lieutenant governor, Manoj Sinha, maintained full administrative powers. However, the dynamics shifted after the elected government assumed office on October 16.

Under laws enacted by Parliament, the lieutenant governor retains authority over All India Service officer

other responsibilities. However, recent actions taken by the LG administration have sparked tensions, particularly concerning several transfers of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service officers that were ordered while Chief Minister

Abdullah was away in Saudi Arabia for pilgrimage. While some transfers of IAS officers fall within the LG's iurisdiction, the elected government has voiced strong objections against the transfer of certain Jammu and Kashmir administrative officers ordered by the LG, the sources said.

Another point of contention involves the position of Advocate General D C Raina, who had submitted his resignation prior to the Omar Abdullah government's formation. Raina initially appo

La Niña Not Responsible For Kashmir's Cold Snap: Dir MeT

Says Temperatures Not Falling Below Zero Degrees For The First Time

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar:Director of the Meteorological Department, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad, has clarified that the La Niña effect does not have a direct connection to heavy snowfall or record-low temperatures in the Kashmir valley. Speaking to Kashmir Observer, Dr. Ahmad emphasized that while La Niña can influence global weather patterns, it does not specifically trigger snowfall or extreme cold in Kashmir

Explaining Dr Ahmad said that La Nina refers to a climate phenomenon where the central and eastern Pacific Ocean experiences cooler-than-average sea surface temperatures. "It causes changes in

global weather patterns, typically resulting in altered rainfall distribution

Kashmir Faces Water Crisis Amid Dry Spell

in Kashmir.

he Kashmir valley is facing a concerning decline in water levels across its rivers, springs, and other water bodies due to the ongoing dry spell and insufficient precipitation. Experts and officials are raising alarms



fewer Western Disturbances this season, and those that for centuries and will condo arrive are unlikely to tinue to do so," he stated, cause substantial impact. adding that La Niña is not a

peratures drop in the Pacific Ocean, it has been observed that temperatures in Kashmir | More on P10

> However, the lack of significant precipitation continues to pose a long-term challenge, with authorities stressing the need for immediate rainfall and snowfall to recharge water bodies. Chief Engineer | More on P10

Kashmir

Records Season's

available, Srinagar has

Winter Break **Announced For Kashmir Schools**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Government on Friday announced winter vacation for all government and recognised private educational institutions in the Kashmir division as well as in the winter zones of Jammu division in two phases starting from December 10.

According to an order is-sued by School Education Department (SED), winter vacations for classes upto 5th primary will begin from December 10 this year to February 28, 2025. Similarly from 6th standard to 12th standard, the vacations shall commence from December 16 to February 28, 2025, according to an order issued by the Principal Secretary to the government School Education Department.

Further, the teaching staff of Government High and Higher Secondary Schools shall remain available at respective Headquarters from 10th of February, 2025 | More on P10

10th-12th Exams Likely From 3rd Week of Feb

he annual regular exams of 10th to 12th standard are likely to commence from 3rd week of February-2025. A top official of Jammu and Kashmir Board of School | More on P10

about the potential long-term impacts on drinking water, irrigation, and the valley's overall ecosystem.

While the officials report a stable drinking water supply in the region, primarily attributing to reduced seasonal demand.

recorded the season's lowest temperature at minus Dr. Ahmad explained that 4.1 degree Celsius, marking the coldest night here while Kashmir might experience Shopian in South Kashmir, was the coldest place at minus 6.6 degree Celsius. The Meteorological depart-"Whenever water temment has shared the details of minimum temperature,

revealing that Srinagar has recorded a low of minus 4.1 degree Celsius | More on P10



Coldest Night he cold wave has tightened its grip across Kashmir with majority of the areas recording the season's coldest night including Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. As per the details

and temperature variations across different regions." "These natural phenomena have been occurring

new occurrence and is not

the first time temperatures

have dropped significantly

and law enforcement, among

by former | More on P10

UNDER LAWS ENACTED BY PARLIAMENT, the lieutenant governor retains authority over All India Service officers and law enforcement, among other responsibilities."

Govt Pushes For Rs 3K Pension For Specially-Abled, Widows

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Minister for Health and Medical Education Sakina Itoo on Fridav said that she will write to the Centre to release funds for pension of specially-abled, widows and other persons.

Speaking to reporters in Srinagar, Sakina Itoo said that these persons have been getting pension on time but there

are some who get it under ISSS scheme and they have been facing problems due to shortage of funds.

"We will write to the Government of India in this regard as a major share for the scheme that comes from the centre has been released," she said. She said that they are hope-

ful that they will get funds soon so that people | More on P10

Working Towards Fulfilling Promises Made To People: CM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said his government is working towards fulfilling the promises made to the people with a steadfast commitment to preserving the distinct identity of the region.

Abdullah, who is the vice president of the National Conference, made these comments while chairing a working committee meeting with the party's provincial functionaries at the NC headquarters Nawa-e-Subha here.

'Satellite **Townships Exclusively Meant** For Locals'

mid ongoing criticism over the proposed satellite townships in Kashmir, Nasir Aslam Wani, senior National Conference leader and Advisor to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday reassured the public that the townships would serve the local population. Wani, while dismissing the allegations of demographic change by PDP, said that these townships will serve | More on P10

civilian government critical party issues and urgent is diligently working towards public concerns, an NC spokesfulfilling the promises outlined person said. in the (party's election) mani-festo, with a steadfast commit-

Abdullah emphasised the government's "steadfast" dedication to tackling the developmental challenges of the past decade, "with a More on P10

Diabetes Cases: Centre

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has recorded a total of 46,99,015 diabetes patients as of November 30, 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said on Friday.

The data indicates that 43,18,708 patients have been screened for diabetes, 3,41,071 have been diagnosed with the condition, and 3,40,236 are currently under treatment.

The government said that the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, provides technical and financial support to states and Union Territories under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD), as part of the National Health Mission (NHM).

"This program focuses on strengthening infrastructure,



human resource development, early diagnosis, referrals for treatment, and health promotion to prevent non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including diabetes," it said.

"A population-based initiative for the screening, management, and prevention of common NCDs, including diabetes, has been launched as part of the Comprehensive Primary Health Care under NHM," the government added. (KNO)

JKSA to Hold Sit-in **Protest In Delhi**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu & Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) has announced a peaceful sit-in protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on December 14, 2024, demanding a comprehensive review of the reservation policy in Jammu and Kashmir.

The association, representing the interests of students and youth from the J&K, seeks to address the concerns over what they perceive as an unjust reservation system that has impacted the opportunities available to deserving candidates in the region.

The protest comes after the recent statement by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, who acknowledged the ongoing concerns surrounding the reservation policy. In a | More on P10

KPDCL To Close Power Amnesty Scheme By March 2025

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) today raised a final call to its domestic consumers urging them to come forward and claim waiver on late payment surcharge under the Government's Power Amnesty Scheme, which shall cease to exist on April 01,

2025. In a statement, Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL, Er. Aaquib Waheed Deva, said that the Power Amnesty Scheme will be available for domestic consumers only till March 31, 2025 and beyond that there will be no further



"Consumers can extension. either pay their principal amount due to Kashmir Discom in full or in equal instalments in the remaining 04 months to claim the waiver on late payment surcharge to settle their claims," she added. As many as 1,09,648

domestic consumers have so far availed the scheme for waiver on late payment surcharge with KDPCL, which has collected a revenue of Rs.164.00 crore so far. The scheme has targeted a total of 1,50,907 consumers who had a substantial opening balance due to KPDCL. The Government has also

ment to preserving the distinct

identity of the region," he said.

The meeting discussed

waived off an amount of Rs.58 crore on account of late payment surcharge, thus providing huge relief to the domestic consumers by clearing their opening balances.

Chief Engineer KPDCL advised the remaining consumers to approach their concerned | More on P10

KEEMA Raises Alarm Over Closure of 701 MSMEs In J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The closure of 701 Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Jammu and Kashmir over the past four years has sparked grave concerns within the industry, with the Kashmir Electrical Equipment Manufacturers Association (KEEMA) warning that the actual figures may be much higher.

"The actual number of closures is far higher, with many units shutting down silently due to unsustainable conditions," said KEEMA Secretary General Waseem Ahmed Khateeb, emphasizing that the reported data only scratches the surface of a much deeper

crisis. KEEMA President Raja Nayeem Ahmed Khan highlighted how flawed policies are driving local industries to the brink of collapse. "Despite policies designed to uplift MSMEs, including the MSME Act of 2006, their implementation has been grossly inadequate," Khan said, pointing to violations in public procurement processes. Under the MSME Act, 358 items are reserved for exclusive procurement from MSEs, and 25% of public procurement is mandated to come from these enterprises. However, KEEMA

criticized the Rs 5,800-crore Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), aimed at modernizing | More on P10

J&K Achieves 100% Ration Card Digitization

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has successfully completed 100% digitization of ration cards under the technology-driven Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, the Centre informed the LoK Sabha on Friday. This achievement is part of a nationwide initiative to enhance transparency and reduce inefficiencies in the distribution of essential supplies.

According to the data shared by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, 99.8% of ration cards in Jammu and Kashmir have been linked with Aadhaar. This linkage plays a key role in eliminating | More on P10





NEWS

Uproar in Lok Sabha as **BJP links Congress with US** billionaire George Soros

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Lok Sabha proceedings were on Friday adjourned for the day amid protests by Opposition members over BJP's attempts to link the Congress party to US-based billionaire investor George Soros.

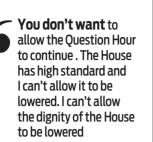
BJP member Nishikant Dubey raised the issue during Zero Hour, plunging the House into chaos with Congress members trooping to the Well of the House.

Samajwadi Party member Dharmendra Yadav and Trinamool member Saugata Roy were also up on their feet, apparently in support of the Congress.

Dubey had also raised the issue on Thursday, prompting the Congress members to rise in protests against BJP's attempts to link Soros with Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi.

On Friday, the Lok Sabha was adjourned till noon within a minute of assembling at 11 am as Congress members Gaurav Gogoi and K C Venugopal tried to counter the allegations levelled by Dubey.

When the House reassembled at noon, BJP member Dilip Saikia, who was in the chair, allowed laying of parliamentary papers on the table of the House. before calling Dubey to speak on the issue he could not complete



on Thursday.

Congress members trooped to the Well of the House raising slogans against the BJP and the government. Saikia then adjourned the proceedings for the day.

At 11 am, Opposition members mostly from the Congress. tried to raise some issues which

the Speaker objected to. You don't want to allow the Question Hour to continue . The House has high standard and I can't allow it to be lowered. I can't allow the dignity of the House to be lowered," he said and adjourned the House immediately.

While the House could not function properly in the first week of the winter session due to protests by Opposition members demanding to raise issues related to the Adani group and Sambhal violence, it functioned properly on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Israel Bombs Syria As Armed Groups March To Homs

Agencies

BEIRUT: Israeli jets bombed crucial border crossings between Syria and Lebanon as thousands of people fled the central city of Homs overnight amid continued lightning offensive by the armed groups against Syrian army.

According to Pan-Arab Al-Mavadeen network. Israeli strikes hit the Jusiyah and al-Arida crossings in Syria early on Friday. Israel often conducts strikes on

military sites within Syria, particularly those associated with Hezbollah, which has been instrumental in supporting the Syrian army in its battle against terrorist groups.

Armed groups earlier affiliated with Al Qaeda and Daesh have now cobbled up a new coalition undfer the banner of Hayat Tehrir al Sham with the backing of Turkey.

The group has already captured the key cities of Aleppo in the north and Hama in the center, dealing successive blows to Syrian army and forcing thousands of people to move toward western coastal regions, a stronghold of the government.

As Syrian army began pushing back with the help of allies, including Lebanese Hezbollah, Israeli air strikes hit two border crossings between Lebanon and Syria.

HTS has pledged to press on city that links the capital Damascus to the north and government

According to Al-Mayadeen, Isreali strikes hit the Jusivah and al-Arida crossings early on Friday. The Jusiyah crossing is strate-

along the Syria-Lebanon border.

Israel often conducts strikes on military sites within Syria, particularly those associated with Hezbollah, which has been instrumental in supporting the Syrian army in its battle against foreignbacked terrorist groups.

HTS launched a sudden onslaught on Aleppo on November 27 just after a ceasefire between Hezbollah and Israel went into effect.

Syria has been gripped by foreign-sponsored militancy since March 2011, with Damascus saying the Western states and their regional allies are aiding terrorist groups to wreak havoc in the Arab country.

Delhi Braces For Farmers' March, Security Beefed Up At Border Points

Press Trust Of India

security has been tightened at the border points of the city. A skeletal deployment has been made at the Singhu border but it may increase as per the situation at the Shambu border on the Punjab-Haryana border," a senior police officer said.

Traffic is likely to be hit due to the security arrangements at the border and the central part of Delhi, he said.

Delhi Police have tightened security at borders ahead of the Punjab farmers' Friday march to the Na tional Capital. "Delhi Police are on alert and



Iran Achieves Milestone In **Space Tech With Saman-1** And Fakhr-1 Launch

Agency

Tehran: In a landmark achievement for Iran's space program, the country successfully launched a domestically-developed satellite carrier, Simorgh, carrying the Saman-1 orbital transfer block, the Fakhr-1 nanosatellite, and an additional research payload into low Earth orbit (LEO) early Friday morning. The launch took place at the

ment, saying that the Saman-1 system provides a smoother transition for satellites to their operational orbits, enhancing Iran's competitiveness in satellite deployment.

