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show during Ramazan. PDP MLA Mir Mohmmad Fayaz

raised the demand, and NC

MLA Tanvir Sadiq also raised

Gulmarg during the fasting

month of Ramazan has evoked

widespread criticism, with

Kashmir's chief priest Mirwaiz

Umar Farooq, saying that "ob-

scenity" in the name of tour-

ism promotion will not be

tolerated. Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah has ordered an inqui-

of killings in Kathua but strong-

ly advocated for the continua-

tion of the | More on P10

BJP members raised the issue

ry into the matter.

The fashion show held in the winter tourist resort of

the issue.

J&K Draws ₹10,516 Crore Investment, Jammu Leads!



Observer News Service

Jammu: The Jammu & Kashmir Government on Monday disclosed that an investment of Rs 10516 crore has been made in the Union Territory since 2019. Minister in-charge The Industries & Commerce Surinder

Choudhary informed the House

that an investment of Rs 10516

Union Territory since 2019-20. In a written reply to a question of MLA Budhal Javed Iqbal Choudhary, the minister said that an investment of Rs 3407.63 crore has been made in Kashmir and Rs 7108 crore in Jammu. As per break-up , an invest-

ment of Rs 164.37 crore has been made in Kashmir | More on P10

'3.7 Lakh Youth **Registered As Unemployed**

he Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday said over 3.70 lakh unemployed youth have registered on the employment portal as of January 2025. The registered youth include 1.13 lakh graduates and post-graduates. Replying to a written question of BJP MLA Sham Lal Sharma in the Assembly, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, who is also the Minister for Labour and Employment, outlined plans to formulate | More on P10

AN INVESTMENT OF RS 3407.63 **CRORE HAS BEEN** made in Kashmir and Rs 7108 crore in Jammu.

Grand Mufti Sets Rs 75 as Sadaqat-ul-Fitr

Agencies

Srinagar: The Grand Mufti of Jammu and Kashmir, Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam, on Monday announced that the mandatory Sadaqat-ul-Fitr (Zakat al-Fitr) for 2025 has been set at Rs 75 per person.

Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam said tha

Kathua Killings, Gulmarg Fashion **Row Spark Uproar** In J&K Aseembly

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly witnessed heated exchanges between opposition and treasury benches on Monday as members raised various issues, including the killing of civilians in Kathua and the Gulmarg fashion show controversy.

As the House assembled for the day, members of the National Conference, People's Democratic Party, and two Independents stood up and raised the issue of the fashion show, terming it "obscene" and alleging that it hurt sentiments. The MLAs demanded a probe into the facilitation of such a



Omar Questions Selective Police Restrictions

hief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday derided the 'attempts" to give "political colour" to the recent mys-I terious deaths in Kathua, and questioned the Jammu and Kashmir Police for stopping his deputy from visiting the bereaved families, but allowing the Leader of the Opposition to meet them. Abdullah's statement came in response to

Designers Apologise, CM Says Govt Had No Role

utrage over a fashion show in Gulmarg found wide echo in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly on Monday with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah saying his government had no role in the event organised at a private hotel and would not have given its permission even if it was not Ramzan.

He said his government would have never given permission for such an event in any month of the year. "We have already

ordered an inquiry into it but preliminary facts revealed that it

> NOT ONLY RAMZAN, GOVT WOULD not have permitted it in any month"

was a private four-day

event organised by a

private party in a pri-

vate hotel. The fash-

ion show was held on

March 7 and certain

things have come to

the fore, which hurt

the sentiments of the

people who are not

wrong," the chief min-

ister informed the as-

sembly. | More on P10

the tragic incident involving three civilians -- Varun Singh (15), his uncles Yogesh Singh (32) and Darshan Singh (40) -whose bodies were recovered from a waterfall in the remote Malhar area of Kathua on Saturday, three days after they went missing from a wedding celebration. Last month, the bodies of two other people -- Shamsher (37) | More on P10

MeT Predicts Rain, Snow Till March 16

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The week-long wet spell started in Kashmir on Monday as rains lashed various parts of the valley including Srinagar. Rains lashed the plains including Srinagar which led to the temperatures plummeting across the Valley.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar Monday said wet weather is likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir till the weekend.

It predicted intermittent light to moderate rain and snow over Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours.

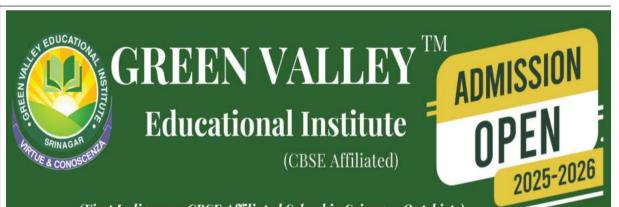
There is a possibility of light rain or snow at isolated to scattered places on March 11 while another spell of light to moderate rain and snow at many places during March 12 and 14. Intermittent light to moderate rains and snow are predicted at many places during March 15 and 16.

The weather is likely to remain dry from March 17 to 21, the MeT office said.

The MeT office has also issued an advisory for travellers, tourists and transporters to follow admin/ traffic advisory before planning their trip during the period

The farmers have also been advised to suspend farm operations from March 10 onwards till March 18, besides people living on the higher reaches have been asked to avoid sloppy and avalanche prone areas during the period.

Meanwhile, the night temperature recorded 4 to 5°C above the average at many weather stations of Kashmir during the past 24 hours, while the day temperature on Saturday remained 3.5°C above normal in many parts of the valley. Srinagar recorded the highest day | More on P10



obligatory for every Muslim, including men, women, and infants, to pay Sadaqat-ul-Fitr before Eid-ul-Fitr prayers.

He stressed that the contribution should be made in advance so that the less fortunate can also partake in the Eid celebrations.

According to Mufti Nasir, the prescribed amount is equivalent to 1.75 kg of wheat per person, and after consultation with Islamic scholars, it has been valued at Rs: 75 this year. He added that individuals should pay this amount for themselves and their minor children, while adult, financially independent children should contribute on their own.

"Sadaqat-ul-Fitr purifies one's fasting from any shortcomings and directly benefits the needy," he said, clarifying that the donation should be given to deserving individuals such | More on P10

following their protest seeking to raise the issue of three youths missing Devsar constituency in Kulgam district.

Jammu: Two leaders of the

National Conference were on

Monday marshalled out of the

and Kashmir Assembly

Press Trust Of India

Iammu

'3 Youths Missing In Devsar'

Evicted From LA

2 Protesting NC MLA's

NC leader and MLA from Devsar constituency Peerzada Feroze Ahmad Shah raised the issue of the missing youths from his constituency. The youths disappeared after attending a marriage party.

However, he was not allowed to raise the issue in the house, which led to a protest. This prompted the watch and ward staff to marshal him out along with NC MLA Kangan Mian Mehar Ali, who supported him in raising the issue.

"I was trying to raise very important issues regarding the three youths who have been missing from the Devsar area for a month. They had gone to a marriage party,



but their mobile phones were switched off in the Mir Bazar area. Since then, their whereabouts are unknown," Shah told reporters outside the House.

He said that families have filed missing complaints and that the police are working hard to locate the trio.

"I attempted to raise the issue, but I was not allowed to do so and was subsequently removed from the House," he added. Earlier, after a | More on P10

Regularisation Benefits SC Pulls Up J&K Officials For **Non-compliance Of HC Order**

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has censured Jammu and Kashmir officials for not complying with a high court court over the regularisation of daily wagers and called it as a "glaring and textbook example of obstination".

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh said instead of complying with the 2007 order

of the high court for regularisation of daily wagers, who worked between 14-19 years in the

HC Rejects Circular On Reservation In Promotions

rural development department, the state authorities kept on passing "cryptic orders" to harass them.

'We are constrained to observe that the present case is a glaring and textbook example of obstination exhibited by the state officials/ authorities, who consider themselves to be above and beyond the reach of law," the bench said in an order on March 7.

The court said the "inaction" of the officials, who took about 16 years to comply with a "simpliciter

high court order" dated May 3, 2007, was "shocking | More on P10

he Jammu and Kashmir High Court has strongly criticized a circular issued by the General Administration Department, which directed all Administrative Secretaries to keep vacant the slots reserved for employees from reserved categories. | More on P10

Custody **Parole Plea Of Er Rashid Rejected**

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday rejected the plea of jailed Jammu and Kashmir MP Engineer Rashid seeking custody parole to attend the upcoming Parliament session.

Additional sessions judge Chander Jit Singh dismissed the plea and posted the order on Rashid's regular bail plea on March 19.

A detailed order is awaited.

On March 3, the court asked the NIA to respond to the plea, following which it reserved its verdict after hearing the arguments.

The application, filed by advocate Vikhyat Oberoi for Rashid on February 27, sought the relief on the grounds that Rashid was a parliamentarian and needed to attend the upcoming session to fulfil his public duty.

Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, defeated Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in Baramulla.

Rashid's regular bail application is currently pending before the court. The second part | More on P10

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Registration closes on March 16

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KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Tuesday | 11-03-2025

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..

Public Notice...

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Mudabir Malik S/o Abdul Majid Malik R/o Doulatpora Dompora Dungadar with verified date of birth 29/07/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained... SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. Application of Bashir Ahmad Tantray s/o Gh Rasool Tantray R/o Nehalpora Tehsil Pattan for obtaining legal hair certificate of his father..

Public Notice..

IT is inform to general public that applicants father's legal hair certificate is under process in this office in this matter report Was sought from Patwari concerned which reveals that applicant's father namely Gh Rasool Tantray s/o Abdul Gaffar Tantary died on 27/11/2024 and legal hairs of deceased are as under.

Legal Heirs Details

fko

Name	Age	Relationship with	Marital
		the Deceased	Status
Bashir Ahmad Tantray	46	Son	MARRIED
Khalida Begum	48	Daughter	MARRIED
	49	Daughter	MARRIED

In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained. SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko

Public Notice

The name of my son has been wrongly written in his adhaar card as Musavir Ali while his correct name is Ahsan Ali Dar which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Mohd Ibrahim Dar S/o Ghulam Hussain Dar fko

R/o Mirgund Tehsil Singhpora

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...

PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mehvish Mudasir D/o Mudasir Ahmad Pandith R/o Seriguo Dangerpora Pattan with verified date of birth 21/08/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..

Public Notice..

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Aafiyah Mehraj D/o Mehraj Ud din Mir R/o Andergam Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 21/11/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

> SD Naib Tehsildar Pattan

> > fkor

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. Application of Sara Begum W/o Abdul Karim Mir R/o Kalseri Nehalpora Tehsil Pattan for obtaining legal hair certificate of her husband...

PUBLIC NOTICE.

IT is inform to general public that applicants husband legal hair certificate is under process in this office in this matter report Was sought from Patwari concerned which reveals that applicant's husband namely Abdul Karim Mir S/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir died on 17/01/2025 and legal hairs of deceased are as under

Legal Heirs Details	5
---------------------	---

fko

Name	Age	Relationship with the	Marital Status
		Deceased	
Sara Begum	55	Wife	MARRIED
Gulzar Ahmad Mir	40	Son	MARRIED
Firdouse Ahmad Mir	36	Son	MARRIED
Afroza Begum	34	Daughter	MARRIED
Shugufta Begum	32	Daughter	MARRIED
Asheed Ahmad Mir	30	Son	MARRIED
Jahangir Ahmad Mir	28	Son	MARRIED
Shabir Ahmad Mir	24	Son	MARRIED

In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained. SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

0194-2310283 exenrajbaghsgr@gmail.com Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** (R&B) DIVISION RAJBAGH SRINAGAR. Lal Mandi, Near L.D Hospital Srinagar-190008

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No. 107 / R&B/RAJ of issued under Endorsement No:13111-21 Dated: 08.03.2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No.		Adv. Cost (Rupees in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.	Earnest Money	Time of completion	Head	Class of Contractor/ Agency
	Repair/ Renovation of Parking Space at Directorate Floriculture Srinagar Kashmir.	4.34	200/-	8680/-			"DEE"
	Development of Office Cabins in the Office of Deputy Director, Local Funds Audit and Pen- sion Kashmir	3.79	200/-	7580/-		M&R-023	

Position of $\Delta \Delta \Delta$. Accorded Vide Order No.264-fLORI OF 2024-25 Dated: 17.10.2024. (S.NO-04) Accorded Vide Order No.58-JK(DLFA&P)of 2025 Dated:- 17.01.2025.

Accorded Position of TS :-Position of Funds: Committed/ Demanded

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

dates given below:-

CHINAR TAXI STAND PALHALLAN Regd. No: 193-MT-BIA

Cell: 9908797598, 9906851080, 9906764254 Dated: 08/03/25

The Chairman of Chinar Taxi Stand Palhallan, Nazir Ah Tantray, requests the Chinar Taxi Stand Palhallan to address the following: We have 45 Sumo vehicles. Therefore, I do not have the capacity for additional

vehicles If anyone has a membership above 50000, they are eligible to participate in

Chinar Taxi Stand Palhallan. If anybody purchases a membership, they will be referred to the President, in

accordance with legislation no: 193-MT-BIA The membership purchase fine will be 15000, payable through Chinar Taxi Stand Palhallan, along with an affidavit

I Showkat Ahmad Sheikh F/a Areeba Showkat R/o Konibal, Pampora, 192121 Pulwama want to correct name of my Daughter in Adhaar Card bearing Aadhar no:- 3483 3012 7743 from Ariba Showkat To Areeba Showkat. I want to re-issue for the same. Regard this, if anybody is having any objection may file the same to the Concerned Adhaar centre within a week at the most, after that no claim should entertained.

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG Email:-sdaofficial@yahoo.com

CHINAR TAXI STAND

PALHALLAN

E-Bid Document (Auction ID:19487)

Outsourcing lashpatri Resort with the facilities of 02 No. of Huts, 04 No. of Geodesic Dome type tents Pre-fab Kiosk PC Block and Camping siteat Lashpatri, Sonamarg for a period of 05 Years, through Gem Portal

No: CEO/SDA/2025/8000-01 dated:08/03/2025.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-bids are invitedonline through GeM Portal forOutsourcing lashpatri Resort with the facilities of 02 No. of Huts, 04 No. of Geodesic Dome type tents Pre-fab Kiosk PC Block and Camping siteat Lashpatri, Sonamarg. The details are as under:

S. No	Particulars	Date/Time	Remarks			
1	PQ (Pre-Qualification) Submission Start Date	08/03/2025 at 10.00 AM	-NIL-			
2	PQ (Pre-Qualification) Submission End Date	14/03/2025 at 04.00 PM	-NIL-			
3	PO (Pre-Oualification) Assessment End Date	15/03/2025 at 4.00 PM	-NIL-			
4	EMD Start Date	16/03/2025 at 10.00 AM				
5	EMD End Date		-NIL-			
6	EMD (Bid Security) Amount in shape of CDR/ FDR/DD	Rs. 50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only)	To be pledged in favour of Accounts Officer, Sonamarg De-			
			velopment Authority			
7	Bid Submission/Auction Start Date	18/03/2025 at 10.00 AM				
8	Bid Submission/Auction End Date & Time	19/03/2025 at 4.00 PM				
9	Reserve bid amount	Rs. 12.50.00 Lacs (Ru- pees Twelve Lac Fifty Thousand only)	-NIL-			
1. a vali 2. 3.	QUALIFICATION (PQ) CRITERIA (TO BE UPLOADED ON G The bidder shall have to upload a Character Certific id Passport. The bidder shall have to upload self-attested PAN (The bidder shall upload Average Annual Financial ial year & should be at least 50% of basic bid amount. The bidder shall have to upload Income Tax return o	ate from the concerned Police S Card & Aadhar Card. Turnover Statement of last thre				
5.	The bidder shall have to upload undertaking that i	f found successful after the culn	nination of auction			

process as per following:

That I shall abide by the all terms & conditions of the contract. That I will deposit the offered bid amount within a period 03 days after culmination of auction, failing which, I will

pay penalty of 5% of the offered bid amount. That I will handover the asset in good condition as received from the department on the day of expiring of auction

contract. That I will not approach the Courts for extension of contract period.

Terms and Conditions:

The interested parties should compulsorily visit & inspect the asset before participating in the e-bidding process and the physical position of the site/asset shall stand on "as is where is" basis. As such, no claim of any deficiency, addition, alteration, rectification in the asset would be entertained during/after bidding process.

The bidder participating in the e-bid process must apply in his name or the firmname dulyregistered in his name.

There is no scope whatsoever of executing any partnership deed in the outsource deed.
 Eligible persons shall be allowed to participate in the e-bidding process only afteruploading of relevant documents mentioned in the Eligibility Criteria and EMD (afterqualifyingPre-Qualification) in the shape of CDR, amounting to Rs.50000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) pledged in favour of Accounts Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority.

Previous defaulters shall not be allowed top participate in the bidding process. The minimum reserve bid has been fixed at Rs. 12.50 Lacs (Rupees Twelve Lac Fifty).

6. There will be an escalation of 15% compounding on the offered bid amount of previous years for each successive year and thereafter to be deposited before two months from the start of every year. The bid offers should be above the minimum reserve bid.

The bid offers should be above the minimum reserve bid viz. Rs. 12.50 Lacsfixed for the job

 The successful bidder shall have to deposit 100% of the offered bid amount for the 1st year within a period of three days with 50% on the culmination of bidding process. The licensee has to insure the property through any Nationalized Insurance Company in the name of the CEO. Sonamarg Development Authority for which a letter of authority shall be issued by this office. The premium on this account

shall be borne by the licensee. 10. The period of outsourcing shall be on license basis for a period of 05-years which will commence from the date of issuance of the formal allotment letter.

