


Good Morning Kashmir

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



Heartiest congratulations to all the students, who have passed @jkbosofficial Class 10th Annual Regular examinations-2023. Girls have once again outshined boys, with a pass percentage of 81.68 compared to boys' 78.23%. My best wishes to students, their parents & teachers.

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IPS Officer Ravi Sinha Appointed RAW Chief

New Delhi: The Centre on Monday appointed Ravi Sinha, a 1988 Indian Police Service (IPS) officer as the new Secretary of the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW). The government in its order said, "The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Ravi Sinha, IPS (CG:88), PSO, Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat (SR) as Secretary, Research & Analysis Wing vice Shri Samant Kumar Goel, IPS •P-02

Five detained in murder case in Rajouri

Jammu: The police in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Monday detained five persons during an investigation into a murder case. Police sources said that the five persons were detained after the wife of the victim, Shafiq Ahmad of Sora Pul village in Thanamandi Rajouri, alleged that the five men were involved in the murder of her husband. "Questioning of •P-02

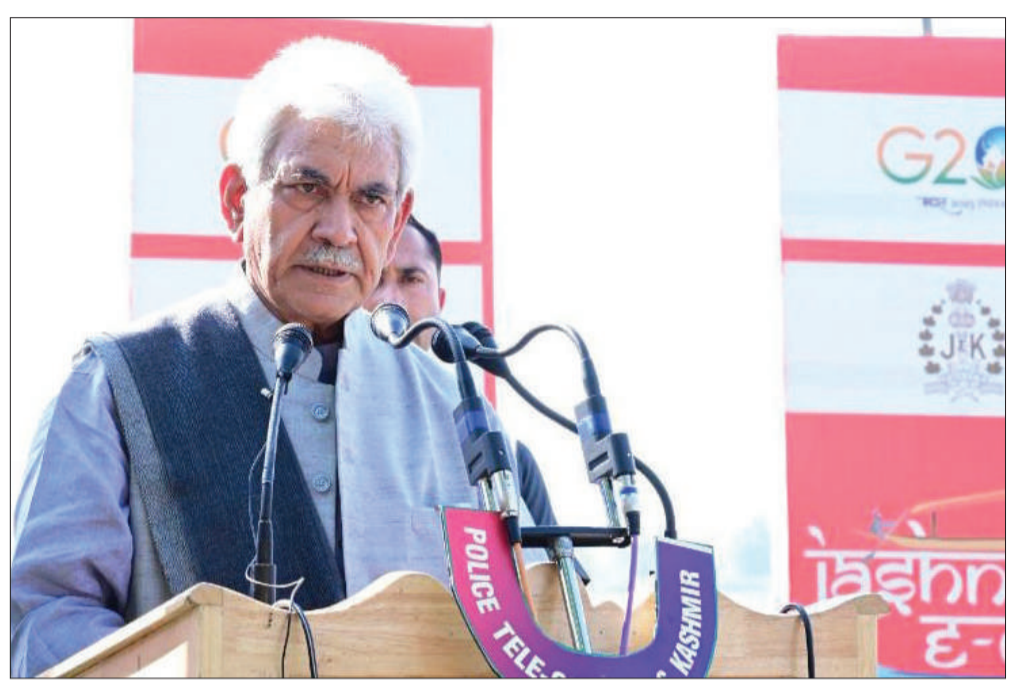
LG Manoj Sinha Reviews Preparedness For Amarnath Yatra

GMK News Network

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday directed for higher resource mobilisation and increasing manpower to ensure the completion of all the ongoing work in time for the commencement of the Amarnath Yatra next month.

The LG chaired a high-level meeting to review the preparedness for the annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas and took stock of the preparedness of the departments and agencies concerned.

The meeting was attended by Sh Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Lt General Rajiv Ghai, GOC 15 Corps; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, senior officials of SASB,



BRO and representatives of telecommunication service providers. The Lt Governor took appraisal of the upgradation work of Yatra tracks by BRO; installation of safety railings on all vulnerable stretches; snow clearance; installation

of Army Tents and strengthening of Telecommunication connectivity.

The Lt Governor directed the telecom service providers to enhance the network connectivity and increase the bandwidth along the yatra route.

The Lt Governor also took stock of the works taken up by the Irrigation and Flood Control department.

The Lt Governor directed for higher resource mobilization and increasing the manpower to ensure the completion of all related works well before the commencement of the yatra.

Dr Raghav Langer, Secretary Planning, Development and Monitoring Department; Sh Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid, Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag; Sh Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal and senior officials of other concerned departments also attended the meeting.

Div Com reviews arrangements for Eid ul Azha

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Monday chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the celebration of Eid ul Azha and observation of Muharram ul Haraam in the province.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners and officers of Sheep Husbandry, FCS&CA, SMC, Legal Metrology, HoDs •P-02

'Fine those who throw garbage': CS

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has started a special cleanliness campaign to keep cities and villages clean. Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta has issued clear instructions to the officers to sensitize people about the cleanliness of their surroundings and also fine those who throw garbage in their surroundings endangering the environment. Officials said that Chief Secretary •P-02

J&K police successfully dealt with challenges of terrorism: LG

It is a dream of every athlete to get an opportunity to participate in sporting event, excel in their respective area and become role model for the upcoming generation. The ongoing sports activities give us hope and confidence that our players can produce path-breaking achievements. Lt Governor.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday said that police have successfully dealt with the challenges of terrorism, law and order and modernisation and the force, through its internal security management, is ensuring that a common citizen lives in without fear. Addressing a gathering on the culmination of Jashn-e-Dal event at SKICC on the banks of Dal Lake here, Lt Governor commended the J&K Police for its valuable contribution in nurturing young sporting talents and providing them opportunity through Civic Action Programmes to realise their full creative potential. "It is a dream of every athlete to get an opportunity to participate in sporting event, excel in their respective area and become role model for the upcoming generation. The ongoing sports activities give us hope and confidence that our players can produce path-breaking achievements," said the Lt Governor. •P-02

Amarnath Yatra Northern Command chief reviews security for pilgrimage

GMK News Network

Srinagar: A multi-tiered security arrangement is being put in place to make the Amarnath Yatra that will commence on July 1, for a duration of two months- incident free.

This was disclosed during a briefing to Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, who reviewed the ongoing preparations for the Amarnath Yatra.

The Amarnath Yatra takes place annually via two routes i.e. Southern route through Baltal in Ganderbal and the Northern Route through Pehalgam in Anantnag district.

Defence spokesman Lt Colonel Devender Anand said the

Army Commander inspected the arrangements on both the routes where he was briefed on the multi-tiered security arrangements to include night domination through night vision devices, snipers, drone systems, bomb disposal squads, dog squads, counter IED equipment. •P-02



80 percent qualify class 10 board exams in J&K

GMK News Network

SRINAGAR: Ensuring complete adherence to set timelines of Uniform Academic Calendar 2022-23, J&K Board of School Education Monday declared the result of class 10th annual regular 2023 in which 80 per cent of the students of UTs of J&K and Ladakh have qualified the prestigious examination.

This was for the first time that the students of class X from both the UTs appeared together in one session under Uniform Academic Calendar 2023.

In total 1,48,701 students were enrolled for class 10th session annual regular 2023 in both the UTs, of which, 1,18,791 students passed the exam. The exam was conducted at 1615 centres established across the soft and hard zone areas in both the UTs.

Nearly, 13823 students qualified the exam with A1 grade, 18489 students got A2 grade, 24147 secured B1 grade, 28880 B2 grade, 26248 C1 grade, 7133 C2 grade whereas 78 students have been placed in D grade.

Expressing satisfaction over the entire examination process, Chairperson, JK-BOSE, Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas, expressed gratitude to Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Principal Secretary Education, Alok Kumar, for their guidance and support to actualize the vision of Uniform Academic Calendar. He congratulated all the stakeholders and expressed gratitude to the entire divisional and district level administrative machinery, India Posts, whole team of officers and officials of JKBOSE. He also complimented the teachers who have tirelessly contributed towards smooth conduct of examination followed by cooperation in evaluation besides all other people who have directly or indirectly contributed towards success of this vision of the Government wherein all the students of the two UTs were brought together in the same academic session and their result has been declared. •P-02

'Zil Haj moon sighted, Eid-ul-Adha on June 29'

GMK News Network

Srinagar: Grand Mufti Jammu and Kashmir Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam Monday announced that the Eid-ul-Adha will be celebrated on June 29 in J&K

will be celebrated on June 29. "Zil Hajj moon has been sighted today evening, so Eid-ul-Adha will be celebrated on June 29," he said, adding that enough evidence has been received about moon sighting. He said that it was the collective decision of Ulema to announce the decision about Eid-ul-Adha. He said there is a perception among some people that sacrificial animals are costly and they will offer 'Sadka' which in no way acceptable in Islam as the condition for the day is the sacrifice of animal only", the Grand Mufti said—(KNO)



Groundwork Being Laid To Make India Developed Nation By 2047: Rajnath Singh

Agencies

New Delhi: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said that India is witnessing economic, social, cultural and political empowerment under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, with ground-



Jinx broken after a long gap Foreign tourists revive their bond with Kashmir, over 15k visit region this year so far

Nasir Azam

Srinagar: Jinx has finally been broken after a long gap as foreign tourists have once again started to revive their age-old bond with their most favourite tourist destination—Kashmir. This year from January to June 19, over 15,000 foreign tourists have visited the Valley and the figure is expected to go up in a big way by the year end.

A top official in the Tourism department wishing not to be named, said "This year, from January to June 19, 15161 foreign tourists have visited the Valley and the figure is all set to go up by the year." Pertinently, as per official figures available, last year 4028 foreign tourists visited Kashmir from January to June.

The official said that the highly successful G-20 Tourism Working group meeting is likely to be a game changer in the tourism sector of J&K. "The beauty and magnificence coupled with the warmth and

hospitality of J&K were portrayed on a global level in the G20 event. This is bound to attract more and more foreign tourists to J&K," he said.

Officials in the Tourism department said that the G-20 working group meeting in Srinagar on May 22 to 25 is set to give positive results as more foreign tourists are expected to arrive in Kashmir in the months ahead i.e. July, August and September. "We are also looking forward to seeing a good number of foreign tourists in October, November and December months this year," said an official.

He said there is no denying the fact that many countries are set to lift the negative travel advisories that bar their citizens from travelling to Kashmir. "Since representatives of the countries •P-02








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 <p>SPIDER-MAN</p> <p>5:00PM English with English subtitle</p>	 <p>TRANSFORMERS</p> <p>4:00 pm (English)</p>	 <p>THE FLASH</p> <p>6:00 pm Eng with Eng Subtitle 2:45 pm (Hindi)</p>

.....from FRONT PAGE

IPS Officer Ravi

(PB:84) on completion of his tenure on 30.06.2023 for a tenure of 2 years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post, or until further orders, whichever is earlier."

Sinha, a 1988 batch officer, has been known for his operational and spy skills.

He is currently serving as the PSO (Personal Security Officer) and Special Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat (SR).

Samant Kumar Goel, a 1984 batch IPS officer from the Punjab cadre, had held the position of agency's secretary since 2019. In June 2019, Goel succeeded Anil Dhasmana as the Chief of RAW.

Goel had a successful tenure as the RAW Chief with multiple extensions.

Under Goel's tenure, the country saw Balakot Air-strike on Pakistan in 2019, peaceful Article 370 abrogation in Jammu & Kashmir and action against designated Pakistani and Khalistani terrorists.

RAW is India's premier foreign intelligence-gathering agency.(IANS)

Five detained

the detained persons is going on and it is being ascertained whether or not they had actually committed the heinous crime," sources.

The victim was reportedly murdered after a land dispute, the sources added.

J&K police

The vibrant sports culture reflects the image of aspirational J&K, which is determined to build a better future for the young generation. Our athletes will play a significant role in this task and contribute in building a strong and prosperous Jammu

nag, Ziyarat Sharief Makhama and Ziyarat Aham-Sharief, Bandipora.

The Div Com directed for capturing of stray dogs by SMC across all major Shrines/ Masjids so that no un-toward incident of dog bite takes place.

Besides, he instructed for making availability of an adequate number of buses during Eid-ul-Azha and identification of specified parking areas.

He impressed on placement of Sanitary Workers for cleanliness and sanitation in and around the periphery of Assar-i-Sharief, Hazratbal, Eid-Gah, Srinagar and other major locations in districts.

Regarding the observation of Muharram ul Haaram, Div Com directed for necessary repairs and development of routes through which muharram processions are taken by the mourners.

He instructed for deployment of teams of doctors and para-medics along with ambulances across all prominent locations.

Further, he instructed concerned for ensuring availability of firewood, and regular supply of electricity and water to Shia dominant areas during the month of Muharram.

Besides, he exhorted for proper traffic management and security for both the religious occasions.

'Fine those

has made it clear to the Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj authorities that the legacy waste should also be collected from the villages and the waste should be disposed of at designated places in each panchayat.

Efforts have been intensified to declare all residential areas of Jammu and Kashmir free from open defecation, the official said, adding that it has been emphasized that waste should be segregated in every Panchayat so that it can be disposed of easily.

result gazette, the JKBOSE has made adequate arrangements through various media. For the first time, their result will be available on Digilocker service. For this, the students will have to download Digilocker App and register them after filling the required details. The result is available online on the official website of JKBOSE www.jkbose.nic.in and Indiareresults.

The candidates can also avail SMS facility by sending the text message to 5676750 by typing jkbose10 followed by a space and Roll No. e.g., "jkbose10 Roll No.". Those who don't have access to Mobile Phones or internet can get their results from their nearest JKBOSE office where the soft copies of result gazettes have been provided.

In case of any query regarding this result, the students have been advised to avoid visiting the JKBOSE offices at Jammu/Srinagar physically. However, they can email their query at jssecrrecy_jd@jkbose.co.in (for Jammu Division) and jssecrrecy_kd@jkbose.co.in (for Kashmir Division) citing all the relevant details which shall be addressed after due processing at the earliest. The aggrieved students, if any, can contact their respective schools or the nearest JKBOSE Sub/Branch office. JKBOSE provides an opportunity to the students to get a photocopy and re-evaluation of their answer sheets for which they can apply online after the notification is issued in this regard.

Northern Command chief

vehicle repair and recovery teams to ensure smooth movement of convoys and synergy with the civil agencies being undertaken to make the Yatra incident free.

He was also shown the arrangements made by BRO, Indian Air Force and Teams from High Altitude Warfare School.

the Holy Yatra.

Based on the experiences of the cloud burst during the Amarnath Yatra 2022, civil rescue teams and avalanche rescue teams will also be deployed enroute systematically to mitigate any kind of disaster. Earth movers will also be placed at multiple locations enroute for emergencies.

Seamless communication network on both the routes has also been operationalised. SFF detachments will also be overlooking the security of the people.

An "All Inclusive Approach" have been followed to synergize the efforts with all civil agencies including joint training, joint operation, joint exercises and mock drills are being conducted to ensure seamless and successful conduct of the Yatra this year, the spokesman said.

The Northern Army commander appreciated the good work of all agencies and the synergy between them. He complimented them for their proactive action and exhorted them to meet the future challenges.(UNI Inputs)

Foreign tourists revive their bond with

who have imposed a ban on their citizens from travelling to Kashmir were present in the G-20 meetings in Srinagar, there is every hope that all negative advisories will be removed shortly," he said.

A houseboat owner in Dal Lake said that he has a group of foreign tourists in his house boat and two more groups are expected to arrive by June 25. "Majority of foreigners arriving in Kashmir are from South-East Asian countries. This is indeed a good sign," he said.

A group of foreign tourists from Singapore staying in a houseboat in Dal lake told KNO that Kashmir is indeed a beautiful place on the earth and they are feeling delighted to see the natural beauty of the place. "We have visited many unexplored destinations and were mesmerized by the natural beauty and gushing waterfalls. There is a solace, peace and a natural therapy to minds," the group members said wearing a gentle smile, adding that "more tourists from Singapore and Malaysia are expecting to visit Kashmir in the next few months."—(KNO)

Groundwork Being

cohesion and re-connected the people with the nation's rich cultural heritage.

Union Defence Minister touched upon some of the path-breaking decisions, including Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ayushman Bharat and abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, besides India's brave fight against COVID-19 pandemic and measures to get rid of the colonial mindset while instilling the feeling of pride in Indian heritage, traditions and values among the people.

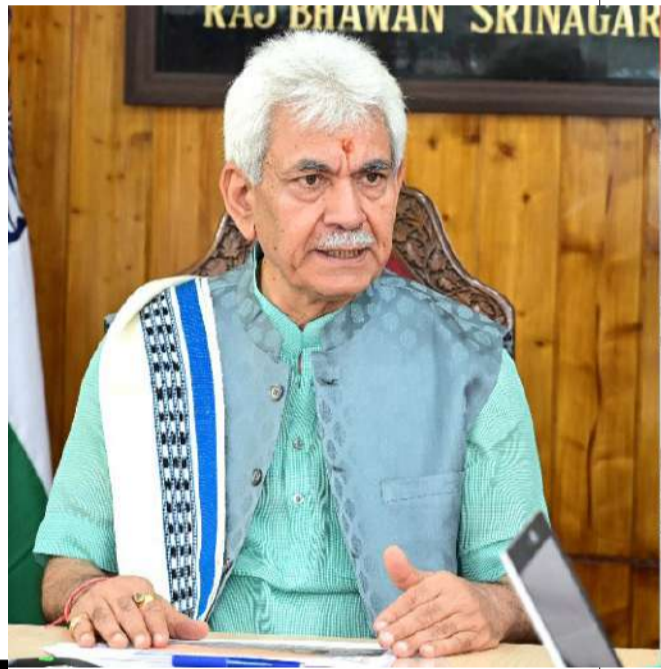
Rajnath Singh also shed light on the steps taken towards women's empowerment, including the construction of pucca houses with toilets in rural areas and ensuring that females get equal opportunities as their male counterparts in every field.

On the decisions taken to increase the role of women in the Armed Forces, he stated that doors have been opened for girls for admission in Sainik Schools and female officers are being posted at the world's highest battlefield in Siachen Glacier as well as on warships. He added that efforts are being made to make the country completely safe for women and provide them with abundant opportunities.

Laying out the roadmap of India's Swarnim Bhavishya from the military and security perspective, Rajnath Singh asserted that the Government is committed to building an India which is completely self-reliant in the defence sector and possesses state-of-the-art weapons and technologies.

He highlighted the efforts being made to ensure that the country's youth have ample opportunities if they wish to serve the motherland as defence scientists.

"We have established new IITs and NITs and the number of seats has also increased. In addition, we have invited ideas in the defence sector through the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative and Technology Development Fund (TDF) which aims to promote start-ups. Due to these steps and many other reforms, India is well on course to soon become one of the leading defence exporters from an importer. We are building a strong and self-reliant India which is the flag-bearer of regional and



Kashmir, he added. The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to provide world class facilities, coaching and mentoring to the young sporting talents of Jammu Kashmir.