Fakhr-1 honors martyr Fakhrizadeh Among the payloads was the Fakhr-1 nanosatellite, named in tribute to Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh. a prominent Iranian scientist. This compact, three-unit CubeSat was developed collaboratively by the Ira-



Imam Khomeini Space Launch Terminal near Semnan, marking a significant step forward in Iran's growing space capabilities. According to Iranian media, the payloads achieved an orbital apogee of 410 kilometers and a perigee of 300 kilometers, a precision that underscores the sophistication of the mission.

The Saman-1 orbital transfer block, developed by the Iranian Space Research Center (ISRC), is designed to move satellites into higher orbits. This reduces reliance on large, high-fuel-consump tion launch vehicles, making satellite deployment more efficient and cost-effective. The system's development aligns with Iran's strategic goals of advancing its space technology and expanding its operational range in orbit.

Speaking to Mehr news agency, Hassan Salaryieh, head of Iran's space agency, lauded the achieve-

nian Army, SA Iran Corporation, and Malek Ashtar University of Technology. It is equipped with advanced systems for telemetry, power management, and radio communications. Simorgh: A reliable workhorse

The Simorgh rocket developed by the Iranian Ministry of Defense, carried the payloads to orbit in its eighth successful launch. The two-stage liquid-fueled rocket set a new national record by lifting a combined payload weight of 300 kilograms, demonstrating its ability to handle complex, multipayload missions.

The launch precision, with a velocity tolerance of less than 0.1%, underscores the advancement of Iranian engineering in orbital deployment. Simorgh remains a critical component of Iran's space ambitions, capable of placing satellites into LEO with high accuracy.

How A Rs 59 Lakh Online **Scam Unfolded Involving Fake CBI, Custom Officials**

Agencies

Thane: A man residing in Maharashtra's Thane city lost 59 lakh as cyber fraudsters coerced him into paying money by posing as Customs and CBI fficials and threatening to take action against him for his alleged criminal activities, police said. bala's Superintendent of Police The incident took place and informed him about their foot between November 26 and December 2, they said. Pandher said the delegation "The victim, 54, received had assured the police that the multiple calls from a person march would be peaceful and who identified himself as a traffic along the route would not Customs officer from Delhi. He told the victim that a parcel of Besides the MSP, the farmers his had been seized and that are demanding a debt waiver, pendrugs were found inside it. The sion for farmers and farm labourcaller claimed that the case ers, and no hike in electricity tariff. was being referred to the Cen-They are also demanding tral Bureau of Investigation "justice" for the victims of the (CBI) for further investigation. 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence, He instructed the victim to coreinstatement of the Land Acquioperate with the CBI and take sition Act, 2013, and compensaanother call from them," an oftion to the families of the farmers ficial said. who died during a previous agitaanother call - this time from a person claiming to be a CBI officer. He told the victim that his name was found to be linked to serious criminal activities, including human trafficking and money laundering. He was told that in order to re-

Check, Verify Documents Of Candidates Selected For Govt Job In 6 Months, SC Tells Police



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has directed police officials of all the state governments to check and verify documents pertaining to the character, antecedents, nationality, genuineness produced by the candidates selected for government jobs within six months from the date of their appointment. In an order passed on December 5, a bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and R Mahadevan said appointments to government posts would have to be regularised only after verification of the credentials of the candidates. The top court passed the direction while setting aside the termination of an ophthalmic assistant two months prior to the date of retirement.



The Syrian state news agency (SANA) said the Arida border crossing with Lebanon was out of service due to the attack. southward to Homs, a crossroads

heartland along the coast.

gically significant due to its position

The petitioner joined the public service on March 6, 1985, but the verification report was communicated by

would also compel this court to issue a direction to the police official(s) of all the states to complete the enquiry and file report as regards the character, antecedents, nationality, genuineness of the documents produced by the candidates selected for appointment to the government service, etc, within a stipulated time provided in the statute/GO, or in any event, not later than six months from the date of their appointment,"

the police to the department

only on July 7, 2010, only two

months prior to the date of

retirement saying he was not

"The given factual

citizen of the country.

the top court said. The bench went on, "It is made clear that only upon verification of the credentials of the candidates, their appointments will have to be regularised so as to avoid further complications, as in the case on hand.'

The officer said the police are also keeping an eye on developments on the Noida border, where another group of farmers from Uttar Pradesh observes a sit-in.

Farmers, mainly seeking a legal guarantee to minimum support price for crops, had earlier attempted to march into the National Capital on February 13 and February 21, but they were stopped by security forces at Shambhu and Khanauri on Punjab-Haryana borders.

Farmers under the banner of the Samvukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha have been camping at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points since then.



On Wednesday, the district administration of Ambala in Harvana asked Punjab farmers to reconsider their proposed march to Delhi and told them to contemplate further action only after getting permission from Delhi Police.

Delhi Police, however, said they have not received any request from Punjab farmers to march to Delhi.

The Ambala Administration has imposed Section 163 of the BNSS restricting the assembly of five or more persons in the district and has issued notices at the protest site near the Shambhu border.

On Monday, farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said a delegation of farmers met Am-

solve the matter and clear his name from the cases, he has to pay 59 lakh, he said.

Scared, the victim transferred the amount into several bank accounts provided by the callers, who continued to pressure him to complete the payments. However, after transferring the money, the victim realised that he had fallen prev to a scam and approached the police to file a complaint, the official said.

Based on his complaint, the Naupada police registered a case under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) sections 318(4) (cheating) and 319(2) (cheating by personation) and relevant sections of the Information Technology (IT) Act.

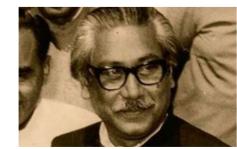
The victim then received

Bangladesh removes Mujib from banknotes, bans Hasina's speeches

angladesh's International Crimes Tribunal on Thursday ordered a ban on disseminating deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's "hate speeches" in the mainstream media and social media networks as the tribunal is set to try her on numerous charges of crimes against humanity.

The order follows Hasina's recent speech, her first public address after fleeing to India on August 5, in which she mounted a stinging attack on the country's interim leader Muhammad Yunus, accusing him of perpetrating "genocide" and failing to protect minorities including Hindus. "The ICT has banned broadcasting, publishing and spreading any hate speech by ousted PM in all types of mass and social media," an said.

The country has also begun the process of erasing the image of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman -- her father and the iconic figure behind the founding of the country from its currency notes. Bangladesh Bank is printing new notes, including in



them features of the July uprising, the Dhaka Tribune reported Thursday, referring to the student-led protests that forced Hasina to flee. Banknotes of Taka 20, 100, 500, and 1,000 are being printed on the instructions of the interim government.

Religious structures, Bengali traditions and "graffiti" drawn during the July uprising will be included, it said. "I hope the new note could be released in the market within the next six months," it quoted Bangladesh Bank executive director Husneara Shikha as saving.

N E W S MAKER

Class-12 student allegedly shot dead the principal of his school in Madhya Pradesh's Chhatarpur district on Friday afternoon after being admonished, police said

The 17-year-old boy fled on the principal's scooter after the incident that took place around 1.30 pm but was nabbed within hours, said inspector Pushpendra Yadav of Orchha Road police station

He was traced to the district's border with Uttar Pradesh, the official said, adding that the accused was known for wayward behaviour at school.

The weapon used for the killing was also seized from him, Yadav added.

The teenager allegedly shot

Class-12 student shoots dead principal in MP school

principal SK Saxena (55) in the head with a locally-made pistol near the toilet at Dhamora government school, said Superintendent of Police Agam Jain, adding that the victim died on the spot.

march to Delhi on December 6.

be blocked.

tion in 2020-21.

Jain said the accused had not come to school on Friday and Saxena had spotted him at the school gate while the latter was about to go somewhere.

The principal admonished him, following which the accused allegedly committed the crime, Jain added.

"The accused was not in school uniform. He did not enter

deep into the campus. The toilet, where he shot Saxena, is near the main gate. The accused might have followed the principal to the toilet and shot him dead. He had tucked the firearm in the waist-

band of his pants," the SP said. The accused has told police he acted alone and that the classmate had come to stop him from shooting, the SP said.

As of now there is just one accused, Jain said, adding the previous information about an associate was based on CCTV footage.

"That student (seen along

with the accused) possibly went to save the principal. That is why he appeared in CCTV footage. Now, things have cleared. Only one person has been charged with murder and stands arrested," Jain clarified.

The other boy went home alone and then fled into the jungle nearby, possibly out of fear, and is currently untraceable, the SP added.

As per the probe so far, the accused does not have criminal antecedents, Jain said.

He was not good at studies, the SP pointed out.

The accused has named one person as the supplier of the firearm and a probe into this aspect is under way, the official said.

Earlier, area City Superintendent of Police Aman Mishra told PTI that only one round was fired.

The accused was not in school uniform. He did not enter deep into the campus. The toilet, where he shot Saxena, is near the main gate. The accused might have followed the principal to the toilet and shot him dead. He had tucked the firearm in the waistband of his pants



2024 to explore possibilities

of passenger/ tourism activi-

ties. He stated that the proj-

ect shall be completed with

the assistance of central

Div Com enjoined IWAI for

the development of neces-

sary infrastructure includ-

ing seventeen points for

embarking and de-boarding

of passengers, carrying out

dredging of river, installa-

tion of Water Level moni-

toring sensors and modern

He also directed con-

He directed SSCL and IWAI

to frame the comprehensive

proposal for funding besides

asking IWAI to share the

draft of the plan with the

Meanwhile, the meeting

also discussed various de-velopmental plans of SSCL

including provision of Water

Side Infrastructure, Terminal

Facilities, Night Navigation

Aids, Maintenance of Navi-

gational Channel, Onshore

cerned representatives for

Addressing, the meeting

funding.

weirs.

transport.

SSCL.

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Saturday | 07-12-2024

AIRPORTS

Div Com Reviews Plan For Operation Of Water Transport



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In order to promote tourism and simultaneously ease the stress of traffic on roads through operation of Inland water transport in River Jhelum, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Friday chaired a meeting to review the implementation of River Navigation Developmental Project.

Besides, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, the meeting was attended AHS & Project of India WAI), GOI, officers of SMC SSCL, Tourise De partment, I&FC Deputy

Kashmir and of Administrative Secretary to Govt. Transport Department, J&K.

At the outset, Project Coordinator, IWAI, gave a detailed presentation regarding the proposal of Development of River Jhelum, Inland Waterway.

He informed that Detailed Project Report (DPR) study of River Jhelum (NW-49) was completed in February 2020 which recommended development of river cruise tourism in three phases.

He also informed that the IWAI team inspected Phase-1 stretch (Chhatabal

Mosque Among Four Structures Damaged In Khanyar Blaze



Agencies

duding a wood anyar area of Sharing details about the fire inci-

a senior official from the Fire nagar said that the file call was re-ceived at 3:29 PM today, and soon dential house

ing unit and fire tenders from over 10 stations were pressed into service to bring the situation under control. He added that the firefighters

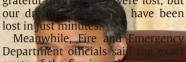
managed to control the blaze within one hour, preventing further escalation. Meanwhile, though the destruction has left many residents in shock, locals from the area said

ted at the masjid, ead to nearby resiartment Locals described the terrifying mo-

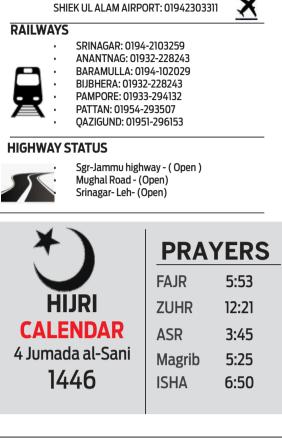
personnel, along with machinery, ments saying, as they came out of the masjid after prayers, they saw smoke from the masjid and immedied by the flames, ately informed the fire and emergen-te, wood process- cy services, along with others.

A local from the area said, "Our house, our memories, everything is gone. We had no time to save anything. The flames took everything from us. We are left with nothing but ash and a damaged house," the fire affected family member said.

