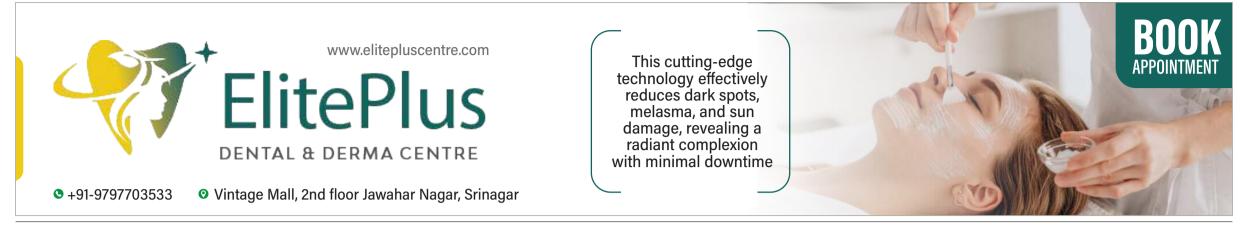
28 year of publication

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PM To Launch Z-Morh Tunnel On Jan 26



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Minister Prime Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the Z-Morh tunnel in Ganderbal district on January 26, a project expected to prove a game changer in regional connectivity and will improve border security, and enhance civilian and military logistics in the region.

As per the reports, the tunnel, built at a cost of ₹2,400 crore, is strategically vital for

maintaining uninterrupted connectivity to Sonamarg, a region that often remains cut off during harsh winters due to heavy snowfall. This development is being seen as a major milestone in improving infrastructure and ensuring allweather accessibility in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The Z-Morh tunnel is a game-changer for both the military and civilians. It will facilitate faster | More on P6

Terror-free, Fear-free J&K Our Resolve: LG

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Asserting that a fear-free terror-free and Jammu and Kashmir is the government's firm resolve, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said the security agencies have adopted a "whole-of-government approach" to dismantle the terrorist and separatist ecosystem in the Union Territory. The lieutenant governor cau-

tioned that modern technology such as artificial intelligence (AI) tools has transformed the security landscape and highlighted that challenges like disinformation and deepfakes remain major concerns.

"Terror-free and fear-free Jammu and Kashmir is our resolve. At the operational level, we have improved coordination between the police and other security agencies and adopted a 'whole-ofgovernment approach' to dismantle the terrorist and separatist ecosystem," he said while attending the Passing Out Parade of Probationary



address.

people. I wish you success in

every mission," he said in his

The lieutenant governor

paid tribute to the bravehearts

of the Jammu and Kashmir

Police and other security forc-

es who have laid down their

Sinha commended the

Jammu and Kashmir Police

for its significant role in en-

suring internal security, up-

holding the nation's integrity

and protecting the citizens

of the Union Territory under

lives for the nation.

Deputy Superintendents of Police (DySPs) at the Police Academy in Udhampur.

The lieutenant governor congratulated all 61 passingout police officers and urged them to discharge their duties with honesty, dedication and professionalism.

"From today, the nation entrusts you with the critical responsibility of maintaining internal security, combating terrorism, upholding the rule of law and ensuring a safe and secure environment for the

Says AI Tools Have Changed The Security Landscape Narco-Terrorism, Social Media Weaponization Big Threats

challenging circumstances. Speaking about the emerging security challenges, the lieutenant governor urged the Jammu and Kashmir Police to leverage innovative tools to counter disinformation and

cross-border cyber threats. "Modern technology like artificial intelligence tools has reshaped the security landscape. Disinformation and deepfakes remain significant concerns," he said.

Sinha called for the effective use of technological tools to maintain law and order, ensure vigilant monitoring and respond to challenges in real time. The lieutenant governor emphasized the need to an-

ticipate and analyze changes in criminal modus operandi to stay one step ahead.

"We need to shift from reactive policing to proactive

policing," he said. Sinha further said that "narco-terrorism, social media weaponization and disinformation campaigns have also emerged as major threats to internal security | More on P6

Kashmir In For More Snow This Weekend

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Night temperatures rose at most places in Kashmir, with Srinagar recording a reading above the freezing point, officials said on Tuesday.

The minimum temperature settled at 0.9 degrees Celsius in Srinagar, compared to the previous night's minus 0.5 degrees, the Met office said.

The city witnessed bright sunshine in the morning, bringing respite from the intense cold conditions.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 6.6 degrees Celsius, com-pared to the previous night's minus 4.5 degrees.

Pahalgam recorded a minimum temperature of minus 7.8 degrees Celsius and was the coldest place in the valley.

Qazigund logged a low of 0.4 degrees Celsius while Konibal in Pampore town registered a minimum temperature of minus 0.4 degrees.

Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.4 degrees Celsius while Kokernag in south Kashmir saw the mercury settle at minus 0.5 degrees.

The weatherman has however, predicted | More on P6

J&K Business Rules **Panel To Finalise Changes Before Budget Session**

authorizes the Speaker to make any necessary modifications and

CRS Begins Inspection Of USBRL Project

he Commissioner of Railway Safety (Northern Circle) Dinesh Chand Deshwal on Tuesday started a twoday statutory inspection of the recently completed railway line along the ambitious Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL) project, officials said.

Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the completion of the Reasi-Katra section last | More on P6 **Omar Meets FM Sitharaman, Seeks Liberal Funding For J&K**

Press Trust Of India New Delhi¹ Chief Minister





ECI Defers J&K By-Polls Citing Snowy Conditions

Savs Deadline Set For April 20

Observer News Service

Election Srinagar: The Commission of India (ECI) on Tuesday announced that it would hold by-elections in Jammu & Kashmir later due to snowy conditions. The ECI stated that they still have time to conduct the elections.

Addressing a news con-erence, Chief Election ference, Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said that they are not announcing

The CEC mentioned that they have until April 20 to hold the electoral exercise. Omar Abdullah vacated the Budgam seat on October 21, while the Nagrota seat became vacant on October 31 following the demise of Devinder Singh Rana. According to section 151A of the Representation of Peoples Act-1951, a by-election for filling any vacancy must be held within six months from

the date of the occurrence of

the vacancy. | More on P6

the schedule for by-polls in Budgam and Nagrota due to the

snowy conditions in the region.

Omar Abdullah on Tuesday met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman here as part of pre-Budget consultations, officials said.

The meeting at Sitharaman's North Block office went on for more than 30 minutes and was "cordial", they said. The finance minister is

scheduled to present the Union Budget on February 1. This is the second meeting between the two leaders in two months.

Sources said that Omar Abdullah called on the Union Finance Minister to seek liberal funding for Jammu and Kashmir. They said that the Chief Minister pushed for enhancing

Pays Tributes To Mufti Sayeed On Death Anniversary

financial support to the UT for sources, held pre-Budget consultations with the Union

minimizing liabilities of the last financial year. "The CM is believed to have sought additional financial support from Centre for mini-

"The Finance Minister asmizing liabilities of Rs 10000sured all possible support to I&K Chief Minister and assured 12000 crore accumulated in him that his concerns will be Omar, according to the addressed," | More on P6

Finance-Minister and sought

much-needed support from

the Centre for the region."

hief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday paid tributes to Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) founder Mufti Mohammad Saveed on his ninth death anniversary. Sayeed was the chief minister of the erstwhile state of JK, first from November 2002-2005 and then from March 2015 until his death on January 7, 2016. "Remembering former CM of J&K, late Mufti Mohd | More on P6

Srinagar: J&K legislative assembly's committee on framing rules Tuesday decided to carry out modifications and adaptations in the rules applicable to the legislature of erstwhile state for conducting business in the Union Territory's law-making House.

Agencies

Sources said that the committee headed by Speaker Abdul Rahim Tuesday met and held threadbare discussions on framing the rules of procedure and conduct of business in the House. After examining legal pro-

visions governing framing of business rules, the panel decided to carry out necessary adaptations and modifications in the old rules for conducting routine business in the House.

A member of the committee. wishing anonymity, said that existing rules would continue but necessary modifications and adaptations would be carried out due to reorganization of J&K. "The Reorganization Act

adaptations to these rules and standing orders to ensure their effective application," he said.

Another member of the committee, who also wished not to be named, said that references to J&K Constitution, Governor, Legislative Council and Joint Selection Committee (JSC) would be deleted from the old Rules for their effective applicability to the UT Assembly.

"In the old rules, there are references to the legislative council but the Council doesn't exist anymore. So you need to delete it from the rules, "he added.

He said the committee would examine the draft proposal regarding the necessary changes to be made in the rules in its next meeting.

"The Assembly staff would put the draft proposal before the committee. We are hopeful that we will carry out modifications before commencement of the budget session," he said. The budget | More on P6

video interview with a Jammu-



Skiers glide down the snowy slopes of Gulmarg enjoying the winter sports season. PTI Photo

Cashless Treatment For Accident Victims Soon: Gadkari

Press Trust Of India

2023-24," they said.

New Delhi: The government will come up with a modified scheme by March to provide cashless treatment for road accident victims nationwide, under which they will be entitled to a maximum amount of Rs 1.5 lakh per accident per person, Union minister Nitin

Gadkari said on Tuesday. According to Gadkari, the scheme will be applicable to all road accidents caused by the use of motor vehicles on any category of road. The National

Health Authority (NHA) shall be the implementing agency for the programme, in coordination with police, hospitals and State Health Agency etc.



The programme will be implemented through an IT platform, combining the functionalities of the e-Detailed Accident Report (eDAR) application of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and the Transaction Management System of NHA.

"The broad contours of the pilot programme are -- victims entitled to cashless treatment up to a maximum of Rs 1.5 lakh per | More on P6

NC Minister Accuses Ruhullah Of Seeking 'Cheap Fame'

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Minister Education and Health, Sakina Itoo Yatoo, took a veiled swipe at Member of Parliament from Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, accusing him of resorting to protests for "cheap fame" rather than engaging in meaningful dialogue.

Her remarks came during a

Remove **Ruhullah From Party: BJP**

he Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday demanded the National Conference (NC) sack its Member of Parliament Aga Rahullah for allegedly terming increasing tourism in Jammu and Kashmir as a More on P6

based journalist, where she for expressed her discontent with public demonstration that Aga Ruhuhullah led outside Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's residence at Gupkar. Itoo said, "Our Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, does

not have a magic wand in his hand. He has constituted a committee to look into the

matter of | More on P6

NC Should



No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Wednesday | 08-01-2025 🝊

NOTICE

I Nadia Nisar (UIIC Ltd Bohri Kadal) D/O Nisar Ahmad have Lost my Rc Bearing **Registration No:- JK01AJ3017 of Vehicle** Ford Ecosport near Regal Chowk. Now I want to apply for its Duplicate. Regarding this, if anybody is having any objection may file the same to the RTO office Srinagar within a weeks time after that no objection will be entertained.