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

SD

mcb

No. 13111-21

DIPK-12854/24

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my son MOHAMMAD AAHEED MIR the Mothers name is entered as ZAIKA DANISH while her actual name is ZAIKA MAN-ZOOR. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

DANISH MAQBOOL MIRI F/o MOHAMMAD AAHEED MIR R/o HOUSING COLONY OMPORA BUDGAM CELL.7006094902

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Wife's Name in my Service records Bearing TS NK No.9107955Y has been wrongly entered as ZAHID AKHTER while my Wife's correct Name is ZAHIDA RASHID. Now I want the same to be corrected if anybody has any objection in this regard He/ She may file his /her objection in the Office of the JAKLI Srinagar, within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nissar Ahmad Rather S/O Asadullah Rather Ex-Serviceman JAKLI Srinagar

JNA7780878931

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Rivaz Ahmad Qadri S/o Peer Mohammad Muzaffar R/o Ellahi Bagh hereby inform the general public and concerned authorities that the name of our shop Fashion Bazaar has been officially changed to Makhmal Store. All business transactions, including those related to our bank account, will now be conducted under the new name Makhmal Store. Our other details, including ownership and banking details, remain the same. Any concerns or objections regarding this change should be communicated within 7 days from the date of this notice.

> **Old Name: Fashion Bazaar** New Name: Makhmal Store Address: [Your Shop's Address] Bank Name: [J&K Bank Branch Hari Singh High Street] Account Number: [CD 4196]

	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08.03.2025.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	08.03.2025. from 01:00 PM
3	Bid submission Start Date	08.03.2025. from 01:00 PM
4	Bid Submission End Date	13.03.2025 Up to 03:30 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	13.03.2025 at 04:00 PM in the office of Executive
		Engineer R&B Division Rajbagh Srinagar.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan 2 under M.H-0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Raibagh Srinagar(tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date)pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Rajbagh Srinagar (Tender Receiving Authority).

At the time of tendering, all the bidders must upload Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/ Bid Security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the Tender Receiving Authority i.e. Executive Engineer R&: B Division Raibagh Srinagar (The date of Earnest money should be between Date of Start of bid and bid submission End

date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% of allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG at the time of contract award. The Earnest Money/Bid Security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security of 5% of the total allotted cost which will be released under rules after successful completion of the DLP. However incase of unbalanced bid. Additional Performance Security is required as detailed below which shall be released after successful completion of work::

* All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double Agreement Form).

Dated :10.03.2025.

Executive Engineer. R&B Rajbagh Division Srinagar. 19.

Sd/-

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, PATTAN

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

~***~

In the interest of public health and sanitation Municipal Committee Pattan is pleased to announce the availability of de-sludging vehicle services for households and commercial establishments. This service is aimed at ensuring proper waste management and environmental hygiene.

The responsibility for the disposal of the excreted faecal sludge shall rest a) entirely with the applicant.

The applicant is required to offer a secure area or open land, preferably their b) own property, for the burial of the faecal sludge.

The sewer de-sludging vehicle from this office will be made available for septic tank clearance, contingent upon the following conditions:

Sample Rate List for De-Sludging Vehicle Services

Vehicle Capacity	Distance Covered Within town limits	Type of waste Domestic/Commercial	Rate in INR Rs. 3000/-
3000 Liters	Outside Town limits within a maxi- mum radius of 10 KM	Domestic/Commercial	Rs. 4000/-
	Outside Town limits within a maxi- mum radius of 15 KM	Domestic/Commercial	Rs.5000/-
No:MC/Ptn/2025/390 DIPK-NB-3710/24)-91		CD (
Dated: 10-03-2025			SD/- otive Officer, Committee, Pattan.

 The contract shall be awarded for one year in the first instance and renewal of the same shall be subject to depos-iting of rentals for the each successive year in advance including 15% escalation of the maximum bid before the expiry of the 1st year contract.

. The successful bidder has to take prior permission before start of the operation regarding the type of business he/ she intends to undertake in the asset. Without the explicit permission of CEO Sonamarg Development Authority, the successful bidder will not be issued allotment order.

The successful bidder shall have to use the asset only in the area as designated in the auction notice. Violation in this regard may invite cancellation of the contract.

In case the successful bidder fails to fulfill the term of contract, or leaves the contracthalf way or the contract is cancelled due to any disjudifications/non-payment of advancerent, the CDR shall be forfeited. 15. The safety, security and upkeep and watch & ward of the asset shall be sole responsibility of outsourcee during the

period of contract. The successful bidder shall ensure all safety measures like firefighting equipments, first aid kid etc. Sonamarg Development Authority shall not be responsible for any loss of life and property within the asset during the period of the contract.

16. The successful bidder shall have to charge rates for various allotted services as perapproval of the SDA from time to time.

- The electric/water consumption charges shall be payable by the outsourcee. The bidder should not be employee in any Govt. Deptt. or a Public Sector undertaking.
- The out-sourcing committee reserves the right to reject any or all the e-bids without assigning any reason thereof. The successful bidder shall have to execute an agreement with CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority regarding adherence to the terms and conditions as may be

prescribed by the Department during the course of the contract period. The bidder shall have to bear all the costs and expenses for executing this agreement/license deed.

The successful bidder shall have to handover the asset to the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority after com pletion of contract period with the list of inventory, received by him at the time of allotment/taking over.

The licensee shall not make any alterations or additions to the space/unit allotted, without seeking written per-mission from the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority.

23. The successful bidder shall arrange on his own all necessary stationery, staff or any otherrequirements for providing efficient services to the clients.

24. The Licensee shall provide necessary uniform & name plates to the staff working in thepremises & shall be re-sponsible for any unfair act of the staff member for which, he shall be beliable for criminal/civil action under rules/law if any reauired..

The licensee shall not, in any case, sub-let the asset to any other party. The successful bidder shall have to provide services to the best satisfaction of tourists/locals. The bidder shall 26. have to ensure that there isn't any complaint of misbehavior with the visitors/locals or by any of the staff member employed by the bidder in this regard. In case any complaint is received, action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against the bidder and penalty shall be imposed upon the defaulters 27. In case of any negligence in running

In case of any negligence in running the service or compliant pertaining to badperformance, the contract shall be terminated without any notice by the department. 28. The allotted asset shall be inspected periodically by the departmentally authorizedofficers and in case the ser-

vices of the licensee are not found satisfactory, the contract shallbe liable for cancellation without any notice. 29. Any damage caused to the Government property at the site will invite penalty amountingto double the cost of

damage or replacement of the same whatever the case may be, as perassessment to be made by the CEO, Sonamarg Development Authority.

The Department shall reserve the right for using the asset for any purpose or function or event, as it may deem fit 30. and no fee shall charged by the licensee in this regard. 31. The successful bidder will have to abide by all the orders/communications issued byDepartment from time to time

during the period of contract as may necessitated in light of public unrest and law& order, security and in case of any other Administrative requirements.

The successful bidder shall ensure arrangement of furniture, electricity back up and availability of standard crockery/cutlery in the unit, on his own. 33. During the

During the contract period the maintenance of the asset/area, watch and ward as well as upkeep and daily cleaning/sweeping shall be the sole responsibility of the licensee.

Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the contract, including any question regarding its existence, valid-ity or termination, shall be referred Arbitration of Administrative Secretary incharge Tourism Department, Government of J&K, whose decision shall be final & binding upon the parties. The proceedings of the Arbitration shall be conducted under the provi-sions of the J&K, Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1997 & rules and its amendment if any, framed there under.

If the bidder intends to withdraw the agreed contract, he shall have to notify the Chief Executive Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority before three months without claim for refund of existing contract year.

If any minor repairs of the Departmental assets such as electrification, sanitarymaintenance etc are to be done 36. and these will be carried out by the licensee at his own cost, however, after seeking permission from the competence of the direction of the inspecting authority from time to time which will help in maintenance of the asset.

 No extensions shall be granted. The asset shall be outsourced afresh at the end of thelicense term.
 The successful bidder has to run theasset as per the norms and conditions as prescribed within Tourist Trade Act in vogue. The successful bidder shall follow the regulations of FSSAI and any other regulations framed in this regard.
 The Authority shall not be responsible for any monitory loss due to any climate untowardness or due to any other reason

Sd/ Chief Executive Officer Sonamarg Development Authority

No.CEO/SDA/2025/8000-01. DIPK-NB-3701/24 Dated.10.03.2025.

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR



KASHMIR OBSERVER® SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 11.03.2025

Daily Wagers Protest, Threaten Indefinite Strike After Eid

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Casual and daily wage workers under the banner of Jammu and Kashmir Casual/Daily Wagers Forum (JKCDF) staged a protest at Lal Chowk, demanding regularization of their services and a salary hike.

The protesting workers announced that they would go on an indefinite strike after Eid if their demands were not met. They warned that if the government failed to address their grievances, Public Health Engineering (PHE) employees would cut water supply across Kashmir as part of their agitation.

The daily wagers accused the government of ignoring their long-pending demands, stating that despite assurances, no concrete steps had been taken for their regu-

Presence Of Stray Dogs In

Women's College Irks Students

larization or wage revision. They urged the authorities to resolve their issues at the earliest to prevent further

disruptions. Earlier, PDP MLA Waheedur-Rehman Parra raised the issue of daily wagers in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, advocating for a bill to ensure their rights and job security.

It is important to note that the National Conference has included the regularization of temporary employees in its election manifesto, promising a time-bound policy for the regularization of various categories, including paramedical staff in GMCassociated hospitals, casual laborers, daily wagers, CIC operators, contractual employees, Home Guards, and Rehbar-e-Khel employees. (JKNS)

Traffic Woes Mount In City



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amidst the ongoing holy month of Ramadan, the traffic congestion in Srinagar has worsened, making commuting a daily ordeal for residents. Key routes across the city, par-

ticularly during peak morning and evening hours, remain clogged with vehicles, leaving commuters frustrated and urging authorities to find a solution.

Locals from different parts of Srinagar city informed that major stretches, including Batmaloo to

MA Road and MA Road to Dalgate, witness severe gridlocks between 3 PM and 6 PM, making it difficult for people to navigate through the city. They said that similar congestion is reported during the morning rush hours between 9 AM and 10 AM, particularly from Pantha Chowk to Dalgate, Karan Nagar, and other major arteries.

"The situation is getting worse, especially in the evenings when everyone is rushing home to break their fast. The roads are jampacked, and it takes twice the usual time to reach our destinations,"

said Adil Ahmad, a commuter.

Another local, Faisal Hussain, said Srinagar's growing traffic problems demand immediate intervention. "Authorities must come up with a proper traffic management plan. The increasing number of vehicles and poor regu-lation are making it unbearable for daily commuters," he said.

Notably, residents are urging traffic department to take urgent steps to ease congestion, such as better traffic regulation, alternative routes, and stricter enforcement of parking rules–(KNO)

THE SITUATION IS GETTING WORSE, ESPECIALLY IN THE EVENINGS when everyone is rushing home to break their fast. The roads are jam-packed, and it takes twice the usual time to reach our destinations,"

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The students at Srinagar Women's College are living under the constant fear of stray dog attacks within the campus.

An aggrieved parent said his daughter lives with the daily fear of being attacked by dogs within the college premises.

There are so many dogs inside college campuses and this is a reflection of the daily risk students' face," the parent said.

Similarly, a student from the college also confirmed the lived experience, saying the presence of packs of stray dogs roaming freely within the campus creates a constant feeling of danger.

"There are packs of dogs roaming inside college and

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY:

nobody is doing anything," the student said, adding there is a dumping site on the backside of the college and all the dogs gather there and later come inside college campuses and even close to

classrooms and the ground. She added that last year many videos from the college went viral on social media where dogs were seen chasing students. "The principal of the college got changed recently this year, and we don't know how the new one will do anything in

this regard," she said. Meanwhile, the reporter also tried to contact the Principal of the Women's College Srinagar for comment. However, repeated calls and text messages went unanswered-(KNO)

VC LCMA Takes Tour Of Dal, Nigeen Lakes

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar after assuming the charge as Vice Chairman J&K LCMA along with all officers of the Authority took an extensive tour of the Dal & Nigeen Lake to assess the measures being undertaken by the LCMA for the conservation and management of these lakes.

As per a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, he also visited various interior areas/back water channels and passed instructions to the officers on the spot for solid waste collection and also directed to organize a massive deweeding drive for important inflow/outflow channels.

cluding lake cleaning Machinery Moreover civil society was also and directed the concerned divirequested to extend cooperation and sion to keep the machines functional and in a state of readiness to monitor solid waste collection/deweeding by forming Mohalla comcarry out Deweeding operations in a mittees which will also ensure that well-planned manner under proper

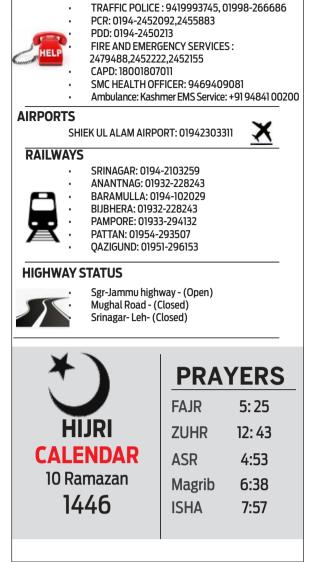
Youm-E-Wisal Hazrat Khadija-Tul-Kubra (SA)



no solid waste is dumped into the supervision before the onset of deweeding season. He stressed that my priority He also undertook inspection of

would be to make sincere efforts for restoration and conservation of Dal and Nigeen Lake.

He also emphasized the need of stopping the menace of illegal constructions and encroachment, if any, in the jurisdiction of LCMA–(KNO)



This Day In History

- 502 Ismail I crowned Shah of Persia (rules till 1524), founder of the Safavid dynasty
- 843- Icon veneration officially re-instated in Hagia Sophia Cathedral in Constantinople
- 1669 Volcano Etna in Italy erupts killing 15,000
- 1795 Battle at Kurdla India: Mahratten beat Mogols.
- 1845 The Flagstaff War: In New Zealand, Chiefs Hone Heke and Kawiti lead 700 M oris to chop down the British flagpole and drive settlers out of the British colonial settlement of Kororareka because of breaches of the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi.
- 1848 Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine and Robert Baldwin become the first Prime Ministers of the Province of Canada to be democratically elected under a system of responsible government.
- 1864 -The Great Sheffield Flood: the largest man-made disaster ever to befall England kills over 250 people in Sheffield.
- 1897 A meteorite enters the earth's atmosphere and explodes over New Martinsville, West Virginia. The debris causes damage but no human injuries are reported.
- 1900 British Prime Minister Lord Salisbury rejects peace overtures from the Boer leader Paul Kruger (on 5 March) as demanding too-favourable terms
- 1915 The British declare a blockade of all German ports 1917 -British forces occupy Baghdad, the capital of Mesopotamia, after Turkish forces evacuated
- 1918 Moscow becomes capital of revolutionary Russia
 - 1920 -Syria proclaims Emir Feisal king after the country

GCW Nawa Kadal Organizes **Commemoratory Programme**

dience.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: To celebrate International Women's Day, Government College for Women NawaKadal has organized a week-long program within the college premises, here.

The Women's Development Cell of the college organized an event on the theme 'Accelerate Action for Gender Equality' on 8th March in the College auditorium to impart awareness to the participants on gender equality and discuss ways and means to address gender issues in our spheres of activity.

Principal of the college, Dr. Huda Galzai delivered the special address, emphasising the importance of gender equality, gender issues and contributions of women in shaping the society and the world at large. She also stressed on removing gender biases, stereotypes and fostering an equitable society.

On this occasion, Sleet Shah, Deputy Superinten-dent of Police Headquarters Srinagar, invited as the guest of honour, delivered an inspiring address on new criminal laws, sharing examples and experiences from her own career, which was well received by the au-

welcome by the WDC Coordinator Prof. Pinu Andrabi. She gave a brief background of the International Women's Day and stressed the need for ensuring gender equality. Dr. Riffat Aman, Head, Department of Education discussed the history of gender

sensitive movements, the evolution of thought and literature in this field and the contemporary status and challenges faced by females and other genders in our society.

Earlier, the programme

commenced with a warm

Dr. Asmat Ara, Head, Department of Music shared insights on Women empowerment, gender sensitivity and workplace inclusivity in religious perspective. Students also shared the

stage and expressed their beliefs and thoughts on Gender equality. They shared personal experiences and challenges faced by them in their lives.

The event concluded with a pledge of gender equality where students, faculty members and guests took an oath to respect genders, work against discrimination and advocate equality in all spheres of life.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I intend to correct the details on my license bearing no JK0120150102617 from Aijaz Ahamad Dar S/o Ali Mohammad Dar DOB 03-02-1994 to Ajaz Ahmed dar S/o Ali Mohammad Dar DOB 01/06/1993 as per my aadhar card. Now in this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may approach the RTO Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

+91-7006034174

Mirwaiz To Deliver Sermon At Dastgeer Sahib

various Mechanical equipment in-

Channells/Lake.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Anjuman Augaf Jama Masjid Srinagar, has informed that in connection with the Youm-e-Wisal of Umm ul Momineen Hazrat Khadijah Al Kubra (SA), Mirwaiz Muhammad Umar Farooq, will address the faithful at Aastan e Aaliya Dastgeer Sahib Khanyar on Tuesday, 10th of Ramazan, from 3:30 pm till Asr prayer.

participate in the gathering.

According to a statement by the Jamia Auqaf Association, Mirwaiz Muhammad Umar Farooq will address a spiritual sermon and preaching session on the occasion of the death anniversary of Umm al-Momineen Hazrat Khadijat al-Kubra (SA) on Tuesday.

The association has requested the general public to sincerely participate in the ceremo-The Anjuman has requested the people to ny, sermon, and preaching on this matter.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA Email Id. xenrnbchd@gmail.com $\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle$

E-NIT No. 69 of R&B /Chadoora/6660-69 dated 10/03/2025

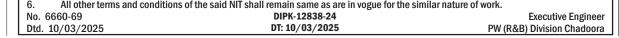
For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of J&K, e-quotations are invited in Single Cover System from the registered Local Tour & Travels Agencies/ Taxi Stand Unions/transport firms for hiring of one no. of following type of vehicle along with an experienced driver on monthly rental basis for official use of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Chadoora for the financial year i.e. 2025-26

SN	Type of vehicle	Cost of tender document (E-challan)	For the year	Earnest Money (Rs)	Class of contractor			
1	Hiring of the Vehicle of the Type Toyota Innova/ Mahindra Scorpio / Mahindra Bolero for the fi- nancial year 2025-26 for office use by the Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Chadoora inclusive of all maintenance costs of vehicle & Road taxes including hiring of an expert licensed Driver excluding the cost of fuel.		Rs 300/-	2025-26	Rs 5000/-	Regd. Local Tour & Travel Agencies/ Taxi Stand Unions		
1.	Critical Dates:							
1	Date of Issue of Quotation	ssue of Quotation 10/03/2025						
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	f downloading of bidding documents 10/03/2025						
3	Bid submission Start Date	10/03/2025						
4	Bid Submission End Date	Date 18/03/2025 upto 4.00 PM.						
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 18/03/2025 at 4.10 PM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora.							
2. 3.	The vehicle should be only registered with R Transport Officer Kashmir vide No. RTOK/ Est The Bidding documents consisting of qualifyin	t/ 2023/ 11270	-73 dated:- 24/03/202	3.		, ,		
	conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-							
a.	Note :-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the E-tenders carefully before uploaded soft copy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected .							