Similarly, an elderly local from the area said, "The masjid, our homes, all destroyed in minutes. This is a day we will never forget. We are grateful ere lost, but



cause of the-fire is un



TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

2479488.2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES :

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

This Day In History

43 BC -Marcus Tullius Cicero, Roman orator and politician is assassinated in Formiae by soldiers under command of Marc Antony

💾 5- Emperor Lo-Yang, China sees supernova (MSH15-52)

1354- Margaret II Countess of Hainaut and her son William, Duke of Bavaria, sign a peace treater and the the Cod and Hook wars between them

1703 -Great storm of 1703 hits Southern England - thousands killed, Royal Navy losses 13 ships and around 1,500 seamen

- 71703- The first Eddystone Lighthouse is destroyed in the Great Storm of 1703
- 1727- Physician Sir Hans Soane becomes President of Royal Society, succeeding Sir Isaac Newton [1]
- 1- Elisabeth Petrovna becomes Tsarina of Russia 1804- Naturalist Alexander von Humboldt reports is discovery of the decrease in intensity of Earth's field from the poles to the equator in a
- Magnetic he Paris Institute memoir James Madison elected 4th US President and
- George Clinton Vice-President 1836- Martin Van Buren elected the 8th President of the United States
- 1877 Thomas Edison demonstrates his phonograph (gramophone) to the editors of "Scientific American".
- 1902 Britain and Germany issue an ultimatum to Venezuela demanding that President Cipriano Castro pay claims for damages caused during his takeover of

facilities and operation of vessels. Police Launche For Flication **Observer News Ser** both

SRINAGAR: In a bid to simplify public grievance redressal and improve access to verification services, the district police Srinagar have the helpline will operate a dedicated introduced helpline for the citizens on Friday. The helpline is designed to assist with services such as passport verification, police clearance certificates (PCC), employee verification

verification. Srinagar Police has introduced

Drivate secto

a dedicated helpline for citizens and on all working days from



efforts to_ etwork responsible for spreading fabricated and malicious narratives aimed at inciting violence and disturbing public order, Srinagar Police conducted a raid Friday in Natipora, Srinagar in connection with the misinformation campaign on social media.

The raids were conducted as part of the investigation into FIR No. 65/2024 under the 13 UA (P) Act

development of major hubs RINAGAR: A fire incident has damal masjid, along with three On the occasion, Div Com underscored the need for a nagar, officials said on Friday. tion and regulation of water

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The residents can seek

assistance by calling or sending a WhatsApp message to the following num-9541922441 bers: and 9541922442.

Soldier Dies Of Cardiac Arrest During Search Operation a search operation was going

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A soldier died of cardiac arrest during a search operation in the upper areas of Dachigam in Srinagar on Friday.

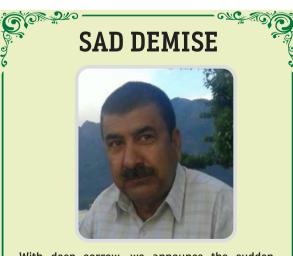
The deceased soldier has been identified as Jasvinder Singh of the Army's 34 Assam Rifles.

Official sources said that

on in Faqir Gujri area when the soldier collapsed and died on the spot. They said the soldier died of cardiac arrest. Since the killing of LeT militant Junaid Bhat in Dachigam on December 3, forces have continued to

search the upper belts of Dachigam to track down the

militants. [KNT]



With deep sorrow, we announce the sudden demise of Mohammad Shafi Khan, son of Ghulam Mohammad Khan, on December 6th. The congregational Fateha Khwani shall be held on Monday, Dec 9th, 2024, at 10:30 AM, at his ancestral graveyard in Amda Kadal Gota Pora (Mazaree -e -Bakshdam,) near Darul Uloom Bilalliya (Amdakadal). May his soul rest in peace.

076 206

Bereaved 00000000

Police said the investigation is focused on individuals involved in the manufacturing and dissemination of

false information, which has been used to provoke unlawful activities. Authorities have traced the network's actions to a criminal conspiracy aimed at stoking unrest and promoting violence.

With search warrants obtained from the NIA Court, Srinagar Police executed the raid at the residence of Abdul Hamid Parry, son of Gulam Mohammad Parry, a resident of Budshah Nagar, Natipora. During the operation, incriminating materials and electronic devices were seized.



Further raids are planned targeting additional suspects linked to this disinformation campaign.

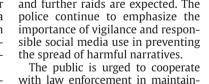
Earlier, Srinagar Police had conducted raids in the Batamaloo and HMT areas, arresting Obais Riaz Dar (son of Riyaz Ahmad Dar, Bonpora Batamaloo) and Sahil Ah Bhat (son of Noor Mohammad, HMT Zainakote), identified as key figures in orchestrating this unlawful narrative.

The J&K Police has urged the public, especially the youth, to exercise caution while using social media. Citizens have been reminded not to

share or upload content that could potentially incite violence or contribute to acts of terrorism.

Additional suspects linked to this investigation have been identified, and further raids are expected. The the spread of harmful narratives.

with law enforcement in maintaining peace and order, ensuring that divisive propaganda does not harm the



region's safety and security. (KINS)



the government in 1899.

- 1907 Eugene Corri becomes 1st referee in a boxing ring
- 1907 The First Egyptian Nationalist Congress meets under the leadership of Mustafa Kamil Pasha.
- 1917 US becomes 13th country to declare war on Austria during World War I.
- 1934 Wiley Post discovers jet stream.
- 1941 Imperial Japanese Navy with 353 planes attack US fleet at Pearl Harbour Naval Base, Hawaii, killing 2.403 people.
- 1953 Israel's PM Ben-Gurion retires.
- 1954 Japanese government of Joshida resigns.
- 1960 Ivory Coast claims independence from France.
- 1963 Instant replay is used for the first time in a Army-Navy game.
- 1968 Orbiting Astronomical Observatory 2 launched into Earth orbit.
- 1972 Apollo 17 (US), final manned lunar landing mission, launched.
- 1975 Indonesian army occupies East Timor.
- 1976 UN Security Council endorses Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General for second 5 year term.
- 1981 Spain becomes a member of the NATO.
- 1987 Palestinian uprising against Israel in West Bank.
- 1988 6.9 earthquake in Spitak, Armenia kills 25,000 and leaves 5.000.000 homeless.
- 1988 Gorbachev announces 10% unilateral Soviet troop reductions at UN
- 1990 Iraqi parliment endorses Saddam Hussein's decision to free hostages.
- 1992 Galileo spacecraft passes North Pole of Moon (Pearv Crater).
- 1995 US space probe Galileo begins orbiting Jupiter.
- 1996 Space Shuttle STS 80 (Columbia 21), lands.
- 2014 Human Rights Watch Asia Division call for investigation into Indonesian security forces shooting of peaceful protesters.
- 2015 Beijing issues its 1st ever red alert for pollution
- 2015 US Presidential candidate Donald Trump proposes banning all Muslims from entering the US
- 2016- Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi resigns 3 days after losing a referendum to reform the constitution
- 2016- Pakistan International Airways plane crashes north of Islamabad, killing all 48 on board, including singer turned preacher Junaid Jamshed
- 2017-Unrest in West Bank and Gaza, schools closed and a general strike in response to America's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital
- an President Nana Akufo-Addo wins a second term in the country's general elections
- 2021-3,500 year-old Gilgamesh Dream Tablet goes on display in Iraq for the first time in 30 years after looted during Gulf War. Part of the Epic Gilgamesh, one of oldest known pieces of literature.

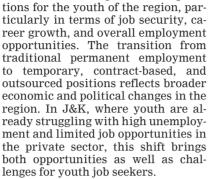
Send your write ups and feedback at editpage.ko@gmail.com

Rising Trend of Contractual and Outsourced Employment in J&K

Zaheer Jan

" While contractual

and outsourced employment may provide a shortterm solution to unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir. the region's long-term prosperity will depend on finding ways to create sustainable. stable, and rewarding employment opportunities for its youth



n recent years, Jammu and Kash-

mir (J&K) has witnessed a grow-

ing shift toward contractual and

outsourced employment across

various government departments.

This shift has significant implica-

The Government's increasing reliance on outsourcing and contractual employment for administrative and development tasks has been a key factor driving this shift. Contractual and outsourced jobs, which are typically short-term or project-based, are becoming increasingly common in sectors such as education, healthcare, social welfare, universities, tourism and even administrative roles. Contractual and outsourced jobs are temporary positions, typically lasting from a few months to a few years, without any guarantee of permanence. Outsourced jobs in the government often involve third-party agencies either government or private firms for hiring employees for various roles. In recent years, the prevalence of these job types has surged in Jammu and Kashmir.

There are several reasons contributing to this shift. The Jammu and Kashmir government has been turning to contractual and outsourced jobs in various departments as a cost-cutting measure because these positions do not require the same long-term financial commitments as permanent staff, particularly when it comes to salaries, pensions, healthcare, and other benefits. In addition to these savings, the government has been increasingly opting for fixed salary contracts for these positions, which provide a predictable and controlled expenditure for the



state's budget.

By hiring employees on contractual or outsourced terms, the government is able to fill positions on a fasttrack basis without going through the lengthy process associated with permanent employment. This allows the administration to quickly respond to urgent staffing needs in various departments, particularly in cases where immediate manpower is required or where positions are seasonal especially in collages and schools. Contractual hiring also allows for the flexibility to adjust staffing levels more rapidly, depending on the changing requirements of a given department, without being locked into long-term obligations.

Moreover, filling positions through contracts or outsourcing reduces the administrative burden associated with permanent hires, as these workers are often managed by third-party agencies or specific contract terms, rather than by the government itself. This process makes it easier for the state to manage its workforce in line with available funding and shifting priorities, all while keeping costs predictable and manageable.

The rising trend of contractual and outsourced employment in Jammu and Kashmir is having significant consequences for the region's youth. While such jobs can provide immediate work opportunities, they come with notable drawbacks. The most pressing issue is job insecurity contractual and outsource roles are temporary and often lack long-term prospects, leaving young workers in a constant state of uncertainty. Additionally, the absence of career development opportunities in contract-based work means that many young people struggle to build a sustainable career path. The consequences are not only economic but also social, as this precarious employment situation can lead to increased stress, frustration, and feelings of alienation among young workers, potentially undermining their overall well-being and social stability. The fear of job loss creates immense psychological pressure, and many young people in Jammu and Kashmir face this uncertainty daily. This lack of stability and the challenges associated with it are contributing factors to the rising mental health issues and drug addiction in the region,

as individuals seek ways to cope with the stress and hopelessness brought on by their employment situations.

To mitigate the negative impacts of contractual and outsourced employment, several policy measures are needed. First, the government of Jammu and Kashmir should focus on creating more permanent, stable jobs in critical sectors like healthcare, education, social welfare, and universities. This could be achieved through the implementation of well-defined employment policies aimed at hiring permanent staff in these sectors. Additionally, labor law protections for contract workers should be strengthened to ensure fair wages, job security, and access to benefits such as health insurance and paid leave. By providing these protections, the government can help reduce the insecurity faced by contractual and outsource workers and improve their overall working conditions. By adopting these recommendations, the government of Jammu and Kashmir can create a more equitable and sustainable environment for contractual and outsource employees. These measures will not only improve the livelihoods of workers but also contribute to the broader economic development of the region, fostering a more stable and productive workforce.

In the end, while contractual and outsourced employment may provide a short-term solution to unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir, the region's long-term prosperity will depend on finding ways to create sustainable, stable, and rewarding employment opportunities for its youth. Failure to address the issue could lead to increased disappointment, a deeper brain drain, and exacerbate various social and economic challenges in Jammu and Kashmir.

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

The author is a Sr.Pediatric Rehab Therapist & Social Worker (MSW)

The Human Capital Imperative

Unless India's baseline of human development improves, it will not be able to raise the share of manufacturing and grow into a developed nation.

N Chandra Mohan

oosting the share of manufacturing to 25% of gross domestic product (GDP) is an important aspirational objective of India's policy establishment. So, too, is becoming an advanced economy by 2047 like the East Asian miracle economies. During the last 10 years, the ruling dispensation has adopted several measures in this regard like the Make in India programme, production-linked incentives, and generous tax reliefs. As preparations for the Union Budget for FY26 are underway, there are deliberations on revitalising manufacturing with assistance linked to employment generation and fresh investments. However, despite these efforts to raise the share of manufacturing, it has stubbornly hovered around 16% of GDP since FY15.

Instead of sops to bolster manufacturing, it might perhaps be more appropriate to learn from the experience of East Asian miracle economies, including China. They became global exportoriented manufacturing hubs and progressed to higher levels of development by addressing preconditions at the level of human development. India, too, must do so to realise its aspirational objectives. Economies like South Korea, for instance, made huge investments in education that improved literacy and schooling of its population. This enabled it to grow rapidly for long periods of time and make a successful transition from a developing to a developed economy. All these East Asian economies had a high baseline of human development.

India's challenge is indeed daunting as only 5% of its workforce has received formal skill training as against 80% and 96% in countries like Japan and South Korea. Although India has the advantage of a predominantly youthful labour force, this demographic dividend can turn into a curse if they lack the skills to be gainfully absorbed in manufacturing. More so, as the policy establishment has unveiled ambitions to become a leading player in sunrise industries like semiconductors, green hydrogen, artificial intelligence, robotic hardware, besides labour-



F India's challenge is indeed daunting as only 5% of its workforce has received formal skill training as against 80% and 96% in countries like Japan and South Korea

intensive manufacturing. Clearly, the overriding policy focus must be on upgrading human capital so that it is more in alignment with the country's ambitions for manufacturing.

The contrast with China is striking as its better educated workforce facilitated its rise as a global export-oriented manufacturing power. Unlike India's top-down approach, China adopted a bottom-up policy of focusing on primary mass education from the early 1900s, prior to communism. This shifted to secondary education during the 1960s-80s under communism, and later to tertiary education during the post-communist era. Nearly 25% of China's students at the secondary level and above are enrolled in vocational education as against 2% in India. China produces a higher share of engineering, medicine, and teacher training graduates while humanities dominate among our graduates, reflecting a colonial bias to produce administrators.