9796727246 Media Line

PUBLIC NOTICE

I FaYz Ahmad Dar S/O Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Redi Mohalla rakh burn tehsil singhpora district baramulla declare on oath as under That my wards Namely Ulfat Favaz was born on 15/02/2018 - fatima Fayaz was born on 21 /10/2011 -Danish Favaz was born on 08/10/2012-Dilshada Favaz was born on 08/11/2014 and Aamina Favaz was born on 20/02/2017 and all children's where born at home and I want to obtain. DOB/s in their favour from BDO office Singhpora any body have injection he/she may contact to tehsil office Singhpora seven days and no objection can be accepted after seven days fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

In School records my Father's name has been wrongly written as Ali Mohmad Wagay which is incorrect. The actual name is Mohammad Maqbool Wagay. Hence correction is needed. In this regad any body having any objections may contact Headmaster Government Boys High School Sadunara within 7days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained at all. Naseer Ahmad Wagay S/O. Mohammad Maqbool Wagay R/O. Sadunara Sonawari Bpr. fko

PUBLIC NOTICE I have applied for the issuance of DOB crtificate in favour of my

daughter namely Bisma Rahim D/O Ab Ragun Bhat R/o On-Bun who was bron on 08-02-2020. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Singhpora within 7 days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Saleema Begum fko

W/o Abdul Rahim Bhat R/ On-Bun

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 Daneen D/o Jan Mohammad Sjasha R/o Sopore-B Tehsil Sopore District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 04-05-2020 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

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

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delaved 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 Munazza Mehraj D/o Mehraj Ud DIn Ganaie R/o Hamray Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with vertified date of event (birth) as 22-04-2021 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** fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG** NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No.17 of 2024-25

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG **NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS**

Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No.17 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jand K U.T, e-tenders on percentage basis are invited in Single cover system from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&KU.T Govt. for the following works: -

| | approved and engine contractors registered with J&KU.1 Govt. for the following works. | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | S. N D. | NAME OF WORK | Estt Cost (Rs in lacs) | Earnest Money (EMD) Rs | Time for completion | Class of Contract | Cost of Tender document (Rs) | Major Head of Account | Tender opening authority | | |
| | 1 | Rejuvenation of Zadi Nag spring at Achabal under AMRUT-2.0 | 47.36 | 142080/= | 40 days | AAY/BEE | 3000/- | AMRUT-2.0 | Ex. Engineer | | |
| The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (BOQ) set to | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | terms and conditions of contra | ct and other | details can be | seen/ dow | nloaded fro | om the departm | ental | | | |
| | | website. <u>www.jktenders.gov.in</u> | from :- | | | | | | | | |

| webs | website. <u>www.iktenders.gov.in</u> noin | | | | | | | |
|------|---|------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. | Publishing date | 07.01.2025 | 06.00PM | | | | | |
| 2. | Download Date Starts | 07.01.2025 | 06.00PM | | | | | |
| 3. | BID Submission Date Starts | 07.01.2025 | 06.00PM | | | | | |
| 4. | BID Submission Date Ends | 22.01.2025 | 06.00 PM | | | | | |
| 5. | Date of opening of tenders | 23.01.2025 | 10:00 AM | | | | | |



The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her gualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 327187 Class 10th Year & Session April May 1991 Registration: 13682-HSE-IX-79 Name : Shabir Ahmad Mir Father's Name: Ab Raheem Mir Mother's Name : Haira Begum Date of Birth:- 01-04-1969 Residenc:- Kreeri Baramulla

fko

According the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 146919 be treated as "CANCELLED") No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/ Dated

Assistant Secretary Certificates, KD.

ز نیابت پلہالن

نوان: - درخواست منجانب منظور احمد صوفي ولدنذ يراحمه صوفي ساكنة موضع صدر بل تحصيل پيڻن راد ڈییپنڈنٹ سرٹفیکیٹ

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندر جبعنوان الصدر ایک درخواست بغرض ڈیپند نٹ سرٹفکیٹ موضول ہوئی ہے جو لہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بار کے میں راقم نے پٹواری حلقہ ہے رپورٹ طلب کی ہےجس سے عیاں ی سائل صدر بل پٹن کاسکونت دار ہے سائل کا والد مرحوم نزیر احم**صوفی** مون 15-11-2024 وفوت ہو چکا ہے موتانی کے وارثان بذیل ہے۔ پسرمرحوم زیرتعلیم 20 سالل منظوراهمد سوفى زوجه گھریلوکام 38 سال کمودہ بیگم پسر زیرتعلیم 18 سال شاكرنذير دختر -- 11 سال سادينه نذير

ں کےعلاوہ اورکوئی افراد کنہ یہ نہیں ہے۔سرٹشیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کسی څخص و کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خبار سات دن کے اندرا ندرآ پنے عذریا عتراض ددالت هذ کودفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گز رے میعادکویی عذر یا عتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ FKO

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Of Cartridges, Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG** NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No.16 of 2024-25 For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jand K U.T, e-tenders on percentage basis are invited in Single cover system from

| | approved and eligible contractors regi | stered with J | &KU.T Govt. for | the following | works: - | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| S. N O. | NAME OF WORK | Estt Cost (Rs in lacs) | Earnest Money (EMD) Rs | Time for completion | Class of Contract | Cost of Tender document (Rs) | Major Head of Account | Tender opening authority |
| 1 | Construction of lining wall along with bed treatment on Shampora ladhi at Shampora Qazigund near Gh. Nabi Parray | 1.71 | 5130/= | 10 days | DEE | 200/- | 2702 | Ex. Engineer |
| 2 | Repairment of boundary wall around the presmises of Irrigation Sub-division Dooru | 1.06 | 3180/= | 10 days | DEE | 200/- | 2702 | Ex. Engineer |
| 3 | Construction of lining wall on Gratt khul at Logripora and removal of silt. | 2.00 | 6000/= | 10 days | DEE | 200/- | 2702 | Ex. Engineer |
| 4 | Checking of leakages on Sether minor by way of Awantipora canal near RD 4400 mtrs (between construction lining wall) | 2.98 | 8940/= | 12 days | DEE | 200/- | 2702 | Ex. Engineer |
| 5 | Providing of RCC jacketing to existing walls with bed treatment from RD 800,1050 &1500 mtrs at spots of Mahind canal. | 3.33 | 9990/= | 12 days | DEE | 300/- | 2702 | Ex. Engineer |

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.iktenders.gov.in and The bids uploaded shall be opened online on above mentioned date by the *Executive Engineer* Irrigation Division Anantnag in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday or office happening to be closed on the basis of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

- 1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (on 100dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag / latest GST clearance certificate(GSTR-3B and GSTR-1) /Registration card duly renewed along with Verification/BID Security in the form of EMD as per above. The date of CDR/FDR/BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date. After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder shall be asked to deposit the CDR/FDR pledged to tender receiving authority and other documents in original. The CDR/ FDR and other documents in original shall be deposited within two Days positively after opening of tenders. The EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful bidder will be retained as performance security deposit till expiry of defect liability period, whereas the EMD of unsuccessful bidders will be returned latest by 30 days after award of the contract. The check list of documents for cover 1st is attached with the NIT & bidders are advised to recheck the uploaded documents as per the Check list.
- Additional Performance Security is to be deposited by the L1 bidder in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG as per the 2. breakup given below failing which the tender shall be rejected.

| 3. | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| S.No | Percentage of unbalanced bid viz. | Additional Performance Security |
| | Quoted percentage on BOQ. | |
| 01. | Upto and Including 15% Below | Nil |
| 02. | > 15% upto and including 20% Below | 5% of Advertised Cost |
| 03. ⁰ | > 20 % upto and including 25% Below | 10 % of Advertised Cost ^{ity} |
| 04. | > 25% upto and including 30% Below | 15% of Advertised Cost |
| 05: | > 30 % Below ^W | 20 ¹ % of Advertised Cost |
| 0 | *** | at |

- 4. Contractor / Bidder who fails to submit the CDR/FOR / Treasury Challan as required, their EMD will be for for for the state of the st of Six Months (06 Months) in the first instance. Their online uploaded tenders will not be considered for the said period.
- Contractor who shall be allotted the work has to start the work within the stipulated time period after the date of allotment as the work is of very important nature
- 6. The department shall not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids due to any reason what so
- 7. The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days. (Ninety Days)
- 8. As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department.
- 9. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:
 - a. Any bidder withdraws his bid during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms & condition of the bid.
 - b. The successful bidder fails to execute an agreement with the department within 10 days after fixation of contract.

26.Other terms & conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form-25.

Remittance Head:-0702

Position of AAA: -(1)Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ACH/22-23/1128-31 dated 05-08-2022 Position of TS.-(1) Accord of technical sanction vide order No. 75-dB of 2025 dated 02/01/2025 issued under No. SE/Hyd/Ang/ dB/TS/ No.IDA/7286-7308

DIPK-10563/24 Dated:07-01-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer

Irrigation Division Anantnag

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (BOQ) set to terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental

| | ite. In the function of the fu | | |
|----|--|------------|----------|
| 1. | Publishing date | 05.01.2025 | 06.00PM |
| 2. | Download Date Starts | 05.01.2025 | 06.00PM |
| 3. | BID Submission Date Starts | 05.01.2025 | 06.00PM |
| 4. | BID Submission Date Ends | 14.01.2025 | 06.00 PM |
| 5. | Date of opening of tenders | 15.01.2025 | 10:00 AM |

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in and The bids uploaded shall be opened online on above mentioned date by the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday or office happening to be closed on the basis of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (on 100dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag / latest GST clearance certificate(GSTR-3B and GSTR-1) /Registration card duly renewed along with Verification/BID Security in the form of EMD as per above. The date of CDR/FDR/BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date. After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder shall be asked to deposit the CDR/FDR pledged to tender receiving authority and other documents in original. The CDR/ FDR and other documents in original shall be deposited within two Days positively after opening of tenders. The EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful bidder will be retained as performance security deposit till expiry of defect liability period, whereas the EMD of unsuccessful bidders will be returned latest by 30 days after award of the contract. The check list of documents for cover 1st is attached with the NIT & bidders are advised to recheck the uploaded documents as per the Check list.

26.0ther terms & conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form-25. Remittance Head:-0702

Position of AAA: -(1)Accorded Vide Order No. 71 DB of 2024 dated 30-12-2024 issued under no. SE/hyd/DB/AA/7079-81 dated 30-12-2024

Position of TS.-(1).Accorded vide order No. 73-DB of 2024 dated 30/12/2024 issued under No. SE/Hyd/Ang/DB/TS/7086-87 dated 30-12-2024 and N0.07 DB of 2024-25 dated 04-01-2025 issued vide this office no. IDA/7254 dated 04-01-2025

Position of Funds: -Budgetary Provision 2024-25/

No.IDA/IDA/7260-82

DIPK-10511/24 dated: 07-01-2025

Sd/-Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag

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KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Wednesday | 08-01-2025 |

Eye Check-Up Camp Organized At Kani Kadal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A free Eye Check-Up camp was organized at Kani Kadal area of Srinagar. The camp, aimed at providing free eye care services to the community, was inaugurated by social worker Syed Aijaz Kashani, Chairperson of Smile Foundation NGO Miss Masrat, and President of Smile Foundation NGO Mr. Sajad Ahmad Sholla.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response from the local community, with numerous individuals availing themselves of the free eye check-ups and consultations offered by expert medical professionals.

Speaking on the occasion, Syed Aijaz Kashani emphasized the importance of such health initiatives in improving the quality of life for underprivileged sections of society. He praised the collaborative efforts of Al Khaliq Optics and Sharp Sight Eye Hospital for their commitment to serving the community.

tude to the organizing team and stressed the need for more such initiatives to ensure accessible healthcare for all

Locals expressed grati-

DLSAs Collaborate To Address Concerns Of Old Prisoners

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) of Srinagar and Budgam convened a significant meeting to address the pressing issues faced by old and terminally ill prisoners.

The meeting, chaired by Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary, DLSA Srinagar/ Budgam, was conducted in the presence of the Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel, DLSA Srinagar. Other members of both districts actively participated in the session through virtual platforms.

The primary focus of the meeting was to identify prisoners in need of immediate legal and humanitarian assistance due to their advanced age or critical health conditions.

After a thorough review and discussion, five such prisoners were identified. These cases were deliberated upon in detail, with participants exploring avenues to ensure their legal rights are upheld and

interventions necessarv are made to provide them with adequate care.

During the discussions, emphasis was laid on the need for expediting legal remedies for such prisoners, ensuring access to medical care, and advocating for their compassionate release wherever applicable under the law.

The Secretary, DLSA Srinagar/Budgam, stressed the importance of coordination between various stakeholders, including legal aid counsels, prison authorities, and healthcare providers, to address these issues holistically.

The meeting concluded with a commitment to continue such collaborative efforts to uphold the principles of justice and humanity. Both DLSAs reaffirmed their dedication to supporting vulnerable sections of society, particularly those who are often overlooked. Steps were outlined to follow up on the identified cases and monitor their progress to ensure effective outcomes.