"We are building new sporting future of J&K. It is our collective responsibility to empower our sportspersons, help the hidden talents in the villages so that they can script shining successes in international sporting events," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor made a special mention of sports personalities from J&K for bringing laurels to the nation at the world stage. He also appreciated the efforts of the sports associations and stakeholder departments for the promotion of sports in the UT.

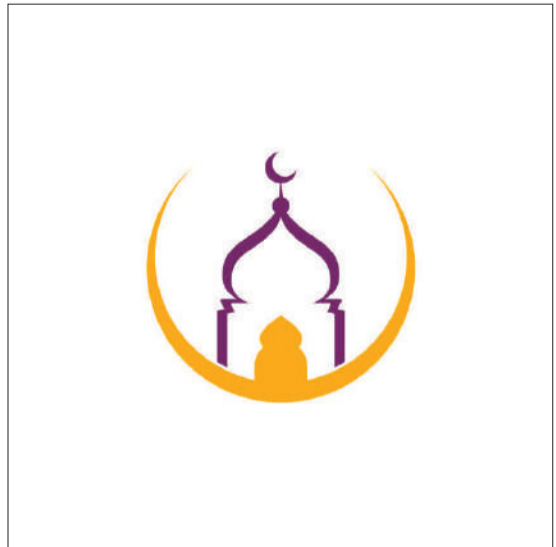
The Lt Governor also called upon the people, especially the youth to discharge their duties and to contribute in Swachhta Abhiyan.

At the closing ceremony, the Lt Governor took the ceremonial salute at an impressive pedal pass and interacted with the players.

Sh Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Sh Dilbag Singh, DGP; Sh R K Goyal, ACS, Home Department; Sh RR Swain, Special DG CID; Sh SJM Gillani, ADGP J&K Armed Police, senior officials of Police and Civil Administration, members of water sports association, prominent sports personalities, representatives of various sports clubs and associations and youth in large number attended the felicitation ceremony.

Div Com reviews

of line departments besides representatives of mutton dealers and various associations of Shia community.



While reviewing the arrangements for Eid ul Azha, Div Com passed a slew of directions to DCs and officers for ensuring all necessary facilities to the public including availability of sacrificial animals at designated locations and availability of essentials in the market.

He further directed DCs to constitute market checking teams to keep prices under control and prevent overcharging by traders.

Besides, he also directed for smooth supply of electricity on the eve of Eid-ul-Azha across Kashmir Division especially at Aasar-i-Sharief Hazratbal, Kalashpora, Jenab Sahab Soura, Ziyarat Sharief Kamarg, Anantnag, Ziyarat Sharief Khiram, Anant-

The common people welcomed it and said that there is no substitute for cleanliness and everyone has to be serious about it.

As per officials, Chief Secy assured that if we all work together, it is not a difficult task to complete the task of cleaning our villages. He admitted that there has been more progress than before in making our village clean.

At the same time, Kumar remarked that since the performance on the ground has been encouraging, the bar of expectations has also been raised.

He lauded the department for the achievements made in making villages clean and asked them not to relent in their efforts till the last of the villages are declared clean and sanitary in all respects, as per officials.

Construction of segregation sheds, provision of composite/soak pits, drainage facilities and waste disposal in the village are also being addressed, officials said.

It should be noted that out of 7163 villages of Jammu and Kashmir, 6384 villages have been given the status of ODF+ i.e. Open Defecation Free which is 87% coverage of villages.

In the coming month, he urged to make every village a model category village for which it is within the target after creating the given infrastructure in every panchayat, officials added.

A solid waste management (SWM) plan has been prepared for each panchayat. In addition, bye-laws have been made for the purpose of implementation and monitoring of advisory committees. A solid waste collection agency has been identified in all districts with a corresponding financial model for sustainability. District sanitation committees have also been formed. (ANI)

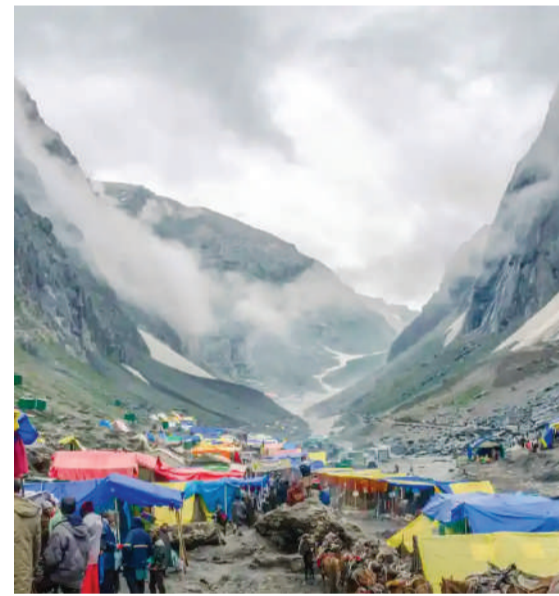
80 percent qualify

successfully. Chairman JKBOSE said, "It gives me pleasure to know that the result of Class 10th has remained very heartening. Students and their parents deserve



great appreciation for their whole-hearted acceptance and cooperation in realizing the visionary goal of unifying the scattered academic sessions in both the union territories of J&K and Ladakh. Those students who could not make it this time should not lose heart and try again with renewed zeal," he added In order to facilitate access of students to the

tude Warfare School. According to the Army officials, the road stretch



to Holy Cave Shrine is almost clear for the induction



of pilgrims. In coordination with the Civil Administration, NGOs and other agencies, the Army is establishing multiple medical detachments with special arrangements of Oxygen cylinders and control rooms at various places along both the routes for humanitarian aid that will be operational round the clock, the spokesman said.

Various civil aviation agencies have been incorporated for providing air travel facilities to the devotees. Army has established Helipads at multiple locations for medical emergencies and to cater for other air lift requirements. Army has also established a number of Yatri camps with adequate tentage facility along with special winter clothing arrangements to provide habitat and comfort during

global peace and, at the same time, has the wherewithal to give a befitting reply to those who try to cast an evil eye," said Shri Rajnath Singh.

The Union Defence Minister lauded PM Modi for transforming India's image on the global stage to an assertor from a mere observer.

While India is the world's third-largest economy in terms of Purchasing Power Parity, it will, by 2027, become the third-largest economy in terms of nominal GDP as well, he hoped.

He voiced the Government's vision to bring India to the forefront in terms of GDP while connecting the people with its country's traditions and culture. (ANI)

Ravindra Raina terms late Mufti Sayeed a tall leader

GMK NEWS NETWORK Mufti Sayeed a tall leader who always talked about peace. "In 2014 when we had the coalition government, he was the chief minister. I was also an MLA and I had the opportunity for a long time to work



Ravindra Raina said this after visiting Mufti Muhammad Sayeed's grave in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district. The gesture by Raina is seen by many as an effort by BJP to reach out to Kashmiris. Raina, accompanied by the party leaders, visited Mufti's grave at Bijbehara and offered prayers for the former chief minister. The BJP chief termed

Erratic weather conditions leave north Kashmir farmers worried

'Crops have suffered intense damage due to unexpected rains, hailstorms'

TASADUQ HUSSAIN Kupwara: The erratic weather conditions have left the farmers in north Kashmir's Kupwara district in a tizzy. The unseasonal inclement weather conditions and the regular downpour have left them in a state of worry fearing for the harvest. Those associated with agricultural activities are currently facing distress due to seasonal changes, particularly regarding their paddy saplings. They claim that the saplings have suffered significant damage as a result of continuous rains and hailstorms.

Farmers said that the crops have suffered significant damage due to the unseasonal changes in weather conditions. "Paddy, Vegetable crops, Bee Keeping, and others have suffered damage." A huge population of the border district of Kupwara relies on agricultural activities. People associated with agricultural activities remain intact with the work every year to prepare their fields and keep them safe from any external harm.

and extreme temperature fluctuations that would impact the annual production. The unseasonal rains and snowfall have triggered concerns among the farmers and orchardists in the district. "Farmers are facing immense challenges given the concerns about paddy saplings. The orchardists are concerned about damage to fruit crops and also fear that there would be premature fruit drop," they said. The unseasonal rains have forced farmers to

delay the paddy transplant. "By the last week of May the paddy samplings would be transplanted, but this year even in the third week they are not able to undertake it," farmers said while expressing their concerns. The unseasonal rains, hailstorms, and snowfall rains and erratic weather conditions have affected the agricultural sector in the district. "Paddy saplings have suffered. Vegetable crop due to cold conditions to a larger extent are affected. Also, the continuous rains have impacted the Bee Keeping," he said.



Apart from agriculture, they said orchards have also suffered immense damage due to continuous rainfall and gusty winds followed by intensive hailstorms. "Erratic weather conditions have caused a major dent in the annual agricultural activities. Given the conditions either

are believed to cause a huge impact on the annual production. "It will leave farmers and orchardists in deep worry, given that a lot of hard work and money is put into it to see a good harvest," they said.

He said that there will be an impact on the annual agricultural production for many reasons, courtesy weather conditions. "Temperature fluctuation is a concern for agricultural activities. But now the temperature has shown an improvement. It does affect the nurseries that cater to the agricultural sector," the CAO said. He also informed that 80 per cent of the population in Kupwara district is associated directly and indirectly with agricultural activities—(KNO)

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DDC member; delegations of INDEF, Water-sports athletes call on LG

GMK NEWS NETWORK SRINAGAR: Ms Choudhary Shaista, DDC Member from Faqir Gujri Srinagar called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, Monday. The DDC Member apprised the Lt Governor on various development issues and implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in her constituency. A delegation of Indian Engineers' Federation (INDEF) headed by its Chairman Sh S. Ananth, submitted a memorandum of demands to the Lt Governor pertaining to various welfare issues of the engineering community. Later, a delegation of Water-sports athletes from J&K also called on the Lt Governor.

KU innovators invent 'Temperature-controlled bottle with integrated hydration monitoring capability'

JAHANGEER GANAIE Srinagar: A group of innovators from Kashmir University have invented a temperature controlled bottle with integrated hydration monitoring capability. The innovators in this project are Umhara Rasool, Jehangir Hameed lone, Sajid Noor, Sadaf Bashir, Tabish Beigh, Mohammad zeeshan Dar, Shah Shahid showkat and Syed Kashif from University of Kashmir. The group of inventors said that drinking water is incredibly important for our health as it helps regulate our body temperature, keeps our skin hydrated, and supports various metabolic functions. "When we don't drink enough water, we can become dehydrated and experience fatigue, headaches, and even more serious health problems," they said. "It can be hard to remember to drink water regularly, especially with busy schedules and distractions. That's why it's helpful to track our daily water intake. This is particularly important for older individuals, as they may not be aware of the benefits and proper timing of water consumption. Traditional water bottles have some limitations, such as not being able to control the temperature of the water or provide a reliable way to track our intake. They also lack water purification systems and eco-friendly power sources," they added.

"Additionally, they don't have user-friendly interfaces or the ability to connect with smartphone apps for a better user experience," they added further. "The main goal of this invention is to provide a temperature-controlled bottle with integrated hydration monitoring capability that is capable of maintaining the temperature of the water to the user's preference," said Umhara Rasool, member of the group, who is currently Scholar at Department of Electronics and Instrumentation, University of Kashmir. "The device is capable of maintaining the temperature of the water, which is achieved by the integration of Peltier modules, which are controlled by a microcontroller to effectively heat or cool the water. The proposed innovation also tracks the user's water consumption throughout the day," she said. "This innovative system incorporates state-of-the-art sensors and a sophisticated algorithm to track our hydration patterns accurately. Through timely reminders, it effectively promotes and sustains optimal water consumption and leads to enhanced well-being," she added. "It also incorporates a solar fabric to harness solar energy, and a rechargeable battery to store this energy, providing a green power source for the bottle's operations," said Shah Shahid Showkat, member of the group who is pursuing M.tech. "An activated charcoal filter is integrated into the bottle to remove impurities from the water, providing the user with clean, safe drinking water wherever they refill the bottle," said Tabish Beigh, member of the group, who is from a Food science and technology background. "The patent authority of India has accepted and published the details of their patent on the invention. The patent application number '202311034675', they said. The innovators want support from the government in order to convert their prototype into a marketable product—(KNO)

Janta Dal United's J&K President calls on LG

GMK NEWS NETWORK SRINAGAR: GM Shaheen, President J&K Janta Dal United (JDU), called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, Monday. Sh Shaheen discussed with the Lt Governor various public important issues pertaining to fixation of rates of Houseboats and Hotels, completion of pending development works and avenues to boost the economy of Srinagar during Shri Amarnathji Yatra. He also extended support and cooperation of his party in the smooth conduct of Shri Amarnathji Yatra. The Lt Governor assured Sh Shaheen that the issues projected by him will be looked into earnestly for early redressal.

Advisor Bhatnagar chairs 42nd BoDs meet of JKSCSTBCDC

GMK NEWS NETWORK SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar Monday chaired the 42nd Board of Directors (BoDs) meeting of Jammu and Kashmir Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward Classes Development Corporation (JKSCSTBCDC) at Civil Secretariat here.

board, both in person and through video conferencing. During the meeting, several key agenda items were addressed including financial performance, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and identification of potential areas for further growth and development of the corporation. The Board also held in-depth deliberation on Action Taken

ing commitment towards welfare and development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. Advisor impressed upon the management of the corporation to identify more beneficiaries during this financial year so that maximum people can take benefit of schemes implemented by the Corporation. He also delved upon them to make

tion, from beneficiaries. The BoDs also asked corporation to establish a software in collaboration with J&K Bank for loan management of the beneficiaries. During the meeting, Financial Advisor, JKSCSTBCDC, gave a detailed presentation on achievements of the corporation. It was given out that under Bank tie-up scheme, 30333 beneficiaries from SC, ST



The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda; Managing Director, National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, Prabhakar Kumar; Managing Director, JKSCSTBCDC, Ulfat Jabeen, representatives of finance department, National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation and other members of the

Report of decisions taken in previous Board of Directors meeting. Addressing the officers during the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar remarked that JKSCSTBCDC has been established with a vision to uplift the marginalized communities and promote inclusive growth. It plays a crucial role in implementing government schemes and welfare programs for the betterment of these communities, he added. He emphasized the government's unwaver-

a concrete plan for making recoveries of loans from defaulters. During the meeting, the BoDs took some significant decisions for improving the overall functioning of the corporation. The Board approved the draft accounts for the Financial Years 2021 and 2022 and also authorised the Managing Director of JKSCSTBCDC to file e-forms with Registrar of Companies. The Board also decided to charge interest as per the apex corpora-

and BC communities were facilitated by the corporation upto March 2023. Similarly, it was informed that 41383 beneficiaries were facilitated under Direct Financing scheme. Financial Advisor also informed the meeting that subsidy amount of Rs. 17.41 crore and Bank loan amount of Rs. 75.47 crore was disbursed under Bank Tie up scheme while as loan amount of Rs. 320.52 crore was disbursed under Direct Financing scheme upto March 2023.

Notorious drug supplier held, huge consignment of narcotics seized: Police

WARIS FAYAZ Baramulla: Police on Monday said they arrested a notorious drug supplier of Srinagar and recovered a huge consignment of narcotics from him in the Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. To investigate it further, a case FIR No 26/2023 U/S 8/22 NDPS Act PS Bomai was registered, the officer said, adding, "During further interrogation, it came to fore that Parvaiz is the same supplier who transports banned substances from Delhi Punjab and other states to Kashmir valley mostly north Kashmir." Police managed to recover 350 bottles of banned substances from Parvaiz's possession, Nawab said, adding that this is a big consignment that Sopore Police has managed to recover in the year 2023 so far. He also disclosed the names of a few more suppliers from the valley as well as other states of India, saying police are on the hunt to bust a huge module of drugs in the coming days. The SSP also said that such actions would not have been taking place at such a pace had people not been reporting and cooperating with police. We are here to empower the citizens which would ultimately result in the discouragement of the miscreants, he said. The police officer, however, reiterated that parental care is necessary to stop crimes, especially social ones. He appealed to the parents to keep a strong vigil on the activities of their wards and asked them to report if any adverse findings were found—(KNO)

Vitasta Cultural Festival

Colourful pre-events bring thrills to venues in Srinagar, Badgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK SRINAGAR: As part of ongoing series of pre-events leading up to the grand "Vitasta Cultural Festival," scheduled to take place from June 23rd to 25th at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre here, a diverse range of cultural programmes unfolded on Monday in the districts of Srinagar and Budgam. These programmes are aimed at setting the stage and creating an atmosphere of anticipation for the upcoming festival by showcasing the rich cultural heritage and

artistic talents of Jammu and Kashmir. The grand festival, an initiative of the Union Ministry of Culture and organised through the North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, aims to bring to life Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' (One India, Great India) under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative. Also, the primary purpose of holding this prestigious festival in the Valley is to celebrate and showcase the rich cultural and traditional heritage forms, including music, singing, dances, hand-

icrafts, and cuisine, unique to the region of Jammu and Kashmir. On Monday, the colourful artistic events were organised at the venues in Srinagar's Sonwar, Amira Kadal and as well as at the Girls Higher Secondary School in Magam village of central Kashmir's Budgam. These venues became hubs of artistic expression, stirring up the spirit of cultural celebration and leaving a lasting impression on attendees. The performances by predominantly native artists left audiences mesmerised. These performances ranged

from traditions of folk songs and dances to folk forms of art such as Dhambali, Kud dance, Jagan, Bach Nagma, Rauf, Chakri, Geetru, Dogri, and so on. Meanwhile, the organisers said that a series of pre-event programmes would be organised at the venues of the Auditorium of Sher-e-Kashmir University, Kothi Bagh Girls School, Government College of Education and picturesque riverfront. In addition, a calligraphy camp will commence at Bemina Government College in Srinagar on June 21 with its culmination on June 25.