These facts are from Nitin Kumar Bharti and Li Yang's paper, "The Making of China and India in 21st Century: Long-run Human Capital Accumulation from 1900 to 2020". India's relative neglect of primary education (till the 1990s) left much of its population without the education needed to shift from low-productivity agriculture towards manufacturing and services in the cities - a process associated with modern economic development. In 1987-88, China and India had 62% of their workforce in agriculture. Over the next 30 years, China reduced this to 15%, while India only reduced it to 40%. Of late, there has been a noteworthy reversal in terms of a migration from factories back to the farms of rural India, which

complicates efforts to boost manufacturing.

The big question is, what must be done to raise India's threshold levels of human development to match its aspirations on manufacturing? A useful means to integrate youth into the labour market is through skill development measures like apprenticeships. For starters, India could adopt best practices of countries like Germany which runs the most successful apprenticeship programme in the world that is linked with the higher educational curriculum. In India, the process could start even earlier with skilling and vocational training imparted in secondary school education. The bad news in this regard is that the launch of the ambitious PM Internship Scheme on December 2 to train people in real-life skills has been postponed despite indications of a favourable response.

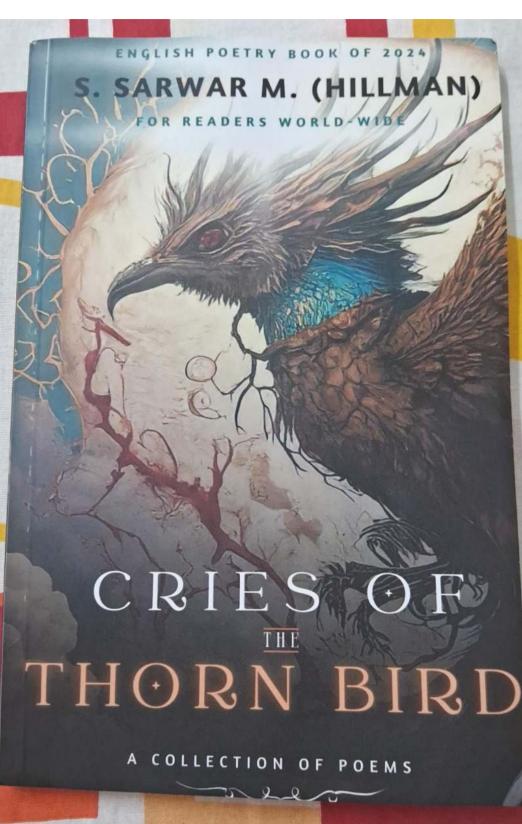
More than the government, the onus of improving human capital lies with Indian industry as it is not getting enough skilled labour for its operations despite a growing reserve army of educated unemployed youth. India Inc must collaborate with educational institutions so that its requirements form an integral part of the curriculum. What can perhaps nudge industry into taking apprenticeships more seriously is if training and skilling of youth constitute part of corporate social responsibility obligations. This kind of a programme could lower the dropout rate seen in other skilling programmes and improve the employability of the workforce. India Inc must ensure that the gap between China and India with regard to the average years of education for manufacturing jobs reduces much further: this was as much as 5.2 years in 1988, which narrowed down to 2.4 years in 2018 according to Bharti and Yang. Unless India's baseline of human development improves, it will not be able to raise the share of manufacturing and grow into a developed nation.

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

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BOOK REVIEW

LIFE IN A FULL CIRCLE



Naseem Shafaie

The caravan of memories moves before my eyes....

■ I vividly recall my dear English teacher from college, Mrs. Malik, whose radiant smile seemed to light up the classroom. She would read the poems of Keats and Wordsworth, delve into Shakespeare's plays with references to Greek tragedies Homer and Chaucer, and explore the novels of Dickens—all during the 4 best years of my youth. I shall never forget her influence.

Years later, I discovered a collection of poems by **S.Sarwar.M**, the son of my dear teacher, as I came to know about it some years back. Little could I Imagine that Sarwar was Mrs. Malik's son. Yes, the smile on his face mirrors hers in such a striking way.

The book is titled "CRIES OF THE THORN BIRD", a title that speaks volumes in itself. It compels the reader, like me, to ponder: what causes the bird to cry? Is it wounded? Is it in pain? Does it feel sorrow for everything it encounters? The poet himself is present in every line of each poem, as he reflects on his own emotions-his love, his longing, his hurt, his disappointments, and his wish for things to be as they should. The poems are filled with rich imagery and powerful expression, capturing feelings, thoughts, and profound reflections.

Sometimes the poet's words take us beyond the world of language, into his homeland of Kashmir, where words like *sadreh mouj*, *nage vigin*, *Chinar*, *Veth* and *Aharbal* evoke a deep sense of place. Through these metaphors, Sarwar forces the reader to understand the true meaning of these terms, often providing explanations along the way.

One of his poems, "O! MEN WITH THE PEN-Speak Your Mind a Little Louder!", is a tribute to the legendary poet of our time, the Gyan Peeth awardee Rehman Rahi, and to the Kashmiri language itself. When those from your own soil, even non-Kashmiri literature students, acknowledge the greatness of such a poet, it is an honor in itself. Recognition from your own people, especially from younger generations like Sarwar, carries immense weight.

I must admit that despite being an English literature student, I struggle to express my thoughts on this book in English. I feel as though Sarwar's words elude full understanding. There is a sense that his poems leave me pondering, questioning: what can it be? What is he trying to say? And perhaps that is the **true success of a writer-leaving the reader in contemplation**, **never fully offering easy answers**.

Be it his first poem "Hesitation", "Dreamers Fling", "Eternal Beauty" or "My Journey", the poet is always present, as I mentioned earlier. Sometimes, he is in the loving embrace of his mother; other times, he is with his beloved, enjoying and rejoicing ; while at other times, he expresses the worry of losing and parting from loved ones. This cycle, one can see everywhere —questions without answers, much like life itself.

His mastery of the English language is evident in every word he chooses. Yet, I wish someone would translate some of his poems to Kashmiri for readers like me.

At the end, while it is difficult to express fully the gratitude I feel, I must acknowledge the honor Sarwar has bestowed upon me by writing a poem titled "O' MY TALL HEETHERIYE". I am both humbled and honored, S. Sarwar. May God bless you with the power of the pen, paper, imagination, thoughts, feelings, and expressions. I hope you write in Kashmiri as well. *Khwaab....*

The author is a recipient of Sahitya Akademi Award

IFEEL AS THOUGH SARWAR'S WORDS ELUDE FULL UNDERSTANDING. THERE IS A SENSE THAT HIS POEMS LEAVE ME PONDERING, QUESTIONING: what can it be? What is he trying to say? And perhaps that is the true success of a writer—leaving the reader in contemplation, never fully offering easy answers

Does the Weather Affect Our Emotions?

Kim Meidenbauer

A s we move toward winter and colder temperatures in the northern hemisphere, many people are happy to beat the heat and enjoy a cool and cozy winter wonderland. And then there's another group wistfully looking back on the sunshine and warm weather that we've now left behind.

It's not news that people differ in their seasonal preferences, mention that they "run hot" or "run cold," or have strong opinions on what their ideal temperature is. What might be more surprising is that the subjective experience of the weather is what actually affects us emotionally, with the objective conditions playing a very small role.

A recent study my colleagues and I published in BMC Psychology linked the objective, highly localized weather conditions to individuals' perceptions of their environments ("How hot or cold is it?"), how comfortable the temperature was, and how they were feeling in the moment. Study participants completed a number of these surveys on a smartphone in outdoor environments during the summertime, and they had GPS and time information, so the objective weather conditions could be linked to the time and place they completed the survey.

We expected that there



may be a reasonably strong relationship between actual weather conditions and whether or not people reported it being hot or cold, comfortable or uncomfortable. And we were quite wrong! If we looked at the relationship across all of the people in the study, our results showed a pretty weak relationship between the actual weather and perceptions of temperature or comfort. Even on days where it was over 90 degrees F, some people were perfectly comfortable, and on days when it was 73 degrees F and sunny, some people were uncomfortable and found it too cold!

More importantly, we did see a relationship between temperature discomfort and negative emotions—if people reported feeling uncomfortably hot, they felt more tired, distressed, and generally unhappy. However, we only see this relationship if people said that the heat made them uncomfortable—which means on a 95-degree day, plenty of

people said it was very hot but they weren't uncomfortable, and therefore, the scorching heat didn't seem to have a negative impact on them. On some level, it's not sur-

prising that discomfort should lead to more negative emotions. Discomfort is by definition not an enjoyable experience. What is more important and more surprising to note is that these individual differences in comfort and perceived temperature are much larger and more important than the actual weather conditions themselves.

This opens up interesting questions about why people differ so much in their perceptions and comfort. There's a lot of evidence that physiology plays a role-depending on body composition, age, physical fitness, hormones, etc., you may thermoregulate better or run hotter/colder. But that is only one piece of the puzzle. It actually seems like personality traits might play a role. Preliminary results from my lab and other research have identified that trait neuroticism seems to amplify the relationship between temperature discomfort and negative emotions. Ultimately, this is one area where we still know very little, but is an exciting opportunity for additional scientific exploration.

This also means that if you disagree with your roommates or coworkers about the thermostat setting this winter, you can take solace in knowing that there's no "correct" temperature; it's all subjective anyway!

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

BUSINESS

Survey To Identify 1.37 Lakh Potential Entrepreneurs To Begin From Jan

CS Takes Stock Of Preparations With Stakeholders

Observer News Service

Chief Secretary, Atal Jammu-Dulloo Friday held a meeting of all the stakeholders to assess the measures taken for holding a baseline survey jointly by Labour & Employment & Planning Departments to identify around 1.37 lakh youth for turning them into successful entrepreneurs here.

Besides the Secretary, L&E Department and Secretary, PD & MD the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, School Education Department; Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education; DG, E&S; DG, Budget; MD, HADP; MD, JKRLM and Representatives from IIM,NABARD, JK Bank, BISAG-N besides other concerned officers.

Deputy Commissioners joined the meeting through video conferencing.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary was given demonstration of the online application through which this survey would be held in the field by around 20,000 investigators designated by the Planning Department to carry out this exercise in the length and breadth of the UT. Dulloo while speaking in the

meeting about this survey maintained that this exercise aims at



identifying J&K youth who are inclined towards self employment through different entrepreneurship activities with the handholding to be extended by government under Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan) here.

He urged the youth studying in different Universities/ Colleges here to take part in this survey for making it a meaningful exercise to know about your aspirations regarding self employment and the challenges you are facing to fructify them.

The Chief Secretary also advised the concerned to fetch as much data as possible from this survey to generate multiple analytics for the lucid understanding of all. He made out that this data would guide administration in the implementation of several other schemes and formulation of future policies.

He stressed on the respective Deputy Commissioners to designate a senior officer as nodal officer for continuous monitoring of this exercise there. He advised for holding training sessions for the investigators besides running sustained informational campaigns in both social and mainstream media for the awareness of masses

In his presentation the Secretary, L&E, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan informed the meeting that this activity has two major components to survey the existing enterprises for looking into the challenges they are facing in addition to identify potential entrepreneurs from our population.

Week-Long 'Urban Harvest' **Training Program Empowers New** Wave Of Urban Entrepreneurs

Observer News Service

Srinagar- With an aim to foster a sustainable agricultural ecosystem by equipping participants with cutting-edge skills, an entrepreneurship training program titled 'Urban Harvest: Mastering Soilless Cultivation for City Dwellers' concluded at Haran in District Ganderbal and Sopore in District Baramulla.

The week-long training program witnessed participation from a diverse group of aspiring urban farmers, entrepreneurs and students

The programme aimed to foster a sustainable agricultural ecosystem, introduced participants to modern soilless farming techniques, such as hydroponics and aquaponics, with a focus on sustainable food production in urban settings. It emphasized practical demonstrations, theoretical knowledge, and entrepreneurial guidance to help attendees establish their ventures in urban agriculture.

Experts in sustainable farming practices conducted sessions on topics like nutrient management, vertical farming setups, market linkages, and the economic potential of urban agriculture.

Dr Shahnaz Mufti, Professor, Division of Vegetable Science SKUAST-K, organizer of the programme, lauded the initiative of

C Experts in sustainable farming practices conducted sessions on topics like nutrient management. vertical farming setups, market linkages, and the economic potential of urban agriculture.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Govt. of India, New Delhi as a transformative step towards empowering youth and promoting self-reliance through urban agriculture.

She emphasized that soilless farming techniques could address the challenges of limited land and rising demand for fresh produce in cities.

The Program Coordinator acknowledged the efforts and support of Vice Chancellor, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganiae, Nodal officer MSME, Prof. H.R.Naik, Dean FOH, Prof. Shabir Hussain Wani and HOD Vegetable Science, Dr Asif Bashir Shikari.

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RBI Keeps Interest Rates Unchanged, Cuts CRR As Economy Slows

Press Trust Of India

Mumbai- The Reserve Bank of India on Friday kept its key interest rate unchanged but cut the cash reserve ratio that banks are required to park with the central bank, as it did a balancing act between inflation management and supporting economic growth.

With India's GDP seeing a sharper-than-anticipated dip in the July-September period to 5.4 per cent -- its slowest pace in seven quarters, inflation on the uptick and rupee under pressure, the RBI had few choices to make.