Fire Destroys Six Residential Structures At Nowhatta

Agencies

Srinagar: A massive fire broke out early this morning in Bahaudin Sahab, Nowhatta, causing extensive damage to six residential houses and three shops. City Divisional Fire Officer

(DFO), Muzaffer Ahmad said that the fire spread rapidly through the densely packed structures. "We received a call at 8:36 AM and immediately dispatched fire tenders from Babademb, Rainawari, Nowshera, and headquarters. Thanks to the prompt response from our teams, after rigorous efforts, we were able to contain

the flames and prevent further damage in this highly congested

,, We received a call at 8:36 AM and immediately dispatched fire tenders from Babademb, Rainawari. Nowshera, and headquarters

with two gas cylinders exploding during the incident, according to the DFO. Highlighting the challenges

tial structures and three shops,

faced during the operation, Muzaffer Ahmad added, "The presence of vehicles illegally parked on the already narrow and congested roads made our operations significantly more difficult. We urge the general public to cooperate with us by ensuring clear access to facilitate smooth firefighting operations.

It is pertinent to mention that the first responder to any fire incident is often an individual, department and other NGOs have already requested the general public to follow dos and don'ts for fire safety. (ANB)

Police Arrest Fraudster Posing As Government Officer

area," he said.

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar Police have arrested a fraudster who impersonated a government official to defraud a woman of a substantial sum of money by promising to secure the release of a drug peddler detained for narcotics-

loo. a resident of Shaheedgunj, of impersonating a government officer and defrauding her of 2 lakh. The accused falsely claimed he could use his influence to facilitate the release of her husband, who was arrested on November 19, 2024, by Rajbagh Police Station in a narcotics case.

The fire engulfed six residen-

Upon realizing the deception, Safiya demanded her money accused has been taken into custody. An investigation is currently underway.

It is pertinent to mention that the applicant's husband, Riyaz Ahmad Channa, has been booked under the PIT NDPS Act and is currently lodged in Sub-Jail Bhaderwah.

The police have urged the public not to fall prey to individu-



This Day In History

- 871 Battle of Ashdown: Ethelred of Wessex and his brother Alfred (the Great) beat invading Danish army
- 1297 Monaco gains its independence.
- 1558 French troops under Duc de Guise occupy Calais
- 1610 -Simon Marius. a German astronomer, independently discovers the first three moons of Jupiter one day after Galileo
- 1656 Oldest surviving commercial newspaper begins (Haarlem, Netherlands) Music Premiere
- 1708 Spanish armada headed by the San Jose and loaded with gold sunk after British squadron attacks off coast of Colombia (rediscovered 2015)
- 1745 Britain, Austria, Netherlands & Saxony sign anti-Prussian Quadruple Alliance
- 1760 Comet C/1760 A1 (Great comet) approaches within 0.0682 AUs of Earth.
- 1790 1st US President George Washington delivers 1st state of the union address
- 1800 Austrians defeat French in Second Battle of Novi
- 1806 Battle of Blaauwberg: British forces attack French vassal, the Batavian Republic near
- 1815 Battle of New Orleans (War of 1812); the war had ended on 24th December 1814 but none of the combatants knew
- 1816 Sophie Germain is the first woman to win a prize from the Paris Academy of Sciences for her paper on elasticity

rect name is Mohammad Ayoob Dar S/O Ghulam Mohiuddin Dar related crimes. According to sued to Associated News Bureau reads that On January 6, 2025, a complaint was filed by Ms. Safiya Riyaz, wife of Riyaz Ahmad Channa, accusing Sadiq Hassan Cha-

I have applied for the name correction. The corrected name on my driving license will be Mohammad Ayoob Dar S/O Ghulam Mohiuddin Dar R/O Delina, Baramulla. In this regard if anybody has any objection he may contact the concerned office. Thanks

NAME CORRECTION

This is to notify all that on my Driving License my name has been

inadvertently written as Mohammad Ayoub Dar whereas my cor-

Mohammad Ayoob Dar

R/O Delina, Baramulla.

back. The accused returned only a partial amount but refused to repay the rest.

A case has been registered under Sections 318(4), 319, and 351(2) of the BNS Act, and the

als claiming to have influence over law enforcement authorities. Citizens are advised to report any such claims immediately to the nearest police station or by dialing 112.

1916 -WWI: ANZAC forces withdraw from

- the Gallipoli Peninsula after Ottoman forces successfully defend access to Constantinople
- 1917 Austria-Hungarian troops conquer Forlani Italy
- Abdulaziz Ibn Saud becomes King of Nejd 1926 and Hejaz; forerunner of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 1940 Britain's 1st WW II rationing (bacon, butter & sugar)
- 1952 Jordan adopts constitution
- 1958 Cuban revolutionary forces capture Havana
- 1959 Charles de Gaulle inaugurated as president of France's 5th Republic
- 1973 Secret peace talks between US & North Vietnam resumed near Paris
- 1973 USSR launches Luna 21 for Moon landing
- 1978 Israeli government votes to 'strengthen' settlements in occupied Sinai
- 1985 Japan launches Sakigake space probe to Halley's Comet
- 1994 Russian manned space craft TM-18. launches into orbit
- 1998 World Trade Center bomber Ramzi Ahmed Yousef sentenced to life
- 2013 130 wildfires across Australia's east coast force thousands to evacuate their homes
- 2013 2,130 prisoners held by the Syrian government are exchanged for 48 Iranians kidnapped by Syrian rebels
- 2013- Steve Nash becomes 5th NBA player to record 10,000th career assists, playing for the LA Lakers against Houston - Lakers still lose 125–112
- 2014- First known interstellar meteor to ever hit Earth - CNEOS 2014-01-08 crash lands in Papua New Guinea [1]
- 2018- US record year for cost of natural disasters announced - \$306 billion in 2017
- 2020- Duke and Duchess of Sussex announce they are stepping back as "senior" royals, will work towards becoming financially independent
- 2020- Iran launches missile strike on Irbil and Al Asad bases in Iraqi housing some American troops in retaliation to assassination of General Qasem Soleimani
- 2020- Ukrainian Boeing 737-800 crashes just after take-off from Tehran, Iran, killing all 176 people on board
- 2021- Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga declares a state of emergency for Tokyo and surrounding areas after COVID-19 cases surge to their highest level

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE SUB DIVISIONAL MAGISTRATE KARNAH

JVD

(Electoral Registration Officer/Sub Registrar and Collector Land Acquisition Karnah) E-mail Id: sdmkarnah1@gmail.com Phone No: 01958-245302

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public of this Sub Division particularly the parents/relatives of the deceased are hereby informed through the medium of this notice to register their statements/objections, (if any) in the office of undersigned from 15.01.2025 to 17.10.2025 regarding the incident which happened on 30.12.2024 at P/S Tangdar

> (Zaffar Ahmad Lone) JKAS Sub-Divisional Magistrate/Enquiry officer Karnah

> > NOTICE

No: - SDMK/N/2025/___ DIPK-10556/24 Dated: 07.01.2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Auction Notice This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 453580561921 of my Son name and Date of Birth is wrongly entered as MOHAMMAD RAFIQ GANAIE and D-O-B 827-02-2007 while his actual name and D-O-B is RAFAQAT ALI GANAIE D-O-B 02-07-2012. Now i want its correction, in this regard if awhodry having any objection. The Senior Divisional Corr mercial Manager/FS, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and or pehalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders fo he following works over Firozpur Division. Catalogue No. Auction Start Name of Work Allotment of contract for leasing of parce EAFZR-SLR25-09 28/01/2025 space in Train No./SLR compartment: 12474-F1, 14614-F1, 14601-R1, 12032-F1, 14606at 11:00 Hrs. regard if anybody having any objection F1, 14601-F1, 14601-F2, 14614-R1, 12588 may contact Concern department with in a may contact Concern department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. MOHAMMAD [QBAL GANAIE mcb F/o RAFAQAT ALI GANAIE R/o LABERTAL BUDGAM CELL. 9622690655 F1 & 18102-F1 For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 78/25

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-AUCTION NOTICE

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

| Catalogue No. | Auction Start | Name of work | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| EAFZR-SLR25-08 | 27/01/2025 at 11:00 Hrs. | Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 11906-F1, 12550-F1, 14662-R1, 14662-F1, 20498-F1, 14654-F2, 14504-R1, 14662-F2, 19326-F1, 14610-F1 & 11906-R1. | | | | |
| For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in. | | | | | | |
| SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE | | | | | | |



WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORMED THE SAD DEMISE OF ALI MOHAMMAD WAGAY S/O LATE AB SAMAD WAGAY R/O TAJ MOHALLAH TRAL KASHMIR. PASSED AWAY ON MONDAY MORNING O6TH JANUARY 2025. MAY ALMIGHTY GRANT DEPARTED SOUL HIGHEST PLACE IN JANNAH.

THE CONGREGATIONAL FATIH-E-KHAWANI WILL BE HELD AT HIS ANCESTRAL GRAVEYARD ON 09 JANUARY 2025 THURESDAY 10:30AM AT ANCESTRAL GRAVEYARD LOCATED AT GOAL MASJID TRAL.

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🔪 κο νιεψ **Battle For Delhi**

he Election Commission has announced Febru-ary 5 as the voting date for Delhi's Assembly election, with results on February 8. The AAP is eyeing a fourth term, emphasizing governance over rhetoric, while the BJP campaigns on development under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. The Congress, contesting independently, targets both rivals.

Although Delhi is a union territory, its elections have a bearing on national politics. This is one of the fewer places in India that the BJP has failed to win despite using all its might to defeat the AAP. The reason for this is the AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, so far three-time Delhi chief minister. Over a decade ago, he was one of the many noted activists who were a part of the anti-corruption movement led by Anna Hazare.

The AAP was founded on an idealistic agenda, which has since frayed. The party introduced an alternative political vision for India that transcended secular-Hindutva politics of Congress and the BJP respectively. This was a politics that aspired to transcend identity and ideology and represented the aspirations and expectations of the common man. It also offered a basic commitment to a clean, fair and just system, something that might seem utopian given the state of politics in the country which basically thrives on appeal to identity and ideology, a part of which is pernicious in their envisioning of India.

AAP's first government supported by Congress lasted just 49 days. Kejriwal resigned in a huff when Congress refused to back his bill on Lok Pal, an anti-corruption institution. This disappointed AAP constituency and the party built on a sustained protest against corruption was seen as incapable of providing a stable government. Many people as much as wrote off the AAP. But in the next election in 2015, the party returned to power with a two-thirds majority. It went on to win the third successive Assembly election in 2020. This makes Kejriwal the only leader with West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee who has been able to stop the BJP juggernaut.

But all bets are off this time round. After the all-important Maharashtra win, the saffron party is back in the ascendent. The party has all but shrugged off the setback in the general elections and is back to its normal aggressive self. Should that happen, it would be a major boost to the BJP and will set it up for victory in the subsequent Assembly election in Haryana. At the same time, the AAP is hover and could be expected to register yet another landslide victory. All eyes are now on the unfolding battle, and only time will tell the outcome.

The Patriarchy in Property Rights Culture



Ahymon Ayoub



lavishing our lifetime earnings in ostentatious marriages still finds more meaning with us than upholding the rights of an already marginalised section of our society. We have reversed the sacred law quite conveniently and established a system of injustice where women are devoid of cultural and economic capital guaranteed to them by their Maker

ATRIARCHY, like any other forms of injustice feeds itself on the detritus of disinformation: by twisting the truths and realities. Unjust societies have a default embedded paraphernalia in place to reproduce themselves in new forms. Such societies incubate the culture of silence over telling issues to the point that they become non-existent or non-issues. One such issue which by the dent of our collective disservice has metamorphosed into a non-issue in Kashmir is the question of women's property rights or the rights of inheritance. Women, over the ages have either been conditioned not to seek her share in property or the subject of women's property rights has been stigmatised into non-existence.

Womenfolk, today are challenging stereotypes and reclaiming their agency in realms

6 Womenfolk. today are challenging stereotypes and reclaiming their agency in realms which hitherto were monopolised by men. However, even in the present times, women seem to be inheriting genetic docility

be small or large- a determinate share" (Qur'an, 4 : 7). Further in verse 32 of the same chapter, economic rights of both men and women have been ascertained as, "men shall have a benefit of what they earn and women shall have a benefit of what they earn".