Bandipora School Faces Space Crunch

SAJID RAINA Bandipora: Government Middle School located in the Malangam Bala area of Bandipora district in north Kashmir is grappling with a severe lack of space to accommodate its 300 students. Students said that the existing infrastructure consists of only a few classrooms, which are insufficient to cater to the growing student population. The school also lacks a proper playground and other essential facilities, hindering the overall learning experience, they said. "We deserve a school that provides enough classrooms and facilities to help us bloom. A proper playground is more than just a place to play. It's where we learn teamwork, build friendships, and stay physically active. Having a dedicated play area will make our school experience so much better," Mehvish, one of the students said. "We eagerly look forward to a new school building with modern facilities that will make our educational journey exciting and fruitful," said Sadam Ahmad, another student. Meanwhile, locals said that the lack of space in the current school hampers the students' educational progress while the new building will create a positive learning environment and enable them to reach their full potential. Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad said that a plot of land has been identified for the construction of a new building that will alleviate the overcrowding issue—(KNO)

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN

Both males and females are equal and there is no inequality between the two. Our religion Islam has given them equal rights even if females do lack physically. Ironically, boys do enjoy the better treatment of girls in our society. While girl children feel neglected still in most of our families. The reality is men have more strength and are having the duty to feed the family. But women cannot be undermined and made for housekeeping only. The results are showing that girls are at par mentally with boys and many times fare better than their counterparts. It is the duty of parents first at home to make boys and girls understand there is no difference between the two. While society as a whole also should safeguard the rights of women particularly at the workplace, on roads, and in buses. In the older times, men used to be hunters who would search for livelihood in order to feed their families. While women would feel safe inside the four walls of their homes. As husbands are busy keeping up the pace of the busy work during the daytime. Women sometimes do not realize the challenges they have to face outside the home. Men seem to be stronger but they too have inner conflicts. We always talk and write about women's empowerment but when it comes to men. We never appreciate their efforts in our daily lives. Sometimes they even tolerate the insults just to have normal family time. It is unfortunate that when men return back home from work they wish for better treatment by everyone. Men crave validation from their wives and want someone who can listen to them. They are bad at expressing their sorrows in front of the family. Wives often nag when the husband comes home. Most of the married women don't offer water or ask about their day. They only complain to their husband instead of giving him peace. Nowadays men are being tortured by their wives. Modern women want things their way and try to dominate their husbands. They don't even respect their partner. Some women take pride in their earnings and make men feel inferior. It is not always good to play women card. Just because women are welcomed everywhere doesn't mean that they will take advantage of men. When a woman raises her voice, everybody stands for her. Men are harassed behind doors, they are told to be silent. They can't even share this torcher in fear that society will make fun of them. It is a shame that some women even hit their husbands and shout on them. That is why domestic violence cases of men are increasing. Men commit more suicides as compared to women. It is time to stand up for all those men who are a victim of harassment. Hence, women must make men feel special and create a happy environment at home. A man sacrifices his comforts for the sake of his family. He goes to every extent to make them live a comfortable and happy life. We must spread awareness about men's empowerment to maintain equality.

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Printer, Publisher, Owner, Editor in Chief:

Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editor:

Mir Suhail

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

Manager:

Kirmani Aafaq

R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998

Regd No: 109555

Office No: 0194-3593724

Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

Office Address:

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THE RAT RACE OF COMPETITIVE EXAMS

"You cannot build a reputation on what you intend to do." – Liz Smith

ER AAUSYF IBN FAROOQ AND MEER HARRIS TURABII

Every year, statistics have shown that thousands of aspirants embark on the challenging journey of preparing for competitive exams like UPSC, PSC, IES, IIT JEE, and NEET. These exams hold the promise of a bright future, but their uncertain and highly competitive nature means that only a small percentage of candidates find success. These exams are known for their uncertainty, immense challenges, and enormous obstacles. With typically relatively poor success rates, therefore, the possibility of achieving success seems elusive.

Yet, this pursuit has persisted for decades, with countless individuals enduring the immense hardships that come with the preparation period. However, a concerning aspect of this trend lies in the pressure placed on students to pursue certain fields of study based solely on their parents' desires. This narrow approach not only leads to potential mismatches but also perpetuates inequality and hampers individual growth.

The Pressure to Conform

One of the most disconcerting aspects of this trend is the societal pressure that compels students to pursue specific career paths dictated by their parents. The idea that individuals should pursue medicine or engineering simply because it aligns with their family's aspirations is flawed. Rather than considering the interests, potential, and changing demands of the world, parents often impose their preferences on their children. This approach fosters a culture of inequality and limits the importance given to other fields of study that may better align with a student's interests and talents.

Limiting Individual Potential

By pressuring students into careers that may not suit their aptitude or passion, parents and society inadvertently stifle their true potential. Not all students are destined for medicine or engineering. There exists a vast array of fields that offer fulfilling and successful career paths. By pressuring students to follow a predetermined trajectory, parents restrict their children's opportunities to explore alternative paths that may better align with their unique skills and talents. This limitation not only diminishes individual potential but also hampers societal progress by neglecting the diverse range of talents and interests present among the youth.

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The Toll on Mental Health

The goal of success in competitive exams comes at a great cost to students' mental and emotional well-being. The overwhelming pressure to excel, coupled with the grueling hours of study, takes a significant toll on their health. Students find themselves trapped in a cycle of anxiety, stress, and burnout as they strive to meet the expectations set by their parents and society. The relentless competition and fear of failure can lead to serious mental health issues, including depression and anxiety. It is essential to acknowledge the detrimental impact this pressure has on students and prioritize their well-being above societal expectations.

Embracing Individuality and Supporting Personal Growth

The trend of pushing students towards competitive exams and specific career paths based solely on parental desires is deeply concerning. It limits their potential, increases stress levels, and jeopardizes their mental health. To address this issue, parents and society must recognize the unique talents, interests, and aspirations of each individual. Rather than imposing their preferences, parents should encourage their children to explore their passions and support them in pursuing diverse career paths. Society, in turn, should celebrate the achievements of individuals in various fields, fostering an environment that values individuality and personal growth.

To wind it up that the race for success in competitive exams is fraught with challenges and uncertainty. However, it is imperative to question the societal norms that push students into specific career paths based solely on parental desires. Recognizing and celebrating individuality can create a more inclusive and supportive society where students are encouraged to pursue their passions and explore diverse career options. Only by embracing individual potential and prioritizing mental well-being can students truly thrive, reach their full potential, and lead fulfilling lives.



Er Aausyf Farooq can be mailed at aasifhussain14@gmail.com

Meer Harris Turabii can be mailed at haristurabi02@gmail.com

THE HEAD MUST FOLLOW WHAT THE HAND WRITES

SHOBHA SHUKLA



We are about to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the first-ever United Nations High-Level Meeting (UNHLM) on the fight against tuberculosis (TB) that was held on 26 September 2018 during the 73rd UN General Assembly. "The UN meeting resulted in an action-oriented political declaration, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 October 2018," said the UN health agency, the World Health Organization (WHO).

Is it time for accountability? The UN member states are now gearing to hold the 2nd UNHLM on TB on 22nd September 2023 with yet another political declaration in the offing. But whatever happened to the grandiose promises made in 2018? Are actions on the ground matching the required pace and urgency which is warranted if we are to end TB globally by 2030 (and by 2025 in India)? We have been crying hoarse that TB is curable and preventable. Yet, despite all well-meaning efforts, the number of people falling ill with TB rose from 10 million in 2019 to 10.6 million in 2021, and the number of deaths increased from 1.4 million in 2019 to 1.6 million in 2021.

It would be good to recall at least some of the targets included in that political declaration of 2018 that our world leaders had endorsed to fulfil during 2018-2022 (and achievements thereof): Target 1: Diagnose and treat 40 million people with TB, including 3.5 million children, and 1.5 million people with drug-resistant TB. Achievement: Till 2021, only 66% of this target was achieved - 26.3 million people including 1.9 million children (38% of the target), and 650,000 people with drug-resistant TB (43% of the target) - were provided with TB treatment. Also, only 38% of the people with TB were diagnosed with WHO-recommended rapid molecular diagnostics during 2018-2022.

Target 2: Provide TB preventive treatment to at least 30 million people, including 4 million children (under 5 years of age), 20 million other household contacts of people affected by TB, and 6 million people living with HIV. Achievement: Till 2021 only 42% of this target was achieved - 12.5 million people were provided with TB preventive treatment - including 1.6 million children (40% of the target), 0.6 million other household contacts (3% of the target) and 10.3 million people living with HIV (which is commendable as this is above the target).

Target 3: Fully finance the global TB response with annual funding reaching at least USD 13 billion by 2022. Achievement: Only 42% of this global target had been met by 2021 - estimated spending on TB diagnostic, treatment and prevention services in low and middle-income countries was USD 5.4 billion in 2021.

Target 4: Annual investments for TB research and development must reach USD 2 billion by 2022. Achievement: Less than USD 1 billion was made available in 2021 for TB research and development, meeting 50% of the targeted amount. No excuse for inaction: Ending TB is a human rights imperative. The political declaration of the forthcoming UNHLM on TB must include not only ambitious targets and increased funding, but also robust accountability mechanisms, and a human rights-based approach that leaves no one behind in the fight against TB.

"We firmly believe that it is vital to strengthen the political declaration to ensure it adequately addresses the persistent challenges faced by those affected by TB and builds on, rather than regresses from, the commitments outlined in the 2018 declaration," says Subrat Mohanty, Board Member of the global Stop TB Partnership (he represents the Developing Country NGO Delegation on the board). The minimum asks/expectations. The Stop TB Partnership and other TB advocates demand that the Political Declaration of UNHLM on TB must at least include the following commitments to be met by all the countries during the period 2023-2027:

Clear measurable targets to diagnose and treat 40 million people with TB (including 3.5 million children with TB and 1.7 million people with DR-TB), by December 2027, using modern diagnostics and short treatment regimens. Provide TB preventive therapy to 35 million people (including 8 million children, 21 million other household contacts and 6 million people living with HIV), by December 2027, with new, effective short-course drugs and regimens. Improve real-time data collection, analysis, reporting and automation, to support evidence-based decision-making, effective programme implementation and improved health outcomes for people affected by TB. Recognize the critical place of gender, gender-responsive programming and the empowerment of women and girls and other gender diverse people in an effective TB response. Implement and monitor policies that recognize the rights of people, including key and vulnerable populations, to have accessible, affordable and quality services and care, promote rights-based laws and practices and community-led monitoring that enable access to quality services and care, and to end TB-related stigma and discrimination. Accelerate research, development, roll-out and access to new TB vaccines, diagnostics, drugs and other new tools, including digital health technologies. This includes affordable non-sputum-based point-of-care TB diagnostics to identify early TB disease, new rapid molecular tests, and shorter and more patient friendly treatment regimens with less side effects for TB, drug-resistant TB and latent TB. Mobilize sufficient and sustainable financing from domestic and external sources for scaling up quality prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of TB, with the aim of reaching USD 22 billion a year by 2026 and USD 35 billion annually by 2030 at the global level. Commit to secure funding for low- and middle-income countries from domestic and external sources to reach USD 15 billion a year by 2026 and USD 21 billion annually by 2030. Provide for an accountability framework that includes: Publicly-available annual report,

including on TB-related funding, from the UN Secretary-General to monitor and evaluate progress towards ending TB, and of investments in TB R&D. Annual reports by Heads of countries, of high-level country reviews on progress to end TB. Developing and implementing National Strategic Plans with bold actions and targets, as well as financing plans, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target of ending TB by 2030. Ensure that TB-affected communities and civil society, supported by national networks, are included in national governance mechanisms for TB and TB/HIV, and support development of community- and TB survivor led reports in 2025 and 2027 to form part of the basis to measure achievements against commitments made in the Political Declaration. TB affected communities and civil society organizations expect that the forthcoming UNHLM on TB will adequately address key issues critical to ending TB and will formulate a time bound roadmap for accelerating progress towards achieving the global TB targets and the commitments outlined in the SDGs.

They demand a comprehensive declaration that prioritises timely access to affordable diagnostics, medicines, and treatment, and recognizes the needs, rights and voices of vulnerable populations, including adolescents, migrants, refugees, people who use drugs, prisoners, and other marginalized communities. However, past experience shows that our political heads are indeed extraordinarily smart in issuing and signing grandiose declarations, but lack the morality to uphold them, more so in the absence of any legally binding accountability framework. Merely issuing political declarations is not enough. Accountability and political will is the crux of the solution. Unless the head follows what the hand signs or writes, we will fail in our efforts for a TB-free world.

Shobha Shukla attended the 2018 United Nations High-Level Meeting in New York where the above-mentioned commitments to end TB were made by heads of our governments.



FATHER

A Role Model for the Family

“A father’s tears and fears are unseen, his love is unexpressed, but his care and protection remains as a pillar of strength throughout our lives.”



MAHMAD

Anyone can father a child, but being a dad takes a lifetime. A father is the single most important model for how a child will father in the future. Fathers often consider part of their role to be “family protector”. When a father solves a problem while holding it together both emotionally and physically, he teaches his children such values as civility, compromise, and ingenuity. Fathers play a role in every child’s life that cannot be filled by others. This role can have a large impact on a child and help shape him or her into the person they become.

Father is that person who keeps the family together by showing affection and love to his children. He is the one who guide us, protect us, and teach us how to

A father knows his responsibilities extremely well and never tries to escape from them. He is constantly there for fulfilling each and every responsibility of the family. He is like the backbone of the family. From fulfilling financial needs to taking care of the emotional upheavals – he is always there standing strong besides the family. Children need fathers – just as they need mothers – to love them, to be interested in them and to respond to their needs, making them feel valued and understood. The emotional support provided by a father to his child is a priceless gift. By helping kids to understand how much they are valued and loved, children with supportive fathers are more likely to have high self-esteem and are generally happier and more confident. They also demonstrate a greater tolerance for stress/frustration, less hesitation/fear in new situations and an increased ability to resist peer pressure and stand up for themselves. Fathers provide a positive male role model for their children and help to promote/reinforce good behaviours. As a result, children with more involved fathers tend to have fewer behavioural and impulse control problems, longer attention spans and a higher level of sociability. These children also tend to be more compassionate and generous, with an

relationships throughout their life. We break down the father role and how it has changed in very recent years. A father figure can significantly influence the life and wellbeing of a child. In families where the father figure is present, the father serves as one of the first role models and relationships the child will encounter. Children are extremely sensitive and observant beings and internalize relational experiences.

In terms of healthy parenting, the duties of a father may include: Modelling healthy relational behaviour, being kind, nurturing, and spending time to bond with the child without distractions, expressing love in healthy ways, taking good care of family both physically and mentally,

lective communication between the whole family. An encouraging father will also help the child discover themselves better and take a stronger stand against life and the future path.

A supportive, reassuring father is vital for the child’s healthy development as well as in building a sense of trust. Girls with distant fathers, in particular, can suffer from low self-esteem and have problems in their relationships with the opposite sex. The lack of a father figure will also push all children to seek this affection and affinity elsewhere, via other things. Being a father is more than just a biological bond and requires an active effort to establish a relationship. Children want to make their fathers proud,

she will relate closely to men of the same character. Unlike girls, who model their relationships with others based on their father’s character, boys model themselves after their father’s character. Boys will seek approval from their fathers from a very young age. As human beings, we grow up by imitating the behaviour of those around us; that’s how we learn to function in the world. If a father is caring and treats people with respect, the young boy will grow up much the same. When a father is absent, young boys look to other male figures to set the “rules” for how to behave and survive in the world.

Today’s fathers are good friends to their children. They are a spouse that makes the mother’s



being understanding and forgiving, not imposing or projecting notions onto the child and setting appropriate boundaries and disciplining appropriately. Children who grow up with involved, responsible and doting fathers are more successful in the academic sense and can express themselves better in social environments. They are collaborators and can stand behind their own decisions. A supportive father also alleviates the burden on the mother, thus also increasing the quality of the mother-child relationship, as well as strengthening the col-

and an involved father promotes inner growth and strength. Studies have shown that when fathers are affectionate and supportive, it greatly affects a child’s cognitive and social development. It also instills an overall sense of well-being and self-confidence.

Young girls depend on their fathers for security and emotional support. A father shows his daughter what a good relationship with a man is like. If a father is loving and gentle, his daughter will look for those qualities in men when she’s old enough to begin dating. If a father is strong and valiant,

life easier; they are harmonious figure that brings discipline and balance. It is important for the father to be open to communication, be involved in doing chores around the house and in taking care of the children to help facilitate better family dynamics and support the child’s emotional health.

“No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child.”
- Abraham Lincoln

The author can be mailed at specialchivers78@gmail.com



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be successful in life. Fathers are always special for their children but for some they are a constant source of inspiration. They go on to become heroes for their children by the way they lead their lives. Lucky are those whose father inspire and motivate them and they look up to them as their hero.

increased awareness of the needs and rights of others.

The role of a father in the family has an incredibly important impact on a child’s psychological and physical wellbeing. When a child has a healthy relationship with a father figure, they tend to have improved psychological health, as well as better quality

VITASTA CULTURAL FESTIVAL

NZCC, JKAACL collaborate to host week long painting camp in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A prestigious painting camp themed "The Beauty of Kashmir" commenced here on Monday at Shri Pratap Singh (SPS) Museum at Lal Mandi here.

This remarkable event is part of a series of programmes being organised to commemorate the "Vitasta Cultural Festival," set to take place from June 23 at SKICC Srinagar.

A total of 16 artists consisting of celebrated veterans and emerging talents hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, as well as Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan excitedly joined this artistic endeavour. The painting camp, a collaborative effort of North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala and the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL), is scheduled to span until June 25, allowing ample time for creativity to flourish.

The artistic creations produced during this camp will be showcased at the prestigious "Vitasta Cultural Festival," at SKICC on June 23.

Secretary JKAACL, Bharat Singh, inaugurated the camp. Extending warm greetings to the participants, he said, "Organising such a unique painting camp serves as a medium to inspire artists, particularly budding talents by providing them with a platform to showcase their skills. Artists possess the inherent ability to transform any object or natural scenery into a more captivating form through their boundless imagination, he opined"



NZCC Programme Officer, Ravindra Sharma, also extended a heartfelt welcome to all the participants attending the camp.

During the event, renowned Kashmiri artist, Masood Hussain, appreciated the organisers for hosting the painting camp in Srinagar. He emphasised that such initiatives play a crucial role in promoting and nurturing the world of art.

He said, "When an artist receives encouragement, the impact of their art extends beyond their own selves." It benefits not only the artist but also the country and the world at large. When an artist takes up a brush and begins shaping

the realms of their imagination onto the canvas, they transcend worldly concerns and immerse themselves in the realm of their art. In such moments, it becomes crucial to support and uplift the artist."

He further said, "In these camps, when local artists have the opportunity to interact with artists from different states, both parties reap the benefits in their respective artistic domains. Moreover, these encounters offer a unique chance for cultural exchange and understanding."

Among the participants, junior artists such as Snobar Jeevani Shah and Ifra Jan expressed their delight at getting the

opportunity to join this prestigious painting camp. They conveyed their excitement about the invaluable experience and knowledge they hoped to gain from this prestigious event.

Snobar, a student of the faculty of fine art at the University of Kashmir, said that she has attended two camps earlier and that they have helped her refine her craft.

Snobar, a student of the Faculty of Fine Art at the University of Kashmir, shared her positive experience, mentioning that she has previously attended two camps, which have greatly contributed to honing her artistic skills. She expressed how these camps have played a significant role in refining her craft.