- Note: As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat Finance department vide No.0M No.A/24(2017) b. 651 dtd.07-06-2018 which reads as under :-
- i. Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission is dispensed with .The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared lst Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.
- The Cost of tenders should be collected by introducing Treasury Challan (Receipt). ii.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Valid Treasury Receipt/e-Challan under Major Head 0059 Revenue in 4. favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (tender receiving authority).

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through 5. an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division Chadoora (tender receiving authority).

All other terms and conditions of the said NIT shall remain same as are in yogue for the similar nature of work



has fought off French domination

- 1931 Ready for Labour and Defence of the USSR, abbreviated as GTO, is introduced in the Soviet Union.
- 1938 Artur Seyss-Inquart replaces Kurt von Schuschnigg as Chancellor of Austria; German troops also entered the country
- 1941 FDR signs Lend-Lease Bill (lend money to Britain)
- 1942 Japanese troop land on North Sumatra
- 1945 1,000 allied bombers harass Essen, 4,662 ton bombs
- 1953 -1st woman army doctor commissioned (FM Adams)
- 1958 American B-47 accidentally drops nuclear bomb 15,000 ft on a family home in Mars Bluff, South Carolina; creates crater 75 ft across, bomb without its nuclear capsule
- 1960 Pioneer 5 launched into solar orbit between Earth & Venus
- 1965 Indonesia President Sukarno accepts gualifications of Suharto
- 1966 Military coup led by Indonesian Gen Suharto breaks out
- 1970 Iraq Ba'th Party recognizes Kurd nation
- 1972 OPEC threatens "appropriate sanctions" against companies that "fail to comply with . . . any action taken by a Member Country in accordance with [OPEC] decisions.'
- 1974 Mount Etna in Sicily erupted
- 1982 US boycotts Libyan crude oil
 - 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev replaces Konstantin Chernenko as Soviet leader
 - 1986 1 million days since the foundation of Rome on April 21st, 753 BC
- 1986 187.27 million shares traded in NY Stock Exchange
- 1986 Japanese probe Sakigake flies by Halley's Comet at 6.8 million km
- 1990 Lithuania declares its Independence
- 1996 The EU Database Directive is passed.
- 1999 Infosys becomes the first Indian company listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange.
- 2003 The International Criminal Court holds its inaugural session in The Hague.
- 2004 Terrorists explode simultaneous bombs on Madrid's rail network ripping through a commuter train and rocking three stations, killing 190
- 2006 -Michelle Bachelet is inaugurated as the first female president of Chile.
- 2010- SebastiánPiñera become chilean president.
- 2011- 9.0 magnitude earthquake strikes 130 km (80 miles) east of Sendai, Japan, triggering a tsunami killing thousands of people and causing the second worst nuclear accident in history at Fukushima nuclear plant
- 2018- China's National People's Congress approves removal of term limits for a leader, allowing Xi Jinping to be president for life

NEWS

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Tuesday | 11-03-2025



'Chaos Sweeps Coastal Syria, Many Flee In Fear'

Agencies

A report by the New York Times on Monday shed light on the recent mass killings happening on the coast of Syria.

The violence broke out on Thursday after fierce clashes erupted between government security forces and fighters aligned with ousted President Bashar al-Assad's regime, a war monitor reported on Friday. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights described the confron-

tations as some of the deadliest

since al-Assad's fall in December

6

The violence broke out on Thursday after fierce clashes erupted between government security forces and fighters aligned with ousted **President Bashar** al-Assad's regime



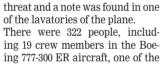
The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported on Sunday that over 1,000 people, including about 700 civilians, have died, most at the hands of government forces

The Syrian Network for Human Rights also claimed government forces killed around 125 civilians. Despite these accusations, the new government denied its

New York-Bound Air India Flight Faces Bomb Threat; **Returns To Mumbai**

Press Trust Of India

Mumbai: An Air India flight from Mumbai to New York returned to Mumbai following a bomb threat



promised to investigate and hold

The violence has sparked fears of

a larger sectarian conflict, par-

ticularly in the Alawite-majority

coastal provinces of Latakia and

Tartus. The Syrian Observatory

said on Saturday that at least

60 civilians, including five chil-

dren, were killed in the violence

in Banivas

wrongdoers accountable.



Iran Says Won't Negotiate **Under 'Intimidation' As Trump Ramps Up Pressure**

Agencies

TEHRAN: Iran said Monday it would not negotiate under "intimidation", after US President Donald Trump sought to ratchet up pressure on Tehran by ending a sanctions waiver that had allowed Iraq to buy electricity from its Shiite neighbour.

Iran's mission to the United Nations had indicated Sunday that Tehran might be open to talks aimed at addressing US concerns about the potential militarisation of its nuclear programme -- though not to ending the program com-

But on Monday, Iran's top diplomat seemed to slam the door on such discussions, saying Tehran's nuclear programme was and always will be entirely peaceful and so there was "no such thing as its

'We will NOT negotiate under pressure and intimidation. We will NOT even consider it, no matter what the subject may be," foreign minister Abbas Araghchi said on social media platform X. Since returning to the White House in January, Trump has

reinstated his policy of exerting

"maximum pressure" against Iran, reimposing sweeping sanctions aimed at crushing its oil industry in particular.

The US State Department said Sunday the decision not to renew Iraq's sanctions waiver was made to "ensure we do not allow Iran any degree of economic or finan-

cial relief.' Iran supplies a third of Iraq's gas and electricity, providing Tehran with substantial income.

On Sunday, the Iranian mission to the United Nations had sounded a more conciliatory note, suggested Tehran might be willing to discuss certain issues.

"If the objective of negotiations is to address concerns vis-a-vis any potential militarization of Iran's nuclear program, such discussions may be subject to consideration," said a statement from the mission. "However, should the aim be the dismantlement of Iran's peaceful nuclear program to claim that what (President Barack) Obama failed to achieve has now been accomplished, such negotiations will never take place." it said.

The waiver for Iraq was introduced in 2018, when Washington reimposed sanctions on Tehran after

Russia, China Begin Joint Military

Trump abandoned a nuclear deal with Iran negotiated under Obama. A spokesman for the US embassy in Baghdad on Sunday urged Baghdad "to eliminate its dependence on Iranian sources of energy as soon as possible.'

"The President's maximum pres sure campaign is designed to end Iran's nuclear threat, curtail its ballistic missile program, and stop it from supporting terrorist groups," the spokesman said.

The landmark 2015 deal that Obama helped negotiate between Tehran and major powers promised sanc tions relief in return for Iran curbing its nuclear programme. Tehran, which denies seeking nu-

clear weapons, initially adhered to the nuclear deal after Trump pulled out of it, but then rolled back commitments.

US officials estimate Iran would now need mere weeks to build a nuclear bomb if it chose to.

'All scenarios'

Trump pulled out of the agree ment over the objections of European allies, instead imposing US sanctions on any other country buying Iran's oil. The waiver was extended to Iraq as a "key partner"

2019 Jamia Violence **Delhi Court Orders Framing Charges Against Sharjeel Imam**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court has said activist Sharieel Imam was not only an instigator but also one of the "kingpins of a larger conspiracy to incite violence" and ordered framing of charges against in the 2019 Jamia violence case. Additional sessions judge Vishal

Singh observed that Imam's speech of December 13 near Jamia University was a "venomous", "pitted one religion against another" and was "indeed a hate speech". The court was hearing the case

against Iman and others against whom the New Friends Colony Police had registered an FIR under various provisions of the IPC, Prevention of Damage to Public Propertv Act (PDPP) and Arms Act. Delhi Police's Crime Branch is investigating the matter.

In an order dated March 7, the court said, "Evidently, the assembling of a huge mob and the mass scale rioting committed by it was not a random or spontaneous happening and could not have been committed except in pursuance of a larger conspiracy entered into between the self proclaimed leaders and initiaters of the mob activity, whereas, other members of the mob/unlawful assembly kept joining in."

It noted the prosecution's argument that Imam gave a speech on December 13, 2019, provoking his audience by saying that despite having significant Muslim population in different states of northern India, why were they allowing the cities to function normally and why were they not causing chakka jam (stoppage of public movement)? The court said Imam being a senior PhD (doctor of philosophy) student "craftily clothed his speech" in which he avoided the mention of communities other than the Muslim community but the intended



Activist Sharjeel Imam

victims of the chakka jaam were members of other communities. 'Why, otherwise, accused Sharjeel Imam incited only the members of the Muslim religion to disrupt the normal functioning of the society?" the court asked

It went on, "His speech was calculated to evoke anger and hatred. the natural consequence of which was commission of widespread violence by members of unlawful assembly on public roads. His speech was venomous and pitted one religion against another. It was, indeed, a hate speech."

The court said that there could be nothing peaceful about a chakka jaam.

Criminalising dissent, sabotaging Muslim reservation: How Jamia Milia Islamia is being disciplined "In a populous city like Delhi, at any given time scores of critically ill medical patients requiring urgent treatment are in a rush to

reach hospitals. Chakka jaam can potentially lead to deterioration of their condition or even death if they do not receive medical care in time, which would be nothing short of culpable homicide." the court added.

Chakka jaam, the order said, essentially resulted in a violation of fundamental right to life and health of public and even if the mob did not indulge in violence and arson while enforcing the jaam, it would still be a violent act by one section of society against the other.

Everyone In Favour Of 'Removing' Aurangzeb's Tomb: CM

Press Trust of India

Mumbai: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said everyone feels Mughal king Aurangzeb's tomb in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar should be removed, but it has to be done under the purview of law as the previous Congress regime put the site under ASI's protection. 'adnavis was



a protected site. The site was put under ASI's (Archaeological Survey of India) protection

pletely

'potential militarization'"



on Monday morning, according to sources

The aircraft, carrying more than 320 people, landed safely at Mumbai and is undergoing mandatory checks by the security agencies. "A potential security threat was detected mid-flight on AI119 operating Mumbai-New York (JFK) today, 10 March 2025. After following the necessary protocols, the flight air-returned to Mumbai, in the interest of the safety and security of all on board," Air India said in a statement.

The sources said there was a bomb

sources said.

According to the airline, the flight landed safely back in Mumbai at 1025 am (local time) "The aircraft is undergoing man-

datory checks by security agencies, and Air India is extending its full cooperation to the authorities." it said.

The flight has been rescheduled to operate at 5 am on March 11.

All passengers have been offered hotel accommodation, meals, and other assistance until then, the airline said.

Drills With Iranian Navy

Agencies

Moscow: Russian Rezkiy and

Geroy Rossiyskoy Federatsii Aldar Tsydenzhapov corvettes as well as Pechenga fleet oiler of the Pacific Fleet, alongside Chinese Baotou destroyer and Gaoyouhu replenishment ship docked at Iran's southeastern Chabahar Port on Monday.

They were received by commanders and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy upon arrival. Representatives of several

other countries, like Azerbaijan, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, South Africa, Sri

Ν

Lanka and the United Arab Emirates, also landed at Iran's only oceanic port city to take part in the military drills as observers.

The main stage of the Security Belt-2025 naval military drills will kick off on Tuesday.

Jamaran and Alvand frigates, Bayandor corvette, Neyzeh fast attack craft in addition to Ganaveh, Nayband and Bahregan auxiliary ships of the Iran Navy will take part in the exercise.

The IRGC Navy's Shahid Sayyad Shirazi missile corvette, Shahid Rouhi fast attack craft, and Shahid Mahmoudi offshore supply vessel will also be in attendance.

'Security Belt-2025 drills to boost security in northern Indian Ocean'

MAKERS

Iranian Navy's deputy head of operations, Rear Admiral Mostafa Tajeddini, says the main goal of Security Belt-2025 drills is to enhance maritime security in the northern tip of the Indian Ocean. and increase tripartite maritime interactions among Iran, Russia and China in order to elevate the level of cooperation, skills training, and transfer work of the law, because it is

He noted that the joint maritime drills will start on Tuesday, and will feature various scenarios like a mock rescue operation, VBSS (visit, board, search, and seizure), a fire drill, a heliborne operation and many other exercises.

of experience.

here on Saturdav night. BJP's Satara MP Udayanraje Bhosale, a descendant of Maratha king

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, had

sought the removal of Aurangzeb's

tomb located in Chhatrapati Samb-

Asked about Bhosale's demand,

Fadnavis said, "We all also

want the same thing, but you

need to do it within the frame-

hajinagar district.

during the Congress regime some years back." Notably, Samajwadi Party's Maharashtra MLA Abu Asim Azmi's remarks eulogising Mughal emperor Aurangzeb recently kicked up a row. Azmi was last week suspended

from the Maharashtra legislative assembly till the end of the budget session on March 26 over his remarks praising Aurangzeb.

We all also want the same thing, but you need to do it within the framework of the law, because it is a protected site. The site was put under ASI's (Archaeological Survey of India) protection during the Congress regime some years back

'Cow if boy, Rs 50,000 if girl'

TDP MP on every 3rd child in Vizianagaram constituency

TDP Lok Sabha member from Andhra Pradesh has pledged to dole out Rs 50,000 for every third child who turns out to be a baby girl in his constituency here. Vizianagaram MP K Appala Naidu said he will deposit the money in favour of the newly born girl child in the form of a fixed deposit, which could compound up to Rs 10 lakh by her marriage age. "If the third child is a boy, we will

give a cow and a calf. Will make a fixed deposit of Rs 50.000 if the third child is a baby girl. The Indian population has to rise," Appala Naidu told PTI on Sunday.

The parliamentarian said he was inspired by the calls given by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to raise India's population.

Promising to extend this offer to every woman in his constituency, Appala Naidu recalled that he was encouraged

by several women in politics and life. who included his mother, wife, sisters and daughter.



Further, he observed that encouraging women is also the need of the hour as they go through discrimination.

According to the MP, he announced this offer during the International Women's Day celebrations in his constituency.

Man Kills 5-Year-Old Girl, Offers Blood On **Temple Steps In Gujarat; Arrested: Police**

'n a suspected case of human sacrifice, a man murdered a five-year-old girl by slitting her throat and offered her blood on the steps of a temple in Chhotaudepur district of Gujarat on Monday, police said.

E W S

abducted the victim from her Agrawal said.

Tadvi, who was later arrested, took the girl to his house and inflicted fatal injuries on her neck using an axe, Agrawal said. "He then collected the blood



The accused, Lala Tadvi, abducted the victim from her house at Panej village in the tribal-dominated district in the presence of her mother in the morning,

gushing out of the girl's neck and offered some of it onto the steps of a small temple located in his house even as her mother and a few other villagers looked in shock, but could do anything as he was wielding an axe," the police officer said.

The accused does not appear to be an occult practitioner, and the exact motive behind the murder was not yet clear, Agrawal said.

"The accused appears to be mentally unstable," he said.

On a complaint of the girl's family, an FIR is being registered against Tadvi under sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita pertaining to murder and abduction, Agrawal informed.

The accused, Lala Tadvi,

house at Panej village in the tribal-dominated district in the presence of her mother in the morning, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Gaurav

STATE

KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 11.03.2025

Allama Sheikh Mehdi Hussain's **Death Anniversary Observed**



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Glowing tributes were paid to the prominent Islamic scholar and Shia cleric, Mir Sheikh Mehdi Hussain Hamdani Al-Najafi, at a large gathering in central Kashmir's Khanda, Budgam.

The event was held in remembrance of Allama on his 26th death anniversary.

According to a press release issued here, the event attracted a large gathering, including esteemed religious scholars, who gathered to honor and pay trib-ute to the departed soul.

On this occasion, eminent Zakirs, including Agha Syed Mushtaq Moosavi, Dr. Zakir Manzoor-ul-Hassan, and Zakir Feroz Ahmed, delivered a special eulogy dedicated to the late Maulana, while as the speakers highlighted the scholarly contributions of the deceased Allama Mir Sheikh Mehdi

Hussain Hamdani Al-Najafi's son Maulana Sibt Mohammad Shabir Qumi who is the chairman of Pairwan-e-Wilayat Jammu and Kashmir, expressed his gratitude to all the participants of the ceremony.

Forests Cover Nearly Half Of J&K and fauna. Jammu and Kash-

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Forests cover 47.8% total geographical area of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the official data accessed, the total forest cover in J&K stands at 20,194 sq km, with 8,128 sq km in Kashmir and 12,066 sq km in Jammu.

The forests in J&K are categorized based on their density, with 19.42% classified as very dense forests, 38% as moderately

mir has established a Protected Area Network (PAN) covering 4,861.28 sq km," it said, add-"This network includes ing, 4 National Parks, 14 Wildlife Sanctuaries, and 30 Conservation Reserves, which serve as critical habitats for endangered species such as the Hangul (Kashmiri stag), Himalayan black bear, snow leopard, and musk deer," it said. "Also, 14 wetlands, includ-

This network includes 4 National Parks, 14 Wildlife Sanctuaries, and 30 Conservation Reserves, which serve as critical habitats for endangered species such as the Hangul (Kashmiri stag), Himalayan black bear, snow leopard, and musk deer,"

dense, and 43% as open forests.

These green zones, which nearly cover half of the Union Territory, act as natural carbon sinks, absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere while preventing soil erosion and maintaining ecological balance,

said the J&K government. It said that policies are being framed and implemented to ensure sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation. "These forests are not only crucial for climate regulation and carbon sequestration but also play a significant role in biodiversity conservation, tourism, and local livelihoods," the government said. "To safeguard its rich flora

'Govt Merged 4,358 Zero Enrolled, Rented Schools In J&K'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The government Monday said that at least 4.358 schools in Jammu and Kashmir have been merged with the nearby institutions under the rationalisation scheme.