The aforementioned verses are followed by many other allied verses which lay down the legal framework for inheritance. Surprisingly, in more cases than one, female heirs receive a larger share of property than their counterparts. It is a subject which escapes our notice partly because of tainted social-construction of the subject and partly owing to our fragmented and irresponsible understanding of religion. Islamic legislations aim at ascertaining the overall wellbeing of its adherents which by default includes economic well-being but the entire structure of rights has been foreshadowed by androcentric



Did you know? Understanding Our Spending Habits: A Path to Financial Wisdom

Irshad Mushtaq

ave you ever thought about how much we spend when we go out? It's not uncommon for us to splurge on luxurious treats like fancy cakes and juice boxes, adding up costs that can easily exceed 3,000 to 5,000. While it's a while, we often overlook the true value de most of these treats are temporary plea-Inbox ly and can sometimes end up in the trash

or even fed to animals.

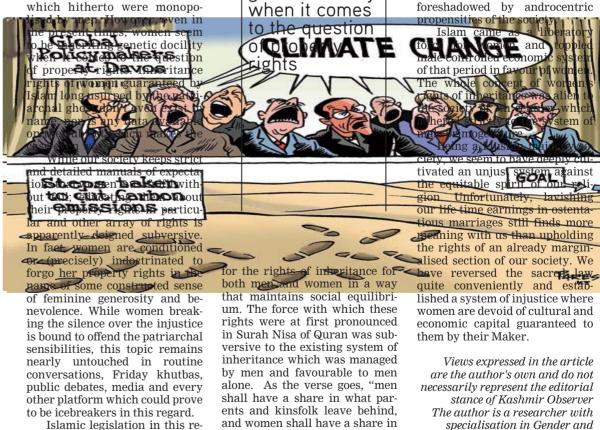
Let's take a moment to reflect on gifting practices from the past. Remember the tradition of giving coins or gold? Those gifts had intrinsic value, appreciating over time. Today, however, we often invest our wealth into things like houses, which can take up 80% or even 100% of our net worth. It's a common belief that buying a home is a wise investment. But the reality is that many of us are tying up our money in what isn't necessarily a valuable asset

Purchasing a house might feel like a solid step, yet we need to recognize that buildings often don't appreciate in value as we hope. For many, it's not until a decade later that any real increase in value is seen, and even then, it may just keep pace with inflation. This means we often find ourselves in a position where we've invested a significant percentage of our net worth into something that doesn't yield high returns.

Instead of making hasty financial decisions, we should focus on buying only what we truly need. The great Warren Buffett once said that true wealth comes not from what you earn, but from what you wisely invest. Creating a mindset shaped by understanding, saving, and investing can lead us to more sustainable and meaningful financial health.

Good health is paramount, and when you are in a good place healthwise, it becomes so much easier to manage your finances and make sound decisions. Let's strive to develop a balanced per spective on spending and investing. By practicing financial wisdom, we can enhance our lives, ensure a more secure future, and ultimately find joy in what truly matters.

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



spect is not only comprehensive but based on justice. It provides

what parents and kinsfolk leave behind, whether the property

women are devoid of cultural and economic capital guaranteed to Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not

ssarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer The author is a researcher with specialisation in Gender and Religion



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

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Ensure Dignity and Safety for Journalists

t is much sad that the new year began on a tragic note for India's media fraternity, as the young journalist Mukesh Chandrakar was found murdered, with his body was seen lying in a septic tank in Bijapur town, Chhattisgarh. The journalist was allegedly killed for his ground reporting of the Maoist conflict in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region.

Local journalists and press organizations have called his death a targeted attack on press freedom, citing his bold exposés of corruption and his advocacy for marginalized communities. The global toll of journalist fatalities reached 179 in 2024, spanning 25 countries. India reported four journalist killings last year, all from central India, a region fraught with

challenges for the press. Mukesh's untimely death has once again spotlighted the perils faced by journalists in conflict zones and the urgent need for stronger protections for media professionals in India. His courage in exposing corruption, his dedication to tribal issues, and his fierce commitment to truth made him an indispensable voice and the very identity

of Bijapur. With his murder, a chilling message has been sent: in regions like Bastar, where the nexus of politics, corruption, and violence often intersects, speaking truth may cost more than a journalist's career-it can cost a life.

> Ranganathan Sivakumar siva19kumar@gmail.com



Your First Encounter with Snow What to Expect

Dr Ambreen Hamadani

Snow is inconvenient. It causes power outages and roadblocks, affects Interstate traffic and the airways, and causes losses for people on connecting flights. Cars are seen skidding off roads. Delays, damages, and disruptions are ubiquitous.

Despite the many layers we wear, our toes, fingertips, and noses still turn crimson and cold. There is a risk of snow sliding off roofs onto our heads, or of suddenly slipping and falling! This is a summary of all the things we endure during snowfalls.

But before you jump to any conclusions, wait one more moment. Because in that moment, our lives find meaning. Watching the white flakes come down from the heavens like tiny dancing fairies landing gracefully on the ground is magical. Peace and silence envelop us as everything becomes blanketed in pure white. The stillness that descends is more melodious than any music in the world. It feels as though the snow absorbs all the harshness from the surround-



THE SIGHT WILL MAKE YOU FORGET WHO YOU ARE. It will soothe your eyes and make you a voyager hurtling through great white galaxies. Your soul will harmonize with the world, and make you one with it.



ings, concealing all rough edges and imperfections.

We wait all year for this one moment and you must too. Your first snowfall will be worth the wait and it will exceed all your expectations. The sight will make you forget who you are. It will soothe your eyes and make you a voyager hurtling through great white galaxies. Your soul will harmonize with the world, and make you one with it.

The falling snow will then start to accumulate on the ground. It will be softer than the softest mattress initially. The cold will turn it to stone quickly. So grab your chance, layer up and go out. Trudge on and feel your feet sink. You will leave behind footprints and make it easy for any Sherlock to find you. The snow angels you make will guard you through the year.

Do not forget to scoop a fistful in your hand, and feel the texture and smoothness of the world's softest velvet. Don't worry about the cold, your heart will be warmed and that will be enough. You wouldn't want to miss out on holding and beholding the purest and most untarnished part of Mother Earth, would you?

You can mix snow with sugar

and milk and eat it. You can add colour to it and make ice lollies. You can play with it to your heart's delight. Mold it into anything your imagination conjures. For a day, you will become a Michelangelo, spending many delightful hours snowballing, shovelling, and moulding snow. Your work of art will last a few days, but the memories will stay forever.

Snow transforms even the most uptight adult into a child. You will hear roars of laughter as snowfights begin. Join any group. All are welcoming; the more the merrier. Pick up a handful, squeeze it and take aim. You will make a million friends as you shower them with snow, make them trip into it, or even bury them under it. The delightful snow will be soft and cheering. No hard feelings: it will cushion all falls and crumble on body surfaces. Sandcastles are fine, but nothing matches the versatility of snow!

If you are not the outgoing type, a snowy afternoon is the best time to curl up with a good book and a steaming cup of coffee. I doubt you would get very far with the reading, though, because the snow outside would keep you mesmerized.

When you experience all this, you will know that no matter how cold and wet our feet get, our love for snow will only grow in our hearts, and we shall celebrate this friend with all the joy it brings. Once or twice every year, it arrives in our valley, refills our glaciers with a year's water supply, and leaves us dancing with delight beneath the shower of white little stars. Whether it is your first time experiencing snowfall or your millionth, I dare you not to fall in love with it!

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

The author is PhD, PDF(USA), Assistant Professor cum Junior Scientist, Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, SKUAST-Kashmir

New Year, Same Doubts?

Here's How to Move Forward Anyway

Lindsey Godwin

highly accomplished colleague recently texted me Ain a panic. She was about to launch a major initiative to kick off the year, complete with an announcement and event. But just before hitting "send," she froze. "I'm having a momentary freakout," she wrote. "I need someone to talk me off the ledge." I smiled—not at her panic, but at how much I could relate. After all, the start of a new year often inspires bold resolutions and fresh starts, but it also tends to invite an unwelcome guest: impostor feelings. Just a few weeks ago, I faced my own moment of doubt. My new book, Ditch the Ditty: Doing What Matters Instead of Doing It All-a labor of love coauthored with two incredible colleagues and shaped by countless late nights of writing and editing-was finally published. For a glorious five minutes, it even hit #1 as a new release in Women's Studies on Amazon-a dream come true for any author. And yet, I couldn't shake the thoughts: What if people hate it? What if they think we have no idea what we're talking about?



Try this: When doubt creeps in, take a deep breath and say, "This is just impostor doubt. It's normal, and it doesn't define me."

2. Shift Your Focus to the Work Impostor feelings often center on how you'll be perceived—Will people like me? Will they judge me?—rather than on the value of the work itself. Redirecting your focus to the impact you're making can quiet self-doubt. Ask yourself: Who will benefit from this? What problem am I solving? How can I serve others? These questions remind you that your voice matters, not because it's perfect, but because it's needed.

Introducing Public Administration at the 10+2 Level

A Step Towards Empowering Future Leaders

Aarif Maqbool

ublic administration is the art and science of managing public programs and policies, ensuring their crive execution for the benefit of a degree in public administration is usually an advantage. Public administration, traditionally introduced at the undergraduate level, has often been perceived as a specialized domain. However, its integration for building a progressive society. The role of accountability and transparency is important in delivering public services. We are witnessing these two in most departments. Introducing public administration as a subject at the higher secondary level will help bridge this gap, as public administration as a subject will develop their value education since schooling, or we can say, future leaders in making, with trenchancy, accountability, and integrity.

This was the very book we wrote to help women interrupt self-doubt and impostor feelings. And here I was, embodying every word of it.

As it turns out, I'm in good company. Even Maya Angelou, an icon of talent and achievement, admitted to feeling like a fraud: "I have written 11 books," she once said, "but each time I think, 'Uh oh, they're going to find out now. I've run a game on everybody, and they're going to find me out."

Research confirms that impostor feelings are nearly universal, with 70 percent of people experiencing them at some point. So this New Year, let's skip the pressure to eliminate self-doubt altogether. Instead, let's focus on how to embrace it—and move forward anyway.

It's Not a Syndrome; It's Being Human

The term "impostor syndrome" makes it sound like a diagnosable medical condition. It's not. Feeling like an imposter is simply a natural reaction to stepping into something new, stretching yourself, or facing the possibility of failure.

Studies show that doubt is incredibly common, even among high achievers. And honestly? If you never feel a flicker of self-doubt, that might be the real problem. As writer L.V. Anderson

OURSELVES. But those ambitions often bring a sidekick: doubt. Rather than seeing it as a roadblock, what

if we reframed it as a sign of progress?

(2016) humorously put it, "Maybe we should stop calling people who experience impostor syndrome 'people who experience impostor syndrome' and start calling people who don't experience impostor syndrome 'overconfident weirdos."

In moderation, doubt signals that you care deeply about your work. The challenge is making sure it doesn't paralyze you.

1. Why We Feel Like Imposters

Impostor feelings often show up when we leave our comfort zones. It's your brain's way of asking, Are you sure you can handle this?—a question rooted in fear of failure, judgment, or rejection.

For women, these feelings can be amplified by societal messages that underestimate our competence, question our value, and demand perfection. Add in a culture that celebrates confidence over humility, and it's no wonder so many of us feel like frauds.

But here's the truth: Doubt isn't a sign that you don't belong. It's a sign that you're growing.

How to Interrupt Impostor Feelings and Step Into Your Voice

If doubt is inevitable, the goal isn't to eliminate it. The goal is to interrupt it before it holds you back. As you tackle your New Year's goals, try these strategies to reframe impostor feelings and move forward with confidence.

When impostor feelings arise, the first step is to label them. Calling them out—"This is impostor doubt"—creates distance, making them easier to manage.