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EMPOWERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

JKEDI and Startup India Collaborate for an Innovative Workshop

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) and Startup India (DPIIT), Government of India, jointly organized a workshop aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs of the UT of J&K.

The workshop was organized under the overall guidance of Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce.

Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson of KVIB graced the event as the chief guest.

"Empowering women entrepreneurs is not just about driving economic growth; it is about creating a more inclusive and equitable society. I am honored to be part of this collaborative effort by JKEDI and Startup India to provide women with the necessary tools and opportunities to thrive in the startup ecosystem. Together, we can pave the way for a brighter future, where women's entrepreneurial potential knows no bounds," said Dr. Hina.

She also assured the Director JKEDI that all efforts would be made to financially link these aspiring entrepreneurs under various schemes of KVIB. The workshop featured insightful sessions, including "Journey of the Startup Ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir and Support by Startup JK," led by Kritika Narula and Neha Nagpal, experts from Startup India, which also highlighted the Startup India Initiative, its schemes, and the benefits it offers.

Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director JKEDI, felicitated the guests and delivered an impactful inaugural address, setting the tone for an engaging and productive workshop.



The event was successfully kicked off with an enthusiastic audience eager to enhance their entrepreneurial journeys.

"This workshop signifies the Government's commitment to empower women entrepreneurs. By fostering an environment of innovation and providing them with the necessary support and resources, we are creating a platform for their dreams to flourish. I believe this workshop will ignite a new wave of entrepreneurial success in our region," said Ajaz Ahmad Bhat.

The workshop serves as a significant platform for women entrepreneurs in J&K, empowering them with the necessary knowledge, resources, and networking opportunities. Under the leadership of Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha and the guidance of Chief Secretary, J&K, the Government has introduced several initiatives to promote entrepreneurship and self-employment. The "My Town, My Pride" and "Back to Village" programs

have emerged as highly effective platforms in this regard.

By facilitating their integration into the dynamic startup ecosystem of the country, JKEDI and Startup India aim to foster a thriving culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and gender equality. The aim is to bridge the gap between aspiring entrepreneurs and established industry experts.

Building on the momentum of day one, the workshop's second day will focus on an essential aspect of entrepreneurial success: "Pitching to Investors and Incubators." This highly anticipated session will be facilitated by Rahul Narvekar, CEO, and Founder of the India Network.

Narvekar, a seasoned entrepreneur and investor, will share his expertise and insights, guiding attendees through the intricacies of crafting compelling pitches, securing crucial investments, and effectively leveraging the support of incubators to fuel business growth.

The first day of the

workshop garnered widespread recognition for its comprehensive approach, addressing the diverse needs of women entrepreneurs. Around 150 aspiring entrepreneurs and startups participated and expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the collaborative efforts of JKEDI and Startup India in organizing such an empowering event.

Many local entrepreneurs like Nadish Rafiq (Kashmir Craft), Mehr Shaw (Maiden Kashmir), Mahoor Miftah (Imroz), Insha Mir (Eco Kash), Ruhab Lateef, Shaheena Akhter (Wearin Boutique), Nuzhat Akhter, Danish Rafiq, Gousia Nisar, Sheeba Shah among others participated. Mrunmayee Paralikar from Pune and Sneha Kumari from Skill Development India were also present.

The participants were confident that the workshop will equip them with the necessary tools and insights to overcome challenges, seize opportunities, and build successful and sustainable businesses.

ADDC Budgam reviews ongoing Kisan Sampark Abhiyan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: To review ongoing farmer's orientation programme (Kisan Sampark Abhiyan) under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), a meeting of officers was Monday convened under the chairmanship of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADDC) Budgam, Dr. Akramullah Tak.

During the meeting, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Budgam (District Nodal Officer HADP) apprised the chair regarding the different activities going on under HADP, which was held from 24th April and will culminate on 31st of August 2023.

The chair was apprised that there are a total number of 268 venues that have been targeted to cover under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan, out of which 116 stand covered under HADP.

He said, so far 145 panchayats have been covered under HADP, 20639 farmers have attended the orientation programme.

696 Resource persons have been engaged for imparting training to the farmers so far in the district, he added.

The ADCD said that Mega programmes should be organised at panchayat level across the district for distribution of 'Kisan Smart cards' and its awareness during this ongoing Kisan Sampark Abhiyan.

He directed the concerned to re-verify the already issued smart cards and issue the new ones to deserving ones within no time.

The ADCD stressed upon the Sectoral Officers of Agriculture and allied departments to give the programme wide publicity so that mass participation of the farming community can be assured.

DC Budgam initiates shifting of PHC Kanir from rented to permanent building

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Continuing the endeavours to provide better healthcare facilities to people of the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo Monday initiated shifting of Primary Health Center (PHC) Kanir from rented to a permanent building.

The DC also initiated work on establishing a Health & Wellness Centre (H&WC) at PHC Kanir in block Chadoora of District Budgam.

Vice chairman District Development Council (DDC) Budgam, Nazir Ahmad Jara; SDM Chadoora, Prince Noor-ul-Hamid; CMO Budgam, Mohd Ayoub; Block Medical Officer Chadoora and other concerned accompanied the DC during the visit.

After inaugurating the facilities, the DC said that District Administration Budgam has given focused attention towards ensuring that health care services



are housed in functional buildings with necessary infrastructure. He said all possible measures are being taken to further upgrade and strengthen the healthcare sector across the district.

On the occasion, the DC urged people to avail benefits of the facilities at these centres which include preventive, promotive and curative services and integrated Allopathic, AYUSH and Naturopathic systems for holistic approach towards health and wellbeing of a person and community.

He requested Vice-Chairman DDC Budgam, PRIs and people of the area to collaborate with District Administration in maintaining this health and wellness centre dedicated by the Government to continue availing maximum health benefits.

The DC enjoined upon the Health functionaries to work in a mission mode for effective and efficient functioning of the Centres to serve its purpose in the larger interest of the people. He also emphasised them on giving focused attention towards

vulnerable groups of the society.

The DC urged youth for pro-active participation in eradication of drug menace so that Budgam will become "Nasha Mukht" district.

Speaking on the occasion, CMO Budgam, Dr. Ayoub said, people of the area are going to get the best treatment and other medical assistance at this PHC.

He said different medical services will be provided viz. OPD, Gynaecology, Dental and others at this H&WC.

DC Kulgam reviews District Good Governance Index

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Monday chaired a meeting of concerned officers of line departments to review the performance of indicators under District Good Governance Index at Mini Secretariat, Kulgam.

The Good Governance Index, developed by the UT Government with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), is based on performance under 10 Governance sectors, having 58 indicators which assesses the impact of various government interventions at district level and provides futuristic roadmap for improving district level governance and service delivery.

The DC took detailed sector/indicator wise appraisal of performance till date under broad sectors of public health, public infrastructure, agriculture, human resource development, financial inclusion, social welfare and other sectors.

Dr Bilal impressed upon all district heads to present the indicators accurately by following due process of data collection, screening and validation.

He stressed upon all about the need of improving these developmental parameters during the ensuing year by working through effective coordination with a targeted approach. The meeting was attended by ADDC, Showkat Ahmad Rather; ADC, Vikar Ahmad Giri; ACR, GM DIC, ACD, ACP, CPO and other district officers of departments.

Amar Singh College hosts Cultural event

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In continuation to the series of events being organized under the aegis of Vitasta Festival, a colorful cultural event was held at Amar Singh College, Srinagar on Saturday as part of the on-going Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

The festival was aimed at bringing forth the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir in general and the revival of communal harmony and unity in diversity, which has been an inseparable part of this region, since times immemorial.

The festival witnessed a galaxy of artists and talented performers from

across the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir showcasing the traditional folk performances of various regions.

The event consisted of traditional folk performances like Bhand Pather, Bach Nagma, Kudijagarna, Dhambali, Dogri Dance, Geetru, Kashmiri Rouff etc.

The cultural festival began with a warm welcome address by Prof Heena Amin, Convenor, Cultural Committee, Amar Singh College. Prof. Heena emphasized upon the importance of understanding our culture through traditional folk performing arts and the need to preserve our identity.

The event began with

a Qawali by Basit and his team, from the department of Music, Amar Singh College, followed by Bach Nagma by Ishfaq Ahmad and his team. A folk dance of Jammu region was performed by Kalu Devi and her group while Mushtaq Ahmad and his group performed a traditional Rouff followed by Jagarna, a traditional folk dance of Jammu region by Rakesh Khona and party.

Another beautiful performance called Sukshami was performed by a group from Sukshami Academy, Jammu. The artists enthralled the huge audience by their talent and earned applause from the audience.

Principal of the host college, Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir appreciated and congratulated all the performing teams and the cultural committee and department of music of the college for the successful event. He said that every nation and region has its own cultural identity, which is depicted through its tongue, literature, folklore and unique dance styles etc.

Programme Officer, North Zone Cultural Centre Patiala, Ministry of Culture, GoI, Ravinder Sharma, who was present on the occasion extended his gratitude to the host college and appreciated the thrilling performances by the artists.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION (NORTH) SOPORE

Sub: Extension of e-NIT.
Ref: This office E-NIT No. PHE/MDNS/NIT/E-13 of 2023-24, S. No. 02, 05 and 08 issued under No. PHE/MDNS/DB/1455-60, dated: 10-06-2023.

Due to poor response the above referred e-tenders are hereby extended as under:

S. No.	Particulars	Dates
1	Pre bid meeting	21-06-2023 (02:00 pm)
2	Last date for online submission of bids	23-06-2023 (06:55 pm)
3	Date of online opening of tender	24-06-2023 (02:00 pm)

All other terms and conditions shall remain same.

No.: PHE/MDNS/DB/1653-55
Dated: 19-06-2023
DIPK-3702-23
DT: 19/06/2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North)
Sopore

First Batch of Agniveer of JAKLI Attested in Befitting Ceremony



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The first batch of Agniveers of the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry were attested in a befitting ceremony on 17 June 2023, Saturday at the JAK LI Regimental Centre in the presence of their parents and instructors.

The young boys have been transformed into confident, capable, smart, and proud soldiers and citizens. The momentous ceremony commenced with the Rashtriya Salute to the National Flag followed by oath taking, parade review by the Commandant, piping of Agniveers and concluded with the Regimental Song and the National Anthem with the Agniveers dedicating themselves with resolve

to serve the Nation. They commenced their rigorous training on January 1, 2023. Their training of 24 weeks enhanced their physical fitness and endurance, sharpened their senses, made them mentally robust and taught them the skills of a soldier necessary to achieve victory in battle.

The training also focused on building their character, imbibing regimental traditions, military history and ethos, camaraderie and above all an unrelenting spirit. The Agniveers will undergo another seven weeks of intense training before they join their units located across the country.

As per Defence Spokesperson, in addition to military training, the Agniveers received instructions on

varied subjects which empower them to be responsible, wholesome and contributing citizens of the Nation. They embody teamwork, leadership, and dynamism. Their discipline, vibrance, dedication and determination to persevere against all odds is the spirit of a confident generation which will carry the nation in the 21st century.

They have chosen a path, a way of life which is demanding, yet extraordinary and glorious and today they realised their dreams against all odds thus, setting an example for the youth of our nation in general and Kashmir in particular and will save as role models for the future 'Agniveers'. (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

Parvez Maanous's literary journey, uniting cultures through words

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Parvez Maanous, a prolific writer hailing from the Pahari ethnic group of Jammu and Kashmir, has embarked on an extraordinary literary journey, leaving an indelible mark on literature through his diverse and extensive body of work.

With 19 books authored in various genres and languages such as Pahari, Urdu, Gori, and Kashmiri, Maanous showcases his exceptional talent and literary prowess, acting as a bridge between cultures and languages.



His dedication to his mother tongue, Pahari, is evident as he primarily focuses on writing in that language. Moreover, he has translated eight books, solidifying his contribution to the literary world.

Reflecting on his journey, Maanous said, "I believe that language is not just a tool for communication; it is a powerful medium to connect people from different cultures and backgrounds. Through my writing, I strive to celebrate the richness of diversity and highlight our shared humanity."

Born on March 6, 1966, in the Poonch District of the Pir Panjal Range, Maanous currently serves as a teacher in the Education Department.

His passion for storytelling and the written word sparked in 1985, captivating readers with his evocative narratives and multilingual compositions. Residing in Azad Basti Natipora, Sri-

nagar, Maanous continues to forge ahead, leaving an indelible impact on the literary realm.

The list of books authored by Parvez Maanous stands as a testament to his versatility and creative vision. Spanning various genres and languages, his works captivate readers from different cultural backgrounds.

Among his notable works are "Beetaim Lamhoon Ki Saugaten," an Urdu poetry collection (1992); "Chareentha," a collection of Pahari short stories (1998); "Tatti Chan," a Pahari novel (2016); and "Sarey Jahaan Ka Dard," an Urdu novel (2021). These books reflect his ability to seamlessly traverse linguistic boundaries while capturing the essence of diverse cultures.

Maanous emphasizes the importance of language and culture, stating, "In our interconnected world, it is crucial to celebrate our lin-

guistic and cultural diversity. Through literature, we can bridge gaps and foster understanding, paving the way for a more harmonious society."

Maanous has also played a crucial role in translating literary works, making literature accessible across different languages. His notable translations include "Paani Bich Pahamad," the first Pahari translation of a Kashmiri novel (2010), and the ongoing translation of Leo Tolstoy's monumental work, "War and Peace," into the Pahari language.

By expanding the reach of literature through translation, Maanous aims to foster greater understanding and appreciation among diverse communities.

Beyond his role as an author and translator, Parvez Maanous dedicates himself to editing and compiling works by other writers. During his deputation at the J-K State Advisory

Board for the Development of Pahari Speaking People, he contributed to the compilation and editing of notable works, including "Pahari Kabail" by KD Mani and "Kacha Kotha" by Mohd Iqbal Khan.

His commitment to uplifting fellow writers highlights his dedication to the literary community and his desire to create a platform for diverse voices to be heard.

Maanous' literary achievements have been widely recognized and celebrated. His impactful contributions have garnered him prestigious accolades such as the State Academy Best Book Award for "Chan Mama" in 2007 and "Sanjah Dard" in 2011.

He has also been honoured with the State Academy Best Play Script award in both Pahari and Urdu languages. Awards such as the Maqbool Sahil Literally Award and the National

Human Rights Award further attest to his commitment to excellence and the significant impact of his literary contributions.

Maanous states, "These awards are a testament to the power of words to transcend boundaries and touch the hearts of readers. They motivate me to continue exploring new avenues in literature and furthering the cause of cultural harmony."

He actively participates in literary camps, conferences, and Mushairas. These events provide opportunities for him to expand his knowledge, exchange ideas with fellow writers, and promote cultural exchange.

By immersing himself in these gatherings, Maanous continually enriches his understanding of the literary landscape and contributes to the broader literary community.

He added, "Literature has the potential to transform lives and foster empathy. By celebrating language, diversity, and our shared humanity, we can create a more inclusive and compassionate world. Through my writing, I hope to inspire others to embrace their cultural heritage, appreciate different languages, and find common ground in the beauty of our collective experiences."

Zubair Qureshi, a writer of the Pahari language, said, "Parvez Maanous is an invaluable asset not only to the Pahari ethnic group but also to the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir." (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

Two-day Summer Carnival Begins at Neel Top Ramban for Tourism Promotion

GMK NEWS NETWORK

RAMBAN: A two-day cultural and adventure bonanza titled the Neel Top Summer Carnival 2023, which has been organised by the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu for promoting tourism, began here on Sunday.

Colorful cultural programs including a bouquet of musical performances like the local Rambani Thaal Dance, Dogri Dance, and Kashmiri Dance enthralled the audiences amid loud cheers and festive fanfare. Local artists of District Ramban presented beautiful folk performances and engaged the audiences, said officials.

Colorful cultural programs including a bouquet of musical performances like the local Rambani Thaal Dance, Dogri Dance, and Kashmiri Dance enthralled the audiences amid loud cheers and festive fanfare. Local artists of District Ramban presented beautiful folk perfor-

mances and engaged the audiences.

The Carnival was jointly inaugurated by District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Ramban, Shamshada Shan, and District Development Commissioner Ramban, Masrat Ul Islam here at Neel Top meadows.

The various departmental stalls showcasing local art, and craft and also informative stalls regarding the various beneficiary-oriented schemes have also been inaugurated. The two days festival at the scenic meadows of Neel Top is attracting visitors in huge numbers and the first day witnessed a gathering of about 15-18 thousand people.

Tourists, as well as locals, echoed the sentiment that employment shall be generated through such initiatives and promotional activities to bring such natural gems to the national and international tourism map, said officials.

Speaking on the occasion,



the Chief Guest, Shamshada Shan said that Neel Top is an untouched virgin scenic tourist destination that is blessed with unexplored natural beauty, housed under the shadow of

snow-clad peaks namely Hans Raj and Shafawoin of Pir Panjal Ranges.

She appreciated the efforts of the Tourism Department and District Administration in organizing such mega promotional events which help in discovering such local natural spectacles, weaved with cultural diversity, scenic beauty, and beautiful mountains with green meadows.

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Musarat Islam welcomed the initiative of the Tourism Department in organizing such a mega event at Neel Top. He hoped that the Department shall come up with more activities for OffBeat Destinations of Ramban District in the ongoing year.

He also hoped that Homestays shall be promoted in Ramban District since rural tourism and livelihood opportunities have ample scope in this region and that there is a need to tap the potential of adventure tourism

of District Ramban.

Assistant Director Tourism NHW Batote, Mohammad Arif Lone in his welcome address said that the Directorate of Tourism Jammu under the active guidance of Director Tourism Jammu Vivekanand Rai is putting in strenuous efforts to tap the unexplored tourism potential of offbeat destinations of Jammu region.

He said Joint Director Tourism, Sunaina Sharma Mehta, in the capacity of Sub Nodal Officer, Rural Tourism is in liaison with local stakeholders to promote homestays for rural livelihood and tourism promotion.

The two-day event is an amalgamation of musical extravaganza to trekking, from the display of rich art and craft to cuisine, offering something for everyone. The second day of the festival shall include trekking from Vasemarg to Eijantargh in Ramban District. (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

Pakistan: Textile Sector Sees Decline in Exports for Eighth Consecutive Month

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's textile sector has faced a decline in textile exports for an eighth consecutive month on a year-on-year basis, demonstrating persistent challenges for the industry, Pakistan-based The Express Tribune reported.

Textile exports witnessed a month-on-month rise of 7 per cent in textile exports in May 2023, which reached USD 1.32 billion. However, there was a significant year-on-year decline of 20 per cent in comparison to the same period last year, according to The Express Tribune report.