In response to a question by MLA Rajiv Jasrotia, Education minister Sakina Itoo said that among the closed or merged 4,358 schools, 1,274 institutions are from Jammu region and 3084 from Kashmir region.

government said The that the highest number of closed or merged schools in the Kashmir division were reported from Baramulla district and in the case of the Jammu region, the highest number of closed schools were reported from the Jammu district respectively. About the criteria fol-

lowed and adopted by the authorities to merge such institutions, the minister said those schools functioning in the same vicinity or those having rented or no building were merged with the near-



It also said that those sion. Besides, 40 principal schools with zero and less posts were also vacant in the enrolment were also merged region.

> into Teacher Grade-II. As such no new recruitments could be made against the posts of teachers for the last

> > Similarly, in the Kashmir region, the government said that 1671 master posts were lying vacant. "1957 lecturer posts and 300 headmaster posts were also lying vacant in the Kashmir division."–(KNO)

THE GOVERNMENT SAID THAT THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CLOSED or merged schools in the Kashmir division were reported from Baramulla district and in the case of the Jammu region, the highest number of closed schools were reported from the Jammu district respectively"

Biopic On Pran Kishore Kaul Premiered

Observer News Service

JAMMU: A biopic documentary film was premiered on Padma Shri Pran Kishore Kaul at Kuwar Viyogi Auditorium, Dogri Sanstha Jammu.

Örganisers of the event said that the film is based on the biography of Padma Shri Pran Kishore a renowned Broadcaster, Writer and Director.

The documentary was produced by Sahitya Akademi, Ministry of Culture Government of India New Delhi. It was written by Ashok Jailkhani (Ex ADG Doordarshan) and directed by well-known filmmaker

Sudesh Verma. Many eminent pe



said.

Kishore but also to countless writers and eminent Artists who have contributed and struggled in their field," organizers said.

On this occasion Director of ne film Sudesh K Verma said



Holistic Agriculture Development Program

First Nursery Of Medicinal, **Aromatic Plants Comes Up In Verinag**

Agencies

ANANTNAG:To increase farmers' income and ensure that medicinal and aromatic plants are not limited to forests, the Agricultural Department, under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP), has established a Germplasm Bank (nursery) in Verinag belt of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, officials said on Monday.

This first-of-its-kind nursery. It has over a lakh medicinal and aromatic plants. It is spread over five hectares of land, where rare and valuable herbal and aromatic plants are being cultivated," said an official. "These plants are to be dis-

tributed among farmers to promote their cultivation. Various medicines, cosmetics, and fragrances are made from these plants," he said, adding, "The medicinal plants, previously, were found only in forests. Now these can be grown by farmers in their fields due to their high international value."

Meanwhile, Chief Agri-culture Officer (CAO) Anantnag, Aijaz Hussain Dar, while

talking to KNO said that the Germplasm Bank in Verinag is a new initiative under HADP, aimed at growing medicinal and aromatic plant material for farmers. "You know medicinal plants are found in forests, and commercial cultivation of these plants was not happening. Now, we have taken the initiative to grow them here and then distribute these among farmers," he said.

"We have maintained the Germplasm of around one lakh medicinal and aromatic plants here, and 60,000 new aromatic plants have been transplanted," he added.

The CAO said that the primary objective of growing aromatic and medicinal plants is to provide farmers with planting material under HADP so they can cultivate these crops in their own fields. "The net returns from medicinal and aromatic plants are very much higher compared to field and horticultural crops. Our aim is to increase farmers' income. These steps are being taken for the welfare of the farming community," he said—(KNO)

Garbage Piles Up In Kangan As Vehicles Collecting Waste 'Disappear' tice the accumulation of gar-

Agencies

GANDERBAL: The absence of garbage collection vehicles over the past month in the Kangan area of Ganderbal has stirred frustration among the local residents and hotel owners.

The locals said that despite paying a monthly fee for waste collection, the non-arrival of these vehicles has led to the proliferation of waste on roadsides in the residential areas.

Residents and business owners in Prang, Kangan and Kijpora here have expressed their disappointment over the adverse environmental imurge the authorities to take immediate action to restore the garbage collection service," said a hotel owner in Kangan. Despite the construction of approximately six segregation sheds in Kangan Block, none are currently operational. Residents acknowledge that while

bage around our hotels. It's

affecting our business, and we

the establishment of these sheds was a positive initiative, the Rural Development Department (RDD) has failed to manage and segregate the waste deposited there. This neglect has led to the sheds becoming dumpgrounds, ing emitting foul odors and attracting stray animals, thereby posing health hazards and inconveniences to the local community. Residents and business owners alike are urging the authorities to ensure the garbage collection vehicles arrive regularly to prevent further inconvenience. Locals appealed to the ACD and Deputy Commissioner of Ganderbal to urgently address the operational issues of the waste segregation sheds in Kangan Block, as their current non-functionality is severely impacting the community's health and environment-(KNO)



Mansar, contribute to groundwater recharge, flood control, and climate resilience. The Nagar Van (Urban Forest) program has gained momentum in Jammu and Kashmir, with 43 urban local bodies (ULBs) man-

aging green spaces under the Forest Department," the government added. "In addition, three new Nagar Vans have been completed in 2024-25 while 36 more are

currently under development.

These urban forests aim to cre-

ate recreational green spaces

for urban populations while

contributing to biodiversity

conservation," it said–(KNO)

with the nearby institutions. The education minister "The surplus teachers are said, "All the vacancies of deployed and rationalised teachers have been frozen as per the actual need of the in terms of SAC Decision in area or zone or district," the 2018 for transition of RRETs minister said.

In the meantime, the education minister in a reply to the question regarding vacancies of teaching posts vears. in the school education department said that in Jammu division 1665 master posts

were lying vacant. It also said that 2218 lecturer posts and 402 headmaster posts were also lying

Frontier Areas In Kupwara To Witness Major Tourism Boom

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Monday said that it intends to promote adventure and border tourism in frontier areas of North Kashmir's Kupwara district.

The Minister-Incharge of Tourism Department, while responding to queries put forth by MLA Sajad Gani Lone informed the Legislative Assembly that the major focus areas include Teetwal, Keran and Bungus. "The government aims to promote tourism by developing hiking trails, illumination and signages, with additional efforts to promote border tourism by enhancing connectivity, visitors facilities and recreational infrastructure, and Rs 242.88 lakh have already been allocated to upgrade the tourism infrastructure in these areas.

The Minister informed that the government has undertaken several promotional activities and festivals to highlight the unique culture and traditions of Kashmir Valley, thereby attracting more visitors to Kupwara. "Among the notable events organized were the 'Border Tourism Festival' at Teetwal on September 7, 2022, a Familiarization (FAM) Tour for National and Local Media to Keran on August 9, 2023, Bungus Festival on September 10, 2023, and the Lolab Festival on January 11, 2025," he said, adding that these events have significantly improved tourist inflow and boosted local economy.

"The government is also focusing on developing major tourist destinations like Bangus, Teetwal, and Keran to promote adventure and border tourism," he added.

The Minister further stated that the Tourism Department has developed several infrastructure facilities in Kupwara to enhance visitor experiences. The key assets established in the district, he said, include, Reshwari hutments in Qalambad, TRC Kupwara hutments/office building, Kodaiji hutments in Kathdaji Mawar, TIC Zangli, Khumriyal Hutments in Kupwara, Lalpora Hutments in Lolab, Chandigam hutments in Sogam, Devar hutments in Sogam, Drangyari hutments in Kralpora. Reddi hutments in Kralpora, Public Park at Sogam, Dardpora Hut in Lolab and hutments at Sonmullah in Tarathpora.

The Minister informed the House about various ongoing projects under the Capex Budget for the current financial year. "The projects include construction of the Tourist Facilitation Centre (TFC) at Teetwal at a cost of Rs. 79.34 lakh. Upgradation of Keran Valley infrastructure including the construction of a toilet complex, tuck shop, signages, solid waste management, selfie points, and hiking trails at a cost of Rs. 93.91 lakh, and Upgradation of Bungus Kupwara infrastructure involving the construction of toilet complex, tuck shop, shelter sheds, gazebos, and hiking trails at a cost of Rs. 69.63 lakh besides others," he added-(KNO)

including Pran Kishore and fa-mous personalities from Indian cinema,TV and radio, were present during the screening. Director Information, Nitish

Rajoura (IAS) was the Chief guest on the occasion. "The film serves as an

homage not just to Shri Pran

that by sharing the journey of Pran ji, I hope to shed light on the struggles of artists in our region and beyond.

'Through extensive research, interviews, and rare archival footage, this documentary is not just a recount of facts but an exploration of the

felt gratitude to everyone who helped bring this vision to life. Every person who shared their memories, every family member who recounted stories, and every viewer who continues to embrace the power of storytelling has contributed to this moment," he added.

around him. Each segment ar-

ticulates the essence of his life,

encapsulating moments of joy,

sorrow, and vulnerability," he

to express my heart

'Series Of Measures Taken To Prevent **Rising Air, Water Pollution'**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday said a series of measures have been implemented to control the rising levels of noise, air and water pollution across the Union Territory. Responding to a question from

MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also oversees the Housing and Urban Development Department, said that noise pollution is regulated under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. He said strict regulations are in place to ensure that noise levels do not exceed prescribed limits.

"Authorities have been given the power to take action against violations, and measures have been taken to prevent the installation or use of public address systems and audio devices without sound limiters." the CM said. Regarding air pollution, Abdullah said that industries in J&K are regulated under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,

1981, requiring them to install Air Pollution Control Devices. Air quality is monitored at 45 stations across the UT for PM 10, PM 2.5, NO2, and SO2 levels. Diesel generator sets ranging from 61 kW to 800 kW are required to install emission control devices that achieve at least 70% particulate matter reduction.

"Random vehicular emission checks are being conducted regu-

larly, and the National Clean Air Disposal Systems. Water gual-Programme (NCAP) is being implemented in Jammu and Srinagar locations in Kashmir.

to reduce particulate matter concentrations. A Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (CAAOMS) has been installed in Rajbagh, Srinagar, for real-time air

quality monitoring," he said. To further curb air pollution, the Chief Minister said the J&K Pollution Control Committee (PCC) has imposed a moratorium on new air-polluting industries in Khrew, Khonmoh, and Ghatti Kathua. High-pollution Red Category industries are prohibited from setting up operations, while only select Orange and Green Category industries are permitted.

The adoption of Zig-zag Technology has been made mandatory for brick kilns to minimise emissions, he said, adding that the introduction of e-buses, e-autos, e-rickshaws, and a Public Bicycle Sharing System aims to reduce vehicular emissions.

The government has also implemented an Intelligent Traffic Control System to minimize congestion and emissions from idling vehicles. Awareness programmes and plantation drives are being conducted regularly as part of the environmental protection strategy. On the issue of water pollution,

Omar said industries are regulated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, which mandates the installation of Effluent Treatment and ity monitoring is being conducted under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) at 53 locations in Jammu and 118

pacts caused by the negligence, with streets and public spaces witnessing heaps of garbage for the last sometime

"The absence of garbage collection has not only made our area look unkempt but has also started attracting pests. It's becoming a health hazard for everyone living and working here," said a local resident from Kangan.

Hotel proprietors in the area are also feeling the effects of this disruption, claiming it is damaging their business reputation. They have demanded urgent intervention from local authorities.

"Tourists are starting to no-



Notification for Doctor of Philosophy in Ayurveda (Ph.D. Ayurveda) Programs 2025-26

- Applications are invited in online mode for the admission in Doctor of Philosophy in Ayurveda (Ph.D. Ayurveda) Program in various disciplines of Ayurveda for the academic year 2025-2026 in All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi under the University of Delhi.
- The candidates willing to apply for admission to this program may visit the entrance exam portal on website of All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi through www.aiia.gov.in to download the Ph.D. Bulletin and to submit the online application form.
- The online application form will be available on the entrance exam portal from 15 March 2025. The last date for submission of online applications is 07 April 2025.
- Ph.D. Entrance Examination To be held on 19th April 2025. For More details visit AIIA Entrance Examination Portal at www.aiia.gov.in

-Sd-

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A Question of Sensitivity

he fashion show held in Gulmarg during the holy month of Ramzan has rightly sparked widespread outrage across the union territory, and for good reason. The event, featuring models walking a snow-covered ramp in revealing outfits, has offended religious sensitivities in the Valley. Ramzan is a month of prayer, reflection, and fasting for Muslims, so hosting a fashion show, particularly one that openly disregards cultural modesty, was bound to trigger strong reactions.

Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was among the first to express his anger, calling the event "outrageous" and "obscene." He rightly questioned how such an event could be allowed during Ramzan. However, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, whose government has come under fire over the issue, was quick to clarify that the administration had no role in organizing the event. Responding to the outrage, the CM said the shock and anger are totally understandable. "Some people said it should not have happened in the holy month of Ramzan, but I feel that what I saw there, leave Ramzan, it should not happen in any month of the year," the CM said in a statement in the Assembly. He ordered an inquiry and vowed that action would be taken if any laws had been violated.

National Conference senior leader and Member Parliament Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi also expressed shock over reports of indecent fashion show amid Ramazan, saying the event showed an utter disregard for Kashmiri sentiments. So did Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference leader Sajad Lone who termed the event "eminently avoidable".

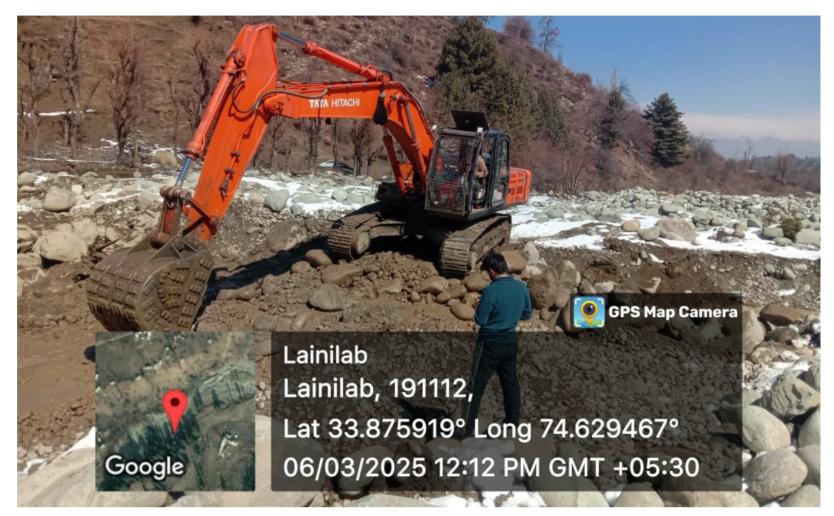
At the heart of the issue is not just the inappropriateness of the event's timing but also the larger debate about what constitutes responsible tourism and cultural promotion. Fashion shows are not inherently problematic, but their execution must be mindful of where and when they are held. This controversy should be a lesson in cultural sensitivity. It is nobody's case to rail against fashion or artistic expression but about basic respect for public sentiment. It's important for those who organized the event to acknowledge the misstep and ensure that future initiatives align better with the region's values.

That said, the probe into the event should be held expeditiously and people should be held to account. Incidentally, the organizers seem to have operated independently without deeming it worth their while to seek permission from the government of the day. On the face of it, the organizers didn't even care about the government, let alone the sensitivities of the people of the UT. There should be consequences for this.



Disaster Under The Garb Of Development?

Will the Deputy CM hold an inquiry against M/S NKC Projects Pvt Ltd for looting our resources and causing a heavy loss to the state exchequer?





he Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Surinder Chowdhary, who also holds the portfolio of the Mining Department, informed the Legislative Assembly on Saturday that a penalty of Rs 80 lakh had been imposed on the private construction company M/S NKC Projects Pvt Ltd for unauthorized riverbed mining in Budgam district.

bed mining in Budgam district. This issue came into focus when the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Khansahib, Budgam, Mr. Saifudin Bhat, sought the attention of CM to respond. While highlighting the illegal riverbed mining taking place in the Shali Ganga stream in Basantwodder village of the Khansahib Assembly segment, the MLA stated that heavy machinery had been brought into the stream around ten days ago by the construction company (NKC) without any clearance from the Mining Department, Revenue Department, or Forest authorities. He informed the House that villagers from Basantwodder, Lanilabb, Draggar, and adjoining areas were protesting, yet no action had been taken against the company. In response to Mr. Saifudin Bhat's speech, the Deputy Chief Minister stated that the District Mineral Officer (DMO) Budgam had taken strict action against M/S NKC Projects Private Limited for unauthorized mining of boulders, gravel, and sand at the Shali Ganga stream around Lanilab-Basant Wooder in the Khansahib area of Budgam. He further added that action was taken after a video went viral on social media on March 2, 2025, which was later confirmed to be true by field officials when DMO Budgam deputed a team to the site to verify the claims. "Upon investigation, it was confirmed that the company had engaged men and machinery for the unauthorized extraction of approximately 300 metric tons of Nallah Mukh without obtaining the necessary permits," the Mining Minister/Deputy CM informed the House.

been seized. A detailed news report on this matter was published by PTI and was subsequently carried by all the leading newspapers in L&K including Kashmir Observer

J&K, including Kashmir Observer. As someone who has been closely following illegal riverbed mining cases and has already filed cases regarding them before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for the protection of the Shali Ganga, Doodh Ganga, Sukhnag, Romshi, Sasra, and Badyari streams in Budgam, Pulwama, and Baramulla districts, I disagree with the informa-

tion provided by the Geology and Mining Department to the Deputy CM. The Range Officer of the Raithan Forest Range, SDPO Khansahib, and the DMO had made written communications on this issue. However, as per my personal investigation, this seems to have been mere paperwork as the loot seems to have continued on the ground. The discrepancies and information provided by sources approached by me on the issue, necessitates a fair investigation to gauge the involvement of government officials in it. I've also been provided GPS data dated March 6, 2025 to substantiate my claims.

as sand, boulders, gravel, Nallah muck, and clay for earth-filling.

Initially, the company mined the Shali Ganga in the Panzan-Lalgam area of Budgam, violating the environmental clearance granted to it. After extracting the material from Shali Ganga, NKC's dumpers and trucks unloaded it at a nearby location in Gudsathoo village, just one kilometer from Panzan. The company had even set up a makeshift office and warehouse in Gudsathoo for material processing.