Next, remind yourself that these feelings are incredibly common. Even the most accomplished people feel like frauds sometimes. Doubt isn't proof that you're unqualified; it's evidence that you're stepping into something meaningful. Try this: Before starting a project, write down three ways your work could positively impact others. Keep this list handy for moments when doubt resurfaces.

3. Act Anyway

One of the best ways to combat impostor feelings is to take action. Each small step builds evidence that you're capable. Over time, this creates confidence and proves that doubt doesn't have to control you.

Remember, confidence isn't the absence of doubt. It's the willingness to act despite it.

Try this: The next time doubt whispers, Stop, take one small action anyway. Press "send," share your idea, or take the first step. Progress, not perfection, is the goal.

The Gift of Moving Forward

The New Year invites us to grow, dream, and stretch ourselves. But those ambitions often bring a sidekick: doubt. Rather than seeing it as a roadblock, what if we reframed it as a sign of progress? When we embrace our doubts, we free ourselves to step forward, imperfectly but authentically.

So, this year, when impostor feelings creep in, remember: They're not a sign you're failing. They're a sign you're trying something new, something important.

As for my colleague? She sent her big initiative email, doubts and all, reminding herself that her work—and putting herself out there—mattered.

Here's to a New Year filled with growth, courage, and the messy, beautiful process of showing up anyway. Because the world doesn't need perfection—it needs you.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

enective execution for the benefit of society. In an era where governance and civic engagement play a pivotal role in shaping societies, the introduction of public administration as a subject at the 10+2 level is a transformative step. This initiative has the potential to not only enrich students' academic repertoire but also instill a sense of responsibility and awareness about the functioning of government systems, policies, and administrative machinery.

Role and Importance of Public Administration

In today's modern state and in developing countries, the functions and role of public administration are very important. The role and importance of public administration are as follows:

- It is the basis of government.
- It is the instrument of change in society.
- It plays a vital role in the life of the people.
- It is an instrument for executing laws, policies, and programs of the state.
- It is a stabilizing force in society, providing continuity.
- It is an instrument of national integration in developing countries facing class wars.

Bridging the Knowledge Gap

The benefits of studying public administration are immense. One key reason students study public administration is to prepare them for careers in the public sector, as the government is the largest employer in many economies, with an array of positions requiring training in public administration. There is also a recurrent need for persons with specialized technical fields, such as engineers, to combine their technical skills with managerial skills, since at times in their careers, their job may involve management in the public sector.

It is to be observed further that some professionals may not have any interest in working in the public sector, but at some point, may seek contracts in the public sector, and therefore, knowledge of public administration may not only be helpful but essential. The study of the course propels job prospects for students after school. Usually, many formal public sector jobs will entail a basic qualification of a first degree; one with into the senior secondary curriculum addresses a critical gap in education. It empowers students with a foundational understanding of governance, public policy, and administration at an impressionable age, fostering informed and responsible citizenship.

Benefits of Early Exposure

Civic Awareness: Students will gain insights into the structure and functioning of government institutions, enabling them to appreciate the complexities of policymaking and administration.

Public administration is essential for the effective functioning of government. Without it, governments would be unable to provide essential services, implement policies, or manage their resources effectively. Public administrators play a vital role in ensuring that governments are transparent, accountable, and responsive to the needs of the public.

Career Orientation: Exposure to public administration can inspire students to pursue careers in civil services, public policy, or governance, aligning their aspirations with societal needs.

If public administration is introduced as a subject at the higher secondary level, it will be the most favorite subject to be opted by civil service aspirants at the schooling level. This will benefit them in preparation and also be helpful for them in training after selection. Public administration will help them in framing and implementing government policies.

Institute of Management, Public Administration, and Rural Development J&K is the training institution for JKAS officers, where public administration is also taught to them. When public adminiistration is introduced at the school level, it will foster the basics of public administration, which is necessary for all government employees, not only civil servants.

Critical Thinking: Critical thinking can be defined as the ability to make rational and clear, unbiased judgments based on analysis of available facts, evidence, and observations. It gives individuals the ability to effectively diagnose problems and identify possible solutions to them. The subject promotes analytical and decisionmaking skills by engaging students with real-world challenges and case studies.

Value Education: It inculcates values like accountability, transparency, and ethical governance, which are essential Public administration should be introduced as a core subject at the plus 2 level for all streams to impart value education, which is required in every field. **A Vision for the Future**

The inclusion of public administration at the 10+2 level reflects a forward-thinking approach to education. It prepares students to navigate the complexities of modern governance and equips them to contribute meaningfully to the nation's progress. By nurturing young minds with knowledge of administrative systems and public welfare, this initiative has the potential to create a generation of informed, engaged, and empowered citizens.

As the education system evolves to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world, such innovative steps are a testament to the commitment towards holistic development. Introducing Public Administration at the school level is not just an academic reform; it is a step towards building a stronger, more participatory democracy.

Conclusion

The introduction of the Public Administration subject at the 10+2 level will develop students' leadership qualities during schooling and prepare them to serve society while developing their critical thinking skills. Unfortunately, the Jammu and Kashmir government and the Director of School Education Kashmir have not shown enthusiasm for introducing this subject at the higher secondary level, despite its numerous benefits.

Many Public Administration degree holders have been waiting since 2014 for its inclusion at the 10+2 level. It is pertinent to mention that the Public Administration syllabus, framed by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE), is already available in the JK-BOSE syllabus booklet for classes 11th and 12th. The head of every higher secondary school institution in Jammu and Kashmir should recommend introducing the Public Administration subject at the 10+2 level.

The author holds a Master's degree in Public Administration

NEWS

Strict enforcement of laws, proper treatment, mass awareness key to tackle drug menace: CS

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 7: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today emphasised strict enforcement of relevant laws, proper rehabilitation of victims and massive awareness generation to effectively tackle the drug menace in the Union Territory.

The Chief Secretary, while chairing the 12th UT Level NCORD Committee meeting, advocated the significance of collective approach in combatting this challenge.

Present in the meeting were DG, Police, Principal Home, Secretary, ACS, Jal Shakti Department, Principal Secretary, School Education Department, ADGP Crime. ADGP, Headquarters, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu, ADGP, Jammu, IGP Kashmir, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Commissioner Secretary, Forests, Secretary, Secretary, Health, RDD. Secretary, Law, Zonal Director. NCB, Deputy Commissioners, District SSPs, representatives from BSF, ED, SIA and other senior civil and police officers while outstation officers participated online.

Dulloo emphasised the need for making collective efforts by the civil administration and Police department to eradicate this evil from the society. He maintained that strict action against the drug dealers would act as an effective deterrent for the people involved with this illicit practice. He called upon the investigation and prosecution agencies to prepare strong cases against such unscrupulous elements. He observed that sometimes tardy investigations and weak prosecutions lead to early acquittals of the arrested persons. He exhorted



upon the police department to enhance the capacity of both Investigation Officers and Public Prosecutors so that the cases framed against the culprits succeed in making convictions in the court of law.

The Chief Secretary also en-joined upon the department to be strict against the police officers found defaulting on framing strong cases against the drug dealers. He also made out that the government employees found involved in NDPS cases should be taken to task as per the laws in vogue.

He enquired from each SSP about the bails/acquittals challenged in higher judicial forums. He said that al lbails/acquittals orders passed should be assailed in higher courts.

He remarked that the motive of each investigation should be to turn the case into successful conviction by following the requisite SoPs throughout the case proceedings right from seizure. He also quoted several Supreme Court directions passed to secure the nation from falling prey to this threat.

He said that the burden of

proof in NDPS cases lies on the accused so here police should use the enforcement laws much effectively to rid this region from the affliction affecting us badly. He also directed for audit of each case resulting into acquittals so that responsibility of

any loophole found in the case is fixed properly. Dulloo underscored the need for having IPD facilities of drug de-addiction in all the district hospitals in future and OPD facilities in most of our health facilities. He also asked the Health

Department to provide best of the counselling and treatment to the victims both through online and offline mode. He also urged the concerned Departments to collaborate with the School Education and Higher Education

Departments to create awareness among the students there. He called upon the Police Department to hold panchayat level events where videos and other IEC material should be displayed and distributed to create mass awareness. He called for framing calendars in each district along with designating nodal officers to accomplish the

tasks with reports sent to SSPs inthe district. DG, Police, Nalin Prabhat,

explained that there is huge paradigm shift in taking up of investigations under NDPS and PITNDPS Acts. He revealed that actions against these persons have increased manifold with focussed attention of the Department towards curbing this illicit trade.

He further gave out that the attachment of properties together with other strict measures being taken by police force are showing its impact on ground. He observed that although there is always scope for improvement but the Department has done a yoeman's job on this front.

Principal Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti, while speaking in the meeting, suggested the police department to make full use of national portals like NIDAAN to trace the forward and backward links of the case. He recalled that PITNDPS has been very effective in dealing with this illegal practice after devising its SoPs by the Department.

He further apprised that timely

appeals against bail orders would be a good measure to dissuade the traders. He also emphasised upon attachment of properties of these drug dealers besides making red entries in revenue records simultaneously against such immovable properties.

Regarding performance of the Department against drug menace, a presentation was made by IG, Crime, Sunil Kumar. He revealed that illegal assets worth Rs 12.04 crore were attached in 2024, with properties worth Rs 50 crore currently under attachment process. About the action taken against drug kingpins, it was given out that 274 drug kingpins were booked under PIT NDPS in 2024, compared to 270 in 2023 and 195 in 2022.

Regarding disciplinary actions against employees involved in NDPS cases, the meeting was apprised that15 civil employees (out of 143 cases), 69 police personnel (out of 175) and 9 army personnel disembodied (out of 19 cases) for their involvement in NDPS cases.

As far as public awareness is concerned, it was divulged that 25,546 awareness programs were conducted in schools, colleges and communities to sensitise the public about the detrimental effects of drug abuse.

Moreover about the initiation of departmental enquiries for carrying out faulty investigation, it was informed that 241 disciplinary actions were taken against investigating officers for faulty investigations.

It was said that 2,737 officers were trained by ANTF in districts to improve conviction rates which resulted into improving conviction rates from 23% in 2022 to 51% in 2023 and further jumping o 54% in 2024.

J&K Pavilion emerges as most celebrated attraction at IIMTF 2024

JKTPO to host Agro & Food Fest, JK Trade Show 2025 in January

KOLKATA, JANUARY 6: The Jammu and Kashmir pavilion, with its stunning display of regional craftsmanship, authentic products and emerging entrepreneurial talent, emerged as one of the most popular and celebrated attractions in the 23rd India International Mega Trade Fair (IIMTF), held at the Science City Grounds in Kolkata from December 20, 2024, to January 6, 2025.

The pavilion, being sponsored by the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organisation (JKTPO), featured 21 dedicated stalls including contributions from women entrepreneurs, one of whom, an award recipient, showcased live Pashmina weaving at her stall.

This vibrant platform allowed artisans and businesses from Jammu and Kashmir to display their unique products. The exhibition offered a diverse range of high-quality items including Pashmina Shawls, Sozni embroidered textiles, GI-tagged Kashmiri saffron, dry fruits, hand-embroidered Phiran, and organic food products such as Honey, Anardana, and Rajmash from Jammu. These traditional, meticulously crafted products attracted significant attention from the visitors.

The pavilion offered visitors the chance to purchase one-ofa-kind items, while fostering direct interactions between the artisans and guests. This engagement allowed them to discover the intricate techniques and stories behind each creation, which in turn helped many

rience not only added value to the products but also deepened the appreciation for Jammu and Kashmir's rich artistic heritage. The event proved to be a tremendous success, achiev-

artisans generate valuable busi-

ness leads. The immersive expe-

ing sales of around Rs 1.3 crore and generating more than 1,900 business leads for future orders. This exceptional response highlights the rising demand for Kashmiri products and underscores the growing recognition of region's craftsmanship both in domestic and international markets.

IIMTF 2024 featured over 1,000 stalls representing exhibitors from 20 Indian states and 15 countries worldwide and Jammu & Kashmir Pavilion was one of the major attractions for the visitors.