The trend of declining textile exports on a year-on-year basis has continued for the past eight months. The Express Tribune reported citing research carried out by Arif Habib Limited (AHL). Although there was positive momentum in May, the overall picture for the fiscal year 2023 remained negative, with textile exports worth USD 15.03 billion for the 11-month period, showcasing a year-on-year decline of 14.7 per cent.

These figures demonstrate the challenges faced by the textile industry and the need for sustained efforts to revive and strengthen its performance, according to The Express Tribune report. Nasheed Malik, an analyst at Topline Securities, said that Pakistan's textile exports witnessed their eighth consecutive month of decline on a year-on-year basis, the report said.

In May 2023, textile exports reached USD 1.32 billion, indicating a 7 per cent month-on-month increase. The value-added textile exports recorded USD 889 million, reflecting a 3 per cent increase from the previous month. The value-added products, towels, ready-made garments, and knitwear witnessed respective month-on-month increases of 10 per cent, 8 per cent, and 3 per cent. However, bedwear witnessed an 8 per cent decline.

Meanwhile, Basic textiles witnessed a 31 per cent month-on-month rise, with cotton cloth alone increasing by 19 per cent. With respect to volume, ready-made garments and towels rose

by 8 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. Furthermore, cotton yarn and cotton cloth increased by 64 per cent and 22 per cent in volume, respectively, according to The Express Tribune report.

In comparison to May 2022, Pakistan's textile exports saw a year-on-year decline of 20 per cent. The decline in textile exports was mainly due to a 21 per cent decrease in value-added products and a 19 per cent decline in the basic segment, according to The Express Tribune report.

Value-added exports saw declines in bedwear, knitwear, ready-made garments, and towels, which lowered by 28 per cent, 22 per cent, 17 per cent and 5 per cent respectively, on a year-on-year basis.

During the 11-month period of fiscal 2022-2023, Pakistan's textile exports were worth USD 15.03 billion, showcasing a 15 per cent year-on-year decrease, the report said. Basic textiles saw a 22 per cent decline and value-added products decreased by 13 per cent in comparison to the previous year. (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

Enrolment of girls in schools is increasing in border areas

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, there has been a particular emphasis on raising the percentage of girls who attend school. Girls' enrollment in public schools has significantly increased as a result of the special programme, particularly in outlying villages and border regions. One of the causes of this is the government's provision of incentives to girls, such as free uniforms, free books, and scholarships. In addition, girls who excel in academics and extracurricular activities are praised.

In the border region of the Poonch district, a Model Higher Secondary School distributed scholarships under the "Betti Hai Anmol" programme. Atiq Jan, a member of the District Development Council, Neelam Sharma, the higher secondary school's principal, and Mundi Anju Rishi, the acting zonal education officer. Eleven talented female students from the school received a scholarship worth Rs. 55,000 each. The program was organized under the

guidance of Anwar Khan, Principal Model Higher Secondary School, Savjian, Poonch with the aim of creating awareness among the public about the importance of girl child education. The programme was distinctive and offered women particular consideration. 13 cultural programmes were all by female students. The three main guests and the program's anchor were all female.

It was done to emphasise the strength of women. Sanam Irshad Bande, who earned a distinction in the board exam for the 12th grade, received a memento and a certificate of appreciation. The students were encouraged by Zonal Education Officer Mundi to recognise their talent and put forth an endless effort to reach their objectives. Neelam Sharma, principal of Shindra Higher Secondary School, urged the students to maintain emotional stability while pursuing their academic and extracurricular objectives. Atiq John D, a member of the District Development Council, expressed her gratitude and congratulations

to the Model Higher Secondary School Savjian's principal and staff for their success in the board exams. She instructed the girls to choose a goal and follow a plan of action to reach it.

She was grateful to Anwar Khan, Principal of the Model Higher Secondary School, Savjian for helping the students in this isolated border region realise their full potential. Students from Government Middle School Maidan and Girls Middle School Saujian also took part in the cultural event. The programme was directed by the teacher Ajit Kaur. The Sarpanch Mandi Participating in the programme were Mubasher Hussain, Pir Tariq, Naima Akhtar, Master Khadim Hussain, Mehraj Khalid, and Ismail Bhat in addition to Sarpanch Baila Khawaja Abdul Razak.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Rashmi Khajuria. Refreshments were given to all of the students by the school administration. The participants in the cultural programme were also given prizes. (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

Army organises musical event in Uri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

URI: Indian Army on Sunday organised a live musical event at the Uri town of north Kashmir's Baramulla District.

The event witnessed a record turnout of locals who enjoyed the melodious numbers presented by the renowned artists Waqar Khan and Gursaaaz.

The students of Army Goodwill School (AGS) Uri thrilled the audience with "rouf dance" and communal harmony dance.

Rouf dance is a traditional and rhythmic folk dance of Jammu and Kashmir.

A cultural show depicting the rich heritage of Uri was put together by 'Team 360', a local youth group.

The event was aimed to highlight the heritage and cultural heritage of Uri and Kashmir by promoting the local talent of the area.

The event coincided with Uri Mela in which amusement rides and food/game stalls drew a large crowd, who thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the event.

The event was graced by local dignitaries from various levels.

The locals expressed gratitude towards the Indian Army for organizing a memorable event and were very enthusiastically looking forward to more such events in the future. (MILAP NEWS NETWORK)

BSES to award contract for 5 million smart meters by July 2023

IANS

NEW DELHI: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) are set to undergo a remarkable digital transformation with the phased implementation of their ambitious Smart Meter project.

This project aims to equip BSES with smart meters, positioning it as India's first fully digital utility. The tendering process for the project is currently underway and is slated to be finalized by July 2023.

BSES plans to commence on-ground implementation in the September-December quarter of 2023, with a target to complete the deployment of 5 million pre-paid/post-paid smart meters by FY 2024-25.

To ensure a cost-effective system, BSES aims to leverage its enhanced requirements and scale of operation to achieve per-node lifecycle costs similar to or lower than recent tenders in other utilities.

One of the primary goals of the BSES Smart Meter project is to deliver a more efficient and cost-effective system for its 5 million consumers.

Recent tenders in various utilities, including Bihar and BEST Mumbai, have revealed per-node lifecycle costs ranging from Rs 11,000 to Rs 11,500. With its larger requirements and scale of operation, BSES aims to make this invest-



ment highly cost-effective.

When contacted about its smart metering project, a BSES spokesperson said, "We are a committed world-class smart power distribution company working in the interest of 5 million consumers and 20 million residents of Delhi."

The estimated investment for this project is expected to range between Rs 5,000 crore and Rs 6,000 crore, making it one of the most significant undertakings by BSES DISCOMs, which have a turnover of over Rs 16,000 crore and a cash Ebitda of Rs 2,500 crore.

To ensure the quality and reliability of the service, BSES is partnering with several smart meter manufacturers and system integrators.

The names of these partners will be disclosed in due time. Notably, prominent meter manufacturers

such as Genus, Secure, and HPL, along with technology companies like EDF, have already shown keen interest in the ongoing tender process.

The BSES Smart Meter project follows the operational expenditure (OPEX) model, which is favored by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) and the Ministry of Power.

The smart prepaid meters, which include both pre and post-paid options, integrated with mobile applications, will empower consumers by giving them unprecedented control over their energy consumption.

These meters go beyond simply tracking usage; they enable users to understand consumption patterns, manage bills, make online payments, and engage with upcoming energy management resources. Essentially,

it's like having a remote control for your electricity needs.

Furthermore, this project represents not just an upgrade but a transformation. By leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, these smart meters will provide insights and analytics that would have been impossible to achieve otherwise. This translates to better services, prompt resolutions, and an active role for consumers in shaping the future of energy in Delhi.

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited and BSES Yamuna Power Limited are joint ventures between Reliance Infrastructure Limited and the Delhi government, with a shareholding ratio of 51:49. These DISCOMs ensure reliable power supply to 5 million consumers and 20 million residents in South, West, East, and Central Delhi.

T-Hub partners with Urbano to create smart and sustainable cities in the Maldives

UNI

HYDERABAD: T-Hub (Technology Hub), an innovation hub and ecosystem enabler, on Monday, announced a strategic partnership with Urbano, the foremost urban development corporation in the Maldives.

The collaboration aims to foster innovation and actively contribute to the advancement of smart and sustainable cities in the Maldives, Hyderabad-T-Hub said in a release here.

The main objective of this collaboration is to support Urbano's vision of transforming Maldivian cities into smart and sustainable urban centers.

T-Hub will leverage its extensive network of startups and expertise to co-create cutting-edge solutions and driving the growth of the innovation ecosystem in Hulhumalé," he said.

Through this partnership, T-Hub will actively scout for solutions in key areas such as smart infrastructure, smart parking, smart city solutions, and sustainable waste management solutions.

Urbano will collaborate in developing and implementing these solutions to



a pivotal role in transforming Urbano's vision into reality. We look forward to co-create cutting-edge solutions and driving the growth of the innovation ecosystem in Hulhumalé," he said.

Through this partnership, T-Hub will actively scout for solutions in key areas such as smart infrastructure, smart parking, smart city solutions, and sustainable waste management solutions.

Urbano will collaborate in developing and implementing these solutions to

transform Hulhumalé into a model smart city, the CEO added.

"We believe that this partnership with T-Hub will accelerate the development of smart and sustainable cities in the Maldives," said Ahmed Athif, Managing Director, Urbano.

T-Hub's extensive network and expertise in the startup ecosystem will provide us with the necessary resources and innovative solutions to transform our cities. We look forward to a fruitful collaboration and

a brighter future for Hulhumalé," said Athif.

The collaboration will progress through a structured plan for the next 60 days. This plan includes an in-depth analysis of Urbano's roadmap for making Hulhumalé a smart and sustainable city, followed by the identification of mutual goals and potential solutions.

The partnership will culminate in the delivery of outcomes, closure, and impact assessment to evaluate the success of the collaboration.

Hackers threaten to leak 80GB of stolen Reddit data

IANS

NEW DELHI: Mired in controversy over its application programming interface (API) changes, Reddit is now in for further trouble as hackers have threatened to release 80GB of data stolen from the social discussion platform.

The BlackCat ransomware gang, also known as ALPHV, is demanding \$4.5 million in exchange for deleting the stolen data, reports TechCrunch.

The hackers have claimed to have stolen the data on a post on its dark web leak site. A Reddit spokesperson confirmed that "BlackCat's claims relate to a cyber incident confirmed by Reddit on February 9".

At the time, hackers had allegedly accessed employee information and internal documents during a "highly-targeted" phishing attack.

Reddit didn't share any further details about the attack or who was behind it.

BlackCat was also linked to a March attack on Western Digital that saw hackers steal 10TB of data from the company, includ-

ing customer information.

Meanwhile, during the subreddit's protest against the company's new application programming interface (API) pricing changes, Reddit's average daily traffic reportedly fell as compared to the last month.

More than 57 million

Microsoft Teams' Collaborative notes feature now in public preview



IANS

SAN FRANCISCO: Microsoft has announced that Teams' new Collaborative notes feature is now available to everyone on the public preview channel.

The feature is designed to enhance the meeting experience in the video conferencing platform by simplifying the process of creating agendas and creating action items.

"We're excited to announce the public preview of Collaborative notes, the new way to drive your work forward: collaborate on the agenda, take notes together, and track follow-up tasks. Collaborative notes eliminate the typical bottleneck of a single note-taker for capturing the agenda and notes and also makes them visible to everyone, improving accuracy and inclusion at every stage of your meeting," Microsoft said in a blog post.

According to the company, Collaborative notes

are Loop components, which stay in sync across all the places they have been shared like Outlook, Teams chat, the Loop app, Word for the web, and Whiteboard.

Users can share the Collaborative notes in a Teams chat or email to begin building an agenda together before a meeting, which will ensure that everyone is able to include their topics for review with the group regardless of their preferred Microsoft app.

All participants can add last-minute agenda items, co-edit meeting notes, and draft and assign tasks during the meeting.

Participants can also see who is working in the Collaborative notes at the top and can view who wrote each part by clicking on the text, the company said.

In addition, users can allow their team to update notes, check off tasks as they continue to work, and add new follow-up items from anywhere.

Skipper wins orders worth Rs.1135 Cr from Domestic, Int'l Market

UNI

MUMBAI: Skipper Limited leading manufacturer of Power Transmission & Distribution structures and a prominent manufacturer of Telecom and Railway structures on Monday said it has secured cumulative orders worth Rs.1135 Crores for the Design, Supply, and construction of new Transmission line projects for Powergrid Corporation of India Limited as well as Tower and Pole export supplies to Latin America, Middle East, and North Africa region.

Commenting on the release Sharan Bansal, Director Skipper Limited said, "I am delighted to share that our Engineering and Infrastructure

division has bagged fresh new orders worth Rs.1100 + crores.

These orders are for the Design, Supply, and construction of new Transmission line projects for Powergrid Corporation of India Limited as well as Tower and Pole export supplies to Latin America, the Middle East, and North Africa region. These orders serve as a resounding testament to our unwavering expertise and commitment to delivering exceptional services in the Power T&D industry. This order wins also reinforce our position as a trusted global Power T&D player, providing innovative solutions and contributing to the development of critical infrastructure worldwide.

Planet Fashion launches new store in Hyderabad

UNI

HYDERABAD: Planet Fashion, part of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (ABFRL), on Monday, announced the launching of its new retail identity store located in the City Center here.

To attract new-age consumers across categories, the flagship store offers an immersive shopping experience and is an extension of the brand's most recent retail identity.

The store houses extensive products including casuals, denim, seasonal clothing, formal shirts and trousers, suits, and blazers from a portfolio from Louis Philippe, Van Heusen, Allen Solly, and Simon Carter, the company said in a release here.

Ms Farida Kaliyadan, COO, of Louis Philippe and

Planet Fashion, said, "As Planet Fashion expands rapidly, we are focused on delivering value to our customers with superior craftsmanship, extensive product portfolio, and an unparalleled retail experience."

Planet Fashion's new retail identity has a new logo, in white, grey, and copper colors, giving the store a modern yet sophisticated shopping experience. Fixtures are designed to display a wide range of lifestyle looks, and the abstract mannequin is displayed to effortlessly illustrate brand stories and images.

Planet Fashion has 164 stores in 143 cities in India and offers premium brands under one roof, such as Louis Philippe, Van Heusen, Allen Solly, Simon Carter, Reebok & American Eagle.

Maruti Suzuki opens bookings for Invicto UV

IANS

CHENNAI: Expanding its utility vehicle (UV) segment, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd on Monday announced pre-launch booking for its three-row Invicto model in the NEXA channel.

The Invicto marks Maruti Suzuki's entrance into the premium 3-Row segment and the launch is slated for July 5, 2023.

The company said Invicto will appeal to customers who are looking for a strong design, best-in-class passenger room, ample cargo space, spirited performance, advanced technology, and a host of utility features.

Customers can pre-book the brand's pinnacle offering at any NEXA showroom with an initial payment of Rs 25,000.

Costa Cruises to launch new India-specific cruise programme from November

UNI

MUMBAI: Costa Cruises will offer a new cruise program, designed in collaboration with their general sales agent in the country -- Lotus Aero Enterprises, consisting of 23 new sailings exclusively for tourists in India from 4 November 2023 to 1 January 2024.

They will exclusively visit domestic destinations giving Indian guests the opportunity to discover some of their country's most beautiful locations.

The itineraries, lasting between two, three, and five days, will call at Mumbai, Cochin, Goa, and, for the first time ever, Lakshadweep, a beautiful tropical archipelago with white beaches and a magnificent coral reef.

An announcement to this effect was made here on Monday, in the presence of Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govern-



ment of India; Mr. Roberto Alberti, senior vice-president, and chief commercial officer, Costa Cruises; Mr. Francesco Raffa, director for Asia Region & Growth Markets, Costa Cruises; Mr. Alessandro De Masi, Consul General of Italy in Mumbai, and other senior officials, a press release said.

Speaking on the occasion, Sonowal said, "This program also aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji's vision of 'Dekho Apna Desh' - an initiative that was launched as an appeal by the honorable Prime Minister to Indians to prefer domestic tourism." Mr. Alberti of Costa

Cruises said, "We have a strong and lasting bond with this wonderful country. We are strongly committed to offering our Indian guests a unique holiday experience onboard Costa Serena which will be the largest cruise ship to operate domestic itineraries in India."

Ms. Nalini Gupta, managing director of Lotus Aero Enterprises, said, "This will also help unlock our country's true tourism potential and help travelers explore hidden gems and get to know our own country in a new light. We are particularly excited about taking travelers to Lakshadweep for the first

time ever, helping explore its magnificent coral reefs."

The ship chosen by the Italian company for India is the Costa Serena, which, after itineraries from Thailand, South Korea, and Taiwan, will further extend its deployment in Asia.

Costa Serena is an Italian-flagged ship built by Fincantieri, which entered service in 2007. With 114,000 gross tons and a capacity for up to 3,780 guests on board, the ship has a total of 1,500 cabins, 505 of which have private balconies, and 14 passenger decks.

To make the most of their cruise on board, guests can choose from a wellness center and a gym with a sea view, a beauty salon, a theater, restaurants serving both Indian and international cuisine, bars, 4 swimming pools, 2 of which have a self-propelled glass roof, a shopping area, and a kids' club for children and teenagers, the release added.

Cash transactions dramatically spike at petrol pumps, online orders

IANS

NEW DELHI: One of the major benefits of the Centre's decision to withdraw the Rs 2,000 currency note might be the immediate uptick in consumption demand, according to the State Bank of India's Economic Research Department.

"As per our estimate consumption demand may be frontloaded by Rs 55,000 crore. With the banknote remaining a legal tender, unlike demonetization, consumption could see a boost. Though RBI asked customers to deposit or exchange the Rs 2,000 notes, but it is expected that high-value amounts could move to high-value spends such as gold/jewelry, high-end consumer durables like AC, mobile phones etc, and real estate," the report said.

Cash transactions have sharply risen at petrol pumps

and cash-paying customers are using Rs 2,000 notes.

The All-India Petroleum Dealers Association (AIPDA) has said that digital payments, which used to be 40 percent of daily sales at pumps, have dropped to 10 percent while cash sales have increased dramatically.

People have also started ordering items online with the cash-on-delivery option. It is reported that nearly 75 percent of users of online food delivery aggregator Zomato opting for cash-on-delivery have been paying with Rs 2,000 notes.

E-commerce, food, and online grocery segments are likely to witness an increase in customers opting for cash on delivery.

The report expects an increase in donations through Rs 2,000 notes in temples and other religious institutions and sundry purchases such as consumer

durables, boutique furniture, etc.

Around Rs 55,000 crore could be withdrawn by the public from Rs 92,000 crore saving bank deposits to be made cumulatively through Rs 2,000 notes. This should give a consumption boost along with increasing the velocity of money.