The NGT, in a 212-page judgment on my petition, directed the company to stop work in September 2022. Prior to this, an interim order had already been issued to halt the mining activities.

After being ordered to stop mining in the Panzan area of Shali Ganga, M/S NKC Projects Pvt Ltd moved to loot the Sukhnag stream in the Beerwah area, about 30 km away. The Geology and Mining Department never leased out mining in Sukhnag, nor was any e-

auction conducted, as required by

law. Sukhnag, a trout fish stream,

is ecologically fragile. Without

consulting the State Environmen-



The government must take strict action against this company, blacklist it in J&K, and order an independent investigation either by the CBI or a commission of two retired High Court judges—to be completed within six months

Did You Know? Navigating Mutual Fund Investment Strategies

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Irshad Mushtaq

nvesting in mutual funds is an appealing and dynamic way to grow wealth, suitable for different financial goals and levels of risk tolerance. If you're just starting, grasping the fundamental investment methods—Systematic Investment Plans (SIP), Systematic Transfer Plans (STP), Systematic Withdrawal Plans (SWP), and Lump Sum Investments—can significantly improve your investment approach.

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Misleading Information

The Deputy CM further told the Assembly that a formal notice had been issued to the Project Manager of M/S NKC Projects Pvt Ltd on March 3, 2025, directing the immediate cessation of all illegal mining activities and demanding the submission of relevant documentation. He also stated that the machinery used in the mining operation had



The Deputy CM, Mr. Surinder Chowdhary, stated that an Rs 80 lakh penalty had been imposed on NKC. However, considering the massive environmental and financial damage caused by this company over the past four years, this penalty is negligible. The actual loss to the state exchequer is estimated at Rs 3,000 crores or more, and only a fraction of that amount has been recovered

This requires urgent investigation, and the Deputy CM must take action .

Illegal Mining by NKC?

NKC Projects Pvt Ltd, a Haryana-based construction company, has been allotted the construction of the Srinagar Semi Ring Road project, with an estimated cost of Rs 3,000 crores. This 62-km-long highway starts at Pampore Galandar and ends at Ganderbal via Narbal. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this project has not been made public, and people remain unaware of the designated locations from which the company was supposed to source riverbed materials such (SEIAA) or the Fisheries Department, the Geology and Mining Department granted them unofficial permission based on a recommendation from the Deputy Commissioner of Budgam.

For three years, NKC looted Sukhnag at multiple locations, such as Kangripora, Sail, and Kanigund villages. This not only resulted in environmental degradation but also caused massive financial losses to the state exchequer.

Every day, around 200 trucks and dumpers transported riverbed material to the processing and stone-crushing site at Gudsathoo-Panzan, continuing this loot for over three years. The illegal work was finally halted on December 26, 2024, when a highlevel team, acting on National Green Tribunal orders, visited the site. This team included senior officers from the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), the Central Pollution Control Board, J&K Fisheries, and the J&K Pollution Control Committee.

Subsequently, NGT passed a formal order on January 15, 2025, instructing that all mining work be stopped. The Deputy Commissioner of Budgam has also been summoned by NGT for the next hearing in April.

Conclusion

The Deputy CM, Mr. Surinder Chowdhary, stated that an Rs 80 lakh penalty had been imposed on NKC. However, considering the massive environmental and financial damage caused by this company over the past four years, this penalty is negligible. The actual loss to the state exchequer is estimated at Rs 3,000 crores or more, and only a fraction of that amount has been recovered.

The government must take strict action against this company, blacklist it in J&K, and order an independent investigation—either by the CBI or a commission of two retired High Court judges—to be completed within six months.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. Information provided in the article is based on news reports as well as the author's own investigation as a petitioner in the case.

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow and Chairman Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement. Feedback: bhatrajamuzaffar@ gmail.com



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ff On the Other HAND, REPENTANCE IS ANOTHER remedy that Shifts our conscious mind to Allah after committing any sin, the shifts our conscious mind to Allah after committing any sin, the mad women are equally prone to committing sin, but the text among them are those who repent instantly and frequently. The Essence of Fasting is TAQUADA

Mudasir Ali

llah says in the Holy Quran, "O my slaves, come back to Me; I am your Lord. Don't turn away from Me, as you have no other way to succeed in life. Worship Me and achieve Taqwa (God-consciousness) that I desire from you." Taqwa cleanses you internally when you emerge from ignorance by abandoning foul practices and adopting a just and kind life. Islam frequently urges us, in the Holy Quran, to resist harmful practices that damage our Emaan (faith). These practices become hindrances, stopping us from seeking the divine path and enlightening our inner souls. Evil deeds turn our hearts into stones-worthless, insignificant objects that allow no light inside. Ramazan is the month to cleanse our hearts and minds.

prepare ourselves to receive the great mercy of Allah, which has been promised, especially during this month, and regain spiritual shine by washing away sins.

To refresh our devotion to the Almighty and strengthen our belief in the Creator, we must forsake all ill practices and seek refuge in the mercy of the Almighty. What better time than Ramazan, when Allah promises us great rewards of forgiveness? Even if we have committed infinite sins, Allah promises that no sin is greater than His mercy. His mercy and forgiveness are immeasurable, as they are limitless. Allah has kept the doors of repentance open, especially during this blessed month, and one must not miss this opportunity and the untold blessings. Eacting in the Holy Month of Ramazan

Fasting in the Holy Month of Ramazan is a way to draw very close to Allah. There is a verse in Surat al-Baqarah that relates to this month of fasting, wherein Allah addresses us: "O you who believe, fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you so that you may become righteous." We perform this practice physically by forsaking all things that could break our fast, and in doing so, we are, undoubtedly, enlightening our spirits and souls. Allah simply wants Taqwa from us, and the month of Ramazan itself is a reward for Muslims to attain a certain degree of closeness to Him. It constantly helps relieve our bodies from different diseases such as hyperglycemia, stomach aches. diabetes, and so on. Muslims firmly believe that whatever has been prescribed for them contains countless benefits in all aspects.

Thus, it is essential to reconnect our souls with the divine enlightenment, which is deemed to be sustenance for internal purification. No other connection would satisfy our souls with such immense power and inspiration. On the other hand, repentance is another remedy that shifts our conscious mind to Allah after committing any sin. It is His divine power that leads His slaves to the right path. Men and women are equally prone to committing sins, but the best among them are those who repent instantly and frequently. Therefore, it is essential for everyone to introspect on their bad deeds. Allah loves those who cry throughout the night and repent for their sins, and He promises in the Holy Quran that He will resolve all their problems.

The month of Ramazan particularly conveys the same message to the entire Muslim Ummah and guides them to achieve Taqwa by discovering the righteous path. This blessed month of Ramazan can truly

change us when we worship and perform good deeds purely for the sake of Allah. Indeed, our hearts have been tainted by foul deeds, and the scars constantly grow, further darkening our souls. The entire Muslim Ummah is in distress, pain, and facing other adversities, but they are strongly hopeful that their Lord will free them from the clutches of pain and misfortune. May Allah grant us strong willpower for worship and open our hearts to help the destitute by giving alms. The more we extend our helping hands in this month, the more we will be rewarded by Allah. Let us shun the bad and the filthy and adopt good practices that will purify our hearts.

> The writer is a columnist and can be reached for feedback at: Email Id: ahangermudasir911@gmail.com

RAMAZAN A Dietitian Offers Tips For Healthy Fasting

Nazeeia Sayed

Ramazan is the month in the Islamic calendar when the Qur'an was revealed to the prophet Muhammad (PBUH). During the month, Muslims abstain from all sensory pleasures (like food and drink, sex, TV and music) from dawn to dusk. The time is centred on prayer, the Qur'an, deep mindfulness and spiritual reflection. The duration of fasting varies from 13 to 18 hours a day, depending on the daylight times in a country. Muslims believe that fasting helps to develop their submission to God, empathy with the poor and repentance for past sins. Registered dietitian, Dr Nazeeia Sayed, spoke to Faaizah Laher, also a registered dietitian and a spokesperson for the Association for Dietetics in South Africa, about the healthiest approach to the fast.

What does fasting do to your body?

During fasting, meal schedules, fluid intake, and sleep and wake times are altered. This causes physiological, biochemical and metabolic changes in the body. The adaptability to these changes depends on the types and quantity of foods and drinks that are consumed during the month.

Initially individuals may experience headaches, dizziness and nausea because they are sleeping less and taking in less caffeine. In the second week the body is used to the changes and the digestive system is able to rest. The size of the stomach changes and the amount of food a person is able to eat at each meal also decreases.

During Ramazan, as at any other time, a person should eat a balanced diet. A balanced meal approach consisting of lean proteins, whole grain starches, vegetables, fruits, and heart healthy fats will allow individuals to experience a reduction in body weight, body fat, blood pressure and anxiety levels. A reduction in inflammation and blood lipid levels is good for heart health. A balanced diet is



a healthy, non-pharmacological way of minimising risk factors such as indigestion, dehydration and constipation but still improving health.

Why is it important to consider what foods and drinks you start and break your fast with?

The Ramazan cornerstone is to practise mindfulness, discipline and control. It is a great time to reset and learn better nutrition habits. The eating and drinking window in the day is fairly small. Eating slowly, and reading hunger and fullness cues, are important to prevent discomfort. Meals can also be broken up into two smaller evening meals instead of one big meal.

Huge meals that are high in fat and sugar can lead to health issues such as high blood pressure, indigestion, nausea and constipation or aggravate existing problems. Focus on healthier cooking methods such as grilling, baking, air frying or stewing instead of deep fat frying and oily meals. Oily meals cause indigestion, sluggishness, fatigue and weight gain.

Hydrating well will prevent headaches, urinary tract infections and dizziness. Focus on fluids that are low in sugar, avoid fizzy drinks and caffeine, and opt for water or smaller portions of fruit juices.

Healthy eating is important, as a strong, healthy body can help an individual stand longer for prayers, fast with better strength and feel less of an energy drain.

What are the best foods and drinks to begin and end the daily fast?

The suboor meal (before the fast begins at

dawn) needs to give a person strength, vitality and sustainability. Foods should be wholesome and filling. This meal is the primary source of fuel for the day. A filling, wholesome meal will help to prevent craving during the day.

Instead of sugary cereals, it's best to eat a meal that is high in fibre and protein. Some examples include:

- An oats smoothie with fruit, milk and yoghurt, oats, seeds and honey
 Wholewheat toast with mushrooms and
- Wholewheat toast with mushrooms and scrambled eggs
- Granola, yoghurt, honey and fruit; add a boiled egg for extra protein
- Cooked oats with apple, cinnamon, milk and honey
- Talbina (barley) with nuts, milk and fruit
- Tuna on toast with a glass of milk.

The iftar meal at the end of the day needs to give balance and help to recharge the body after many hours of fasting. It is important to eat mindfully and slowly. Dates are an ideal food to break the fast with as they are easily digested, contain soluble fibre and enable a slower start to the iftar meal than starting with food.

Avoid fizzy and sugary drinks at iftar. Salty and sweet foods can cause indigestion, fatigue and thirst. The meal should include the different food groups.

- **Proteins:** lean meat, yoghurt, milk, beans, lentils, fish.
- Carbohydrates: wholewheat or unrefined options are better – brown rice, wholewheat roti or pita, starchy vegetables like potato, sweet potato, butternut or pumpkin, wholewheat pasta or crushed wheat and oats added to soups.
- Fats: avocado or olive oil-based dressing, olives
 Vegetables: a colourful mix of vegetables, cooked or raw
- **Fruits:** whole, with the skin on and no sugar added is the best option.

LIFE & TIMES

India May Have Over 440 Million Overweight People By 2050: Lancet Study

Press Trust Of India

2050, India could have over 440 million obese and overweight people, a global analysis published in The Lancet journal has estimated.

Number of overweight and obese adults by mid-century in India (218 million men and 231 million women) could be the second highest in the world, after China, with the US, Brazil and Nigeria expected to rank third, fourth and fifth, respectively, the findings by an international team of researchers reveal.

These researchers, including those from the Indian Council of Medical Research, collaborated for the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021.

As per the study, already almost half the world's adults -- a billion men and over a billion women aged 25 years and above -- were overweight and obese in 2021. In India, the numbers were over nearly 180 million -- 81 million men and 98 million women.

However, by 2050, this number globally could rise to nearly 3.8 billion -- 1.8 billion men and 1.9 billion women --"over half of the likely global adult population at that time", the authors said.

"While China, India, and the USA will continue to constitute a large proportion of the global population with overweight and obesity, the number in the sub-Saharan Africa super-region is forecasted to increase by 254.8 per cent," they wrote.

The researchers also estimated that about 16 million boys and over 14 million girls in India, aged 5-14 years, could be overweight and obese by 2050, making it world's second highest after China.



While China,

will continue to

constitute a large

proportion of the

global population

sub-Saharan Africa

with overweight

and obesity, the

number in the

super-region is

increase by 254.8

ing obesity in his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' radiocast on

forecasted to

per cent

India, and the USA

However, in the 15-24 age group, the world's highest burden could come from India, with over 22 million men and nearly 17 million women in the country suffering from this health crisis in 2050.

Lead author Emmanuela Gakidou, Institute for Health and Evaluation Metrics (IHME), University of Washington, US, which coordinates the GBD study, said, "The unprecedented global epidemic of overweight and obesity is a profound tragedy and a monumental societal failure." The study, the "most comprehensive global analysis to date" could help governments and the public health community "identify priority populations experiencing the greatest burdens of obesity who require immediate intervention and treatment, and those that remain predominantly overweight and should be primarilv targeted with prevention

February 23. strategies", Gakidou said. Obesity will have to be The latest estimates come dealt with to be a fit and against the backdrop of Prime healthy nation, he said. Minister Narendra Modi mak-Obesity, a body mass ining a strong pitch for combatdex (BMI) of over 30, is known

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to have wide-ranging effects, including raising one's risk of metabolic and heart disease. It can also impact one's bone health and fertility and increase cancer risk.

However, experts recently called for a more nuanced approach to measuring obesity.

In January, authors of a Lancet Commission report urged an overhaul of how obesity is diagnosed and called for a new method that looked at aspects such as waist circumference or waist-to-hip ratio, in addition to BMI.

BMI is not an honest measure of health or disease and can thus result in a wrong diagnosis, they said.

The team suggested two new categories for diagnosing obesity, which are "objective measures" of illness in an individual -- 'clinical obesity' and 'pre-clinical obesity'.

While clinical obesity refers to a chronic, or persistent, condition because of an obesityrelated organ dysfunction, preclinical obesity is related to an increased health risk without illness, they explained.

Responsible Measures Can Curb Online Gaming Activity Expenditure: IIT AIIMS Researchers

Press Trust of India

esponsible measures such as voluntary self-exclusion and limitsetting can lead to significant reductions in online gaming activity and expenditure, according to a joint study conducted by AIIMS-Delhi and IIT-Delhi.

The study titled 'Effectiveness of Self-Exclusion and Limit-Setting on Online Gaming Behaviour', which was released on Tuesday, evaluated the impact of these two mechanisms in shaping online gaming behaviours and promoting sustainable gaming habits.

The study, which analysed data from 8,300 online gamers across platforms, revealed that these measures effectively reduce excessive gaming activity and expenditure among users.

Voluntary self-exclusion (VSE) is a programme that allows individuals to voluntarily exclude themselves from a platform, either permanently or for a short period.

With limit-setting features, the users can set a cap on the time and money they can spend on a gaming platform or individual games

The results showed that those Indian gamers who actively leverage these features cultivate a healthier and more balanced online experience.

The data showed that players who opted for VSE experienced a 20-30 per cent decrease in daily deposits and gaming time, reflecting increased self-awareness and responsible decision-making.

Further, self-exclusion serves as a valuable reset mechanism, allowing players to take a break and return with greater control over their gaming habits.

For those who preferred a more flexible approach, limit-setting tools proved to be an effective way to moderate time and money spent on gaming without completely pausing play.

By setting predefined limits on their spending, gamers were able to manage their finances better and reduce the amount of money deposited on gaming platforms.

This finding underscores the potential of these tools to promote financial responsibility and prevent problematic spending habits.

Tapan K Gandhi, professor in the department of electrical engineering, Cadence Chair professor of AI and automation, and joint faculty in the School of AI, IIT Delhi, said India's gaming industry is poised for massive expansion.

"While innovation will drive this growth, the industry must prioritise consumer protection through responsible gaming measures. Understanding behavioural patterns and tailoring interventions will accordingly create a sustainable gaming future where players can engage safely and responsibly.

"By providing users with the tools to manage their play responsibly, the industry can continue to grow while prioritising player well-being," said Gandhi, under whom the study was conducted.

Yatan Pal Singh Balhara, professor of psychiatry at AIIMS Delhi, said the study



unearthed the importance of implementing and promoting structured interventions like self-exclusion and limit-setting in empowering players with healthier gaming habits.

"As the online gaming industry continues to expand, combining such tools with player support mechanisms could be key to fostering long-term responsible gaming practices targeted at ensuring the mental well-being of the gamers," Balhara said.

With India's online gaming industry surpassing 500 million users, fostering a culture of responsible gaming is critical for the well-being of the users, said Balhara, who co-led the study.

The study emphasised that offering personalised interventions and refining responsible gaming policies and platforms can create a more positive and sustainable gaming environment.

The researchers recommended expanding these initiatives by integrating real-time behavioural alerts, financial literacy programmes, and awareness campaigns to further enhance the effectiveness of responsible gaming measures.

Study Of Single Neuron Activity Helps Understand Abstract Thinking In Humans

Press Trust Of India



Argentina and the UK, contradicted the findings from the previous ones: the neurons were found to respond to a specific concept in the same manner when the context changed — such as remembering having seen a person in different locations.

