

Good Morning Kashmir

Kashmir Power DISCOM
@KPDCLOfficial



Kids play Gulli Danda, we play 'Kundi Danda' with Bijli Chors! #KPDCL warriors will go out in freezing cold to unmask those who don't care for patients, students & sisters engaged in daily chores.

Srinagar • Saturday 09, December 2023 • Vol: 14 • Issue No: 292 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 5/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

DSEJ Announces Winter Vacation From Dec-11

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) Friday announced winter vacations in winter zones in a phased manner from December-11 to February-29.

DSEJ in an order said that all government schools and recognised private schools upto Higher Secondary Level of winter zone of Jammu Division shall observe winter vacations.

DSEJ said that the classes upto 8th standard shall observe the vacations from December-11-2023 to February-29-2024 and the **•P-06**

Eidgah **Terror** Incident Thousands Bid Tearful Farewell To Police Inspector Masroor Wani



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: "I have fixed a cricket match on Sunday and have made all the arrangements, you just have to come and play with me." These were the last words of Police Inspector Masroor Ahmad Wani, his friend, who was drowned in tears said.

A heart-rending scene was witnessed at Eidgah Srinagar as the lifeless body of the valiant cop, who was killed by terrorists, finally returned home.

Amidst a shroud of sorrow and cries, his body was first brought to District Police Lines (DPL) Srinagar before being handed over to his grieving family for the final rites. The wreath-laying ceremony was attended by senior officers of police and civil administration who paid a salute to the martyr amid heavy hearts. **•P-06**

To Avoid Attacks... 'Police To Ensure Strict Compliance Of SoPs'

Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir Police Friday said all the officers and other ranks have been directed to follow Standard Operating Procedure (SoPs) in **•P-06**

Union Power Minister Assures Adequate Power Supply For J&K During Winter

Lauds UT Govt's Initiatives Toward Energy Conservation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of Power, New and Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha co-chaired a high-level meeting to review power sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, H. Rajesh Prasad, presented a detailed overview of department's recent achievements.

It was informed that J&K has taken several proactive steps to ensure sufficient availability of power as a part of both short term and medium term measures. In this direction, PPAs for 2500 MW have been signed during the current year, aiming to double the existing power availability in the UT in coming years.

The Union Minister, while addressing the meeting, said that a senior officer from the Ministry would act



as the Nodal Officer, responsible for continuous monitoring of power situation and addressing any gaps from the Central Pool to ensure adequate power supply to J&K.

The Union Minister directed the project implementing agency, REPCDCL to **•P-06**

'PDD To Sign 472 MW PPA By Dec End'

Amid the ongoing power crisis, Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Department (JKPDD) is all set to sign a 472 MW Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) by the end of December-23.

The information was revealed by Union Power Minister R. K. Singh to Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha.

The Ministry of Power in a statement said that LG of Jammu & **•P-06**

5 Arrested With Weapons In Separate Incidents

JAMMU- Five people were arrested with weapons in separate incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Friday.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided the Ramgarh area in Samba district and arrested hardcore criminal Vivek Singh on Thursday night. A country-made pistol and a 12-bore gun were recovered from him, they said.

A case was registered against him under the **•P-06**

J&K Has 2nd Highest Potential To Generate Solar Energy

MUBASHIR AALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir ranks at the second place for having higher potential to produce solar energy in India, documents reveal.

As per the document accessed, Jammu and Kashmir has a potential to produce 111050 MW of solar energy.

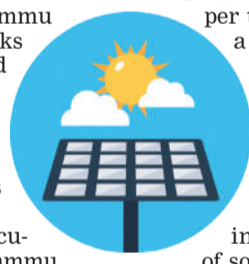
Throughout India Rajasthan ranks at the first place for having a potential to produce 142310 MWs of solar energy.

Jammu and Kashmir is followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, which has a potential to produce 64320, 61660, and 38440 MWs of solar energy.