"Considering the MPC of this Rs 55,000 crore at 0.7, we believe that the Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) might increase by Rs 1.83 lakh crore through the multiplier effect. Considering that ratio of PFCE to GDP at constant prices is around 58 percent, we may expect Q1 FY24 GDP growth at 8.1 percent with an upward bias due to the impact of this Rs 2,000 note withdrawal event. This reinforces our projection that FY24 GDP could be higher than 6.5 percent, per the RBI estimate," the report said.

Hundreds of Pakistanis dead in Greece migrant boat disaster

IAN S
KARACHI: More than 300 Pakistani nationals have been killed in the capsized of a packed trawler off the coast of Greece, the latest tragedy to expose the refugee crisis confronting the European Union (EU) as tens of thousands seek sanctuary from war, persecution and poverty.

The chairman of Pakistan's Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, disclosed the numbers in a statement, CNN reported. Greek authorities have yet to confirm Pakistan's death toll.

Pakistan is in the midst of its worst economic crisis in decades.

The number of Pakistanis traversing dangerous routes to Europe in search of a better future has reverberated through the nation, prompting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to declare Monday a national day of mourning for those who died in the boat's sinking, CNN reported.

In a tweet, he ordered a "high-level inquiry" into

the incident. "I assure the nation that those found negligent towards their duty will be held to account. Responsibility will be fixed after the inquiry and heads will roll," Sharif wrote.

About 750 men, women and children were on the boat when it capsized last week, the UN Migration Agency (IOM) said, killing hundreds and making the tragedy one of the worst in the Mediterranean Sea, according to the EU Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson.

The tragedy has shone a spotlight on the EU's refugee crisis in which every year, tens of thousands of migrants fleeing war, persecution, climate change and poverty risk treacherous routes to Europe.

Johansson condemned the role of "smugglers" who put people on the boats, CNN reported.

"They are not sending them to Europe, they are sending them to death. This is what they're doing and it's absolutely necessary to prevent it," she said.

Torrential rain batter several Chinese provinces

IAN S
BEIJING: Torrential rain has battered several provinces in China, with local authorities launching emergency responses for disaster prevention.

From 8 a.m. on Sunday to 8 a.m. on Monday, the Hubei province, the Jiangnan Plain, and the southern northeast of Hubei experienced heavy rain, Xinhua news agency quoted authorities as saying.

Affected by recent strong rainfall, the water level of 611 reservoirs in Hubei exceeded the flood limit level as of 8 a.m. on Monday.

Currently, all of them have released floodwaters normally.

Hubei activated a Level IV emergency response for flood control on June 17.

China has a four-tier flood-control emergency

response system, with Level I being the most severe.

The office is supervising and advising local authorities in areas with concentrated rainfall to do their best to brace for disasters such as floods, flash floods, landslides, mud-rock flows, and urban and rural water-logging.

From Sunday to Monday, seven observation stations in five counties and districts in southwest Guizhou province saw excessive rain, with the precipitation in Pingba District reaching 312.4 mm, according to the provincial meteorological bureau. In addition, 30 counties and districts in Guizhou have experienced heavy rain.

The bureau raised its emergency response for meteorological disasters from Level IV to Level III on Sunday afternoon.

Bangladesh formally applies to join BRICS

UNI
DHAKA: Bangladesh has formally applied to join the BRICS group of major emerging economies, Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen has confirmed.

"Yes, we have expressed our interest and applied to join the alliance," the diplomat was quoted as saying by the Dhaka Tribune.

The daily cited a source as saying that the South Asian nation's membership of the bloc — which currently comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — was made following a meeting between Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in Geneva last week.

BRICS leaders will hold a summit meeting in Johannesburg in August. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Friday that experts would brief the five leaders about the bloc's potential new members.

Countries, predominantly from the Global South, have been lining up to join the group, which accounts for about a quarter of global gross domestic product and more than 40% of the world's population. The aspiring member states include Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Algeria, and Argentina.

628 evacuees fall ill due to volcanic eruption in Philippines

IAN S
MANILA: At least 628 people have fallen ill after being displaced due to the eruption of Mayon Volcano, the most active volcano in the Philippines, a government agency reported on Monday.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council recorded at least 10 kinds of sickness affecting the evacuees aged between 2 to 64, including coughs, colds, fever, gastroenteritis, acute respiratory infection, and skin disease, reports Xinhua news agency.

The disaster management agency said nearly 39,000 people have been affected by Mayon's eruption, which started on June 8. Local authorities have evacuated over 20,000 villagers living in the danger zone around the picturesque, cone-shaped Mayon Volcano in Albay province, approximately 500 km southeast of the Philippine capital Manila.

The province, under a state of calamity, has set up 28 evacuation centres for displaced people, usually in school classrooms.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology on Monday recorded pyroclastic flows from the volcano's collapsed lava domes that lasted three minutes.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, PQSHAN PROJECT KELLER

Subject: Provisional Selection list of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) of Poshan Project Keller and inviting of objections thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In pursuance to the Government Order No. 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated 28-04-2023 and approval from Mission Director Poshan J&K vide No.MD/Poshan/Estt. / 13212-16 dated 08-05-2023, an advertisement Notices was issued vide Notification No. CDPOS/Poshan/Kel/Adv/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023 and Notification No. CDPOS/Poshan/Kel/adv/2023/98-114 Dated 15-05-2023 with opening date of receipt of application forms as 15-05-2023 and 17-05-2023 and closing date as 30-05-2023 and 30-05-2023 respectively for selection of 12 Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) for 12 Anganwadi centres of Poshan project Keller. In response to these notifications 42 applications were received within cut-off date against (08) vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and the two posts of AWWs were withdrawn in view of wrong ward details vide No. CDPOS/Poshan/Kel/Adv/2023/134-46 Dated 7-05-2023 and CDPOS/Poshan/Kel/Adv/2023/177-89 Dated 29-05-2023. Merit list of the candidates has been prepared as per the criteria laid down vide Govt. Order No. 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated 28-04-2023 and accordingly selection list has been framed for 08 Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) on the basis of merit list by the Selection Committee. Both Merit list (Annexure-A) and Selection list (Annexure-B) are hereby published for information of public in general and applicants/Candidates in particular for filing appeal/Objections if any. The appeal/Objection if any against the selection list shall be filed in the office of the Child Development Project Officer Keller (Shadimarg) against proper receipt within 10 days (in Office Hours) from the date of publication of this notification No objection /Appeal shall be entertained after expiry of last date of filing /Appeal/objection.

No: CDPOS/POSHAN/Kel/2023/294-303
 Dated: 17-06-2023

Child Development Project Officer, ICDS Project keller

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Arihal-A) of Ward 03 of Panchayat Halqa Arihal -B advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage (D/O)/Wife of	Marital Status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks obtained in TDC(12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage (12th)	2 percent Points -belong to family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	Remarks
1	Kulsuma Jan	D/o Mohd Ahsan Wani	Unmarried	Arihal	13/07/2001	12 th	377	500	75.4	0	75.4	1st	Selected
2	Uzma Yaqoob	D/o Mohd Yaqoob Bhat	Unmarried	Arihal	08/08/2001	12 th	351	500	70.2	0	70.2	2nd	
3	Tawfiqa Akhter	w/o Altaf Hussain Khan	Married	Arihal	02/03/1986	Graduate	240	600	40	0	40	3rd	

Annexure-A2													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Mukdom Mohalla Bellow) of Ward 02 of Panchayat Halqa Bellow advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage(D/O)/Wife of	Marital Status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks obtained in TDC(12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage (12th)	2 percent Points -belong to family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	Remarks
1	Saima Rahman	D/o Abdul Rahman Dar	unmarried	Bellow	15/02/2000	12 th	308	500	61.6	2	63.6	1st	Selected
2	Masrat Farooq	W/o Shahbaz Farooq	married	Bellow	10/11/1993	Graduate	292	500	58.4	0	58.4	2nd	Neither the candidate nor her husband in voter list of ward 02
3	Khalida Hameed	W/o Perwaiz Nazir	married	Bellow	24/10/1989	Graduate	430	750	57.3333	0	57.33	3rd	Duplicate marks sheet of 12 th
4	Aabidah Haleem	w/o Rayees bashir	married	Bellow	15/04/1993	Graduate	404	750	53.8667	0	53.87	4th	
5	Samina Najar	W/o Rouf Ahmad Mir	married	Bellow	18/04/1992	Graduate	291	750	38.8	0	38.8	5th	

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Uthmulla-A) of Ward 07 of Panchayat Halqa Arigam -B advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	Marital status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks obtained in TDC (12 th)	Maximum	Marks Percentage(12 th)	2 percent Points -belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Pmerit Position	remarks
1	Urfee Gull	D/o Gh Mohd Tali	unmarried	Uthmulla	13/02/2000	Graduate	404	500	80.8	0	80.8	1st	Selected
2	Fozia Fayaz	D/o Fayaz Ahmad Rather	unmarried	Uthmulla	14/05/2003	12 th	400	500	80	0	80	2nd	
3	Uzma Rashid	D/o Ab Rashid Shah	unmarried	Uthmulla	15/04/2000	12 th	356	500	71.2	0	71.2	1st	
4	Jassia Jan	D/o AbA had Khan	unmarried	Uthmulla	12/10/1997	Graduate	328	500	65.6	0	65.6	3rd	
5	Iqra Bashir	D/o Bashir Ahmad Ganie	unmarried	Uthmulla	19/03/2001	12 th	262	500	52.4	0	52.4	1st	
6	RuhiMaqbool	W/o Shanawaz Ahmad Ganie	married	Uthmulla	10/11/1992	Graduate	379	750	50.533	0	50.5	4th	
7	Sabkath Maqbool	D/o Mohd Maqbool Shiekh	unmarried	Uthmulla	12/9/1993	12 th	214	500	42.8	0	42.8	1st	
8	Mubeena Kouser	W/o Aaqib Ahmad Rather	married	Uthmulla	9/3/1990	12 th	304	750	40.533	0	40.5	5th	

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Drabgam-A) of Ward 04 of Panchayat Halqa Drabgam-A advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	Marital status	Residence	DOB	Qualification	Marks obtained in (12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage(12 th)	2 percent Points -belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	Remarks
1	Sabreena Bashir	D/o Bashir Ahmad bhat	unmarried	Drabgam	5/2/2002	12 th	422	500	84.4	Nil	84.4	1st	Selected
2	Sumiyaa Afzal	D/o MohdAfzalBhat	unmarried	Drabgam	25/12/1992	Graduate	508	750	67.733	Nil	67.7	2nd	
3	Ishrat Ashraf	D/o Mohd Ashraf Dar	unmarried	Drabgam	18/06/2002	Graduate	313	500	62.6	Nil	62.6	3rd	
4	Shaziya Jan	D/o AbHameedSofi	unmarried	Drabgam	18/17/2001	Graduate	276	500	55.2	2	57.2	4th	
5	Zenabul Gazaley	W/o Farooq Ahmad Mir	married	Drabgam	12/3/1987	12 th	227	600	37.833	Nil	37.8	5th	
6	Shaista Hussan	D/o Gh Hassan Dar	unmarried	Drabgam	5/5/2006	10 th			matric	Nil	matric		Rejected -not eligible (under age) and matriculate

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Gulshanabad-A) of Ward 01 of Panchayat Halqa Gulshanabad advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	marital status	Residence	Qualification	D.O.B	Marks obtained in TDC	Maximum Marks(in 12 th)	Marks Percentage(12 th)	2 percent Points -Belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	Remarks
1	Gazala Jan	D/o GhNabiGanie	unmarried	Gulshanabad	12th	25/04/2003	299	500	59.8	0	59.8	1st	Selected
2	Yasmeena Gul	W/O Mohammad AltafBhat	married	Gulshanabad	Graduate	07/05/1988	288	600	48	0	48	2nd	
3	Rahila Aziz	D/o Ab.Aziz Baba	unmarried	Gulshanabad	12 th	4/7/2002	406	500	81.2	0	81.2		Rejected-Residing in Ward 03 and not Ward 01
4	Shobiya	D/o Gulzar Ahmad Bhat	unmarried	Gulshanabad	12th	29/05/2001	280	500	56	0	56		Rejected-Neither the candidate nor her parents falling in ward 01

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Rajpora-D) of Ward 02 of Panchayat Halqa Rajpora-B advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	Marital status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks n obtained in TDC (12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage (12 th)	2 percent Points -Belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall merit Position	Remarks
1	Sabreena Shaban	w/o Ishfaq Ahmad Mir	married	Rajpora	30/04/1994	Graduate	328	500	65.6	Nil	65.6	1st	Selected
2	Sumia Jan	W/o Naseer Ahmad Mir	married	Rajpora	25/05/1991	Graduate	465	750	62	Nil	62	2nd	
3	Afroza Mohiudin	W/o Aadil Muneer Mir	married	Rajpora	01/02/1991	Graduate	379	750	50.533	Nil	50.5		Rejected-Belongs to Ward 04

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Rajpora-E) of Ward 08 of Panchayat Halqa Rajpora-A advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/98-114 Dated 15-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	Residence	Marital status	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks n obtained in TDC (12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage (12 th)	2 percent Points -Belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	remarks
1	ZeenatQadir	D/o GhQadir Mir	Rajpora	unmarried	25/11/1989	Graduate	368	750	49.067	0	49.1	1st	Selected
2	Jozia Bashir	W/o Sajad Ahmad Bhat	Rajpora	married	18/10/1991	Graduate	276	750	36.8	0	36.8	2nd	

Annexure-A													
Merit List of Candidates applied for AWW of (AWC Yader-A) of Ward 10 of Panchayat Halqa Kalampora advertised vide No. CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/2023/98-114 Dated 15-05-2023													
S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage/W/o	Marital status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks obtained in TDC (12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks1 Percentage(12 th)	2 percent Points -Belong To family of retired AWW/AWH	Total points	Overall Merit Position	Remarks
1	AsratMushtaq	D/o Mushtaq Ahmad Mir	Unmarried	Yader	09/03/2005	12 th	430	500	86	Nil	86	1st	Selected
2	Aarizoo Ashraf	D/o Mohd Ashraf wani	unmarried	Yader	29/10/1999	Graduate	394	500	78.8	Nil	78.8	2nd	
3	ShaistaNazir	D/o Nazir Ahmad Mir	unmarried	Yader	02/01/2004	Graduate	326	500	65.2	Nil	65.2	3rd	
4	Pakeeza Hamid	D/o Ab Hamid Reshi	unmarried	Yader	03/11/2000	Graduate	312	500	62.4	Nil	62.4	4th	
5	Razia Hassan	D/o Gh Hassan Mir	unmarried	Yader	01/09/1999	Graduate	263	500	52.6	Nil	52.6	5th	
6	RubeenaFarooq	w/O Tariq Ahmad Dar	married	Yader	14/05/1995	12 th	248	500	49.6	Nil	49.6	6th	
7	RubeenaAkhter	D/o Mudasar Ahmad Dar	married	Yader	25/03/1991	Graduate	369	750	49.2	Nil	49.2	7th	
8	Nusrat Yousuf	D/o Mohd Yousuf Mir	unmarried	Yader	10/3/1996	12 th	230	500	46	Nil	46	8th	
9	UlfatGulzar	D/o Gulzar Ahmad Mir	unmarried	Yader	7/1/2005	12 th	430	500	86	Nil	86		Rejected-residing in Ward 11 and not Ward 10
10	Meema Bashir	w/o Imtiyaz Ahmad Rather	married	Yader	5/04/1989	12 th	303	750	40.4	Nil	40.4		Neither the candidate nor her husband in voter list of Ward 10
11	Fizrat Akbar	D/o Mohd Akbar Mir	unmarried	Yader	11/12/2003	10 th			#####	Nil	###		Rejected (not eligible -matriculate)

Selection list of candidates for the post of Sanginis (AWWs) for Anganwadi centres of poshan project keller advertised vide notification No.CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/51-66 Dated 10-05-2023 and .CDPOS/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/98-114 Dated 15-05-2023

S.No	Name of Candidate	Perentage (D/O)/Wife of	Marital Status	Residence	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks obtained in TDC(12 th)	Maximum Marks(12 th)	Marks Percentage (12th)	2 percent Points -belong To family of AWW/AWH	Total points	Ward/panchayat	Name of the Anganwadi Centre for which Candidate is selected
1	Kulsuma Jan	D/o MohdAhsan Wani	Unmarried	Arihal	13/07/2001	12 th	377	500	75.4	0	75.4	0	

PM Modi's US state visit: Bilateral defence cooperation, says MEA

UNI

NEW DELHI: Giving a detailed schedule of PM Narendra Modi's two-day visit to the United States and Egypt on June 21, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra on Monday said that this will be PM's first state-level visit to the US and is a milestone visit in the relationship between the two countries.

"It is a very significant visit, a very important visit. A visit on which there is a genuine and widespread deep interest in the United States..." Kwatra told reporters here.

This will be PM Modi's first state-level visit to the US and is on a visit from June 21 to 23 at the invitation of US President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden.

Kwatra said defence industrial cooperation roadmap will be a key outcome of PM Modi's US visit.

Apart from showcasing



bilateral defence cooperation, he said the second key component has been strong trade and investment partnership, he said.

"Third is the technology component which interfaces with many other domains - telecom, space, manufacturing and investment," he added.

On the first day of arrival to Washington DC,

Kwatra said that the first key engagement will be an event that would focus on scaling for future "which would try to bring out key complementarities and the objectives that both systems seek to promote and achieve".

On June 22, there will be a ceremonial welcome at the White House, a set of bilateral meetings, PM's

scheduled address to the US Congress, and a ceremonial state dinner, he said.

After the PM Modi will visit Egypt on June 24-25 after concluding his trip to the US.

It will be PM Modi's first visit to the Middle East nation and first official bilateral visit of an Indian PM to Egypt since 1997, Kwatra said.

BJP govt provided better job opportunities in nine years as compared to UPA: Jitendra Singh

UNI

NEW DELHI: Senior BJP leader and Union Minister for Personnel and Training Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday said employment both in "Quantitatively and Qualitatively" during the nine years of NDA government is better than nine years before the 2014 under UPA government.

Briefing media at the party headquarters in New Delhi, Jitendra Singh said, "During 2004 to 2013, the number for recruitments stood at two lakh 7 thousand 563 through the Staff Selection Commission whereas it was four lakh 691 during the last nine years".

Highlighting the initiative taken by the BJP government in the last 9 years here, the Union Minister said, that "through the UPSC, during the 2004 to 2013 period, there were 45 thousand 431 recruitments whereas these were 50 thousand 906 during the



last nine years under the Modi government."

Talking about the other initiatives he said through Railway Recruitment Board, there were three lakh 47 thousand 251 recruitments during the 2004 to 2013 period under the UPA and on the other hand, the number stands at 4 lakh 30 thousand 594 under the Modi Government in the last nine years".