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.. **Public Notice**

The registrar birth BDO pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Kaisar UL Samad s/o Abdul Samad Rather R/o Pakipora Tehsil Pattan distt baramulla with verified date of birth 09/02/2008 occurred at home in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Subject.Grant of registration of the proposed adventure sports unit under the name, M/S Sky Odyssey Adventure " situated at Khaiwan Narwara Eidgah Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr Imtiyaz Hussain Mir R/o Khaiwan Narwara Eidgah Srinagar intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed adventure sports unit under the name and style" M/s Sky Odyssey Adventure "situated at Khaiwan Narwara Eidgah Srinagar Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit state subject/Domicile certificate, Oualification Certificate.Pan card. Experience certificate (minimum 05 years), Character certificate (Police department). Bank statement (minimum balance 1000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested sub-registrar, printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting), Photograph of the unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photograph to the department of tourism as prescribed checklist prior to registra-

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Rukhsana Mohammad while my correct name is Ruhksana Mohammad which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be

KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Tuesday | 11-03-2025

for the first time, scientists have found that neurons can differentiate objects or people regardless of the contexts in which they were encountered for the first time.

The findings can help understand how humans develop abstract thinking, the researchers, led by those at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute in Spain, said.

This behaviour of an individual neuron, described in a paper in the journal Cell Reports, allows for the forming of higher and abstract concepts in the brain, which constitutes the basis of human intelligence, they said.

Abstract thought, or perceiving an object in ways not physically visible, is a higherorder form of thinking, examples of which include using metaphors and analogies. The skill has varied applications, such as understanding the big picture.

The researchers explained that studies in animals have shown significant differences in how a neuron behaved in response to a concept — a specific place or object -when the context changed.

For example, neurons in a rat responded very differently if it found the same object in different locations. It was believed that such memories were stored in different groups of neurons.

The findings of the latest study, involving nine epilepsy patients in

"The basic principle of neuronal coding in humans is the opposite of what has been observed in other species, which has significant implications," lead researcher Rodrigo Quian Quiroga, a neuroscientist at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute, said.

"We observe similar single-neuron responses



to the same concepts in different tasks," the authors wrote.

For the study, electrodes were implanted in the patients, who were being treated for refractory epilepsy, a drug-resistant form of the brain disorder marked by seizures.

The researchers thus tracked the individual behaviour of neurons and could obtain precise recordings of the neurons' responses.

The patients were presented with two stories featuring the same person in different contexts, supported by images. The team found that the response of a neuron remained the same in both the stories.

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan..

Sub. Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..

Public Notice...

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Arib Rouf Sofi s/o Abdul Rouf Sofi R/o Kehnusa Bandipora With verified date of birth 15/05/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained. SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

SD

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan.

Sub. Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth..

Public Notice...

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Talha sameer Ganie S/o Sameer Ahmad Ganie R/o Muqam Shaheed Mir Botingoo Sopore with verified date of birth 14/05/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

SD

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION: 02 of 2025

Online applications are invited in the prescribed format through CU-Chayan portal link (https://curec.samarth.ac.in) from eligible candidates for appointment of Professors on substantive basis in the various departments.

The detailed notification regarding the number of vacancies, eligibility and other terms and conditions is available on the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in. The online application form shall be available on CU-Chayan Portal w.e.f March 4th, 2025. The last date for submission of online application form/s for 1st phase of this rolling advertisement is April 3rd, 2025 & the submission of downloaded application form/s along with annexures latest by April 9th , 2025. No. CUKmr/RCT/F.No.487/25/2426 Sd/ Registrar Dated:03-03-2025

tion of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour operation. entertained. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/financial institutions/Ban/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the deputy director tourism Registration (e-mail ID:-ddtreg123@ gmail.com) within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/news-District Baramulla paper of the valley.No objection beyond a period of 15 days shall be entertained fko Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

Phone:-01933-295302

E-mail:-techrbpul786@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION PULWAMA.

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No: 131/EEP/RNB/of 2024-25/10105-15 Dated: 08/03/2025

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv.	Cost of	Earnest	Time of	Class of	Major Head	Administrative Accord Ap-	Call No:
		Cost	T/D (Rs.)	Money (In	Completion	Contract	of Accounts	proval No:	
		(Rs.		%age.)	in working				
		Lacs.)			Days				
1	Construction of	16.77	800	2% of Adv.	45 days	CEE/BEE	MH:	AAA: 38 DL of 2021 Dated:	Ist call
	Additional Block			cost			Capex bud-	28.07.2021 & Deputy director	
	for District Library						get2024-25	Library's No. DDLRK/ADM-	
	Pulwama.(Balance							CTLP/229-33 dt.05.03.2025	
	Work)								

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

 Date of Issue of Tender Notice 	08-03-2025
Bid downloading Start Date	08 - 03-2025 from 10:00 A.M
Bid submission Start Date	08 - 03-2025 from 10:00 A.M
4. Bid Submission End Date	19- 03-2025 upto 0 4:00 P.M
Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	20- 03-2025 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div.
	Pulwama
6. Submission of Performance Security(PS)	Within three (03) days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest successful bidder has to
	provide 5% of allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG
	and EMD of 2% shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance security.

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

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

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids. EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama
- The Contractors are advised to visit the site and to be aware of the conditions for launching at site of work before quoting the rates.

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

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

Head Draftsman	Technical Officer	Executive Engineer
DIPK-12842/24	DATED: 10-03-2025	R&B Division Pulwama

Ruhksana Mohammad D/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Chukar Tehsil Kunzer fko

BUSINESS

KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 11.03.2025

Govt Seeks Parliament Nod To Spend Rs 51,463 Cr **Extra In FY25**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- The government on Monday sought Parliament nod to spend a net additional Rs 51,462.86 crore in the current financial year end-ing March, with a large chunk going towards pension and subsidy fertiliser.

The gross additional spending sought by the government is over Rs 6.78 lakh crore, of which Rs 6.27 lakh crore would be matched by savings and receipts. The net additional spending by the govern-ment would be Rs 51,462.86 crore in the current fiscal, as per the second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants tabled by Finance Minis-

Lok Sabha. The additional expenditure includes Rs 14,100 crore to the department of fertilisers, including subsidies for urea and P&K fertiliser. An additional allocation of Rs 13,449 crore has been provided for the pension of government employees, cluding Rs 7,000

crore towards Unified the **Pension Scheme** (UPS). The to-

also

tal spending includes a defence pension of Rs 8,476 crore and Rs 5,322 crore to the spending sought Department of Telecommunications. by the government An additional Rs is over Rs 6.78 lakh 2,186 crore funds crore, of which have been allocated Rs 6.27 lakh crore to the agriculture department and Rs would be matched 3,722 crore to the by savings and Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir for meeting additional expenditure to meet

ter Nirmala Sitharaman in the the resource gap.

GST Evasion Of Rs 1.95 Lakh **Crore Detected By CGST Officers During April-January**

The gross

additional

receipts.



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Central GST officers have detected tax evasion of Rs 1.95 lakh crore in 25,397 cases in the April-January period of the current fiscal, Parliament was informed on Monday. As per the data shared in the Lok Sabha, the total number of GST evasion cases detected by central government officers in the last five years was 86,711 and the total detection was over Rs 6.79 lakh crore. In the current fiscal (up to January 2025), the total number of evasion cases detected stood at 25,397, with a total detection amount of Rs 1,94,938 crore. During the period, a voluntary deposit of Rs 21,520 crore was made in tax evasion cases. The total number of ITC fraud cases in the current fiscal stood at 13,018 involving an amount of Rs 46,472 crore. A voluntary deposit of Rs 2,211 crore was made. According to the GST Investigation Wing data, in 2023-24 fiscal 20,582 evasion cases were detected involving Rs 2.30 lakh crore.

In 2022-23, GST evasion detection was Rs 1.32 lakh crore, in 2021-22 (Rs 73,238 crore) and in 2020-21 (Rs 49,384 crore)

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said the Government and GSTN Centra

Legislators Speak On Different Aspects Of Budget In J&K Assembly On Second Day

Observer News Service

JAMMU- On the second day of ongoing discussion on Budget 2025-26 in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly (LA), legislators spoke Monday on different aspects of the budget.

Initiating the discussion, member Mir Saifullah said that this is a unique budget and covers every region of Jammu and Kashmir. He expressed gratitude to CM Omar Abdullah for presenting a budget which will prove beneficial for the common people and every section of the society.

He added that this budget will take J&K to new heights and make Jammu and Kash-mir one of the developed regions of the country.

While participating in the discussion, Professor Gharu Ram Bhagat said that Jammu and Kashmir, being agriculture depen-dent, needs added focus on agriculture and allied sectors. He said that investing in these areas will drive rural development, boost employment and ensure sustainable development. He also laid emphasis on resolving all the issues faced by the farmers.

He also highlighted achievements of the Union Government and the welfare measures being taken for development Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking during the budget discussion, Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi extended gratitude to CM Omar Abdullah for rising to the occasion and presenting a comprehensive people centric budget. He hailed different initiatives presented during the budget saying that these initiatives



for electricity consumers

of BPL families, CIC opera-

tors and other sections of

Yudhvir Sethi, while

speaking on the occasion,

highlighted the achieve-

ments of the Union Govern-

Waheed Parra, while

speaking during the bud-

get discussion, said that

the budget has no mention

of youth schemes or initia-

tives. He added that there

is no mention of Employ-

ment guarantee act, Youth

Startup scheme, Seed devel-

opment fund or other initia-

tives for creating employ-

He also asked for estab-

lishing a Human Rights

Commission for checking

human rights violations in

that the budget presented by

the government is different

from other times and is quite

laudable. It has touched all

aspects vis social, economic and infrastructure develop-

Muzaffar Iqbal Khan,

while speaking in support

of the budgetary provisions, said that the government

has presented a pragmatic

budget despite the challeng-

es faced by the government.

said

Jammu and Kashmir.

ment, he said.

Nizamuddin Bhat

ability avenues for youth.

society

ment.

will satiate the aspirations of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ahmed ex-Iftikhar pressed gratitude to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for presenting a pro-public budget that has touched all aspects of the society. "This budget will lay a

strong foundation for development of Jammu and Kashmir and we are sure that next five years will set a new dawn in the UT," he asserted.

He also thanked the CM for giving special focus on health sector, education and other priority areas. He also urged for providing of hostels for the SC students.

Salman Sagar, while speaking in support of the budget, said that this bud-get will lay new foundation for Jammu and Kashmir in next five years the also in next five years. He also hailed the women welfare management wonten wonten wonten measures being presented during the budget, adding that it will benefit a huge chunk of population.

Salman Sagar also hailed the initiatives for AAY families, old/widow pensioners as well as specially abled persons.

The legislator sought some benefits in budget for the transporters, amnesty



Gold Falls Rs 150 To Rs 88,750 Per **10g, Silver Declines Rs 250**



Sensex, Nifty Pare Gains To Close Lower; Oil & Gas, **Industrial Shares Major Drag**

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI- Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty pared early gains to close lower in a volatile session on Monday dragged by selling in industrials and oil & gas shares in the last hour.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 217.41 points or 0.29 per cent to settle at 74,115.17 with 22 of its constituents ending lower and eight with gains.

The index opened higher and touched a high of 74,741.25 during the day. However, selling pressure emerged in the pre-close session pulling the index down by 310.34 points or 0.41 per cent to a low of 74,022.24.

The Nifty of NSE declined by 92.20 points or 0.41 per cent to close at 22,460.30.

From the 30 Sensex companies, IndusInd Bank, Zomato, Larsen & Toubro, Titan, Mahin-dra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, Reliance Industries, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Tech Mahindra and Tata Consultancy Services were among the laggards. On the other hand, Power

Grid, Hindustan Unilever, Infosys, Nestle India, Asian Paints, ITC, Sun Pharmaceuticals and ICICI Bank were the gainers.

"Global headwinds continue to drag the market sentiment, with the rise in US unemployment rates and tariffs leading to uncertainty, indicating that volatility is here to stay for the near term," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

Services, said. Nair said the domestic mac-

ros are favouring investors to start accumulating the beaten-down stocks with caution in the short term, while the long term appears attractive.

The BSE smallcap gauge declined 2.11 per cent while mid-cap index dropped 1.46 per cent. Among the BSE sectoral indices, Industrials, Oil & Gas, Capital Goods, Consumer Durables, Realty, Energy, Consumer Discretionary, Services, Auto, Commodities, metal, health-care and Telecommunication were the laggards.

FMCG and Utilities were the gainers.

As many as 2,877 stocks declined while 1,203 advanced and 149 remained unchanged on the BSE.

"Sensex and Nifty50 closed lower primarily due to uncertainty surrounding US tariffs and concerns about ongoing foreign selling, which affected market sentiment," Ameya Ranadive Chartered Market Technician, CFTe, Sr Technical Analyst, StoxBox, said.

"Markets were choppy as key benchmarks slipped into the red towards the closing stages with broader markets, particularly mid and small-cap stocks boring the brunt.

"With rupee depreciating sharply and foreign fund outflows showing no signs of cooling off, markets may continue to exhibit volatility," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said.



Press Trust Of India

painting, was flagged off

"In just over three years since

carrier) airlines, while scal-

ing up rapidly with a modern

and fuel-efficient fleet, broad

basing our domestic network,

deepening and expanding our

Middle East and Southeast Asia

presence in the India market

focused towards tier 2 and tier

"Today, we have a formidable

routes

have taken various steps to improve compliance and prevent tax evasions, including providing intelligence inputs, detecting fraudulent registration, and suspicious e-way bill activity and selection of returns for scrutiny and selection of taxpayers for audit based on various risk parameters.

These measures are helpful in safeguarding the revenue and nabbing the evaders. Certain projects were also undertaken such as 'Project Anveshan' (Analytics, Verification, Shortlisting of Anomalies) whereby newer techniques like Facial Recognition System (FRS), E-way bill data etc. were used for early identification of GSTINs with propensity for fake/ fraudulent activity to generate Intelligence reports," Chaudhary said.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Falling for the third day in a row, gold prices retreated by Rs 150 to Rs 88,750 per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday amid a weak trend in the overseas markets, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The precious metal of 99.9

per cent purity had settled lower at Rs 88,900 per 10 grams on Friday. Gold of 99.5 per cent purity

slipped by Rs 150 to Rs 88,350 per 10 grams from the previous close of Rs 88,500 per 10 grams. Silver prices also declined

by Rs 250 to Rs 99,250 per kg, snapping the four-day winning run. Comex gold futures for April

delivery fell 0.32 per cent to USD 2,904.80 per ounce in the



international markets. Meanwhile, spot gold also fell 0.13 per cent to USD 2,905.31 per ounce.

"Gold and silver saw profittaking from recent highs due to a rebound in US bond yields.

The US administration's decision to delay Mexico tariffs by a month added to the cautious sentiment. However, a weak-

ening dollar, which fell to a five-month low and recorded its worst weekly decline since November 2022, provided tailwinds for gold and silver," Rahul Kalantri, VP Commodities, Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

Silver futures for May delivery traded lower at USD 32.80 per ounce.

the airline's Managing Direc-**NEW DELHI-** Air India Express tor Aloke Singh at Bengaluru's now has 100 planes in its fleet Kempegowda International by inducting another Boeing Airport. 737-8 aircraft, which operated privatisation, we integrated and merged the LCC (low cost its first flight on Bengaluru-Hindon route.

In a release on Monday, the airline said it will be operating over 500 daily flights by the end of this month across a fast-expanding network of 54 destinations across India, the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

From a fleet of 26 Boeing 737 NGs and 28 A320 aircraft in January 2022, when the airline was taken over by the Tata Group, the carrier's has almost doubled its fleet to 100 aircraft, according to the release. The 100th aircraft, featuring

'Chittara' tail art inspired by

Karnataka's traditional mural

3 cities, the emerging hotspots of the economy, playing a pivotal role in the next stage of India's aviation growth story," Singh said. Air India Express and AIX

Connect (formerly AirAsia India) were integrated last year.

'Wheat Production Likely To Rise 2% To All-Time High 1,154.3 Lakh Tn'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Wheat production is estimated to rise by 2 per cent to record 1,154.30 lakh tonnes in the rabi season of 2024-25 crop year mainly on higher acreage, according to the government estimates released on Monday.

Wheat output stood at 1,132.92 lakh tonnes in the preceding year.

The Agriculture Ministry on Monday released the Second Advance Estimates of production of major crops (Kharif & Rabi) for 2024-25.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the central government is continuously working towards the development of the agricultural sector.

He highlighted that the ministry is providing assistance and encouragement to farmers through various schemes, resulting in a record increase in agricultural crop production.

The Second Advance Estimates covers Kharif and Rabi Seasons. The summer season will be incorporated in the Third Advance Estimates. The production of kharif rice in 2024-25 is estimated to rise to record 1,206.79 lakh tonnes from 1,132.59 lakh tonnes in kharif season of 2023-24. The output of rabi Rice is estimated to increase to 157.58 lakh tonnes from 146.01 lakh tonnes.

'Production of wheat is estimated at 1,154.30 lakh tonnes, which is higher by 21.38 lakh tonnes as compared to the previous year production of 1,132.92 lakh tonnes," the statement said.

Production of Shree Anna (Kharif) is estimated at 137.52 lakh tonnes and Shree Anna (Rabi) is estimated at 30.81 lakh tonnes. Further, production of Nutri/coarse cereals (kharif) is estimated at 385.63 lakh tonnes and production of Nutri/coarse cereals (Rabi) is estimated at 174.65 lakh tonnes.

Production of tur and gram is estimated at 35.11 lakh tonnes and 115.35 lakh tonnes, respectively and the output of lentils is estimated at 18.17 lakh tonnes.

Work On Centre Of Excellence In **Precision Vegetable, Floriculture, Farming Takes Off**

Observer News Service

JAMMU- The work on Centre of Excellence for Entrepreneurship in Precision Vegetable and Floriculture Farming took off Monday with groundbreaking ceremony (Bhoomi Poojan) here at Vegetable Improvement Scheme -Krishi Bhawan Directorate of Agriculture Talab Tillo.

The ceremony was performed by Director Agriculture Jammu, S. Arvinder Singh Reen.

The Centre of Excellence is being established under the NABARD, RIDF-XXX scheme, with an investment of Rs. 5.92 Crore. It would feature a state-of-the-art polycarbonate greenhouse spanning 3511 square meters. The construction work is being executed by JK Agro and is expected to be completed within the next six months.