Currently, Jammu and Kashmir has 27.25 MW of installed capacity of solar power.

During the last financial year, the centre released Rs 27.98crores to further tap the solar energy in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, the Ministry of Renewable Energy has embarked on a mission to install 175 GW of renewable energy capacity. **•P-06**



Tribal Seasonal Migration 12,497 Families Provided Transport Facilities From Kashmir

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a significant achievement the Government of Jammu and Kashmir under its initiative for supporting bianual migration (transhumance) of tribal communities provided transport service to 12,497 families and transported 1,56,215 livestock.

The scheme initiated by the Tribal Affairs Department in 2021 is being implemented through District Administrations under supervision of



Deputy Commissioners and transport fleet provided by the J&K Road Transport Corporation. More than 12,000 families and around 70,000 population was benefited under the initiative this year which is highest since the launch of **•P-06**

CS For Ensuring Sustainability Of Cleanliness Measures In Rural Areas

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday while reviewing the functioning of Rural Development Department (RDD) here impressed upon it to ensure that the measures taken for cleanliness of our villages are sustainable and effective on ground level.

Dulloo observed that the cleanliness (Swachhta) is one of the foremost priorities at the national level espoused by the Prime Minister himself. He substantiated that this nationwide campaign needs to be turned into a movement for its benefits are multiple and **•P-06**



With Winter, Migratory Birds Flock To Kashmir



RAJA SYED RATHER

SRINAGAR: With the onset of winter in Kashmir, the migratory birds have started flocking to the wetlands across the Valley with officials stating that Mallard, Gadwalls and geese have arrived at the Hokersar wetland, here.

Ifshan Dewan, Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Kashmir said that the migratory birds have started arriving the wetlands here and at present a number of birds including Mallard, Gadwall and almost 100-200 Geese are among the species witnessed at Hokersar wetland.

"These birds flock to Kashmir every year during the winter period," she said, adding that they flock to Kashmir from different parts of the world including Siberia, Northern Europe and Central Asian Countries where the temperature remains low.

The wetlands are among the main attractions for these birds as the wetlands are their habitation, she said, adding that in the previous year, Hokersar hosted 5 lakh migratory birds and this year also, the number is very good.

Asked about the situation during freezing temperature, she said in case the water body is **•P-06**

Cold Conditions Remain Unabated In Kashmir



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Severe cold conditions continued in Jammu and Kashmir as night temperature settled at minus 2.4°C in Srinagar on Friday.

A meteorological department official said that it was the second coldest night in Srinagar against minus 2.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 1.8°C below normal for this time of the year in Srinagar.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 2.4°C against minus 2.2°C on the previous night, he said. The minimum temperature was 1.6°C below normal and the season's coldest so far for the gateway town of Kashmir, the official said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 4.8°C against minus 4.9°C on the previous night and it was 1.6°C below normal **•P-06**



TIGER 3
12:30PM (HINDI) U/A



ANIMAL
10:40AM, 02:45PM, 06:45PM
1:30PM, 4:00PM, 5:40PM (HINDI) A

INOX LIVE the MOVIE SRINAGAR

INOX CINEMA SHIVPORA SGR

Saturday 09 DEC MOVIES



WONKA
10:00AM, 08:00PM (ENGLISH) U



SAM BAHADUR
10:30AM (HINDI) U/A

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BOOSTING TOURISM IN BHADERWAH

DDC announces hosting of winter Carnival, interacts with tourists

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh Friday visited Guldanda in Bhaderwah, a well-known tourist destination which is witnessing the arrival of tourists all the way from different states of the country to enjoy winters amid snow capped mountains. The purpose of the visit was to engage with tourists, gather insights into their experiences and obtain valuable feedback to improve tourism facilities in the area.



During interactions with tourists, the DDC assured them of their safety and convenience, emphasizing the administration's commitment to delivering a memorable and hassle-free experience. He also discussed the upcoming winter festival, set to showcase the rich cultural heritage and traditions of the region.