JKTPO had successfully participated in prominent events such as the IITF 2024 in Delhi, PITEX in Amritsar, CII Fair in Chandigarh, MSME Expo in New Delhi etc. Besides, JKTPO organised J&K Textile Sourcing Fair 2024, J&K Trade Show 2024 (Summer Edition) and Basmati Fest 2024 to effectively showcase Jammu and Kashmir's economic potential.

In the coming months, the JKTPO will enhance its outreach by participating in major events like MiTEX Mumbai, Surajkund Mela and Bharat Tex 2025. Additionally, it will host the 2nd Agro and Food Fest on January 22, 2025 and the JK Trade Show 2025 (Winter Edition) on January 31, 2025.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

PM To Launch

deployment of troops, seamless supply of military equipment, and uninterrupted transport of essential goods to border areas. Improved connectivity will also enhance travel speed between Jammu and Kashmir and other regions, easing movement for local residents,' says a senior official associated with the project.

"With the completion of the Z-Morh tunnel, connectivity to Sonamarg will now remain intact even during severe weather conditions," said Harpal Singh, General Manager of the National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL). Singh credited the success of the project to local workers and engineers, with 90% of the workforce hailing from shmir Doda and Banihal

by 18 km Banihal-Qazigund in June 2013, 25 km Udhampur-Katra in July 2014 and 48.1 km long Banihal-Sangaldan stretch in February, last year.

The work on the 46-km Sangaldan-Reasi section was also completed in June last year. leaving a total of 17-km stretch between Reasi and Katra and this section was finally completed in December 2024.

The officials said the dream project to link Kashmir by train was started in 1997 and has missed several deadlines given geological, topographical, and meteorological challenges.

Terror-free

and societal harmony". "I call upon young police officers to embrace ew ideas and tools and lead the fight against narco-terrorism, drug trafficking, cybercrime and radicalization," he added. The lieutenant governor emphasized that successful prosecution should become a key metric of police achievement and every crime investigation should be taken to its logical conclusion. "Investigation and successful prosecution are critical tools of effective policing. The responsibility of the J&K Police extends beyond neutralizing terrorists to eliminating divisive elements and those aiding and abetting terrorism and separatism," he said.

Jammu and Kashmir. I passionately advocated for much-needed support from the Union Finance Ministry for the region."

He had expressed optimism that collaborative efforts with the Central Government would enhance financial stability and promote sustainable development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chief Minister had sought support of the Union Finance Minister to avail the multilateral funding for development of new tourism destinations in Jammu & Kashmir, aimed to decongest the existing locations and to create well-planned and world-class infrastructure at these new identified locations.

The CM had thanked the Ministry of Finance for approving the Competitiveness Agriculture & Allied Sectors Improvement of Project (JKCIP) for Jammu & Kashmir to rejuvenate the agriculture sector which entails financing of 100 million USD through International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) over the next 7 years. In this regard CM had requested the Ministry of Finance to treat J&K at par with North Eastern States for availing incentives in respect of Externally Aided Project (EAP) loans and making J&K eligible for special lending arrangement under the EAP loans. He had also requested the Finance Minister to consider Jammu & Kashmir for funding through the "Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment" scheme under which a 50year interest free loan would be provided to states for capital expenditure. The CM had also informed the Finance Minister about the difficult fiscal situation being faced by J&K and requested the Ministry to provide additional central assistance of Rs 6000 crore to bridge the resource gap in the UT budget for FY 2024-25 Omar called on Sitharaman in November for his first meeting with the finance minister since taking charge as Jammu and Kashmir chief minister.

son of separatist leader Agha Hassan, by a margin of more than 18,000 votes. Devinder Singh Rana won the Nagrota seat by defeating Joginder Singh of the National Conference by 30,472 votes.

Cashless Treatment

accident per person for a maximum period of 7 days from date of the accident," Gadkari said while addressing a press conference.

The government will come up with a modified scheme by March this year.

On March 14, 2024, the ministry of road transport and highways (MoRTH) had launched a pilot programme to provide cashless treatment to road accident victims.

The pilot programme -- initiated in `handigarh -- was aimed at establishing an ecosystem for providing timely medical care to the victims of road accidents, including during the golden hour. The pilot project was later expanded to six states. The road transport and highways minister also said the government is studying labour laws to frame a policy for fixing working hours for commercial drivers, on the lines of pilots, as driver fatigue is resulting in fatal road crashes, Gadkari said, adding that India is facing a shortage of 22 lakh drivers. MoRTH organised a two-day workshop on January 6, and 7, 2025 to holistically deliberate issues, solutions and next steps to be taken to help drive transformation in India's road transport sector. During the two-day workshop, accelerating implementation of Vehicle Scrapping Policy, pan-India adoption of PUCC 2.0, timelines for introduction of BS-VII norms were discussed, along with expected reduction in pollution with the norms. Gadkari also launched the scheme for pan-India setup of Driver Training Institutes (DTI) which provides incentives for setting up DTIs and additional incentives for integrated infrastructure of ATSs and DTIs. The minister stressed on the introduction of specific regulations and guidelines for improving E-Rickshaw safety, given the proliferation of e-rickshaws across the country. Gadkari said deliberations were done for introduction of Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS) for trucks and strict enforcement of retro reflective tape for transport vehicle safety.

While Itoo refrained from naming Ruhullah explicitly, her remarks are widely interpreted as a response to recent protests led by him over the reservation policy

The reservation policy has been a contentious issue in Jammu and Kashmir, with various political leaders expressing divergent views. The committee mentioned by Itoo, constituted under the leadership of Omar Abdullah, is tasked with examining the policy and proposing amendments to address the concerns of open merit candidates.

As the debate continues, many are calling for unity among political leaders to address the pressing issues facing the region. A senior citizen from Jammu remarked, "The people of the UT deserve leaders who work together, not against each other to resolve their challenge With the reservation policy still under review, it remains to be seen how this public spat will influence the broader political narrative in Jammu and Kashmir. For now, Minister Sakina Itoo's remarks have undoubtedly stirred the political pot, raising questions about the best way forward for addressing public grievances.

The tunnel is expected to provide a major boost to tourism in Sonamarg, which has traditionally remained inaccessible for six months of the year due to snowfall. "This project will enable safe travel through avalanche-prone areas and significantly reduce travel time from Gagangir to Sonamarg to just 30 minutes," said Riyaz Ahmad, a local resident.

Ahmad highlighted that the tunnel's completion will enhance winter tourism, offering a lifeline to businesses and livelihoods in the region that have been adversely affected during the off-season.

Construction of the Z-Morh tunnel began in 2020 but faced delays, including a setback due to a militant attack in September. Despite these challenges, the project is now ready for inauguration. Officials have confirmed that the Prime Minister will e-inaugurate the tunnel on Republic Day, and that it will be the government's push for infrastructure development in Jammu and Kashmir. (KNO)

CRS Begins

month, an important development which will connect Kashmir with the rest of the country after nearly three decades of stupendous work.

Deshwal's visit comes a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Jammu Railway division from New Delhi. paving the way for efficient management of train services in the northernmost region of India.

The railway officials said the CRS conducted a statutory inspection of Katra-Reasi section and also visited the Anji Khad bridge, India's first cable-stayed rail bridge, in Reasi district soon after reaching Katra this morning.

Deshwal will be visiting the iconic arch bridge over Chenab at Kauri -- the world's highest railway bridge -- before to and fro speed trial of Katra-Banihal by CRS Special on Wednesday afternoon, the officials said.

On January 4, a successful trial run of an electric train was successfully conducted on Katra-Banihal section. The railways has conducted six trials over the past month on various segments of the track, including the two major milestones of Anji Khad Bridge and Chenab bridge.

The officials said the CRS will submit a report after the conclusion of his two day inspection, which will guide further action on starting train services to Kashmir.

Out of the total 272 km USBRL project, 209 km was commissioned in phases with the first phase of the 118 km Qazigund-Baramulla section commissioned in October 2009 followed

Sinha also praised the civil action programs of the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

Udhampur Police Academy Director Garib Dass briefed the attendees about the program and the various activities conducted during the training course.

The lieutenant governor took the ceremonial salute and inspected the parade. He also felicitated the new recruits, who excelled during their training.

An oath was administered to the passing-out DySPs to perform their duties with dedication and honesty.

Kashmir In For

dry weather conditions for the next three days, saying that the weather would remain generally dry till January 10.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, said that there is a possibility of light snow at isolated to scattered places on January 11 and 12.

Furthermore, he added that the weather would remain generally dry from January 13 to 15.

In its advisory, the local MeT has said that in view of fresh snowfall, sub-freezing temperature & icy conditions over roads plains and higher reaches, the tourists, travelers and transporters are advised to plan accordingly & follow administration and traffic advisory.

Omar Meets FM

sources said, adding that the J&K Chief Minister's meeting with the Union Ministers is an ongoing process of administrative work.

Pertinently, Omar had met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on November 15, 2024 and today's meeting was his second within a span of one and a half month.

After meeting the Finance Minister Omar Abdullah had shared on Instagram- "Called on Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, smt.@nsitharaman ji. Our discussion centred around crucial economic matters concerning

Panel To Finalise

session of the J & K legislative assembly is likely to start from the first or second week of February.(KNO)

Pays Tributes

Sayeed Sb on his 9th death anniversary. Mufti Sb was one of the most senior political leaders to emerge from Kashmir, having served in various ministries in the Union Government & been elected CM of J&K twice.

"His death left a gap in the political landscape of J&K that remains unfilled. May Allah grant him highest place in Jannat," Abdullah said in a post on X.

Sayeed's party, led by his daughter Mehbooba Mufti, paid floral tributes to the PDP founder at his mausoleum in Dara Shikoh in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

ECI Defers J&K

While the BJP is likely to field Devinder Singh Rana's daughter, Devyani Rana, as its candidate for the Nagrota seat, there is widespread curiosity about who the NC's candidate for the Budgam seat will be. The NC has not provided any hints about its candidate, evoking interest among political observers and voters alike. In the 2024 J&K polls, Omar Abdullah won the Budgam seat by defeating Muntazir Mehdi,

Implementation of monitoring centers & vehicle location tracking devices (VLTD) for safety of women and children were also discussed.

The meeting also discussed the launch and integration of all faceless services by the end of March 2025.

"Further, a Committee of Secretaries with representatives from States, MoRTH and NIC will work towards standardization of faceless services modules, document standardization for registration," he added.

NC Minister Accuses

reservations. These are complex issues that require time and deliberation to address appropriately."

She further criticized what she termed as "performative protests" in front of the media, adding, "Sitting and yelling in front of the media is for cheap fame; it isn't justice. At least, I wouldn't do it.

NC Should Remove

"cultural invasion."

Addressing a press conference, Adv Sunil Sethi, Chief Spokesperson, J&K BJP strongly condemned the statement of NC MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi, stressing that it is detrimental and dangerous to the tourism in the region.

Girdhari Lal Raina and YV Sharma, Spokespersons, J&K BJP were also present in the Press Conference addressed at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Sunil Sethi questioned whether NC supports Ruhullah's 'fear politics' attempting to instill fear in tourists and the common people. He asked the NC to take action against Ruhullah's statement.

"The statement, in which MP Ruhullah stated that tourism causes cultural invasion in Kashmir is dangerous for a democratic setup. It is harmful to peace and progress. Is this the new political strategy of NC, which historically runs on the politics of 'fear'. NC should tell. whether it stands in favour of this statement?", said Sethi.

"Tourism is the mainstay of the economy in Kashmir. The tourism revival in Kashmir has brought prosperity in Kashmir which has made the lives of Kashmiris easier. NC has a history of such 'loose cannons' from time to time like its leaders raising pro-Pakistan slogans in the house and now this anti-people statement", said Sethi

This statement is to terrorize tourism and the people thus proving harmful for the tourism-based economy in Kashmir.

If the tourism industry gets hit by this statement, then NC led by Umer Abdullah, and Dr. Farooq Abdullah should be held responsible for the loss.

If NC doesn't take any action against its leaders, then it is the party's nod to the statement. This is the start of 'political terrorism' in Jammu & Kashmir. This political terrorism is being raised to instill the sense of 'fear' in the people by the NC government.