This Centre of Excellence will play a pivotal role in boosting the region's agricultural capabilities by provid-

ing high-quality, high-yielding vegetable and floriculture seedlings to farmers across the Jammu Division. Through this initiative, farmers will gain access to advanced farming techniques, which will significantly enhance productivity and improve the quality of crops, thus benefiting the local farming community.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Agriculture Jammu emphasized that the facility will provide farmers with the necessary tools and knowledge to excel in precision farming. "The Centre will also encourage entrepreneurship in the vegetable and floriculture sectors, helping farmers embrace modern farming practices and access sustainable agricultural solutions," he added.

The project is in line with the government's ongoing efforts to enhance the agricultural sector and ensure economic growth for farmers by integrating innovation, technology, and sustainable practices.

Prices Of Veg Non-Veg Thali Decline 5% In Feb Crisil

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- The cost of vegetarian and non-vegetarian thali declined by 5 per cent on-month in February due to lower vegetable and broiler prices, an arm of domestic rating agency Crisil said on Monday.

Onion, potato and tomato prices were down 7 per cent, 17 per cent and 25 per cent on-month, respectively, amid fresh arrivals, said Crisil Market Intelligence and Analysis in its monthly 'Roti Rice Rate' report. Also, broiler prices declined by an estimated 5 per cent onmonth because of lower demand amid bird flu scare in Southern India, it said.

"For the vegetarian thali, the decline was driven by lower vegetable prices, particularly of onions, tomatoes and potatoes, while for a non-vegetarian thali, the cost eased with a decrease in broiler prices," said Pushan Sharma, Director- Research, Crisil Intelligence.

On an annual basis, the cost of a home-cooked vegetarian thali declined 1 per cent in February, while that of a non-vegetarian thali grew by about 6 per cent, the report said. The on-year decline in the cost of a vegetarian thali was because of a fall in

prices of tomato and liquid petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders, the report said. Tomato price declined 28 per cent

on-year to Rs 23/kg in the month, from Rs 32/kg a year ago, owing to a 20 per cent increase in arrivals on-year.

The increase in the cost of a nonvegetarian thali was driven by an estimated 15 per cent on-year rise in the price of broiler. The surge in the price of broiler, which accounts for about 50 per cent of the cost of a nonvegetarian thali, is attributable to a low base of last year when the price had declined owing to excess supply.

Elevated feed cost, owing to a 6 per cent on-year rise in the price of maize, also contributed to the increase, according to RRR.

Crisil said the average cost of preparing a thali at home is calculated based on input prices prevailing in north, south, east and west India. The monthly change reflects the impact on the common man's expenditure.

News

IUST's AICTE IDEA Lab Draws National Attention at AICTE Tech Fest 2025

Awantipora, Mar. 10: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), participated in the first-ever AICTE IDEA LAB Tech Fest-2025. Students and faculty members from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering repre-sented IUST at this Fest, which brought together over 75 AICTE IDEA Labs from premier engineering institutions across the country. The Tech Fest provided a platform to showcase innovative projects developed within these labs, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. IUST's participation in the Fest marked a significant milestone in the region's journey towards technological innovation. The IUST AICTE IDEA Lab stall garnered great interest from visitors, including students, faculty, and innovators from top institutions across the country, who engaged with the innovative projects on display. A high-profile delegation of AICTE officials, including Hon'ble

Vice Chairman Prof. Abhay Jere, and Member Secretary Prof. Rajive Kumar, met the innovators from IUST and engaged in discussions with students and faculty members. Their interaction highlighted the Lab's contributions to fostering innovation, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial mind-sets among students.

Chairman Prof. T.G.Sitharam,

Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor IUST, emphasized that participation in such



national event aligns with IUST's mission to promote innovation-driven education. He highlighted the AICTE IDEA Lab as a hub of creativity and technology, empowering students to develop impactful solutions.

Prof. Parvez Ahmad Mir, Director CIED, underscored the value of hands-on innovation, noting that the platform provided students and faculty with an excellent opportunity to engage with national-level innovators

and gain insights into emerging technologies. He reaffirmed CIED's commitment to fostering entrepreneurial thinking at IUST.

Dr. Sajaad Ahmed Lone, Coordinator IUST's AICTE IDEA Lab, commended the team's efforts, describing the event as a proud moment for IUST. He noted the enthusiastic response to their innovations as a testament to the university's dedication to excellence in research and development.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Draws

in 2019-20, Rs 148.89 crore in 2020-21, Rs 125.87 crore in 2021-22, Rs 737.36 crore in 2022-23 and Rs 1423. 17 crore in 2024-25 upto February 25, 2025.

In Jammu, an investment of Rs 132.27 crore has been made in 2019-20, Rs 263.85 crore in 2020-21, Rs 250.89 crore, Rs 1416.07 crore in 2022-23, Rs 1966.20 in 2023-24 and Rs 3079.57 crore in 2024-25.

'3.7 Lakh Youth

policies aimed at providing employment opportunities to educated youth across both skilled and unskilled sectors in the Union Territory (UT).

"A total of 3,70,811 unemployed youth have been registered on the employment portal as of January 2025," Choudhary said and added that a baseline survey indicated that out of 4.73 lakh individuals aged between 18 and 60 surveyed, a significant portion expressed willingness to work but were currently unemployed.

In response, the government has launched several initiatives under Mission Youth to enhance employment prospects, he said.

Those registered include 66,628 graduates, 47,114 post-graduates, 15,396 other degree holders and 9,884 diploma holders, he said.

Choudhary said the registration of unemployed educated youth is a voluntary process and job-seekers register themselves on the employment portal to access different selfemployment schemes provided by various departments and to avail different opportunities.

He said the Mumkin Scheme, operational since the financial year 2020-21, focuses on livelihood opportunities in the transport sector. Similarly, the Tejaswini Scheme introduced in 2022-23 aims at empowering young women through various initiatives.

Under the Parvaaz Scheme, launched in the financial year 2022-23, youth are provided opportunities for competitive and recruitment examinations, the minister said.

"Other self-employment and startup support programmes include initiatives like Spurring Entrepreneurship the Tourist Village Development Programme and specialised programmes for dental professionals and youth in distress," he added.

Moreover, the government has conducted 246 job fairs over the past three years, resulting in the selection of 4,893 candidates through on-the-spot placements. Around 2,760 companies participated in these fairs and recommended 6,640 individuals for skill training, Choudhary said.

"The establishment of permanent facilita-

between members of NC-Congress, PDP, and BJP for over 25 minutes.

Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather tried several times to bring the House to order, stating that he would give time to members after the Question Hour, but disruptions continued.

Later, the speaker informed the House that he had received two adjournment motions from members: Congress's Nizamuddin Bhat and NC MLA Rameshwar Singh over the issues of civilian killings and the attack on Bani MLA Rameshwar Singh.

He said that as per Rule 59, debates cannot be held in the House when a probe is ordered. Since the Lieutenant Governor has ordered a probe, it cannot be debated in the House.

Similarly, concerning the Gulmarg fashion show, an inquiry has been ordered by the chief minister, therefore, it cannot be discussed in the House, he said.

Regarding the attack on Singh, Rather said "We condemn the issue. Entire House condemns it."

The Bani MLA was assaulted by a group of protesters while he had gone to meet the family members of the deceased at a local hospital in Billawar late Saturday night.

BJP's Satesh Sharma accused the MLA of politicising the issue in his constituency.

"This House should set an example by paying homage to the victims. There was even a small child," he said.

The speaker reiterated that no debate could be held on this.

Chief Minister Abdullah intervened and said that if the Leader of Opposition can be allowed to go to meet the families of victims in Kathua, why the Deputy chief minister was not allowed to meet families citing the security situation.

After a brief Question Hour, rucks was again witnessed with MLA Sheikh Khursheed, who sought condemnations of all the killings, being marshalled out from the House for creating noisy scenes.

Minister Sakina Itoo stated outside the assembly that a probe had been ordered by the chief minister, considering the seriousness of the Gulmarg incident.

Designers Apologise

Making a statement in the House after the Question Hour which was disrupted for the first nearly half-an-hour over the issue of the fashion show and three civilian killings in Billawar area of Kathua district, the chief minister said the "disappointment and concern" of the members are genuine.

However, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and senior BJP leader Sunil Sharma on Monday launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, accusing him of feigning ignorance about the controversial fashion show held in Gulmarg.

first nearly half-hour over the issue of the fashion show and three civilian killings in Billawar area of Kathua district, the chief minister said the "disappointment and concern" of the members are genuine.

He also said if permission had been sought from the government, it would not have been given. "If law has been violated, strict action will be taken." "It was a private party, organised at a private hotel and distributed invitations privately. No permission was sought from the government, no money was taken from the government, no government infrastructure was used and no government official was present in the event," the chief minister said.

People's Democratic Party chief Mehbooba Mufti said the event "descended into an indecent spectacle" and that too during Ramzan.

"Deeply troubling to witness vulgar images from the recent fashion show in Gulmarg... It is deplorable that private hoteliers are allowed to promote such vulgarity through these events, which blatantly contradict our cultural values," she said in a post on X.

The issue had its inevitable political fallout. Hitting out at the government, the former chief minister said it cannot simply absolve itself of responsibility by labelling the show a private affair.

"Shrugging off accountability could pave the way for more such events, ultimately inflicting severe damage on our culture and society," she said.

PDP leader and Mehbooba's daughter Ilitija Mufti echoed her and said the chief minister himself holds the portfolio of the tourism department and obviously, without his knowledge such events cannot happen.

"If he is saying he has no knowledge it is also wrong why he had not been informed. But if he had knowledge and allowed it during this sacred fasting month of Ramzan, he and his government had to take the responsibility because it had happened under their nose. He (CM) knows how our sensibilities are," she said at a press conference.

Farooq Ahmed Shah, the ruling National Conference MLA from Gulmarg, was scathing in his criticism of the fashion show and said the government had taken serious note of the matter and ordered an inquiry.

"We emphasize the importance of respecting the beliefs and sentiments of all communities and religions. Such events are unacceptable and must not be repeated in the future, he said.

As pictures and videos from the event flooded social media platforms showcasing the designs, some featuring scantily clad men and women, many spoke out.

Abdullah said the circumstances surrounding these deaths are under investigation. "What happened, how it happened and why it happened is a matter of investigation which is going on. Discussing it in the House will not be appropriate."

He also urged appropriate action against those responsible for manhandling of Independent MLA Rameshwar Singh, who visited a hospital in Billawar tehsil to meet the families of the deceased.

"An MLA (Rameshwar Singh) wanted to go there and what happened to him is known to everyone. This also needs to be looked into and appropriate action should be taken, as he did not go there to do politics," the chief minister said.

Highlighting the "inconsistency" in police's approach to the case, Abdullah expressed surprise that the Leader of the Opposition Sunil Sharma of the BJP was allowed to visit the bereaved families while Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary was not.

"Attempts are being made to give a political colour (to the Kathua incidents). I am surprised that an LoP was allowed (to visit the bereaved families) but the deputy chief minister (Surinder Choudhary) was stopped. I spoke to the deputy chief minister on Sunday morning as he had made a plan to visit Kathua and informed the administration about his programme.

"But more police deployment was made outside his residence on Sunday, and he was told that his planned visit to the area was not appropriate at this juncture. He spoke to me over the phone and asked what he should do. I told him that we are not irresponsible people and if the administration has an apprehension that our visit might deteriorate the situation, it is better not to go there," Abdullah said.

The chief minister also said he told Choudhary to talk to the Jammu Zone inspector general of police, but the officer was busy with the visit of the Union home secretary.

He then spoke to the Kathua senior superintendent of police who told him that the situation was tense and that he should wait for a few days, Abdullah said.

"However, I fail to understand that if the situation was such that the deputy chief minister couldn't go there, how was the LoP allowed," the chief minister asked, even as Sharma tried to reason with him about his visit.

"You (LoP) cannot reply because I am not asking you. My question is for those who allowed you (to visit Kathua) but stopped the deputy chief minister," Abdullah said.

"It seems we are under a new adn

The high court on December 4, 2024, denied the relief to the union territory against the October 16, 2024 order of the single judge in a contempt plea filed by daily wagers in 2010 saying authorities hadn't complied with the 2007 order.

The counsel for the administration said the single judge ordered the arrest of the officials concerned.

"That's good. The single judge has rightly done so," Justice Surva Kant said.

The bench observed the case was "fit for imposing exemplary costs on the delinquent officers" aside from recommending strong disciplinary action against them.

"However, we presently refrain ourselves from doing so, keeping in view the fact that the contempt proceedings are still pending before the single judge. We, consequently, request the single judge to take up the contempt proceedings on a weekly basis and ensure that majesty and sanctity of law is well maintained," it added.

The high court found the 2007 order was never challenged -- neither a review was filed, nor was it ever objected to on the grounds of violating apex court's judgment -- before a division bench.

"The order passed by the single judge (2007 order) clearly required the appellants to deal with the case of the respondents (daily wagers) in parity with such others who had already got the benefit of SRO 64 and were similarly placed as the respondents herein," the high court said.

SRO 64 of 1994 issued by the Jammu and Kashmir government related to the regularisation criteria for daily-wagers working with the state government.

While imposing Rs 25,000 costs on the UT administration, the high court had given it the liberty to recover the cost from the salary of the officer upon whose advice the present plea (against contempt action) was filed.

A group of daily wagers working in rural development department in 2006 moved the high court seeking regularisation of their jobs on the ground that they have worked between 14 to 19 years and were aggrieved that their services were not regularised in terms of SRO 64 of 1994 despite repeated requests.

They sought their services to be regularised from the dates they were entitled for regularisation aside from payment of wages.

HC Rejects

The court stated that denying Scheduled Castes (SC) and other reserved category employees the benefit of reservation in promoions violates constitutional provis leads to unequal treatment of citizens in Jammu and Kashmir compared to other states. The court emphasized that the benefits of reservation in promotion are enshrined in Article 16(4A) of the Constitution of India. Denying these benefits to reserved category employees in Jammu and Kashmir would amount to depriving them of their constitutional rights and amount to class legislation, which contradicts the principles of equality laid out in the Constitution. The bench, led by Justice M.A. Chowdhary, also referenced a previous stand taken by the Jammu and Kashmir government in an affidavit filed before the Supreme Court, where the UT had expressed its intention to implement reservations in promotions. The court restrained the respondents from making any promotions unless reserved category candidates are considered for promotions in accordance with the law.

tion centres at the district level aims to offer counselling, seminars and skill upgradation sessions tailored to market demands," he said.

Furthermore, the department has initiated widespread skill development training across the UT, witnessing active participation across various sectors, the minister added.

Under the administrative council's approval, Mission Yuva aims to foster entrepreneurial spirit and self-reliance among youth by supporting and empowering potential entrepreneurs through a structured approach, he said.

"The key objectives include the creation of over 1,37,000 new enterprises and generating more than 4,25,000 employment opportunities within five years," Choudhary added.

He said the initiative employs a comprehensive four-pronged approach.

"It includes identification through a baseline survey, utilising tech-enabled tools and deploying investigators to identify potential entrepreneurs and assess existing challenges," he added.

Another key aspect is credit enablement and market support, Choudhary said, adding that this involves providing subsidies and interest subvention to nano entrepreneurs and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) alongside enhancing market linkages to improve business prospects.

"The initiative also focuses on building a technology-driven ecosystem. It leverages AI tools, sector-specific skill training and an online marketplace to enhance connectivity and efficiency for entrepreneurs," he added.

Additionally, the programme emphasises focused engagement and institutional support, the minister added.

"It aims for comprehensive coverage of potential entrepreneurs through various selfemployment schemes, ensuring better opportunities for skill development and financial assistance," Choudhary said.

Kathua Killings

Question Hour in the House.

"The killings of civilians in Billawar have raised concerns. It should not be politicised. Instead, measures should be taken to eliminate those involved in the act," Billawar MLA Satesh Sharma said

Bodies of three civilians, who had gone missing on March 5 while they were returning home after attending a wedding in Billawar, were recovered near a waterbody in the upper reaches of Billawar in Kathua on Saturday.

Congress MLA Irfan Hafiz said was a grave human rights violation to kill a child.

There were noisy scenes and verbal duels

Sharma said that it was impossible for the Chief Minister to be "unaware of the event," especially since the "hotel where it took place is reportedly owned by a close relative of the Chief Minister.

Sharma while speaking to reporters here claimed that the fashion show was a part of a pre-visit preparation for the Chief Minister, who was scheduled to attend the event in the coming days. "Now that the controversy has erupted, Omar Abdullah is trying to distance himself from it. The liquor served at the event was provided by the Excise Department under his control. Deception is in the DNA of the National Conference (NC)," Sharma claimed.

The BJP leader also accused the ruling NC of attempting to mislead the public and create unrest.

At the centre of the controversy over the show, which Kashmir's chief priest Mirwaiz Umar Farooq dubbed obscene, were designer duo Shivan & Narresh. As the issue over the March 7 fashion walk through the snow meadows in Gulmarg escalated, they expressed deep regret.

The Delhi-based designers, whose full names are Shivan Bhatiya and Narresh Kukreja, had showcased their skiwear collection to mark the 15th anniversary of their label.

"Our sole intention was to celebrate creativity and the ski & apres-ski lifestyle, without any desire to offend anyone or any religious sentiments.

"Respect for all cultures and traditions is at our heart, and we acknowledge the concerns raised. We sincerely apologise for any unintended discomfort and appreciate the feedback from our community. We remain committed to being more mindful and respectful," the designers said in a statement on Sunday night.

The apology did little to assuage the anger.

A day after Abdullah asked for a report on the matter, he said in the assembly that those who organised the fashion show had not applied their mind, shown disregard to public sentiment and paid no attention to where it was happening and its timing.

"Some people are saying that such a show should not have happened in the month of Ramzan. After what I have seen, I am of the opinion that it should not have taken place any time of the year," he said.

Making a statement in the House after the Question Hour which was disrupted for the

"Outrageous! That in the holy month of Ramzan an obscene fashion show is organised in #Gulmarg, pictures and videos from which have gone viral sparking shock and anger among people," the Mirwaiz said on X on Sunday.

"How could it be tolerated in the valley known for its Sufi, saint culture and the deeply religious outlook of its people?" he asked.

Abdullah took cognisance of the post and responded, "The images I have seen show a complete disregard for local sensitivities & that too during this holy month." He added that his office was in touch with the local authorities and he had asked for a report to be submitted within 24 hours.