Its monetary policy committee, which consists of three RBI and an equal number of external members, kept the repurchase or repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent for a record 11th

meeting in a row.

Four of the six members of the panel voted for a status quo in rate, while retaining its policy stance at "neutral". External members - Nagesh Kumar and Ram Singh - voted for a quarterpoint reduction.

Announcing the monetary policy committee meeting decisions, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said the Cash Reserve Ratio -- the proportion of deposits that banks must set aside with the central bank -- has been cut by 50 basis points to 4 per cent, effective in two tranches on December 14 and December 28.

The cut will infuse Rs 1.16 lakh crore into the banking system and will soften short-term interest rates and enhance capacity of banks to extend credit and invigorates economic activity across sectors.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Date:- 06.12.2024 30.12.2024, 15:00 hrs Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on https://www.ireps.gov.in against Tender Notice no. 433-Sig-T-35-24-25 Closing Date/Time 30.12.2024, 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed

NIT HEADER				
Contract Type	Works			
Name of Work	 (i) Sectional Signal Maintenance. Contract (SSMC) for the sections of DSTE/FZR for one year. (ii) Replacement of overaged. Lightening and surge protection device and strengthening of existing SPD and earthing arrangements over Firozpur division. 			
Tender Closing Date/Time	30.12.2024, 15:00 hrs.			
Advertised Value (Rs.)	(i) 1,49,84,554.68 (ii) 1,70,40,636.69	J		
Earnest Money (Rs.)	(i) 2,24,900.00 (ii) 2,35,200.00	Period of Completion	(i) 12 Months (ii) 6 Months	
			3764/2024	
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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

NHPC Limited NHPC Office Complex, Sector-33, Faridabad – 121003, (CIN: L40101HR1975GOI032564) **SCHEDULE** [To be published in pursuance of Clause (7) of Regulation 23 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023] The petitioner above-named has filed a petition before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, New Delhi for determination of tariff for Dulhasti Power Station, Sewa-II Power Station & Uri-II Power Station The beneficiaries of the generating station are: i) PSPCL - Punjab ii) BRPL, BYPL & TPDDL - Delhi iii) UPCL - Uttarakhand iv) HPPC - Haryana v) Engg. Dept. - UT Chandigarh vii) JVVNL, JdVVNL & AVVNL - Rajasthan vi) UPPCL - Uttar Pradesh viii) PDD - J&K Dulhasti Power Station Sewa-II Power Station Uri-II Power Station Capacity of the generating station 390 MW 120 MW 240 MW ₹1.14.921.78 lakh as ₹229990.00 lakh as on 4. Approved capital cost of the ₹523298.66 lakh as on 31.03.2019 allowed by 31.03.2024 allowed by on 31.03.2019 allowed roject CERC vide order dtd by CERC vide order dtd CERC vide order dtd 27.11.2023 in petition 09.05.2022 in petition 17.08.2023 in petition no. 146/GT/2020 . no. 18/Gt/2021 no. 643/GT/2020 Authority which has approved the CERC CERC CERC apital cost Already in Commercia Scheduled date of commercial Already in Commercial Already in Commercial operation Operation Operation Operation Actual date of commercial 07.04.2007 24.07.2010 01.03.2014 operation Capital cost on the date o ₹507849.37 lakh ₹107745.87 lakh ₹217118.99 lakh mmercial operation Details of tarif (₹ in Lakh 8. Hydro Power Tariff for the Year-wise tariff sought to be determined SI. **Generating Station** previous year No. 2022-23 2023-24 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22

(2018-19)

92358.79

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-35-24-25 Closing Date/Time

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/ Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Aneeza Prince D/o Prince Ahmad Pala R/o Mamoosa Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 19-12-2020 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** fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/ Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Ab Ahad Najar S/o Ab Khaliq Najar R/o Nehalpora Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 08-12-1988 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 fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

fko

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Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class		fko	
Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in re- spect of delayed Birth			
Public Notice			
The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/ Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Asma Irshad D/o Irshad Ahmad Dar R/o Singhpora Tehsil Singhpora District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 09-05-2022 occurred at SDH Pattan In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.		Subject The regis has subrr Hajiweer 28-09-2 In this co this offici	itar Bi hitted a Teh 023 oc

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan

fko

Hanfia Mission Secondary School Kreeri, Baramulla, KMR.

Ref. No; HMSSK/342/2024 Dated: 05-12-2024

Fee structure For the year 2024

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

S. No	Class	Monthly Tuition Fee	Examination Fee	Remars
1	10th	900	500	
02	9th	900	500	
03	8th	800	400	
04	7th	750	300	
05	6th	750	300	
06	5th	600	250	
07	4th	550	250	
08	3rd	550	250	
09	2nd	550	250	
10	lst	550	250	
11	UKG	500	200	
12	LKG	500	200	
13	Nur	500	200	

Note:

Orphans Case is free category

Third child is free category

Poor student is concession category

Principal Hanfia Mission Secondary School Kreeri, Baramulla

	0						
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary Energy Charges are part of Annual Fixed Charges and is 50% of Annual Fixed Charges					
SI.	Hydro Power	Tariff for the Year-wise tariff sought to be determined			ned		
No.	Generating Station Dulhasti Power Station	previous year (2023-24)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
1.	Annual Fixed Charges	85167.65	74924.36	76563.08	78321.57	80159.96	82112.90
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary Energy Charges are part of Annual Fixed Charges and is 50% of Annual Fixed Charges					
01	Hydro Power	Tariff for the	Ye	ar-wise tarif	f sought to	be determir	ned
SI. No.	Generating Station Sewa-II Power Station	previous year (2018-19)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.	Annual Fixed Charges	24,614.21	25,241.52	25,220.75	25,388.24	26,352.37	22,000.34
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary E	nergy Char and is 50%	ges are part 6 of Annual			es
SI.	Hydro Power	Tariff for the	Ye	ar-wise tarif	f sought to	be determir	ned
No.	Generating Station Sewa-II Power Station	previous year (2023-24)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
1.	Annual Fixed Charges	22,000.34	20,289.26	21,003.11	21,750.67	22,336.90	22,944.19
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary Energy Charges are part of Annual Fixed Charges and is 50% of Annual Fixed Charges					
SI.	Hydro Power	Tariff for the	Ye	ar-wise tarif	f sought to	be determir	ned
SI. No.	Generating Station Uri-II Power Station	previous year (2018-19)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.	Annual Fixed Charges	40950.91	44658.64	44291.73	43971.97	45960.82	45346.59
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary Energy Charges are part of Annual Fixed Charges and is 50% of Annual Fixed Charges					
SI.	Hydro Power	Tariff for the	Ye	ar-wise tarif	f sought to	be determir	ned
No.	Generating Station Uri-II Power Station	previous year (2023-24)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
1.	Annual Fixed Charges	45346.59	44650.32	45629.42	45912.66	35939.72	38087.00
2.	Primary Energy Charges	Primary Energy Charges are part of Annual Fixed Charges and is 50% of Annual Fixed Charges					
	copy of the petition ma ttps://www.nhpcindia.com	de for determinatio	on of tariff	is posted u	nder 'Comn	nercial' on t	the websit
b	he suggestions and objection e filed by any person, includ ne Petitioner within 30 days	ding the beneficiarie	s through the				

96221.21

Place : Faridabad Date : 29.11.2024

Dulhasti Power Station

Annual Fixed Charges

1.

(Ajay Shrivas) General Manager (Comml.), Commercial Divisio

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class	Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class
ubject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth Public Notice	Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth Public Notice
ne registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) as submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Falak Zehra D/o Muzaffar Hussain Dar R/o Reshipora ajiweera Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 8-09-2023 occurred at SDH Pattan a this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact is office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. Executive Magistrate 1st Class Naib Tehsildar Pattan	The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Siman Fatima D/o Kaisar Hussain Reshi R/o Hanjiweera Payeen Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 14-06-2020 occurred at SDH Pattan In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. Executive Magistrate 1st Class fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

STATE

Bijbehara's Gund Chal Emerges As Onion Sapling Hub



Agencies

ANANTNAG: Gund Chal Arwani, a village in Bijbehara tehsil of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, is making a mark as a major hub for onion sapling cultivation. Spanning over 450 kanals of fertile land, the village generates substantial revenue and supplies saplings across the region.

According to locals, the village has been reliant on vegetable cultivation for decades. This season, hundreds of kanals are dedicated to onion saplings, with quintals being grown to meet the demand in Kashmir and Jammu divisions, including areas like Rajouri and Ramban.

"The entire village, comprising around 200 families, is actively engaged in sapling cultivation during this season. Our land is highly fertile, and crores of saplings are being grown," said Ghulam Nabi, a local farmer.

Both men and women are working tirelessly in the fields to ensure the stock is sold before snowfall, he added. "We are thankful to the Agriculture Department for their guidance and support, including help with marketing, machinery, and fertilizers.

Chief Agriculture Officer An-

Apple Growers Face Losses As Rates Plummet Again



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Apple growers in Jammu and Kashmir are once again grappling with losses as ummet in Indian

antnag, Aijaz Ahmad Dar, said that Gund Chal has become a focal point for vegetable cultivation, with 450 kanals of land under cultivation and 200 families actively participating. "The village has been ad-

opted under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana scheme, which focuses on transitioning from inorganic to organic farming," he said.

Onion saplings from Gund Chal cater to the demand across Kashmir and parts of Jammu, including Ramban, Kishtwar, and Rajouri. During the Rabi season, sapling cultivation is the village's primary focus, while in spring, the emphasis shifts to cucumbers.

"About 80% of the cucumbers grown here are exported outside Kashmir, providing another significant source of income," Dar said.

Dar highlighted the department's efforts in supporting the farmers, including the provision of tubewells, organic fer-tilizers, chemicals, machinery, and toolkits.

"For marketing, we organize symposiums and showcase village produce at stalls. This village generates an impressive annual revenue of ₹15 crores," he added–(KNO)

Covid-19 Among Other Diseases Claimed 4032 Lives In J&K Since 2021: Govt 01st January 2021 to 02nd De-cember 2024, and four deaths

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has recorded 4032 deaths due to various diseases including Covid-19 since 2021, the latest data shared by the government revealed.

These include five deaths due to AES, 29 deaths due to dengue, seven deaths due to human rabies, seven deaths due to meningitis, 53 deaths due to SRAI, one death each due to typhus and typhoid. Also, 2913 deaths due to

Covid-19 were reported from

have been reported due to H1N1 during 2020-2024. "Under the National Health Mission (NHM), funds are released to States/UTs under flexible pools on a lump sum basis, providing them with greater flexibility to utilize the funds based on their priorities," the government

said, adding that financial support is provided to States/ UTs for the implementation of health programs, based on their proposals in the

Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs)

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare supports States/UTs through various schemes, including the National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme (NVB-DCP), National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), and National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP), all under the NHM, to prevent and control communicable diseases, it added.

diverse topics, including labor

reforms, the implementation of

labor codes, and their implica-

tions. Interactive sessions have

been designed to guide the par-

ticipants through the nuances

of the existing labour laws and

the Labour Codes, and best

practices that will help imple-

ment Labour reforms success-

Deputy Labour Commis-

Kashmir

Commissioner (Central), I&K

Ideel Saleem; Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Of-

ficers, Labour Inspectors and

other officers and officials of

the Labour Department are

participating in the 2-Day Ca-

pacity Building Programme.

fully in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mehmood; Deputy

sioner,

Labour Deptt Organizes Capacity **Building Programme On Labour Reforms**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The two-day Capacity-Building Programme on Labor Reforms organized by the Labour Department commenced on Friday at Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir here.

The programme is aimed to improve understanding among the Labour Department Officers and officials regarding Labour Laws and familiarization with the new Labour Codes.

Labour Commissioner J&K, S. Charandeep Singh, welcomed the participants and resource persons, highlighting the importance of such initiatives to enhance the knowledge, skills, and effectiveness of the officers and officials of the Labour Department who are responsible for implementing, monitoring, and enforcing labour laws and poli-

cies in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the participants to actively participate in all the sessions and engage in the discussions, as this will be an excellent opportunity to enhance their understanding and capabilities so that they become efficient, responsive and labour friendly.

Dr. Onkar Sharma, former Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) and presently Advisor to the premier V. V. Giri



National Labour Institute, a distinguished expert in labor laws and reforms led the sessions related to the existing Labour Laws and the new Labour Codes viz. The Code on Wages, Industrial Relations Code, Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code and the Social Security Code.

Dr. Sanjay Upadhyaya, Senior Fellow at V. V. Giri National Labour Institute addressed the participants on the topic 'Human Rights and Constitutional Perspective on Labour'. Dr Aneeda Jan Guest Faculty from University of Kashmir addressed on the topic 'Effective Delivery of Quasi-Judicial functions'

The program commenced today morning and will con-

'BSNL's Fibre Upgrade To Revolutionize

No Hepatitis B Deaths Reported In J&K Since 2018: Govt across the country, including in

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: No deaths have been reported due to Hepatitis B in Jammu and Kashmir since 2018, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. In a reply to a question in Parliament, the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Anupriya Patel said that no fatalities have occurred in Jammu and Kashmir due to

Hepatitis B. "Hepatitis B is a viral infection that causes chronic liver disease and can lead to severe complications such as cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma, which can ultimately result in death," she said.