BJP will strongly resist any such move. The BJP's clear stance is to take legal and political action against such a leader who is hell bent to destroy the tourism sector and hence economic activity in the region.

STATE

JAKFAS Launches **Digital Calendar 2025**



urged all to embrace technology as

a powerful tool to create a brighter,

more efficient, and progressive

Secretary to the Government, Fi-

nance Department, stated in his

message that the launch of the

JAKFAS Digital Calendar, dedicat-

ed to Digital J&K, is a testament to

their commitment to promoting

progressive governance. He ap-

plauded the JAKFAS for this cre-

ative initiative and urged every-

one to support and leverage these

reforms for a modern, inclusive,

and efficient Jammu and Kash-

mir. In his message, Fayaz Ahmad

Lone, DGAT, applauded the JAK-

FAS for recognizing the power

of digital transformation. He de-

scribed the Digital Calendar as a

brilliant step in celebrat-

ing these advancements

our members."

able journey.

Santosh D. Vaidya, Principal

Jammu and Kashmir.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Finance and Accounts Society (JAKFAS) launched the Digital Calendar 2025 unveiled by the Fayaz Ahmad Lone, Director General Accounts and Treasuries, J&K in the presence of Mahesh Das, Director General Codes; Mohammad Sultan Malik, Director General Budget; and Ms. Neeraj Gupta Bakshi, Director General, Local Fund Audit & Pensions J&K (Joined Virtually), alongside the President JAKFAS, Ms. Rashim Deepika. The event was attended by Director Finance(s), Joint Directors(FA/CAOs); Deputy Directors and other members of the JAKFAS with many officers participating virtually. Themed around "Digital J&K," the

Calendar 2025 highlights the transformative digital initiatives undertaken by the Finance Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir in particular, marking a milestone in integrating technology with governance. Tools such as e-Kuber, e-Gras, BEAMS, the Janbhagidari Portal, and the PROOF App are prominently featured alongside other initiatives, showcasing the Government's commitment to transparency, efficiency, and citizen-centric service delivery

In a special message featured in the calendar, the Honorable Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Omar Abdullah has commended JAKFAS for their visionary effort in highlighting the essence of Digital J&K through this initiative and

'Over 17% Primary, 12% Hr Sec Students Quit Studies Midway In JK'

been recorded.

efiting 1.25 lakh students.

The documents further re-

veal that the School Education

Department established 3,000

ICT and CAL labs and were

planning for additional 834

ICT labs and 1,352 smart class-

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, over 17 percent of students at primary level and 12 percent learners at senior secondary level quit studies midway-thus raising a question on the functioning of the department.

The official figures accessed reveal that "The retention rate at Primary level in Jammu and Kashmir was 82.70 and 88.42 at senior secondary level.'

The official documents however state that, "About 46,000 Out of School Children (OoSC) have been mainstreamed."

Meanwhile, the government-run-school teachers say that many students in rural areas quit studies midway. "The retention problem is mainly seen in tribal and remote areas wherein the students quit studies midway."

The documents further state that a notable shift of thousands of students from private

NORTHERN RAILWAY

and inspiring everyone to E-Tender Notice contribute to this remark-Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled enders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 27.01.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such Rashim Deepika, President JAKFAS, added in nanual 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 his message that, "The banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. Digital Calendar is more are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in than a tool for organizing

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Serving Customers With A Smile



TENDER NOTICE INVITING e-BIDS

The Executive Engineer, TLMD IV Pampore Kashmir, JKPTCL J&K, for and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir invites e-tenders from Registered electrical contractors/ Joint Venture/Firms/ with Relevant Experience registered with Government of J&K UI contractors with qualification/ past experience

| S No. | Name of work | Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lacs) | Cost of Tender Document | Earnest Money | Class of contract | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 01. | System Strengthening of 220 kV D/C KPTL by way of several works of electrical nature at various locations of the Trans- mission Line | | Rs. 200.00 The cost of tender must be in the form of Demand draft pledged to Executive Engineer TLMD-IV Pampore | @2% Esti- mated Cost. Rs.8800.00 | Registered electrical contractors/ Joint Venture/Firms/ with Experience | | | |
| 01. The bidding documents consisting of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website <u>www.jktenders.gov.in</u> | | | | | | | | |
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rooms in 2023-24 to enhance to government schools has experiential learning.

"There has been impressive Stating the works completenrolment of 217,890 students ed in the School Education in 2022-23, marking a 17.87 Department, the documents percent increase in total enrolreveal that it has completed 2.562 infrastructure projects ment." it reads. It also said that in 2022-23, including civil the department introduced vocational education in 804 works and facility enhancements under UT Capex and schools, and expanded to 1,067 schools in 2023-24-thus ben-Samagra Shiksha.

"SED implemented Early Child Care Education with kindergartens in nearly 2,000 schools, alongside infrastructure improvements like childfriendly furniture and model kindergarten," it reads—(KNO)

Govt Has Greater Responsibilities Than Clearing Snow From Roads: Mehbooba Agencies

BIJBEHARA (ANANTNAG): People's Democratic Party (PDP)

president Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said the Omar Abdullah-led government has a major responsibility to provide relief to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, who have been "enduring a challenging phase" since 2019. Speaking on the 9th death

anniversary of her father and former Chief Minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed at Daro Shikoh Bagh in Bijbehara, Mehbooba said that the Chief Minister of J&K has significant responsibilities, as the people have elected him, yet he is merely focused on clearing snow from roads.

She said that tasks like road construction, snow clearance and other minor works were carried out even in the absence of a popular government. "However, the core responsibility of the government is to provide relief to the people of J&K, which is being overlooked," she remarked. Mufti criticised the J&K gov-

ernment, saying, "Despite having a popular government in place, actions like attaching

properties under UAPA, unnecessary verifications, termination of employees and arrests of those who raise their voices continue. What is the purpose of having an elected government if the chief minister remains silent on such issues?"

The chief minister, she said, must speak up. People have elected the government to represent them, not to remain silent, she added.

The PDP chief added, "Even graveyards are silent, but that doesn't mean there is peace. Similarly, they claim there is peace in J&K, but if anyone raises a voice, they are arrested."

Mehbooba also slammed the National Conference (NC), saying they initially opposed the installation of digital meters and promised free electricity units to the people. Now, they have shifted their stance, saying free electricity will be considered only after the full installation of digital meters, she said. Mufti questioned why Kashmiris are being "targeted through various means" and called for raising these issues. She said the PDP has always spoken up and will continue to speak up for the people.

| | GOVERNMENT OF | JAMMU AND KASHMII | R | | | | |
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| extended due to nil response. The new closing and opening dates are given below: | | | | | | | |
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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR



Unauthorized absence of Mr. Tajamul Islam, Forensic Technician, SKIMS Medical College-Hospital-Termination from Government Sub: Service thereof.

Order No. 03 SKIMS MC of 2025 Dated: 03- 01-2025

Whereas; Mr. Tajamul Islam S/o: Mohd Ahsan Mir R/o: Zungalpora, Devsar Kulgam was appointed as Forensic Technician at SKIMS Medical College Bemina vide Order No. 253 SKIMS-MC of 2018 dated: 29.05.2018 and joined the post on 06.06.2018 (F.N.);

Whereas; HOD Forensic Medicine, SKIMS Medical College conveyed vide letter No. SKIMS/MC/Path-317/23/320 dt. 03.10.2023, that Mr. Tajamul-Islam, Forensic Technician is not attending his duties with effect from 26.09.2023

Whereas; the said official was attached with the office of Medical Superintendent, SKIMS Medical College-Hospital vide order No. 445-SKIMS MC of 2023 dt. 14.10.2023:

Whereas; the Medical Superintendent vide letter No. SKIMS/MCH/2023/ 4851-53 dated 17.10.2023 informed that Mr. Tajamul Islam, Forensic Technician has not reported for duties and is continuously unauthorized absent;

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender documents fees in favour of "Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division-IV Pampore" (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division-IV Pampore for the works mentioned in the E-NIT(tender receiving authority).

The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.inand conveyed bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened on same website in the office of the Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division-IV Pampore for the works mentioned in the E-NIT(tender receiving authority) No. TI MD-IV/ 3538-39 --sd-

Dated: 04-01-2025 DIPK-NB-3092-24 **Executive Engineer TLMD-IV** Pampore DT: 07/01/2025

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER (DEPUTY COMMISSIONER) BARAMULLA

entbaramula@gmail.com, entbaramulla@nic.ln

"Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy

Phone: 01952-234210 | Fax: 01952-234005

ELECTION URGENT

Subject: Final Delimitation of Municipal Councils/Committees of District Baramulla-regarding.

CORRIGENDUM

- Whereas, the Hon'ble State Election Commission UT of J&K vide No.SEC/ME/07/2024-2/4937-58 Dated 06/11/2024 has issued 1. instructions to publish the Final Delimitation Order as per the devised format for indicating ward wise details;
- 2. Whereas, the Final Delimitation Order has been issued vide this office No.DEOB/2024/41785-815 Dated 14/11/2024;
- 3. Whereas, the Executive Officer Municipal Committee Watergam has reported vide his No.MC/Wtg/2024-25/820-22 Dated 28/12/2024 that the territorial limit of the boundary of the ward No.04 and 05 has remained uniform due to oversight/computer error;
- Whereas, the Executive Officer Municipal Committee Watergam has submitted the rectified copy of the same for making necessary 4. rectification

Now, in view of the above, the rectified Final Delimitation of Ward 5 Anwarabad of Municipal Committee Watergam is hereby notified as under;

| No. of Ward | Name of the Ward | Area i.e Mohalla / Village/ Cluster falling in the ward. | Territorial Limit of the boundary of the ward. | Total Population as per Census 2011 |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| 5 | Anwarabad | 1. Mohalla Assad sahab, 2. Mohalla Anwarabad 3. Mohalla Shaheen Bagh | (Assad Sahab, Anwarabad, Shaheen Bagh) 1. From H/O of Nazir Ahmad Lone Left side of Park Road Via Ziyarat Assad Sahab and Nallah Hamal upto dumping site. 2. From H/O Nazir Ahmad Lone via Masjid Sharif Anwarabad and shop Hilal Ahmad Bhat upto H/O Manzoor Ahmad Malla. 3. Right side of Watergam Rehmatabad Road from H/O Manzoor Ahmad Malla upto new Dumping Site and Kralpora orchards. | 481 |
| | B/2025/4369 04/01/2025. | 95-701 | DIPK-10525-24 DT: 07/01/2025 | Deputy Commissioner District Election Officer Baramulla. |

Whereas; a notice was issued vide No. SKIMS MC/302(Adm)/2023/5322-27 dated 03.11.2023 on the home address of the said official with the directions to resume his duties immediately, but the official did not respond;

Whereas; another notice was served upon the said official vide No. SKIMS MC/302(Adm)/2023/5657-61 dated 22.11.2023 which was also published through print media with the directions to resume duties within 10 days and also ensure his presence before the Principal, but the official failed to resume duties nor responded to the said notice;

Whereas; a show cause Notice was served upon the said official vide No. SKIMS MC/302(Adm)/2023/6074-81 dated 11.12.2023 which was also published through print media with the directions to present himself before the Principal along with his statements of defense within 21 days from the date of issuance of the notice, failing which it shall be presumed that he has nothing to say in his defence and action as warranted in terms of Article 128 of 1&K Civil Services Regulations Volume-Land other relevant rules shall be initiated against him without any further notice. However, the said official failed to present himself before the Principal and continued on unauthorized absence;

Whereas; an Enquiry Committee was constituted vide Order No. 22 SKIMS MC of 2024 dated 13-01-2024 to enquire into the unauthorized absence of Mr. Tajamul Islam, Forensic Technician, SKIMS Medical College-Hospital;

Whereas; Enquiry Committee submitted its recommendations vide letter No. SKIMS/MCH/2024/673 dated 16-02-2024 wherein it was recommended that:

"In order to know the whereabouts of Mr. Taiamul Islam, Forensic Technician: SKIMS Medical College, a letter shall be addressed to concerned police station for enquiring the whereabouts of the official so that further action in this regard is initiated."