Many others also articulated their objections. Social activist Raja Muzaffar Bhat described the event as an attempt to demolish the moral, religious and ethical values of Kashmir.

"Who allowed this nude fashion show at Gulmarg in Holy Ramzan? Semi nude men and women walking on snow. Will Tourism Deptt. CEO GDA throw some light? Why are you hell bound to demolish our moral, ethical, cultural and religious values (sic)?" he asked in a post on X.

In the chorus of condemnation, there were few voices who spoke up in defence of the designers.

"The objection to a fashion show held in Gulmarg demonstrates the prevalence of a medieval mindset in Kashmir," said one social media user on X.

"Government more offended by a fashion show in Gulmarg than targeted killings of innocent people in Billawar. Talk about misplaced priorities," added another.

Shivan & Narresh are known for their luxe resort and swimwear fashion. Their collection is available across stores in many metros.

Omar Ouestions

and Roshan (45) -- were found in Kohag village, with post-mortem reports indicating strangulation.

The assembly on Monday witnessed a heated debated on various issues, including these killings in the region.

CPI(M) MLA MY Tarigami called on the chief minister to convey the House's concerns over the incidents.

"Tarigami Saab has rightly raised the point. As the leader of the House, I want to record my concern and that of the House over the situation in Kathua. We condemn the killings of five innocent persons and express our condolences to the bereaved families," the chief minister said.

tion in which you (Sharma) have become the spokesperson of the police. I have placed the reality before the House and the police will have to give answers, not you," the chief minister added.

Later. Sharma said he was constantly in touch with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and had visited the area to assure the people on behalf of the home minister.

MeT Predicts

temperature at 16.1°C on the previous day. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, had a low of 8.4°C recorded during the intervening night of Sunday and Monday. This was 5.1°C above the average for the place during this period of the season.

Ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded a low of 0.5°C and this was 4.5°C above the average for the famous ski resort during this period of the season while tourist at the tourist resort of Pahalgam the night temperature significantly improved and recorded at 4.6°C against the -2.7°C the previous day and this was 6.2°C above normal for the valley of Shepherds in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, the MeT office said.

Grand Mufti

as orphans, the poor, and travelers in need. He added it should not be used for mosque expenses, religious organizations, or political purposes

Notably, the Grand Mufti urged people to fulfill this obligation promptly and ensure their contributions reach those in need. (KNO)

2 Protesting NC

brief question hour, chaos erupted when MLA Sheikh Khursheed, who sought condemnation of all killings, was also marshalled out of the House for creating a noisy scene.

SC Pulls Up J&K

and prima facie contemptuous".

The bench, therefore, refused to interfere with the Rs 25,000 cost imposed by a high court division bench and observed the officials ought to be "strictly" dealt with.

"However, what concerns us is not the delay of decades alone, but also the incontrovertible fact that the poor respondents, being daily wage workers, have been repeatedly harassed by the petitioners by passing cryptic orders, thereby overlooking the true import and spirit of the order dated May 3, 2007 passed by a single judge.

The top court felt the high court imposing a "symbolic cost" did not warrant any interference.

Custody Parole

of Parliament's Budget session would begin on March 10 and end on April 4.

The judge on September 10 granted interim bail to Rashid to enable him to campaign for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. Rashid surrendered himself before Tihar Jail on October 27.

Rashid has been lodged in Tihar jail since 2019 after he was arrested by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in a 2017 terror funding case.

Elections to the 90-member J-K assembly were held in three phases from September 18 to October 1. The results were declared on October 8 in which the National Conference-Congress alliance attained a clear majority with 48 seats.

The Delhi High Court on February 24 directed the sessions judge to expeditiously decide the bail plea of Rashid in the case.

The high court passed the directions in view of a December 24, 2024 order, by which the sessions court requested the district judge to transfer the case to a court designated to try lawmakers.

Rashid's name cropped up during the investigation of Kashmiri businessman Zahoor Watali, who was arrested by the NIA for allegedly funding terrorist groups and separatists in the Kashmir Valley.

The NIA filed a chargesheet against several persons, including Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, in the case. Malik was sentenced to life imprisonment by a trial court in 2022 after he pleaded guilty to the charges.

SPORTS

CHAMPIONS TROPHY

Kohli Among 6 Indians In ICC's 'Team Of The Tournament'

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The talismanic Virat Kohli was the biggest name among six Indian players picked in the 12-member 'Team of the

Tournament' for the Champions Trophy. India beat New Zealand by four wickets in the final here on Sunday to win the tournament for the third time after 2002 (joint winners) and 2013. India have been runners-up twice in 2000 and 2017.

Besides Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, wicket-keeper-batter KL Rahul, mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy and pacer Mohammed Shami featured in the playing XI, while all-rounder Axar Patel was named the 12th man.

The Black Caps have four members of their squad making the team, including Player of the Tournament Rachin Ravindra, with Mitchell Santner being named captain.

Two players from Afghanistan also made the cut after the Asian nation won their first-ever ICC Men's Champions Trophy match in their debut appearance.

At the top of the order, Ravindra was an expected selection after he scored



two centuries and topped the run-scoring charts with 263.

His knock of 112 against Bangladesh was instrumental in seeing New Zealand over the line and his 108 in the semi-final against South Africa showed he is dangerous wherever he bats.

Ravindra was joined by Ibrahim Zadran at the top of the order. The 23-year-old Afghan more than left his mark on the tournament, playing a brilliant knock of 177 -- the highest-ever Champions Trophy score -- against England in the group stage.

India's Kohli slots in at number three after he finished fifth in the run-scoring charts with 218 at an average of 54.50.

Kohli made a memorable unbeaten century in his side's group-stage win over Pakistan and a crucial 84 in the semi-final win over world champions Australia.

Teammates Shreyas and Rahul join him in the middle-order after impressive tournaments.

Iyer was India's top run-scorer in the tournament, with two half-centuries helping him to 243 runs in total, while Rahul finished with an average of 140 thanks to unbeaten knocks of 42 and 34 in the semi-final and final respectively.

New Zealand's Glenn Phillips is selected at number six after a brilliant performance with the bat and in the field.

Azmatullah Omarzai is the second Afghan named in the team. The fastbowling all-rounder finished with seven wickets at 20 and 126 runs at 42.00.

Santner is named as team captain after finishing the tournament with nine wickets - the joint second - but more importantly picked them at crucial times.

Short TAKES

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SRINAGAR | TUESDAY | 11.03.2025

PCB To Protest With ICC For Ignoring Rep In CT Ceremony

The Pakistan Cricket Board is set to register its protest with the ICC for ignoring its CEO and Champions Trophy tournament director Sumair Ahmed Syed during the event's closing ceremony in Dubai. A source in the PCB said on Monday that chairman

Mohsin Naqvi was not satisfied with the explanation given by the ICC for not having Ahmed on stage at the presentation ceremony on Sunday.

The PCB has rejected this explanation and noted that the ICC had made a number of errors during the tournament regarding Pakistan's status as host nation. This included changing the CT2025 logo in the live

broadcasts feed of the India versus Bangladesh game and then playing the Indian national anthem in the Australia versus England match in Lahore.

BCCI president Roger Binny presented the white jackets to India players and the medals to match officials, while ICC chairman Jay Shah handed the trophy to skipper Rohit Sharma and gave the medals to the winners.

Government Asks IPL To Ban

Tobacco, Alcohol Advertising The Union Health Ministry has urged the Indian Pre-mier League to ban all tobacco and alcohol advertis-ing, including surrogate promotions, within stadium premises during matches as well as telecast sessions on national television, saying it has a moral obligation to promote public health.

The government's request came ahead of the IPL season starting March 22.

In a letter to IPL chairman Arun Singh Dhumal, Director General of Health Services (DGHS) also urged him to prohibit the sale of tobacco/alcohol products in all affiliated events and sports facilities.

The letter also stressed discouraging promotion of sportspersons, including commentators, who directly or indirectly endorse products linked to alcohol or tobacco.

The letter, which was also marked to the Board of Control for Cricket in India, stated that India is experiencing a significant burden of non communicable diseases- cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic lung disease, diabetes, hypertension etc. which account for more than 70 per cent deaths annually.

Harry Brook Pulls Out Of IPL **Deal With DC, Faces Ban**

England batter Harry Brook faces a two-year ban from the IPL after pulling out of his deal with Delhi Capitals ahead of the tournament beginning March 22. Brook, who has made himself unavailable for the

second straight season, apologised "unreservedly" to the franchise and its supporters.

"I have made the very difficult decision to pull out of the upcoming IPL. I apologize unreservedly to the Delhi Capitals and their supporters," Brook wrote on social media. "It is a really important time for England cricket and I want to fully commit to preparing for the upcoming series.

England will play India in a home Test series in June, which will be followed by the much-anticipated Ashes

from November to January. The 26-year-old Brook had earlier withdrawn from the 2024 edition of IPL following the death of his grandmother.

GULMARG: The 2025 Khelo India Winter Games at Gulmarg witnessed a change in climate after a sunny inaugural day. Even after the destination witnessed snowfall from the wee hours on Monday, all the scheduled games were officiated according to the fixture

Observer News Service

Hundreds of players from across the country battled in different domains of snow sports, including Vertical Ski Mountaineering, Snowboard Gaint Slalom and Sprint.

Manoeuvring in the Winter Games at Kangdoori, Siddhartha Gadekar from Pune Maharashtra was crowned with Gold Medal in Vertical Ski Mountaineering event for men on Monday, adding to his medal kitty from Sunday.

cluding Manjeet, Shubam Parihar and Sunny Singh took Shardul Thapliyal and Himanshu Singh both from away Gold, Silver and Bronze Himachal Pradesh clinched medals, respectively. Silver and Bronze in the same

event respectively. Tenzin Dolma from Him-

Winter Games Day 2 In Gulmarg

Snow, Drizzle Mark 2025 Khelo India

achal Pradesh secured Gold

in Vertical Ski Mountaineer-

ing of women's category, the

first medal for her in KIWGs.

Natasha Mahar from Him-

achal Pradesh improved from

Sunday's performance to win

silver, while Manek Gunjiyal

of Uttarakhand, who had won

Gold in Women's Snowboard-

ing Slalom on Sunday, had to

In the Nordic Ski Sprint,

ITBP sent all other partici-

pants to cleaners while wrest-

ing all three medals in the event. The ITBP players Kul-

sum Rana, Selma Soreng and

Anjana Devi obtained Gold,

Silver & Bronze respectively. The Nordic Ski Sprint for

men saw medals raining for

the Army as the athletes in-

Competing against thirty

settle for bronze.

other participants in Snowboard gaint Slalom event, Zubair Ahmad Lone from J&K, glided the slopes fiercely to clinch Gold Medal, while Kulvinder Sharma and Karan Sing of Army settled with Silver and Bronze.

Similarly, in Alpine Gaint Slalom Category Women, Himachal Pradesh had triple whammy to celebrate all three medals with Anchal Thakur, Tanuja Thakur and Suhani Thakur taking home Gold, Silver and Bronze.

In the Men's Category of Alpine Giant Slalom, Sunil Kumar from Army, Atul Bhat from ITBP and Yogesh Kumar from Himachal Pradesh achieved Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Similarly, in Alpine Gaint Slalom Category Women, Himachal Pradesh won all three medals with Anchal Thakur, Tanuja Thakur and Suhani Thakur taking home Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Real Kashmir Secures Hard-Fought Win Over Aizawl FC



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC secured a crucial 2-1 victory over Aizawl FC in a thrilling I-League encounter at the TRC Turf Ground on Sunday.

The win, witnessed by over 5,000 spectators propelled the Snow Leop-ards to third place in the standings with 32 points from 18 matches.

J&K Sports Minister Satish Sharma attended the matchup and interacted with the home team, reiterating the government's commitment

the error, charged into the box, and calmly slotted the ball past goalkeeper Md Rafique Ali Sardar, scoring his fifth goal of the season.

Aizawl responded strongly in the second half and found an equalizer in the 58th minute. Laltlanzova's shot from the left flank was mishandled by Real Kashmir's goalkeeper Mohd Arbaz, allowing Lalrinzuala to tap in from close range. The goal was Lalrinzuala's ninth of the season, making him the top-scoring Indian in the I-League.

Both sides had chances to t



sports development in J&K.

This was Real Kashmir's fifth consecutive home win and their fourth victory in the last five games. They now trail league leaders Churchill Brothers and Inter Kashi by just two points, with four matches remaining in the season.

Meanwhile, Aizawl FC missed a golden opportunity to climb out of the relegation zone and remain in 11th place with 16 points, one behind SC Bengaluru.

The match began at a frantic pace, with both goalkeepers tested early on. The breakthrough for the home team came in the 31st minute due to a defensive lapse by Aizawl. Senegalese striker Karim Samb pounced on

the lead but failed to capitalize. Real Kashmir eventually grabbed the winner in the 77th minute. Basit delivered a low cross into the six-yard box, and Brazilian substitute Paulo Cézar evaded his marker to score from close range, making it 2-1.

Aizawl nearly salvaged a point in the 82nd minute when they were awarded a penalty after Mohd Agib handled the ball inside the box. Lalrinzuala stepped up but was denied by Arbaz, who saved the spot-kick with his trailing foot, ensuring all three points for the hosts.

With just four matches left, Real Kashmir remains firmly in the title race, while Aizawl faces an uphill battle to avoid relegation.

Leverkusen's Florian Wirtz To **Miss Several Weeks With Injury**

Dayer Leverkusen's star attacking midfielder Florian DWirtz is set to be out for several weeks with an ankle ligament injury in a further blow to the team's already-difficult German title defense.

The 21-year-old Wirtz limped off injured Saturday in a 2-0 loss to Werder Bremen and will now miss Leverkusen's second-leg game against Bayern Munich in the Champions League round of 16 on Tuesday. Bavern leads 3-0 from the first leg.

Sporting director Simon Rolfes said the injury to Wirtz's right ankle "obviously affects us" but added he expects Wirtz to return before the end of the season.

The injury comes amid uncertainty over Wirtz's long-term future at the club. Long-running talks over an extension to Wirtz's current contract, which runs through 2027, have yet to produce an agreement.

Liverpool, Madrid & Barcelona Look To Complete CL Job With Slim Leads

Agencies

MILAN: Defending champion Real Madrid, Liverpool and Barcelona all have one-goal leads to protect going into the second leg of the Champions League round of 16 this week.

For Madrid there is also city bragging rights at stake as it visits Atletico Madrid on Wednesday with a 2-1 advantage from the first leg, while Liverpool hosts Paris Saint-Germain on Tuesday knowing it was fortunate to snatch a 1-0 win in France.

Barcelona also only has a 1-0 advantage over Benfica, while some other teams are feeling a lot more comfortable – with Bayern Munich having beaten Bayer Leverkusen 3-0 and Arsenal crushing PSV Eindhoven 7-1.

SMASH AND GRAB

Liverpool's players don't really care how they're winning – as long as they continue to do so. Arne Slot's team had to withstand a barrage of attacks at Parc des Princes before a late goal from Harvey Elliott, who had only just come off the bench, saw it stun PSG.

That was only Liverpool's second attempt on target compared to a whopping 28 for PSG. The runaway Premier League leader had another poor per-

formance on Saturday but still managed to come away with a victory over Southampton.

"It's just about winning, not how we win. Sometimes you have to wind irty and today was one of them days," Elliott said after that match. "I think we know that's what winners do really: when times are hard, what do you do? How can you come up with something to win the game? Luckily this squad is full of them players."

This week will be decisive for Liverpool's treble bid as it plays Newcastle in the English League Cup final on Sunday.

"I think the best possible way to describe it is four finals, really," Elliott said. "PSG away, really, really tough game, today was a really tough game, then again on Tuesday another tough game and then the final on the weekend.

still hungry to achieve things "So, we just need to make this season, although it's a very sure that energy-wise we're still tough period."

there. We're still fighting, we're



for the French team.

The loss to Liverpool was PSG's **MADRID DERBY**

first defeat since November and This was supposed to be the halted a run of 10 straight wins year Atletico finally got the best of Real Madrid in the Cham-

pions League after losing two finals to its city rival and being eliminated the other two times they faced off in the knockout rounds.

Going into the first leg, Atletico was ahead of Madrid in the Spanish league and was also undefeated in the past four Madrid derbies.

But it is now on the verge of going out yet again to its neighbor.

Atletico has also slipped behind in La Liga after two late goals saw it lose 2-1 at Getafe at the weekend, while Madrid managed to grind out a 2-1 victory over Rayo Vallecano.

Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti was also able to rotate his squad and was further boosted by the return of Jude Bellingham. The England midfielder had missed three of his team's last four games through suspension including the first leg against Atletico.

TREBLE CHANCES

It's not just Liverpool which has its eye on lifting a trio of trophies this season.

Atletico, Real and Barcelona

are also in the semifinals of the Spanish Cup and fighting it out at the top of the league table.

Leverkusen is also still involved in two trophies domestically. Although it would need something of a miracle to make up the eight-point deficit it has to Bayern in the Bundesliga as well as overturn a three-goal disadvantage in the Champions League on Tuesday.

Inter Milan, which won the treble in 2010 under Jose Mourinho, is in better shape. It leads Serie A, will face AC Milan in the Italian Cup semifinals and has a 2-0 advantage over Feyenoord going into Tuesday's second leg.

Barcelona's matchup against Benfica also takes place on Tuesday.

Arsenal is not the only English club that should feel confident going into Wednesday. Fellow Premier League side Aston Villa is also at home then and has a 3-1 advantage over Club Brugge.

The matchup between Lille and Borussia Dortmund in France is the only one that is level after they drew 1-1 in the first leg. (AP)

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Dignified Farewell

Transforming Kashmir's Final Rides

In Kashmir, it is a painful irony that the departed, who leave behind a lifetime of earnings, are often transported to their final resting place in load carriers — vehicles they would never have used for commuting while alive. This stark contrast raises a profound question: shouldn't every soul be granted a dignified farewell, just as they lived with dignity? It is time to ensure that the last journey of our loved ones reflects the respect and honor they deserve. Since launching a dedicated funeral service in Islamabad in 2014, Mother Helpage now invites you to donate generously to provide these services for Srinagar, Budgam, and Baramulla.

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