Over the corruption issue, he said, "Prime

Minister Modi is following a policy of zero tolerance against corruption"...adding that at the same time, he is ensuring that the well-performing officers - those performing with honesty and integrity, should not feel intimidated and should have an opportunity to perform to the best of their abilities".

Jitendra Singh said, "The Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System

(CPGRAMS) has been a game-changer to resolve grievances to the public authorities in any subject related to service delivery".

"There has been a big satisfaction among the citizens as the Modi Government has been responsive and prompt in its deliveries towards addressing their grievances," he added.

The Minister said, "PM Narendra Modi made the country aware that employment does not mean only government jobs and the result is that today the number of startups in the country has increased from 350 to 1 lakh".

He said, the Bio-Tech Startups, Deep Ocean Mission and Aroma Mission unveil the novel areas which shall ensure value-addition in the economy and boost employment opportunities for the people.

"With this, 3,000 agri-tech startups have started under 'Aroma Mission,'" he said.

BIPARJOY 39 people trapped in Rajasthan flood rescued



SIANS

JAIPUR: The SDRF team rescued 39 civilians stranded in flood-affected Od Basti of Bhimtal town of Jalore district in the wake of cyclone Biparjoy, and took them to safe places.

As per the instructions of SDRF Additional Director General of Police Alok Kumar Vashisth and Commandant Raj Kumar Gupta, the team reached the spot with equipment and helped people to get in safer locations, said Commandant Rajkumar Gupta adding that on Sunday morning at 10:50 a.m., on receiving information from Police Control Room Jalore and other offices for disaster relief and rescue work, rescue team in-charge along with a team of 10 jawans and disaster relief equipment left for the spot. The team commander took stock of the situation after reaching the spot at 11:20 a.m.

Due to heavy rains from Saturday night till morning due to Biparjoy storm,

the water of Nimbali pond located near Jaswantpura railway crossing in Bhimtal town of Jalore district entered Od township and the entire township got submerged. The pond has overflowed.

About 40 people were trapped in Od Basti, which included mostly children and women. To reach the settlement, the team had to cross a pond 20 to 30 feet deep and 300 meters long.

On the instructions of the team commander, the rescue team personnel started the rescue operation. The rescue team first crossed the overflowing pond and reached the township with the help of a motor boat and took out the trapped people from the flooded area wearing life jackets.

By 1 p.m., the SDRF rescue team along with the NDRF team made several trips by motor boat and rescued a total of 39 citizens trapped in Od Basti to safe places, including 11 children, 20 women and eight men.

India's position is clear on Myanmar, says Foreign Secy



SIANS

NEW DELHI: The External Affairs Ministry on Monday refused to comment on whether the ongoing situation in Myanmar will come up for discussion during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's forthcoming visit to the US this week, but added that India's position is clear on Myanmar.

Foreign secretary Vinay Kwatra while addressing mediapersons on Modi's state visit to the US from June 21-23, in response to a question on whether Myanmar's worsening situation and US' divergent views on the country vis-a-vis India, would come up for discussion during deliberations between Modi and US president Joe Biden, said that it cannot be pre-judged as to what the two leaders will discuss.

However, he added it can be expected that regional and global situations will come up for discussion.

"It's not correct to frame any agenda. However India's position is clear on Myanmar and the US understands it," Kwatra said.

"We share a very large border with Myanmar,

which is our neighbour. The kind of framework we deal with is different. We have been providing continuous humanitarian assistance to Myanmar, even during troubled times there. We can only try and wish that the country remains stable and peaceful," the foreign secretary added.

Various think tanks in the US have been hoping that Washington should seize the moment to engage with India on Myanmar and urge New Delhi to work towards alleviating the humanitarian situation and help establish democracy in the South-east Asian nation.

To another question on reports of some pre-planned protests against human rights violations in India, which the prime minister may face during his visit, the foreign secretary said that though no comments can be offered on any such planned protests, the visit is being viewed with a lot of positive intent in the US.

"We sense a positive intent on the prime minister's US visit and are determined to move towards new domains of partnership with the US," Kwatra said.

Drugs worth over Rs 271 cr smuggled from Myanmar seized in Mizoram since Jan

SIANS

AIZAWL: Since January this year, law enforcement agencies in Mizoram have seized drugs worth Rs 271 crore smuggled from Myanmar and arrested at least 20 peddlers in connection, officials said on Monday.

Officials in Aizawl said that the Assam Rifles, Mizoram Excise and Narcotics Department, Customs, state police seized huge quantities of heroin, cannabis, methamphetamine (also called Yaba tablets) and pseudo-ephedrine tablets during this year.

Last year, the law enforcement agencies had seized 49.3 kg of heroin and 29.8 kg of pseudo-ephedrine tablets.

A meeting of the 'Core Committee on Ruihol Do' (War against drugs) chaired by Mizoram Social Welfare and Excise Minister Lalrinawma held here, expressed concern over the increasing of drug smuggling from Myanmar through the state and their abuse by a section of youths.

An official of the Mizoram Excise and Narcotics Department said that the menace of drug abuse in rural

areas is much higher than in urban areas.

The 'Core Committee on Ruihol Do' decided to launch a massive awareness programme across the state to curb the drug menace.

The Mizoram government has provided Rs 3 crore to the committee to undertake all sorts of programmes to curb the drug menace.

Besides senior officials, leaders of Young Mizo Association (YMA) and Mizo Students' Union (MSU) took part in the meeting.

According to the Excise and Narcotics Department officials, the heroin and other drugs were smuggled from neighboring Myanmar.

Mizoram's 510 km unfenced international border with Myanmar, especially in the bordering Champhai district, is a major hotspot of smuggling.

Besides various illicit drugs, foreign cigarettes, a variety of other contrabands like gold, as well as arms and ammunition, exotic animals, and area nuts are often smuggled from Myanmar into northeastern states, especially Mizoram and Manipur.

Amit Shah to attend series of events during his 2-day stay in Gujarat

SIANS

GANDHINAGAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be on a two-day visit to his home state, Gujarat, during which he will engage in a series of public events and pray at the Jagannath Temple in Ahmedabad.

Shah will reach Ahmedabad late Monday evening. The following day, he has a lineup of five public engagements - the 'Mangla Aarti' at the Jagannath Temple, located in the Jamalpur area of Ahmedabad, starting at approximately 3.45 a.m.; around 9.15 a.m. he will inaugurate a park in New Ranip, Ahmedabad, which has been developed by the Amдавad Municipal Corporation (AMC).

He will also dedicate a newly constructed Jagatpur railway flyover in the Chandlodia area. This project is the result of a collaborative effort between the AMC and Railways, aiming to improve transportation infrastructure in the region.

Continuing with his engagements, Shah will also inaugurate a public park developed by CREDAI Ahmedabad, offering a much-needed recreational space for the general public. The Home Minister will participate in the 'Bhoomi Pujan' ceremony of Trimurti Hospital, situated in the Bavla area of Ahmedabad.

Two buses collide in TN; 7 killed, 40 injured

SIANS

CHENNAI: Seven people lost their lives and 40 others injured when two buses collided head-on on Monday morning in Melattampakkam in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu.

Immediately after the accident, local people and police rushed to the spot and shifted the injured to the hospital. Senior police officers and

revenue officers also rushed to the spot.

Sources in the Cuddalore police told IANS that the exact reason behind the collision is not clear yet and will be known only after speaking to those involved in the accident.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, the state opposition leader, Edappadi K. Palaniswami, and BJP state president, K. Annamalai condole the death of the people.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SPECIAL SUB DIVISION GUREZ

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No. 07/REW/2023-24/EE/SSDG/1757-66/E-tendering/Dated:-17-06-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of protection Bund with soling of Graveyard road at Refuji P/H Gulshanpora	1.77	200	15 days	3540	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
2	Construction of Chain link Fencing 2 nd phase of Graveyard Bagtore P/H Gulshanpora	1.92	200	15 days	3840	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
3	Construction of cement concrete path with tiles different from Gh Ahmad, Gh Rasool Ahanger S/O Jamal Ahanger to main road at Dangan P/H Gulshanpora	1.96	200	15 days	3920	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
4	Construction of cement concrete path with tiles different spots at Khar Mohallah Dasi P/H Gulshanpora	1.96	200	15 days	3920	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
5	Construction of crate Bund near Land of Masood Ahmad, Habib Wani at Losserdoqar Bagtore P/H Gulshanpora	1.97	200	15 days	3940	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
6	Construction of Fencing of Graveyard Tarbal P/H Gulshanpora	1.98	200	15 days	3960	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
7	Renovation of Panchayat Ghar at Gulshanpora including Roof renovation	3.45	200	20 days	6900	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE
8	Construction of Maga Drain from Ghulam Chopan to Irrigation Khul Tralal Banjran Ward 9 P/H Gulshanpora	1.95	200	15 days	3900	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
9	Construction of crate Bund Bank River Kishangan-ga near H/S Dasi P/H Gulshanpora	1.99	200	15 days	3980	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other
10	Construction of Drain from H/O Gh Nabi Bhat, Munwar Lone & other at ward 1 P/H Kanzalwan	1.79	200	15 days	3580	PRI Grants (Capex Budget 2023-24)	DEE/Other

Project Authority:-District Administration

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.	17-06-2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 19-06-2023 (10:00 AM) To 03-07-2023 (04:00 PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 19-06-2023 (10:00 AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 03-07-2023 (04:00 PM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	04-07-2023 (02:00 PM)

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez Major Head 0515-Rev:Misc(Tender Inviting Authority)(Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dtd 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan/ CDR/FDR should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date)pledged to Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez (Tender receiving Authority).
- All bidders have to pay 2% of advertised cost of the work as earnest money deposit (EMD) in shape of CDR pledged to Executive Engineer Special sub Division Gurez at the time of uploading of tender.
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract value as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/pledged to Executive Engineer Special sub Division Gurez within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP.
- Special Condition: As per Govt. Order No: 238 -FD OF 2021 Dated: 07-09-2021 Participation/Allotments of works can be limited to members of Gram Sabha of each panchayat upto amount of 3.00 lacs only and participants should be registered with District Development Commissioner BANDIPORA No Objection Certificate/ Bio Data for e-Tender Note: The below details are required for e-tendering participation in Panchayat (Annexure A)
- The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirement a/s laid down in NIT
- All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

DIPK-3701-23 DT: 19/06/2023

Sd/- Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez

Intercontinental Cup

Fiery half-time pep talk turns the tide for Indian team in final

IAN S

BHUBANESWAR: As the Indian football team headed into the dressing room at half-time in the Intercontinental Cup 2023 final against Lebanon, they were left quite unsatisfied with the performance that they had put out.

Their opponents from the Mediterranean, in fact, had threatened to score on a few occasions, something that was very much a part of the half-time pep talk.

The second half turned out to be a completely different story, with captain Sunil Chhetri and winger Lallianzuala Chhangte scoring the two goals that led to India lifting the Intercontinental Cup on Sunday night.

"Every game is important, every win is important, especially clean sheets, so I am very happy. But I can tell you that I was not at all happy at half-time. We played well in the first 10 minutes, and then we disappeared," said India head coach Igor Stimac after the game.

"We should not allow them to control the game for 20 minutes like that. It's best I don't mention what was said at half-time, but it worked. The reaction from the boys in the second half was brilliant. This is the India I



like to see," he added. India captain Sunil Chhetri also spoke about the wake-up

call that the players needed to start playing the way they needed to play.

"We got some tongue-lashing from the boss at half-time. We were nowhere close to where we

were in the last game. It was the wakeup call that we needed," Chhetri was quoted as saying by

AIFF in a media release.

"A lot of words were spoken, some of which I can't repeat here. But the main thing is that we knew we had it in our tanks, and at the end of the day, we have no regrets. Of course, it's easier now to say this at 2-0, but we are happy with the win," he added.

As the Blue Tigers celebrated the win, head coach Stimac took a look at the work that remains ahead of the AFC Asian Cup, where India has been clubbed in Group B alongside Australia, Uzbekistan, and Syria.

"There's plenty of work for us ahead of the AFC Asian Cup. We need to understand better positioning, the timing of runs when to play on the ground, and when not," said Stimac.

"Lebanon had 7-8 good transitions. That cannot happen against Australia or Uzbekistan. It's not important how we play today, it's important how we play in January (in the Asian Cup)," he added.

India has played six matches so far in 2023 and kept clean sheets in all of them. Attacking winger Lallianzuala Chhangte believes that a strong defensive line is a key to India's success in recent matches.

"It feels great to help the

team win a trophy. The main reason we won, though, is that our defenders are just so good. Their solidity at the back gives us more freedom up front. We were up against a very good side tonight, but we approached the second half with a different mentality, and that did the trick," said Chhangte, who was named the Hero of the Match.

India center-back and Hero of the Tournament Sandesh Jhingam believes that clean sheets are the foundation on which a team builds its confidence.

"If we play like we did in the second half, the sky is the limit. For every team, a clean sheet is a base upon which you build everything. There were still some lapses, and we could have done better, but we need to work on them and let's see where that takes us," said Jhingam.

While certain areas remain to be worked on for the Blue Tigers, captain Chhetri summed it up perfectly winning on home soil is sweet!

"We could not win the last time in the Hero Intercontinental Cup, but this win was sweet. It was not easy, but we were very happy, especially to keep the clean sheets," said Chhetri.

Moeen Ali guilty of breaching ICC Code of Conduct

UNI

BIRMINGHAM: England all-rounder Moeen Ali has been fined 25 percent of his match fee for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct during the first Test against Australia in Birmingham on Saturday.

Ali was found to have breached Article 2.20 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to displaying conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.

In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to Ali's disciplinary record, for whom it was the first offense in a 24-month period, the ICC media release said.

The incident occurred in the 89th over of Australia's innings, when Ali sprayed a drying agent on his bowling hand at the boundary line before coming on to bowl the next over, thus defying the umpires' pre-series instructions about not using anything on their hands without prior



approval. Ali admitted the offense and accepted the sanction proposed by Andy Pycroft of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, so there was no need for a formal hearing.

In reaching his decision to sanction the player, the Match Referee was satisfied that Ali had used the

spray only to dry his hands. The spray was not used as an artificial substance on the ball and consequently, it had not changed the condition of the ball, which would have been in breach of clause 41.3 of the ICC playing conditions - Unfair Play - The Match Ball - Changing its Condition. On-field umpires Ahsan

Raza and Marais Erasmus, third umpire Chris Gaffaney and fourth umpire Mike Burns leveled the charge.

Level 1 breaches carry a minimum penalty of an official reprimand, a maximum penalty of 50 percent of a player's match fee, and one or two demerit points.

AUS name preliminary 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup squad

UNI

CANBERRA: Australia national women's football head coach Tony Gustavsson has named a provisional squad for the FIFA Women's World Cup.

Gustavsson on Monday announced a 29-player squad who will participate in the Matildas' final preparations for the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand before the squad is cut down to 23 in July.

The training camp will give some injured players an opportunity to prove their fitness before the final squad is named.

Star players Sam Kerr, Steph Catley, Ellie Carpenter, and Caitlin Foord are all in the squad following long club seasons in Europe.

"From the first day of our first training session in 2021, we said it would take 23 in 23 for the FIFA Women's World Cup and everyone would have a role to play in that journey," Gustavsson said.

"What we have seen is that it has actually taken



more than 23 players to bring us to this moment, and for that reason, I am thrilled to work with the players named in this provisional squad during the final phase of our preparation.

"I have been impressed by their full commitment at every step, and now we have the chance to fine-tune and solidify our game plan ahead of a phenom-

enally exciting couple of weeks."

The Matildas will open their World Cup campaign against Ireland in Sydney on July 20, before facing Nigeria on July 27 in Brisbane and Canada on July 31 in Melbourne.

Only the top two teams from eight groups will enter the round of 16, as this is the first time that women's football's biggest

tournament will expand to a 32-team format.

China, having clinched the Asian Cup last year, is placed in Group D with England, Denmark, and Haiti for the tournament, which will be held between July 20 to August 20.

Prior to the landmark tournament on home soil, Australia will face fifth-ranked France in a warm-up match on July 14.

Max Verstappen eases to F1 Canadian GP win

IAN S

MONTREAL: Max Verstappen moved level with Ayrton Senna's tally of 41 Grand Prix wins after victory in Sunday's Formula 1 Canadian Grand Prix, here.

Starting from pole position after a brilliant performance in Saturday's wet qualifying session,

Verstappen held off the threat of Fernando Alonso at the start and never looked threatened as he managed the gap to those behind him throughout the race to take Red Bull's 100th Grand Prix win.

"Very happy right now. It was not a very straightforward race, as the tires were not getting into their window. It was very cold compared to Friday, but we made it work and to win the 100th GP for the team is pretty incredible," said Verstappen afterward.

Behind Verstappen, Alonso finished second

for Aston Martin after a good overtaking move on Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton, who took third.

The Ferraris of Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz recovered from a poor qualifying session to finish fourth and fifth, ahead of the second Red Bull of Sergio Perez, who also

notched the bonus point for the fastest lap, though the Mexican may be concerned at yet another weekend where he was off the pace of his illustrious teammate, Xinhua reported.

Alex Albon continued his good form from Saturday's qualifying to finish in an excellent seventh place, scoring Williams' best result in almost two years after withstanding heavy pressure from the cars behind him.

Esteban Ocon took eighth for Alpine, with Aston Martin's Lance Stroll taking ninth place on the line from Valtteri Bottas, who rounded out the points for Alfa Romeo.

The two retirees were Logan Sargeant, who pulled off on Lap 6 with an engine issue, and George Russell, who retired with brake issues after having clouted the wall earlier in the race.

Verstappen's win puts him on 195 points and gives him a 69-point advantage over second-placed Perez, with no driver in F1 history ever having overhauled such a lead. Alonso stays third with 117 points.

In the Constructors' Championship, Red Bull's lead now stands at 321 points, with the drinks-backed outfit having won all eight races so far this season. Mercedes are second with 167 points, with Aston Martin third with 154.



James Rodriguez eyeing 2026 World Cup qualification with Colombia

UNI

BOGOTA: Midfielder James Rodriguez said Colombia's players are already seeking to make amends for their failure to qualify for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Colombia fell one point short of a playoff spot following a series of underwhelming performances in South America's grueling two-year qualifying campaign.

"It was sad because we wanted to go to another World Cup," local media quoted Rodriguez as saying on Sunday. "This generation deserved it. Not going to a World Cup was hard for the players to take. But there's another one around the corner, and hopefully, we can be there."

Rodriguez is currently without a club after parting ways with Greece's Olympiacos in April. His lack of recent competitive matches meant he was left out of Nestor Lorenzo's squad for the Cafeteros' latest friendlies: a 1-0



win over Iraq in Valencia last Friday and Monday's clash with Germany in Gelsenkirchen.