Patel added that efforts to combat viral hepatitis, including Hepatitis B, are carried out through a coordinated approach between the central and state governments under the National Health Mission (NHM). The National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP), launched under NHM, employs various preventive strategies

Jammu and Kashmir. 'These measures include universal screening of antenatal women to prevent vertical transmission, screening of high-risk groups and the gen-

eral population, screening of all blood donors for Hepatitis B and screening individuals undergoing surgical procedures," the minister said. Officials here said this success is due to the sustained ef-

forts of the state health department in managing and treating the disease.

"Thousands of individuals across J&K have been screened and treated under programmes like the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme, which provides free treatment and vaccination to those affected by the disease," an official said. He said despite these achievements, challenges remain, particularly in districts with limited testing facilities. "Further improvements are needed in healthcare infrastructure," he added

Acquisition Of Budgam Land In 2011 **Defense Ministry Deposits** ₹181 Cr Out Of Rs 234 Cr

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Defense sanctioned the acquisition of land in Budgam in 2011 at an estimated cost of Rs 234.25 crore, with Rs 181.54 crore already deposited for landowners' compensation, Lok Sabha was informed on Friday.

The MoD said this while responding to a query raised by Member Parliament, Aga Ruhullah Mehdi regarding compensation for land acquired in 2011-2012 at Karewa Damodar, near Srinagar airport, affecting nearly 600 families.

It said the acquisition, valued at an estimated cost of Rs 234.25 crore, was approved on March 4, 2011. "As of now, Rs. 181.54 crore has already been deposited by the Defense Estates Office Srinagar with the Deputy Commissioner of Budgam for the release of compensation to the affected landowners," the government said. discrepancies "However.

were found in the area of acquired land mentioned in the Form J Notification issued by the Jammu and Kashmir Government under the J&K Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (RAIP) Act, 1968. The acquired land on the ground was found to be less than what was reflected in the notification," it added.

The MoD said the Directorate General of Defence Estates (DGDE) has requested the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to amend the notification accordingly. The compensation award will be processed once the necessary amendments are made to the Form J Notification, it added.

The ministry further clarified that there is no provision to reassess compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, as the land has already been acquired under the J&K RAIP Act, 1968.

'Include Cesarean Deliveries **Under PMJAY Scheme In J&K'**

Agencies

included under PMJAY, it will

be a tremendous relief for the

poorer sections of society," said

Zakir Ahmad, a resident of Pul-

He highlighted that cesarean

deliveries are critical medical

procedures essential for ensur-

ing the safety of mothers and

wama.

newborns "Excluding such a

under horticulture and rising markets.

Growers from various regions expressed concern over reduced production this year due to hailstorm damage, which compounded their financial woes. While initial demand for apples was strong, a subsequent sharp decline in prices worsened their situation.

"During the festival season, prices surged, providing some respite, but they have fallen again in recent weeks, leaving us facing losses," lamented the growers.

Basit Ahmad Bhat, a grower from Shopian, explained that demand was robust at the start of the season but later dwindled, leading to a market downturn of about 30%.

"For a brief period, prices rose again, but now they are falling with each passing day," he said, attributing the downturn to the bulk import of apples from countries like Iran and Afghanistan.

"Growers are struggling as the costs of labor, transportation, and packaging materials have skyrocketed, while apple

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A total of 138 peo-

ple from Jammu and Kashmir

have been evacuated from war-

hit countries across the world

in the last two years, Minister

of State for External Affairs

Kirti Vardhan Singh informed

people evacuated, nine were

rescued under Operation Ajay,

one under Operation Kaveri,

and 128 under Operation Gan-

ga from various war-torn coun-

The MoS said that the gov-

ernment accords the highest

priority to the safety, secu-

tries, including Ukraine.

The MoS said that of the 138

on Friday.

production, the local market remains weak.

that despite the increasing area

prices have dropped. Many are

unable to even recover their

Growers also pointed out

expenses," Bhat added.

"The cost of fertilizers, pesticides, labor, and transportation has surged, but the returns are minimal," they said.

Basheer Ahmad Basheer, president of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers and Dealers Union, described the situation as dire.

"The market has shrunk by nearly 40% compared to the rates at the beginning of the season, leaving growers anxious about their future," he said. Basheer cited the bulk import of apples from Iran and Afghanistan as a major reason for the decline in demand for Kashmiri apples. Additionally, the ongoing cold wave across India has further impacted the market. He noted that approximately 20% of the apple produce is yet to reach the market, excluding the stocks kept in cold storage units.

The apple growers have urged authorities to regulate imports and address their concerns to prevent further losses in the future–(KNO)

operations in coordination

with other stakeholders in the

Government of India to safely

maintains constant commu-

nication with its counterparts

through diplomatic channels to

ensure the safety and security

of Indians during the evacua-

"If necessary, local volun-

teers from the Indian commu-

nity are engaged for logistical

support. 24/7 control rooms

are operated both at headquar-

ters and abroad to facilitate the

evacuation," it added.

tion process.

The government said it

evacuate stranded nationals.

Internet Connectivity In Kashmir'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: As a major boost to digital connectivity in Kashmir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) said on Friday that it has transitioned over 3,000 landline users from copper-based connections to Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) services this year, with more subscribers joining. General Manager (GM),

BSNL in Srinagar, Arvind Pandey said the initiative is expected to be a game-changer in delivering high-speed inter-net and reliable voice services to the region. He said the upgradation

drive, launched earlier this vear, is being offered to customers at no extra cost. "As part of the process, BSNL replaces outdated copper wiring with advanced optical fibre technology and installs Optical Network Terminals (ONTs) at customers premises," Pandey said, adding that this en-

Bharat Pibre

sures uninterrupted data and voice services while allowing users to retain their existing landline numbers.

The GM added, "Our mission is to provide hassle-free, high-speed connectivity to every corner of the valley. Fibre technology is a significant leap forward in overcoming the challenges posed by ageing copper wire infrastructure.

A senior executive of the telecom in Srinagar said that

BSNL FTTH plans start at just Rs 299 per month for urban subscribers and Rs 249 for rural users. "The plans offer

Shahid

Labour

ies under the Pradhan Manspeeds starting from 10 Mbps, tri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) along with a minimum of scheme, citing the financial 10GB of high-speed data and burden it imposes on economiunlimited local and STD callcally weaker families. Locals from various ur-

ing benefits," he said. The step comes as copper ban as well as the rural areas expressed wires have increasingly become unreliable due to wear concern that cesarand environmental factors. ean sections are "Copper-based networks cannot covered under PMJAY in J&K, not handle today's connectivity leaving underprivileged families to bear significant outof-pocket expenses. "If cesarean deliveries are

He said the response to the initiative has been overwhelming, with 2,800 subscribers already opting for the upgrade. "The feedback from consumers has been extremely positive. They are experiencing seamless internet connectivity and better voice call quality," he added.

vital service undermines the SRINAGAR: Scores of locals goal of universal health coverage and places an undue financial strain on marginalized families," he added.

People have called on the government to review the scheme's guidelines and extend its benefits to include cesarean deliveries. They argue that doing so would not only allevi-

thantri Jan Arogga Ia ate the financial stress on vulnerable populations but also improve maternal and neonatal healthcare outcomes across the Union Territory.

The proposal, implemented, could bring significant relief to

thousands of families while strengthening the region's health infrastructure to better meet its needs.

There are also appeals coming to fore via the social media as well to the Health and Medical Education Minister, Sakina Itoo, to intervene and address this pressing issue–(KNO)

Blue Suit To Be New Uniform For E-Courts, IT Section Staff Of HC

PM-JAY

MAROUF AHMAD

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has prescribed uniform for its e-Courts and I.T Section staff in both wings here and Jammu.

The uniform has been prescribed on the recommendations of the court's Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence Committee and has been approved by the Chief Justice, according to an order by Registrar General Shahzad Azeem.

For male members, Blue suit (pant and coat), white shirt, blue tie (with e-court logo) has been prescribed for e-court staff other than Class IV.

Female Staff can opt for blue ladies Suit (Salwar-Kameez) with blue coat bearing name badge, the order reads.

"The uniform shall be procured after every two completed years as per the policy presently in vogue in the High Court in respect of other High Court staff for whom uniform is already prescribed."

Two Drug Peddlers 138 J&K Residents Evacuated From **Arrested In Kupwara Observer News Service** War-Torn Countries In 2 Years

rity, and well-being of Indians SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Kupwara on Friabroad, launching evacuation

day said to have arrested two drug peddlers and recovered contraband substance and cash from their possession.

"A Police party of Police Station Kupwara arrested two drug peddlers during patrolling at Regipora Sumo Stand. They have been identified as Faizan Ahmad Zarger son of Reyaz Ahmad Zarger and Tulha Zarger son of Late Gh Hassan Zarger, both residents of Tikker, Kupwara. During search, 4 grams of Brown Sugar and Cash amounting to ₹35,000/- have been recovered from their possession," a police spokesman said in a statement.

Accordingly, police said that a case under FIR number 279/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Kupwara and investigation has been initiated.

J&K Police remains committed to curbing the menace of drug abuse and trafficking in the valley. The public is urged to cooperate by providing information related to drug-related activities to local police stations, police said.

Leopard Mauls Kid To

HANDWARA: A kid lost his life after being mauled by a leopard outside his house in Sharhama Qalamabad area of North Kashmir's Handwara. Local sources told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that a 2-year-old toddler

was walking outside his house when a leopard suddenly emerged and attacked him. Locals came to his rescue, forcing the leopard to escape from the spot. The kid was

rushed to the hospital where doctors declared him brought dead. The victim has been identified as Hasnain Nisar Teli, a resident of Sharhama Qalamabad.

Meanwhile, a man identified as Muhammad Shafi Gojar was critically injured in a bear attack at his prangam Zostan hamlet of South Kashmir's Tral.

He was taken to PHC Aripal where doctors referred him to SMHS Hospital Srinagar. His condition is stated to be critical. [KNT]

demands. Optical fibre, on the other hand, is not only durable but also ensures better service quality," an official said.

Death In Handwara Agencies

NEWS

CONTD. FROM **3RD PAGE**

Omar Govt At

governor Satya Pal Malik in 2018, was allowed to continue in his role to maintain continuity.

However, the status of his resignation remains unclear, although sources indicate that the elected government has consented to his continuation.

Both the Abdullah government and Raj Bhavan are currently awaiting a notification from the Union home ministry regarding the rules of business, which is expected to facilitate smoother governance in the region, the sources added.

La Niña Not

also decline. However, there is no one-to-one relationship between La Niña and snowfall in Kashmir," he reiterated.

While higher altitudes in Kashmir are witnessing some snowfall, he said that these events are not significant enough to influence the weather patterns across the Valley.

Pertinently, some reports have been attributing the dropping temperatures in Kashmir to the La Niña effect. Experts had earlier said that the La Niña phenomenon is set to intensify this winter, potentially leading to severe conditions in Kashmir and Ladakh. Predicted increases in snowfall and precipitation could make the regions even harsher.

Dr Ahmad added that as per instances of La Niña years in the past, the Himalayan region experienced above normal precipitation and below normal minimum temperature for 60% of the years (last 50 years) & 40% of the years having normal winter during La Niña years.

There may be some other factors also which can be attributed to above or below normal precipitation.

Notably, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed very little rain and snow the last few years due to the El Nino effect, which impacted the weather conditions across the region, including Kashmir Valley.

Kashmir Records

against previous night's minus 2.1 degree Celsius.

Furthermore, Shopian was the coldest place in Kashmir where the mercury settled at minus 6.6 degree Celsius. Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination, recorded a low of minus 6.5 degree Celsius while Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a low of minus 4.3 degree Celsius.

Also, Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 4.4 degree Celsius while Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded minus 3.4 degree Celsius. Kokernag in South Kashmir recorded a low of minus 2.4 degree Celsius.

Furthermore, the weatherman here has predicted further dip in the night temperature, saying that there is no forecast of any major wet spell weather and the minimum temperature would likely go down as well.

Director Meteorological department (MeT). Dr. Mukhtar, Ahmad, said, that the weather would remain generally dry till tomorrow, adding that generally cloudy weather with possibility of light rain over few plains & hilly areas of Jammu division & light rain and snow (higher reaches) over few places of Kashmir division during late evening of 8th to 9th forenoon.

He said that a few places of Jammu division may experience thunder with gusty winds during the 8th evening and night.

However, he said that from December 10 to 14, the weather would remain generally dry, adding that on December 15 & 16, light rain and snow is expected over isolated places.

Notably, the department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction (DMRRR) has issued a comprehensive advisory to combat ongoing cold wave conditions.

The Advisory has highlighted the need to pay special attention to vulnerable groups like the elderly and children during the cold wave phases. The guidelines issued by the J&K's

DMRRR department focus on safety measures for individuals, animals, and crops to mitigate the risks associated with severe cold weather.

During the cold wave phase, the advisory has asked residents in the region to limit outdoor exposure and dress in multiple layers of clothing. It has also insisted on using protective gear like hats, mufflers, and insulated shoes.

"Stay indoors as much as possible and minimize travel to prevent exposure to cold. Maintain warmth through healthy food, hot drinks, and proper hydration. Keep yourself dry. If wet then cover your head, neck, hands and toes adequately as the majority of heat loss occurs through these body parts. Change wet clothes immediately," reads the advisory.