Whereas; in view of the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee, the matter was taken up with Station House Officer, Police Station Devsar, Kulgam vide this office letter No. SKIMS MC/302(Adm)/ 2024/961-63 dated 24-02-2024 to intimate whereabouts of the said employee;

Whereas; in the meanwhile, Mr. Tajamul Islam (951) Forensic Technician, SKIMS Medical College submitted an email dated 05-03-2024 requesting therein for consideration of Study Leave in his favour for pursuing higher studies:

Whereas; Station House Officer, Police Station Devsar vide his letter No: PSD/6-1/15/2024 dated 06-03-2024, received by this office on 27-03-2024 submitted his report which is reproduced as under:

"Verification got conducted by this P/S through Incharge beat who revealed in his report that particulars of the subject namely Mr. Tajam-ul-Islam S/O Mohd Ahsan Mir R/o Zangalpora are found correct and is not found involved in any subversive activities. Further revealed that the subject went America for obtaining further studies (PHD) before two months."

Whereas; the matter was again placed before the Enquiry Committee and the committee in its meeting held on 16th April 2024 recommended that:

"A final show cause notice shall be served to Mr. Tajamui Islam, Forensic Technician, SKIMS Medical College/ Hospital Bemina with the directions to explain his position within three (03) weeks as to why his services shall not be terminated in terms of JK CSR Vofume-I under Article 128 on account of unauthorized absence from duties w.e.f 26-09-2023 and also leaving the country without proper permission from the Competent authority."

Whereas; a Final Show Cause Notice vide No. SKIMS MC/ 302(Adm)/2024/2243-51 dated 16-05-2024 was served upon the said employee, addressed on his home address & on his personal email which stands also published in print media as well as uploaded on Official website of SKIMS MCH, directing him to explain his position as to why his services shall not be terminated in terms of Article 128 of J&K CSR Volume-I. However, the notice sent on home address was returned by the concerned Post office with the remarks that "Addressee is not present at home. He left to America, private services";

Whereas; in response to the Final show cause notice served to the employee on his email, the said employee admitted that "he left the country without prior permission of the Government for pursing higher studies in USA and requested for sanction of Study Leave";

Whereas; General Administration Department vide Circular No. 08-JK (GAD) of 2021 dated 13-02-2021 has issued instructions regarding visits outside country by Government employees which reads as under:

"All officers/officials working in various Government Departments / PSUs / Boards / Commissions to take strictly adhere to the instructions issued on the subject and not to undertake any foreign visit on private affairs without prior approval of the Government Administrative Secretaries / HODs shall take note of these instructions and take appropriate action against the defaulters and shall not process any case for post facto sanction."

Whereas; Rule 8 (i) of J&K Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1979 reads as under:

"Leave cannot be claimed as a matter of right".

Whereas; Mr. Tajamul Islam (951) Forensic Technician failed to join his legitimate duties despite the sufficient opportunities being accorded; Whereas; continued unauthorized absence from duties by a Government servant attracts action and is tantamount to Joss of service as warranted in terms of Article 128 of J&K Civil Services Regulations (Volume-I) of 1956, which reads as under:

"Absence without leave or after the end of leave involves loss of appointment"

NOW, THEREFORE, keeping in view the continuous unauthorized absence from duty and leaving the country without prior permission of the Government, Mr. Tajamul Islam (951) Forensic Technician, SKIMS Medical College-Hospital, is hereby terminated and discharged from Government Services from the date of his willfull unauthorised absence i.e. 26-09-2023, in terms of Article 128 of J&K Civil Service Regulations, 1956.

| No. SKIMS-MC/302(Adm)/2025/27-34 | Sd/- |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Dated: 03 - 01 - 2025 (Prof. Moho | d Ashraf Ganie) |
| DIPK-NB-3105-24 Dir | rector SKIMS & |
| DT: 07/01/2025 Ex-Officio Sec | cretary to Govt. |

SPORTS

Rohit Sharma & Virat Kohli's Test Future **Depends On Selectors: Gavaskar**

Press Trust of India

SYDNEY: Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma's Test future is now in the hands of selectors, said former India captain Sunil Gavaskar while advocating an honest deep-dive into the team's downward spiral in the last six months.

In an interview to PTI, Gavaskar spoke about India's recent debacles, including the home whitewash by New Zealand, the way forward and the responsibility on the Ajit Agarkar-led national selection committee to give a fair chance to those waiting in the wings.

Asked about the raging debate surrounding the future of struggling stars Rohit and Kohli, Gavaskar said, "How long they continue is really up to the selectors."

"Now that India has failed to qualify for the WTC (World Test Championship) final, it would be pertinent to reflect on the reasons that (why it) hap-



the coveted BGT was surrendered to Australia for the first time in a decade. The primary reason for the debacle was the lowing a 1-3 loss to Australia in batting unit's failure to fire with Rohit and Kohli proving to be the weakest link.

That defeat also meant that Kohli scored 190 runs in nine

innings including an unbeaten century, while Rohit's tally was a dismal 31 from five completed knocks.

Gavaskar didn't mince words while pointing out the repeated failures of the team's batters, who failed to cross the 200

ing the series. "It is clear that in the last six

mark six out of nine times dur-

months, the batting failed and that was the main reason that we lost matches that we should have won," the former captain stated.

"So, if changes are required for the new cycle of the WTC which starts in mid-June in England, then hopefully the selectors will take into account who would still be there for the final in 2027 and choose accordingly," Gavaskar put things perspective.

The 75-year-old former India captain did not take names but said there are some good performers coming up in the domestic circuit and the onus is now on the selectors to give them a fair chance.

"Unless they are given a chance how will we know if those doing well in Ranji Trophy will do well at the international level? Here's where good selections come in," he said

Annual Skiing Courses Of DYSS Begin In Gulmarg

concluded on Sunday.

pened," he added.

This is the first time since

the WTC's inception that India

could not make the finals fol-

the Border-Gavaskar series that

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The annual Skiing Training programme organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports started on Tuesday at Gulmarg.

The 15-day training course's first batch of 2025 comprising 50 students from government schools of J&K was inaugurated by Joint Director Kashmir DYSS, Mohammad Rashid Kohili. He was accompanied by District YSS Officer Baramulla Ghulam Qadir and Incharge YSS Skiing Courses Hilal Ahmed.

Observer News Service

LEH: The Royal Enfield Ice

Hockey League Season 2, or-

ganised in partnership with

the UT Administration of Ladakh and Ice Hockey Associa-

tion of Ladakh at the Nawang

Dorjay Stobdan Stadium in

Leh, entered its Day 4 on

Tuesday.

Several



This year, DYSS has chartered out the plan of organising six courses for boys and girls under the guidance of Secretary YSS Sarmad Hafeez and DG YSS Rajinder Singh Tara. The course is being or-

ganised with the technical expertise of Incharge Course Ghulam Nabi Rashi, Mushtaq Ahmed Dar, Manzoor Ahmed Dar, Mushtaq Khan, Moham-

mad Rafiq, Fayaz Ahmed, Tariq Ahmed and Zahoor Ahmed.

We Know How To Beat Aussies: South Africa Pacer Rabada **Press Trust of India**

CAPE TOWN: Fiery South African pacer Kagiso Rabada, no stranger to beating Australia, believes the prospect of facing them in the World Test Championship final at Lord's in June has already sparked anticipation and motivation in his side.

Reigning champions Australia secured their spot in the WTC final with a six-wicket victory over India in the fifth and final Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Sydney, clinching the series 3-1.

South Africa were the first team to qualify after defeating Pakistan by 10 wickets in the Boxing Day Test.

"It's actually quite some distance away, but a big occasion like the World Test Championship final gets you up for it," Rabada said on SuperSport after taking a six-wicket haul in his side's 10-wicket, second-Test demolition of Pakistan that completed a 2-0 sweep.

Up against defending champions Australia, the Proteas will start as underdogs but Rabada, who twice played a big part in winning series against Australia in 2016-17 and 2017-18, is confident of pulling off an upset.

"South Africa versus Australia has always been an intense rivalry, because we play cricket quite similar. We play hard -- and they're going to come



hard at us, and we know that. But we also know how to beat them," he said.

About the significance of Test cricket, Rabada said: "One hundred per cent, Test cricket is still alive. It's our best format that we've been playing right now.

"When you look at South African cricket and all our legends, they've all been great Test cricketers. The world's best players are Test cricketers, and this series against Pakistan has been a wonderful advertisement for Test cricket, especially in South Africa."

The Proteas don't have any Test assignment in the build-up to the WTC Final at Lord's from June 11-16 and coach Shukri Conard has said they're looking at the possibility of a one-off match against either Ireland or Afghanistan.

Short TAKES

Bumrah Nominated For ICC Men's POTM Award

Star India pacer Jasprit Bumrah was on Tuesday Nominated for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for December 2024 after his standout performance against Australia in the just-concluded Border-Gavaskar Trophy. In the month of December, Bumrah took 22 wickets in the three Tests at a phenomenal average of 14.22 and overall, the 31-year-old finished with 32 wickets across five Tests.

Unfortunately, Bumrah could not bowl in Australia's second innings at Sydney because of a back spasm. His standout spells included nine wickets in both the Brisbane and Melbourne Tests, which played a

pivotal role in keeping India in competition. Competing with Bumrah for the award is Australian

skipper Pat Cummins, who guided Australia to 3-1 series win over India, and South African seamer Dane Paterson. Pacer Cummins showcased fine form, claiming 17 wickets across three Tests against India at an average of 17.64.

His best bowling performance came in Adelaide, a sensational 5/57, which helped the hosts secure a commanding 10-wicket victory.

Steve Smith, Kane Williamson **Unlikely To Feature In PSL**

Star overseas batters Steve Smith and Kane Williamson Sare unlikely to make themselves available for Pakistan Super League (PSL) and the PCB is also awaiting clearance from the England Cricket Board (ECB) for participation of their players in the T20 tournament in April-May.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Tuesday said top players such as David Warner, Adil Rashid, Chris Woakes and Mustafizur Rahman will feature in the Platinum category during the players draft on January 11.

The other players in the Platinum category, which is the highest, include Australia's Matthew Short, Riley Meredith, and Steve Smith (subject to confirmation), along with England's Adil Rashid, Gus Atkinson, Jason Roy, Jonny Bairstow, Tom Curran, and Tom Kohler-Cadmore.

New Zealand's Finn Allen, Kane Williamson (subject to confirmation), and Mark Chapman are also part of the platinum category. Sri Lanka's Charith Asalanka and West Indies' Shai Hope are also included in this category.

China's Most Successful Club Folds Under Weight Of Debts

Guangzhou FC, the most successful soccer club in Chinese history, disbanded on Monday due to crippling debts.

The club, formerly known as Guangzhou Evergrande, has been unable to meet the Chinese Football Association's financial entry requirements needed to compete in the 2025 domestic season.

After being taken over by property developer Evergrande in 2010, the club started the spending spree in China that made headlines around the world.

Helped by players such as Brazilian international Paulinho and elite coaches such as Marcello Lippi of Italy and Brazil's Luiz Felipe Scolari, Guangzhou won eight Chinese Super League titles from 2011 to 2019. The team triumphed also won the Asian Champions League in 2013 and 2015. Other clubs followed with world-famous stars such as Carlos Tevez, Nicolas Anelka, Oscar, Didier Drogba and others heading to China.

In 2021 however, Evergrande reported debts of over \$300 billion and, as key players left the club due to financial issues, it was relegated to China's second tier in 2022.

matches were played on the day, with Puin the opening game. Imran rig Warriors ending Sham Ali, Nadeem Sarwar, Sarfaraz Wolves' unbeaten streak with Hussain, Bashar Ali and Mo-



the scoresheet for the Warriors. Urgain Chosjor scored the two for the Wolves.

Royal Enfield Ice Hockey League S2 Enters Day 4

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