The 31-year-old is impressed by what he is seeing from Lorenzo, who replaced Reinaldo Rueda last June.

Argentine Lorenzo had already developed a rapport with several players during his time as the Cafeteros' assistant coach from 2012 to 2019.

"I think we're going to do well with him," Rodriguez said. "He was an assistant under [Jose] Pekerman, so he knows the job and the players."

Tennis: Nick Kyrgios withdraws from Halle Open due to injury

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Australian tennis player Nick Kyrgios has withdrawn from the Terra Wortmann Open, also known as Halle Open, due to an ongoing issue with his left knee, the tournament organizers said on Monday.

He was scheduled to face Lorenzo Sonego in the Halle first round on Tuesday to make his second consecutive appearance at the

German grass tournament.

Kyrgios has been replaced by the lucky loser Aslan Karatsev, who reached his maiden ATP Masters 1000 semifinal as a qualifier in May in Madrid.

The 28-year-old Australian made his comeback to the ATP Tour in Stuttgart last week after he had surgery to repair a small tear in his left lateral meniscus in January.

He complained of inhib-

ited movement caused by his knee during his first-round defeat to Wu Yibing, however, and the problem has now forced Kyrgios' withdrawal from the ATP 500 in Halle.

Kyrgios enjoyed the best season of his career in 2022, when he racked up a 37-10 record, including a Tour-leading 12 wins on grass. That tally included his run to a maiden major final at Wimbledon.

Hyderabad FC complete Akash Mishra transfer to Mumbai City FC

UNI

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Football Club on Monday announced it has completed the transfer of Indian left-back Akash Mishra to Mumbai City FC, for an undisclosed fee.

The 21-year-old burst into the scene with Hyderabad FC in the 2020-21 campaign, and became a National Team regular in his three seasons at the club, the Club



said in a release here.

Mishra made 69 appearances in all competitions in Yellow and Black scoring three goals, and was an important part of the squad that

won the Indian Super League title in the 2021-22 season.

He went on to cement his spot in the National Team making 16 appearances in the Blue of India winning the recently concluded Hero Intercontinental Cup in Bhubaneswar.

The Club expressed its gratitude for Mishra's valuable contribution to the success of Hyderabad FC and wishes him the best for the future.

PM Modi, Amit Shah's commitment transforms J&K's landscape

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to build "Naya Jammu and Kashmir" has transformed the landscape of the Himalayan region.

The completion of languishing projects, the implementation of new ones, and adherence to the principles of "Gati" and "Pargati" have brought peace, prosperity, and progress to Jammu and Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370. The success achieved in infrastructure development has not only improved the physical landscape of the region but has also shattered false narratives, empowering the people of the Union Territory to envision a brighter future.

After August 5, 2019, when the Centre announced its decision to scrap J-K's special status and bifurcate it into two Union Territories, the government has taken unprecedented strides to boost connectivity infrastructure for the rapid economic transformation of the region.

During the past three years, the government has built express highways and improved airports, and Kashmir is all set to get connected with the rest of the country by train by next year.

The work on the 272-km Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project has entered its last phase. Its completion would provide all-

weather connectivity to Kashmir with the rest of the country. The project is slated to be completed by next year.

Once completed, USBRL, with 38 tunnels, including the longest 12.77-km T-49 tunnel, will signify a marvellous engineering feat for India. The world's highest Chenab Bridge (1,315 mt) and the first cable-stayed rail bridge add to the beauty of this rail connectivity project.

The widening work of the strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) also is nearing completion. The project was divided into six parts, of which four have been completed.

The work is going on the last two phases, the Banihal-Ramban road (36 km) and Ramban-Udhampur road (43 km).

This 79 km-long four-lane stretch of the National Highway will have 14 tunnels, including the recently opened Panthyal tunnel, between Banihal-Ramban-Udhampur. The work on the strategic highway is scheduled to be completed by 2024 end.

Another four-lane Greenfield Expressway, connecting Delhi-Katra is also being constructed. It will reduce the distance between the two cities by 58 kilometres. It's a part of '32 Green Express Highways' being built across the country.

This 670 km four-lane Greenfield Expressway from Delhi to Vaishno Devi Dham, Katra is slated to be completed by December 2023 at a cost of Rs 37,524 crore.



Pertinently, the road construction in Jammu and Kashmir picked up pace after 2019. In three years, travel time between major destinations across J-K has reduced considerably.

According to the officials, more than 7000 km of road length has been built during the past 3 years. More than 170 bridges have been constructed to strengthen the transport system and more than 8000 km of road length has been macadamized which used to be around 2500-3000 km previously.

Road and tunnel infrastructure has been prioritized and around one lakh crore is being spent to build a robust road network.

In 2021-22, Jammu and Kashmir set a new record of constructing 6,450 kms of road length and achieved third rank in the target of longest road

length in the country.

Till 2019, six kms of road length was constructed per day which has increased to 20 km per day during the past few years.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Jammu and Kashmir ranks fourth in the country.

Notably, the Union Ministry of Rural Development had sanctioned 3,347 schemes under the PMGSY-I to be executed in 12 phases envisaging the construction of 18,432.79 km of roads costing Rs 1,19,646.76 crore to provide connectivity to 2,148 habitations.

Under the PMGSY-II, 107 schemes (704.55 km) have been sanctioned costing Rs 790.49 crore.

Under the PMGSY-III the government has approved Rs

1,357 crore for J-K to build 1,276 km of road length.

The PMGSY-III is yet another milestone in the rural connectivity of J-K.

The work on the 78 Kms four-lane Srinagar ring road project is slated to be completed in 2023-24.

With the construction of this ring road worth Rs 4,660 crore people, coming from Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Gurez, Kargil, and Leh, will not have to come inside Srinagar city. This will reduce traffic congestion and pollution in the city.

A proposal has been moved for the construction of a tunnel between Sheshnag and Panjtarni on the Amarnath Yatra route.

It would reduce the yatra time from the current three days to just nine hours.

According to the officials,

a 110-kilometre road from Khanabal to Panjtarni will be constructed for the ease of Amarnath pilgrims at a cost of Rs 5,300 crore.

The DPR for a 73 km stretch from Khanabal to Chandanwari and a 37 km stretch from Chandanwari to Baltal via Panjtarni at a cost of Rs 3,500 is under process.

A 10.8-kilometre-long tunnel will be constructed between Sheshnag and Panjtarni.

Meanwhile, the construction of a tunnel at Pir Ki Gali on Mughal Road, connecting Poonch in the Jammu region to Shopian in Kashmir is also on the cards. The Rs 6,000 crore project includes the Rs 5,000 crore tunnel at Pir Ki Gali, which comprises the construction of an all-weather road.

Another key achievement of the PM Modi-led regime in J-K has been the completion of languishing projects. These projects, which had been stalled for years, hindered the progress of the region. Recognizing their importance, the government undertook efforts to fast-track their completion.

The unprecedented speed with which these projects were executed reinvigorated the development landscape of the Union Territory. From the construction of schools, hospitals, and community centers to the renovation of existing infrastructure, the completion of these projects improved the quality of life for the people of J-K.

In addition to completing

pending projects, the government has also taken the initiative to implement new projects that cater to the diverse needs of the region.

PM Modi-led regime has demonstrated a strong commitment to deliver results quickly and efficiently by implementing the mantra of "Gati" (speed) and "Pargati" (progress).

The government has removed unnecessary obstacles and encouraged public-private partnerships.

The pace of infrastructure development in 'Naya J-K' has been accelerated.

This approach has not only transformed the physical landscape of the region but has also fostered an environment conducive to investment and economic growth.

The remarkable progress achieved in J-K under the PM Modi-led regime has shattered false narratives propagated by a handful of people with vested interests. These individuals sought to keep the pot boiling by spreading misinformation and fueling unrest.

However, the tangible results of infrastructure development in the Union Territory have debunked their claims.

The improved quality of life, enhanced connectivity, and economic growth have silenced the critics and stand testimony to the transformative power of development under the visionary leadership of PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. (Milap News Network)

Kashmir has only one PET-CT scan despite steep rise in cancer patients

'SKIMS registers 14,000 new cancer patients in 3 years'

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: There is only one PET-CT scan for staging and assessment of the treatment response of patients despite the steep rise in cancer patients in the valley.

The oncologists said Kashmir "badly needs" a few more PET-CT scan machines for the proper management of cancer in poor people.

An oncologist, wishing not to be named said that in the modern-day practice of oncology, PET-CT has emerged as a game-changer in the management of cancer.

"It constitutes a major advancement in the initial diagnosis, evaluation, treatment, prognosis, surveillance and relapse throughout the course of the disease by adding precision of anatomical imaging to functional imaging," he said.

PET-CT is an acronym for Positron Emission Tomography - Computed Tomography which is nuclear medicine equipment that houses a PET scanner and a CT scanner, to acquire multiple sequential views to create 3D images of the body. This modality provides a hybrid image formed by the fusion

of the functional image of PET and the anatomical image of CT.

Dr Shabnam, who is Kashmir's first female organ-specific Oncosurgeon, told KNO that Kashmir "badly needs" more PET CT SCAN facilities



for the proper management of cancer patients as there are just two facilities available that is one at SKIMS and another at Medicare. This type of scan isn't recommended in all cases as it has its own indications and limitations, she added.

Dr Zahoor, another oncologist from SKIMS Soura, said PET-CT is needed for staging and assessment of treatment response in selective patients while it doesn't have much role in early detection.

A senior doctor from GMC Srinagar said the facility must be available at GMC Srinagar given the number of patients who are visiting for treatment. The patients suffer in the absence of PET scan which is an essential tool to detect cancer, he said, adding, "Just a few patients can go for PET-CT at

been registered with Regional Cancer Center at the Sheri Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura in the last three years as a total of 4,737 cancer cases were reported in the year 2021, up from 3,840 cases of cancer in 2020 while 5284 new patients were registered in year 2022.

According to data from the Union Health Ministry, 51,577 cases of cancer were reported in J&K in the last four years (2019-2022) with 12,396 in 2019, 12,726 cases in 2020, 13,060 cases in 2021, and 13,395 cases in 2022.

A total of 35,623 people in J&K died with cancer between the years 2018 and 2022 that is 6824 cancer patients were reported to have died in 2018; in 2019, 7003 deaths were reported; in 2020, 7189 deaths were reported; in 2021, 7211 deaths were reported; and in 2022, 7396 cancer patient fatalities were reported.

A 2012 study by the Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) attributed the rising cancer incidence to "dietary practices and lifestyle choices" as well as the intake of foods with high salt content—(KNO)

SKIMS on a daily basis while others have to wait for a long time for their turn."

The doctor said that the majority of patients cannot afford to go for a private diagnosis which results in compromising on the diagnosis. "PET-CT is helping doctors to work out the best treatment and helps to detect primary site thereby influencing the choice of chemotherapy," he said.

Around 14 thousand new cancer patients have

Ehsan Asgar: Rising Star from the Pahari Ethnic Group Of J&K Defying the Odds

ZUBAIR QURESHI

JAMMU: Poonch, a remote district nestled in the picturesque landscapes of Jammu and Kashmir, is often referred to as "mini Kashmir" for its breathtaking beauty. It is from this enchanting land that Ehsan Asgar, a talented singer hailing from the Pahari Ethnic Group, has emerged as a beacon of hope and inspiration for his community. Despite the challenges posed by his background and geographic location, Ehsan's unwavering determination and remarkable talent have propelled him towards stardom.

Ehsan Asgar, known for creating magical moments and weaving a wonderful romance for his audience, discovered his passion for singing at an early age. His journey began on the grand stage of "Chooona Hai Asmaan," a talent show organized by the Jammu and Kashmir police, where he showcased his raw talent to the world. Although he faced skepticism from his family due to their marginalized position within the Pahari Ethnic Group and their remote location on the Actual Line of Control (ALC), Ehsan persevered, fueled by his dreams and aspirations.

It was in 2016 that Ehsan Asgar stepped into the limelight on the renowned reality show "Indian Idol" season 9. As a top contestant, he captivated the hearts of millions with his soulful rendi-

tions and impeccable vocal range. The platform proved to be a springboard for his budding career, paving the way for open concerts both in India and abroad. Ehsan received overwhelming love and appreciation from his diverse audience, further cementing his position as a rising star in the music industry.

Throughout his journey, Ehsan Asgar has had the privilege of sharing the stage with notable personalities such as Parmish Verma, Gurnazav, Dilbag Singh, and rapper star boy LOC. Their collaborations added new dimensions to his performances, enhancing the magic he creates on stage. Ehsan's mesmerizing voice and magnetic stage presence have made him a sought-after performer in various music festivals and events.

While his talent shines brightly, Ehsan Asgar remains grounded and aspires to conquer new horizons. His ultimate life goal is to lend his voice to Bollywood playback and gain international recognition. Undeterred by obstacles, Ehsan has released several successful singles, including "Nafrat," a music video shot in the vibrant city of Dubai. Additionally, he has written and sung his compositions such as "Adabe-Mohabbat," which showcases his versatility as an artist.

Ehsan's relentless pursuit of his dreams has not only earned him personal success but has also trans-



formed the perception of his family. Despite their initial doubts, they now find solace in his achievements and take pride in his unwavering determination. Ehsan Asgar has become an inspiration for young individuals hailing from marginalized backgrounds, demonstrating that talent and hard work can transcend barriers and unlock a world of opportunities.

Zubair Qureshi, a Writer and journalist from the Pahari Ethnic Group, emphasized, "Ehsan Asgar's incredible talent is a testament to the abundance of skill within the youth of our community. We wholeheartedly wish him the best of luck in his journey."

When asked about his mentors, Ehsan Asgar spoke with gratitude about the support he received from two eminent figures in the music industry: Sonu Nigam and Vineet Kumar. He considers them his guiding lights, who encouraged

him to pursue his dreams relentlessly. Their wisdom and guidance have shaped his musical journey, allowing him to navigate the intricacies of the industry with poise and determination.

In a world often plagued by inequalities and limitations, Ehsan Asgar stands tall as a testament to the power of dreams and the resilience of the human spirit. From the depths of Poonch, he has soared to remarkable heights, captivating hearts with his soulful voice. As he continues to work on upcoming projects, including unreleased songs with prominent production houses, Ehsan Asgar is poised to leave an indelible mark on the music industry, cementing his place as an extraordinary talent and a symbol of hope for aspiring artists from all walks of life.

Ehsan Asgar, shares his heartfelt belief, "I have always dreamt of making my mark in this industry, regardless of the challenges that come my way. My journey may have been tough, but I believe that talent knows no boundaries. With the love and support of my audience, and the blessings of my mentors, I am confident that I will create a lasting legacy in the world of music."

As the sun sets over the magnificent mountains of Poonch, Ehsan Asgar's melodious voice continues to reverberate, echoing the dreams and aspirations of a young artist destined for greatness.

Sanjay pahlwan of Pargwal Akhnoor lifts 'Kharah Kesri Dangal Championship'

AZHAR HAJINI

JAMMU: Sanjay Pehwan of Pargwal Monday lifted Kharah Kesri Dangal title by defeating his rival Vikas Pahlwan of Haryana in the famous Kharah Kesri Dangal Championship which was held here at Kharah. As many as 60 wrestling bouts were held and the highest was played between and Sanjay Pahlwan of Pargwal and Vikas Pahlwan of Haryana.

Joint Director Youth Services and Sports Jammu Suram Sharma presided over the function and distributed prizes to the winners and the runners-ups on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion, Mr Sharma thanked the participants



and exhorted upon the youth to take part in games and Sports which is the best way to channelise youth energy.

"The Government is taking all-out efforts to provide basic minimum Sports facilities to the youth at their door steps to promote sports culture among Youth," he added.

Among others, Joint Director Industries Jammu Surinder Paul Sharma, District Youth Services and Sports Officer Jammu

Mr Sukhdev Sharma, Tehsildar Kharah- Balli Mr Romesh Chander, Janak Raj, Ashok Sharma, Master Des Raj, Sh. Milkhi Ram, Shotu Ram, Chuni Lal, Tej Ram, Suresh Kumar, Dr Surinder, Prithi Ram, Janak Raj, Romesh Sharma, Sat Paul Sharma, Capt. Romesh Chander, Parshotam Lal Numberdar, Suram Thakyal, Romesh Kumar, Tilak Raj, and hundreds of local and other Prominent persons were present on the occasion.

Drug peddler held in Anantnag: Police

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested a drug peddler in Anantnag and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

A police party of Police Post Janglatmandi at a checkpoint established at Brackpora Anantnag intercepted a vehicle (Tata Mobile) bearing registration number JK21B-0743 driven by Sham Lal son of Bahadur Ram resident of Saror Jammu. During search, 25.770 Kgs of Poppy Straw like substance was recovered from the said vehicle. He has been arrested and shifted to PS where he remains in custody. Vehicle used in the

commission of crime has also been seized, a police spokesman said in a statement issued here.

Accordingly, police said that a case under relevant sections of law has been registered in PS Anantnag and investigation has been initiated.

"Community members are requested to come forward with any information regarding drug peddling in their neighbourhood. Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt as per law. Our consistent actions against drug peddlers should reassure the community members that we are making efforts to keep our society free from the scourge of drug menace," police said.

JKHC convenes meeting to discuss preparations for Amarnath Yatra

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: J&K Hoteliers Club on Monday held a meeting in Srinagar to discuss preparations for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra 2023.

Soon after meeting was concluded, J&K Hoteliers Club Chairperson Mush-taq Ahmad Chaya told reporters that the annual Amarnath Yatra 2023 will commence from July 01 and hoteliers have made enough arrangements in place to ease out the difficulties of Yatris.

He said all stakeholders took part in the meeting wherein it was discussed and deliberated upon several issues related to Amarnath Yatra 2023 in order to provide

best possible services to the Amarnath devotees.

"Besides hoteliers, government should also put adequate arrangements in place for smooth conduct of Yatra. Also there should be vast residential facilities given to the pilgrims who have to come far off areas across the country," Chaya said.

He said the administration should take all possible efforts to smoothen the travel of Yatri's by making road services in Sonamarg and Pahalgam. "The meeting was convened with an aim to welcome Yatri's this year. It has been our tradition to welcome them like in past years. If devotees need any facility our hotels are ready for them to serve smoothly," Chaya added. "Deputy Commissioner

Ganderbal assured us the resolution of all problems. We are hopeful this is the right time to macadamize roads leading to the cave. Further proper lighting arrangements should be in place to ease out inconvenience. Wherever repair is needed, should be taken on priority basis," he added.

About land lease extension of properties located in Gulmarg, Chaya said that the government has taken up the matter and we are hopeful it will be addressed at the earliest so that the business of hoteliers in Gulmarg will prosper. He at the occasion lauded Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for taking steps to ensure peace and development in the region. (KNS)