The advisory has also flagged to take care of elderly people, newborns and children and check neighbours who live alone, especially the elderly about their wellbeing.

"Cover your head as most body heat is lost through the top of the head. Drink hot fluids regularly, as this will maintain body heat to fight cold," reads the advisory.

Before the cold wave, the advisory recommended staying updated on weather forecasts through radio, TV, and newspapers. It has also asked to stock essential items, including winter clothing, food, water, and emergency supplies.

"Ênsure doors and windows are properly sealed to block cold winds," states the DMRRR advisory.

In case of exposure to cold wave conditions, and to address frostbite and hypothermia, the advisory has stated to promptly warm affected areas and seek medical attention and not to ignore shivering, stating that It is the first sign that the body is losing heat.

The advisory has asked to avoid alcohol, stating that it reduces body temperature.

With regard to the agricultural and

YouTube

animal husbandry guidelines, the advisory states that farmers should irrigate plants lightly to protect crops and use mulch to preserve warmth.

The advisory reads that cultivating frost-resistant varieties and sheltering fields with windbreaks are recommended.

"Mulching nursery beds of soil near the main trunk with black or silver plastic sheets increase radiation absorption and provide a warmer thermal regime during winter. In case plastic mulch is not available, making thatches (jhuggis) of straw or Sarkanda grass or organic mulching will also protect crops from cold," reads the advisory.

For animals, the advisory states that livestock and poultry should be sheltered indoors, provided with bedding materials, and fed high-quality forage to meet increased energy demands during cold weather.

It also states that during Cold waves animals and livestock require more food for sustenance as the energy requirement goes up. It adds that extreme variations in temperature may affect the fertility rate of animals, during the optimum breeding season for buffaloes /cattle.

"Cover the animal habitat from all sides during night in order to avoid direct exposure of animals to cold winds. Apply some bedding materials such as dry straw under animals during winters. Avoid giving cold feed and cold water to the animals," states the advisory.

Kashmir Faces Water

Irrigation and Flood Control (IFC) for Kashmir and also with additional charge of CE PHE Jal Shakti, Er. Braham Jyoti Sharma said despite the ongoing dry spell with reduced water levels in the water bodies, they were managing 'adequate' water supply in the region.

"Our rivers, ponds, and springs are drying up because of the lack of rainfall and snowfall. These water sources are critical for our drinking water supply and agricultural needs. We are hoping for precipitation soon, as natural recharge remains beyond human intervention," CE IFC said.

In response to the crisis, he said that they have taken steps to stabilize the water supply, stating that the irrigation demand has significantly decreased with the end of the agricultural season in the region.

"For now, we are managing to maintain adequate drinking water supply, but the lack of precipitation poses a serious challenge for the coming months," a top officer stated.

Another senior official from Irrigation and Flood control department highlighted the critical role of snowfall in sustaining Kashmir's water resources. "Snowfall acts as a natural reservoir, feeding glaciers, streams, and rivers during the summer months. Without sufficient snow, the region could face severe water shortages during peak demand periods," official said.

The officer said snowfall was

essential for replenishing streams and rivers in the region, stating that it serves as a summer reserve, and its absence could lead to increased strain on our water resources.

The officer added that while the onset of winter has brought a marked reduction in demand due to the end of irrigation activities, the departure of seasonal populations has also enhanced the water supply in the region.

The officials also acknowledged that despite ongoing mitigation efforts there was growing pressure on water reserves, stating that the rainfall and snowfall remained the only sustainable solutions to the valley's deepening water crisis.

"We are doing everything in our control to manage the supply, but without nature's help, our resources will remain under threat," the official

said. Winter Break

onwards for preparatory arrangements for the ensuing Board Examinations of class 10th, 11th and 12th, the order reads.

"All teachers shall remain available as required for any online guidance to students during vacation period," it said.

The government also warned that any default on the part of Heads of Institutions or Teaching staff in observance of the schedule shall attract strict action under the Rules. **10th-12th Exams**

Education (JKBOSE) said that they were working to conduct the annual regular board exams of 10th to 12th standard from the third week of February.

"Although we have not decided any date yet regarding the conduct of annual regular exams of 10th, 11th and 12th standard. But the board is charting out a mechanism to commence the exams probably in between February-10 to February-15," he said.

The official added that "This time we will try to conduct the exams of 10th, 11th and 12th standard a month earlier so that students will be able to carry on their studies as per the previous academic session (Nov-Dec)

On asking about the time to announce the results, the official said, "We will try to announce the results at earliest. I think it will take at least 45-50 days to assess the question papers and some more days to prepare the results respectively."

The official further said that in order to safeguard the time of candidates, "The students will be given a provisional admission so that their time is not wasted."

Earlier, the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has said that the government has decided to restore the academic session up to 9th standard to November-December instead of March session.

Omar had further said, "However, in case of the students of 10th to 12th classes, we cannot restore the academic session this year but in the 2025, we

will revert the schedule as per the old scheme and their exams will also be held before winter vacations." (KNO) **Govt Pushes**

who are waiting for their pension for a long time can get it.

She said that many specially-abled individuals and widows, who rely on these pensions as their primary source of income, face severe hardships due to lack of timely financial support. She added that Rs 1000 per month is very less and increasing it to Rs 3000 per month is under active consideration of the government.

Working Towards

strong focus on preserving the unique identity of the region".

He made it unequivocally clear that there can be no trade-off between the progress of the Jammu and Kashmir region and the dignity of its people and that both must advance hand in hand, the spokesman said.

The chief minister reiterated his pledge to work tirelessly for the welfare of the people, vowing to remain steadfast in addressing public grievances and advancing the restoration of statehood and the region's overall development.

'Satellite Townships

the people of Kashmir. He said there is no need to create a controversy. "We are still dealing with the repercussions of the PDP's past actions. If any satellite township is established, it will be for the local people. There is no need to make an issue out of it," Wani said during a press conference at Nawa-e-Subh party headquarters.

Tanvir Sadiq, NC's Chief Spokesman, said that the government would release an official response to the PDP's objections. "Every decision we make will always be for the betterment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," Sadiq said, urging the public not to overstate the controversy.

JKSA to Hold

public address, the CM had highlighted the formation of a sub-committee to examine the matter thoroughly and ensure fairness in the system.

The committee is expected to review the existing reservation structure and suggest reforms that would better serve the aspirations of all sections of the population, especially the youth.

The JKSA, in its call for the protest, highlighted that the current reservation policy has led to widespread dissatisfaction, particularly among students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who feel that the system is not catering to their needs effectively.

The association aims to highlight these issues and urge the government to take swift action to rectify the anomalies in the reservation system.

KPDCL To Close

Electric Subdivisions to settle their

bills. "There are still a large number of domestic consumers with huge opening balances who are yet to approach their divisions to settle their dues," she added, while advising them to not waste this final opportunity offered under the scheme.

The Chief Engineer further stated that after the closure of the Scheme, KPDCL shall be left with no option but to opt for legal course of action & disconnection of those domestic consumers.

KEEMA Raises

J&K's power infrastructure, for bypassing these provisions.

"Tenders under the RDSS have been issued on a turnkey basis, excluding local manufacturers," Khan said. This has resulted in 90% of key materials such as steel tubular poles, aluminum conductors, and electrical hardware being sourced from outside, depriving MSEs of critical opportunities.

In a statement issued by KEEMA, they said that they have already brought these issues to the attention of the Chief Minister, who assured intervention, but no concrete measures have followed. Khan warned that if the trend continues, an additional 300 MSEs could face imminent closure, with devastating effects on employment and the regional economy.

"The survival of MSMEs is vital for the economic stability of Jammu and Kashmir. Authorities must enforce MSME procurement policies and uphold the spirit of 'Make in India' to prevent an industrial disaster," Khan urged.

KEEMA called for immediate action at both Union Territory and Central levels to ensure the enforcement of MSME policies. The association emphasized that the survival of local enterprises is essential to safeguard the region's industrial growth and employment.

As the government remains under pressure to address these grievances, the fate of Jammu and Kashmir's MSMEs hangs in the balance.

J&K Achieves

duplicate records and ensuring that benefits are directed to genuine beneficiaries.

"The nationwide digitization initiative has led to the de-duplication of over 45.16 lakh ration cards, with Jammu and Kashmir making a significant contribution to this effort."

Officials noted that the transition to a digital system not only reduces fraud but also streamlines the process for citizens to access their entitlements.

"No major challenges were reported in digitizing ration cards in rural or remote areas of the Union Territory. The government credited the success of this initiative to effective planning and collaboration with local authorities. Efforts are now focused on raising awareness about the benefits of digitization and encouraging beneficiaries to regularly update their details in the system."



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UNRAVEL KASHMIR

OR SCAN



SPORTS

Starc, Reddy Shine On Day 1 As Australia Draw First Blood

Press Trust of India

ADELAIDE: Seasoned pacer Mitchell Starc made the most of a moving pink ball for a career-best six-wicket haul as India flattered to deceive to let Australia hold all the aces on day one of the day-night Test here on Friday.

Opting to bat, India had it under control at 69 for one before they lost their way to settle for 180 all out at stroke of dinner.

A fearless Nitish Reddy (42 off 54) was the sole man responsible for taking his team past the 150-run mark, adding valuable runs with the lower-order.

Australia did well to reach 86 for one at stumps with Marnus Labuschagne (20 batting off 67) and Nathan McSweeney (38 batting off 97) finding welcome runs.

The conditions remained challenging for the batters through the day but the pitch had enough runs for the taking. The hosts would be backing

themselves to surpass India's



total on day two, considering the easier batting conditions in

daylight. Birthday boy Jasprit Bumrah was once again the best Indian bowler on show and picked up the only wicket to fall in Australia's innings, having Usman

Khawaja caught at first slip

with a beauty. The Indian pace spearhead will need more support from the fellow fast bowlers on Saturday. In the second session, Starc

made the pink ball talk to take his maiden five-wicket haul

against India.

Having reduced the visitors to 82 for four at tea, Australia took the remaining six wickets at the cost of 98 runs before dinner break was taken.

Starc sizzled with his trademark inswingers to remove R

Ashwin and Harshit Rana while Cummins used the short ball effectively

Rohit Sharma (3 off 23), batting in the middle order after six years, was trapped in front by Boland with a ball that jagged back from length.

Pant (21 off 35) played his trademark aggressive game before falling to a sharp bouncer from Cummins.

Reddy, who impressed on his debut in Perth, added muchneeded runs to the total alongside number eight Ashwin (22 off 22), who replaced Washington Sundar in the playing eleven.

In the first session, it was Starc who landed the timely blows as India squandered a promising start to reach 82 for four at tea.

Starc removed opener K L Rahul (37 off 64 balls) and Virat Kohli (7 off 8 balls) in quick succession to turn the tide in Australia's favour. That was after a 69-run stand between Rahul and Shubman Gill (31 off 51).

"By that stage, he used

Short TAKES

Bhuvneshwar, Hazlewood Excited To Be Back At RCB

Veteran Indian seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Australian pacer Josh Hazlewood have expressed their excitement at returning to Royal Challengers Bengaluru ahead of the next edition of IPL. Both players were picked by RCB at the mega auc-

tion last month in Riyadh. Bhuvneshwar, who began his IPL journey with RCB in 2009, is looking forward to shoulder the team's bowling responsibilities for the first time since he started playing in the league.

"Really happy to be part of RCB, it's where I started in 2009. I want to thank RCB management for considering me and a big shout out to the RCB fans for showing so much love. Looking forward to a great season," said Bhuvneshwar in a release.

For Hazlewood, his previous stint with RCB was during the COVID pandemic, when matches were not played in Bangalore.

Despite this, he left a lasting impression, taking 23 wickets in 15 games at an economy of 8.26.

Reflecting on his return, Hazlewood said, "We've got the best fans in the competition, every game feels like a home game. So, I can't wait. Big thanks to the management for getting me back on board this year."

'Won My PL Trophies Fairly': **Mourinho Hits Back At Guardiola**

ose Mourinho said the Premier League trophies he won at Chelsea were achieved fairly, responding to Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola's comments that he had six English top-flight titles while the Portuguese coach only had three.

Guardiola was asked at a press conference whether he could face a fate similar to Mourinho.

"I hope not in my case... he won three, I won six.. but we are the same like that," Guardiola answered. In his response to the Spaniard, Mourinho alluded

to City's charges over alleged violations of the Premier League's financial rules ranging from 2009 to 2018, which the club has always denied.

"Guardiola said something about me... he won six trophies and I won three, but I won fairly and cleanly," Turkish outlet Hurriyet quoted Mourinho as saying on Friday, ahead of his team Fenerbahce's clash with Besiktas.

"If I lost, I want to congratulate my opponent because he was better than me. I don't want to win by dealing with 150 court cases."

Mourinho has taken shots at City before, saying he was hoping he could add a fourth Premier League medal to his cabinet if City are stripped of their titles and United, who finished second in 2017-18, are awarded the Premier League trophy. Fourth-placed City visit Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Vinicius Nears Comeback As Ancelotti Admits Concern

Deal Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti confirmed that N forward Vinicius Jr will return for their Champions League match against Atalanta next week, as the team seeks to regain momentum in their LaLiga encounter with Girona on Saturday.