The anticipated winter festival aims to draw a significant number of tourists, providing a platform to promote local talent,

craftsmanship, and cuisine. The event is poised to feature diverse cultural performances, adventure sports, local handicraft exhibitions, and enticing food stalls. DDC Doda expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming winter carnival. He urged both locals and tourists to actively participate and contribute to its success. He further encouraged the tourism department and local stakeholders to make necessary arrangements, ensuring a seamless and

enjoyable experience for all attendees.

As part of his responsibilities, DDC Doda Harvinder Singh conducted an inspection in the Bhaderwah sub-district to ensure all necessary arrangements for the upcoming JKSSB Panchayat Secretary VLW exam are in place. This proactive measure aims to guarantee a smooth and efficient execution of the examination at the designated exam center in Bhaderwah.

District Doda, the DC

said, holds significant tourism potential with famous ancient spots like the Vasuki Naag temple, Gupt Ganga, Bhaderwah Fort, besides breathtaking destinations. "The district also boasts of aromatic Bhaderwahi Rajma and a number of rare herbs famous across the country and even worldwide," he added. The DC emphasized that these ancient and archaeological spots could act as great attractions for tourists from all parts of the country and boost the tourism industry in the district.

The DC also highlighted potential tourist attractions like Famous Jai Valley, Gatha Park, Jantroon Dhar, Guldanda Lal Dramen, and other unexplored destinations. He mentioned that road connectivity from Bhaderwah towards Guldanda and Chattergallaa will be improved to enhance the tourist experience. The DC expressed optimism about leveraging the district's diverse offerings to make it a sought-after destination for tourists.

DC convenes DVC meet in Baramulla

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar Friday presided over a meeting of the District Valuation Committee (DVC) to deliberate on the preparation for the revision of market value guidelines and rates for the upcoming calendar year 2024 at Meeting hall of DC Office complex, here.



The meeting encompassed a comprehensive review of revised proposals presented by Sub-divisional level committees, all committees, focusing on the revision of annual stamp duty rates and the market value of land, buildings, and other immovable property within the district.

Committee members briefed the DC on the thorough analysis of rates, providing insights into the

area/ village-wise percentage changes for incorporation in the year 2024.

The DC took a detailed overview of the methodology adopted, field exercises conducted, and the parameters considered in formulating the proposed rates.

During the meeting, the DC held a brief deliberation on the proposals submitted by the committee members.

They emphasized that the revised rates are meticulously established in accordance with the criteria for rate fixation.

This meeting signifies a crucial step in ensuring transparent and well-informed decision-making regarding property valuation and stamp duty rates in Baramulla for the upcoming year.

The meeting was attend-

ed by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Dr Zahoor Ahmad Raina; Superintending Engineer R&B, Reyaz Ahmad Parry; Divisional Forest Officer JV Division Baramulla, District Panchayat Officer, Executive Officer Municipal Council Baramulla, Tehsildars Baramulla, Representative of Town Planner and other concerned officials.

DC Reasi calls for providing advance services to Shiv Khori Pilgrims



GMK NEWS NETWORK

REASI: District Development Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan, who is also vice chairperson of Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board, presided over discussions with members of the Board wherein emphasis was laid on best practices and technology upgradation for the devotees.

The Executive Officer presented a comprehensive overview of the board's ongoing activities and achievements through a detailed PowerPoint presentation.

The meeting focused on different aspects of the Board's functioning, emphasizing its commitment to improve shrine facilities and provide a seamless experience to the devotees.

DDC Vishesh Mahajan expressed satisfaction over the accomplishments of the Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board, encouraging collaborative efforts to maintain high-quality services for pilgrims. He commended the dedication of board

members and urged them to take innovative measures for future development.

During the meeting, DDC Mahajan stressed the significance of adopting modern technologies to enrich the pilgrimage experience. He proposed switching over to online registration to expedite the process and enhance the organized management of pilgrim data.