The Brazilian sustained a leg muscle injury in their 3-0 LaLiga win at Leganes on Nov. 24 before Real slumped to two defeats in three games, losing to Liverpool and Athletic Bilbao either side of a home win wer Getafe



India Enter U-19 Asia Cup

Press Trust of India

SHARJAH: Vaibhav Suryavanshi was the star of the show again with a second successive half-century as India stormed into the U-19 Asia Cup ODI final with a comprehensive seven-wicket victory over Sri Lanka here on Friday.

The 13-year-old wh became the youngest cricketer ever to be bought at an IPL auction last month, smashed five sixes and six fours for his 36-ball 67 as India chased down a target of 174 with as many as 170 balls to spare. India will face Bangladesh in the final at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Opting to bat, Sri Lanka could only manage 173 in strokes at the other end as the duo raced to 87 for no 46.2 overs despite a valiant effort from Lakvin Abeysinghe (69 off 110) and Sharujan Shanmuganathan (42 off 78).

loss in eight overs before Vihas Thewmika gave Sri Lanka their first breakthrough by removing the batter. Their innings struggled But Suryavanshi showed to gain momentum as Inremarkable maturity as he dian bowlers were in full kept the run-rate ticking control with Chetan Shardespite losing his opening

Indian Bowlers Have Not Really Used Pink Ball Well: Gavaskar

Press Trust of India

ADELAIDE: Batting great Sunil Gavaskar has expressed his disappointment with the Indian bowlers' lack of success with the pink ball on the opening day of the sec-ond Test against Australia here, saying they ought to have done better.

Australia were comfort-

ably placed at 86 for one

back in, as it did to Nathan sively swing as well. McSweeney in the Perth Test, or to Labuschagne in a really important word, the Perth Test, like what and it's a bit of an under-Bumrah did. The Indian rated word as well, and bowlers have not really that's 'momentum'. It was used the pink ball as well all in favour of India. as they should have."

"A difficult position to Meanwhile, former come back from in life Australia opener Mat-thew Hayden called Starc and sport is those opportunities to wrestle back a "magician with the pink momentum, and Mitchell ball" after the left-arm Starc did that in only the quick ran through the Inway he can - when the



dian batting line-up.

broadcaster about Starc,

Hayden said, "He has that

scrambled seam delivery

that goes across the right-

hander, but when he does

have that ability - which

he did - I must admit I

was a little surprised. I've

never really seen the pink

ball swing into the sort of

40th over and so aggres-

with the

48 runs.

Speaking

defeated Bangladesh Pakistan by seven wickets, completing a modest chase of 117 in 22.1 overs in the first semi-final in Dubai.

male (2/32), and Ayush Mhatre (2/37) wreaking havoc in the middle overs. India's chase was built on a solid foundation laid by Avush Mhatre (34 off 28) as he put on a stand of 91 with Suryavanshi for the opening wicket.

ma (3/34). Kiran Chor-

from Bihar troubled the Sri Lankan bowlers from the beginning as he started with consecutive sixes and a boundary off Sigera, who ended up giving away 31 runs in his opening over.

The young left-hander

crucial association with C Andre Siddharth (22). Mohamed Skipper Amaan (25 not out) and

partner, forging

KP Karthikeya (11 not out) then completed the chase. **Brief Scores:** Sri Lanka 173; 46.2 overs

anothe

Mhatre too played his

(Lakvin Abeysinghe 69, Sharujan Shanmuganathan 42; Chetan Sharma 3/34, Kiran Chormale 2/32. Avush Mhatre 2/37) lost to India 175/3: 21.4 overs (Vaibhav Survavanshi 67, Mhatre 34, Mohamed Amaan 25 not out) by seven wickets.

at stumps after bowling out India for 180 in their first innings, thanks to pacer Mitchell Starc's sixwicket haul.

Speaking on Star Sports, Gavaskar said, "They have to make the batters play as much as they can. And this is what happens when you make the batters play as much as you can.

"You can set them up by bowling a couple of deliveries outside and then get the ball to move

lights are like the way they are and with that Starc was the wreckerbeautiful-coloured ball in in-chief for Australia as he took six Indian wickets for his hand. He's just a magician with the pink ball."

Having reduced the visitors to 82 for four at tea. Australia took the remaining six wickets at the cost of 98 runs before dinner break was taken.

Starc sizzled with his trademark inswingers to remove R Ashwin and Harshit Rana while Pat Cummins used the short ball effectively.

"Seeing Vinicius back is good news, it gives us more encouragement," Ancelotti told a press conference on Friday.

"He has recovered very well. He won't be in tomorrow's game but he'll be ready for the next one, in the Champions League.'

Both Vinicius and David Alaba were seen during the team's training session on Friday but the Austria defender needs more time to recover full fitness.

"Alaba has encouraged us a lot in training but he needs another month to be ready to play in January," Ancelotti added.

"In December he will continue to work individually and little by little he will also join the team. But the deadline for him is next year."

Real, second in the standings and four points behind Barcelona with a game in hand, visit Girona.

Verstappen's Feud With Russell Overshadows Hamilton's Last Race For Mercedes

Agencies

ABU DHABI: Two of Formula 1's top drivers exchange bitter personal attacks. All-time great Lewis Hamilton is bidding an emotional farewell to Mercedes. And by the way, the constructor's title is still on the line.

The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix is loaded with drama at the end of a 24-race F1 season. Despite Max Verstappen wrapping up his fourth driver title in Las Vegas two weeks ago, the Red Bull star is still the centre of attention for a feud with George Russell of Mercedes.

Russell branded Verstappen "a bully" and accused him of threatening behaviour following a dispute between the two in qualifying at the Qatar Grand Prix last week. Verstappen was pushed off pole position in Qatar in favour of Russell and has said Russell lied to get him a penalty.

Verstappen is aiming for his 10th race win of the

season on Sunday in Abu longed farewell has been Dhabi. That's an impressive much more of a strain on his feat by most drivers' standards but not for Verstappen, who won 15 races in 2022 and topped it with 19 last year. The whole weekend in marred his race in Qatar.



to win the title?

Abu Dhabi will be a long goodbye for Lewis Hamilton as he leaves Mercedes, where he won six of his seven titles, and joins Ferrari for 2025.

Hamilton is driving in Abu Dhabi with the names of 150 fans on his car as part of a "Thank you, Lewis" campaign by Mercedes. The move to Ferrari was

announced before the season began and Hamilton admitted Thursday the prothe title in Qatar.

"A win is what we need. emotions than he expected. think we're going to need to have both cars on Hamilton is out of form and was pessimistic about the podium if we want to finishing on a high after clinch the championship penalties and a puncture unless something very disastrous happened to the McLaren," Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr. said Thursday.

Doohan leads new wave of rookies

Hamilton's move to Ferrari shocked F1 when it was announced in February, and it set off a chain reaction of driver moves elsewhere.

Next year, F1 will have What does McLaren need its largest influx of young drivers in years as estab-Either McLaren or Ferlished names switch teams rari will end a long wait or leave the grid.

for an F1 constructors title One of the new faces is on Sunday. McLaren hasn't on the grid in Abu Dhabi won the lucrative prize for after Alpine opted to give teams since 1998 and Fer-Jack Doohan an early taste rari's last win was in 2008. of F1. He replaces Esteban Ocon for the last race of the McLaren takes a lead of 21 points into the weekseason. Doohan, a 21-yearend after a heavy penalty old Australian, is the son for Lando Norris last week of motorcycle racing great ended its chance of sealing Mick Doohan. (AP)

Messi Wins MLS MVP Award: Latest On Long List Of Honors For Inter Miami Star

Agencies

FORT LAUDERDALE: It was a rare instance of Lionel Messi stepping on a soccer field and having no idea what was happening.

There they were, more than 250 Inter Miami academy players, a slew of kids lined up at midfield in a formation that spelt out three letters: MVP. And when Messi saw his children, he realized they were holding a trophy.

That's how Messi learned he was Major League Soccer's best player in 2024. Messi is the MLS MVP,

even after a season where he missed 15 of Inter Miami's 34 regular-season matches with injuries or commitments to Argentina's national team.

He factored into a leaguehigh 36 goals – scoring 20, assisting on 16 others – for the highest rate per 90 minutes in MLS history.

"Truly, it is an honour for me to receive this award from all of you," Messi told



the academy players. MLS revealed the voting results Friday. Messi edged out Columbus Crew forward Cucho Hernández for the award, which is determined by a poll of players, club technical staff and select media members.

The club voters preferred Hernández over Messi by a slight margin; Messi was the choice of 41% of players and 43% of the media.

Messi wound up with 38.4% of the average vote, Hernández got while 33.7%. Portland Timbers midfielder Evander (9.2%), DC United's Christian Benteke (7.1%), and Messi's Inter Miami teammate Luis

Suárez (2.2%) rounded out the top five in the voting. Messi's win capped a 2024 campaign where he led Inter Miami to the Supporters Shield and the best regular season record in MLS history, plus captained Argentina to a Copa America title. Inter Miami fell in Round 1 of the MLS Cup playoffs. "I would have liked to

receive this award in another situation, being able to play the (MLS Cup) final next Saturday," Messi said. "But, that's also what football is about, overcoming yourself every day. We had a big dream of being MLS champions this year. It didn't happen, but next year, we'll come back stronger to try again."

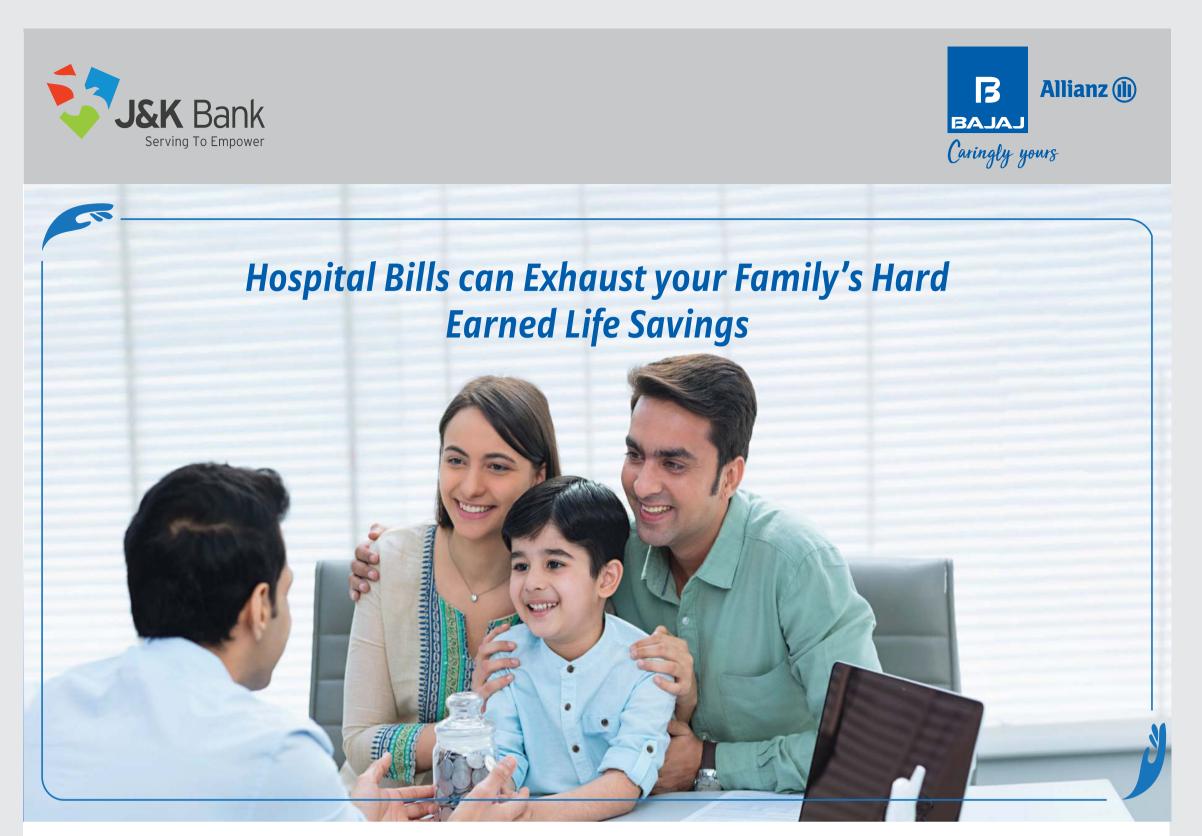
The MLS MVP – named for Landon Donovan – is vet another entry on the absurdly long list of career honours for Messi. He's an eight-time Ballon d'Or winner, eight-time FIFA Player of the Year winner, a seventime Spanish League MVP, past UEFA Player of the Year, past Champions League Player of the Season, World Cup Golden Ball winner, Club World Cup Golden Ball winner, and the list goes on and on and on from there.

Best player ever? It's tough to argue.

Messi stunned many in the soccer world when he picked Inter Miami last year, instantly turning the franchise into one of the game's biggest brands.

Winning the Leagues Cup shortly after Messi arrived gave Inter Miami its first trophy, and his No. 10 jersey has been MLS' biggest seller from basically the moment that the most decorated player ever picked Miami.

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