Emphasizing transparency and accountability, DDC Mahajan introduced a robust system assigning unique identification numbers to each Pony Vala and Pithu Vala. This measure aims to efficiently monitor their activities, ensuring adherence to the highest service standards.

Key attendees included Joint Director Planning Sunita Kanchan, Executive Officer Pardeep Kumar, and Xen PHE and PWD representatives. The meeting served as a platform to review progress, address challenges, and outline future endeavors for the Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board.

DC Shopian reviews arrangements for JKSSB Exams



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb Friday chaired a meeting of head of institutions, Centre Superintendents and concerned Officers at Conference Hall of DC Office here to finalize the preparations for JKSSB's OMR based written examination of Panchayat Secretary, scheduled to be held on 10th of December in the district.

During the meeting, it was informed that around 4270 candidates are expected to appear in the written examination at 13 centers across the District. For the smooth, free and fair conduct of examinations, 13 Magistrates, Observers, Superintendents each and 1 Dy.Superintendent have been deployed in the district.

Deliberations in the meeting focused on roles, responsibilities and coordination of manpower, meticulous arrangement of basic facilities, especially heating arrangements keeping in view the cold conditions, elaborate security arrangements, logistics for transporta-

tion, safekeeping of examination materials and efficient traffic management.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that fair and transparent exams are the top most priority of the district administration.

He directed installation of CCTVs in control rooms of the educational institutions of the district where these SSB exams are scheduled to be conducted along with videography of exams.

The meeting was apprised that the police department was directed to ensure adequate deployment of Police personnel for escort of examination material and for proper frisking.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; Principal, IMGDC Shopian, Prof. Mohammad Shafiq; Chief Education Officer, Shopian, Mohammad Shabir; Administrative Officer, JKSSB, Javid Ahmed; Superintendents, Head of institutions and other concerned were present in the meeting.

Day-14: VBSY reaches 8 Panchayats of Kulgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) continued on 14th day in the district, with an IEC campaign organized in 08 more panchayats of Kulgam block Friday.

Panchayat Halqas including Ereh, Awhatoo, Mahipora, Okey, Chansar, Chelal, Liroo and Ashthal were covered on Friday witnessing enthusiastic and vibrant participation of stakeholders.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a nationwide outreach initiative aimed at informing and empowering citizens about the Government's flagship schemes, started its campaign in the district on 25 November from D.K.Marg block.

The Yatra is showcasing the positive impact with beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Kisan Samman Nidhi, PM PRANAM, Ujjwala Yojana, Jan Oushadhi, Khelo India, sharing their firsthand experiences in various panchayats in district

Kulgam. During the yatra, drone demos were also conducted in various places showcasing the effective use of technology to enhance agricultural productivity.

During the yatra, Officers and officials continued to aware people about government schemes and interacted with people and motivated them to register for schemes and get benefits under various employment and welfare based schemes.

Welfare, employment, insurance, social security and income generation based schemes were highlighted by all departments who had installed stalls.

IEC Vans were pressed into service also to disseminate information among masses about various welfare schemes of the government.

Meanwhile, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has emerged as a powerful tool for bridging the gap between the Government and its citizens, ensuring that the benefits of various schemes reach those who need them the most.

VBSY displays remarkable community engagement in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Anantnag has garnered widespread acclaim for its exceptional community engagement efforts, fostering development and empowerment across various sectors, demonstrating a strong commitment to connecting with the local community and addressing their needs.

The Yatra facilitated interactive workshops and seminars, providing a platform for open dialogue on issues that were unresolved till date. This inclusive approach allowed for the exchange of ideas, expertise, and perspectives, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for community development.

Recognizing the importance of skill development in enhancing livelihoods, the Yatra implemented practical training programs tailored to the needs of the local population. These initiatives not only equipped individuals with valuable skills but also

contributed to the overall socioeconomic growth of the community.

The Yatra prioritized the well-being of the community by organizing health and wellness camps. These camps provided essential medical services, health awareness sessions, and counseling, ensuring that the residents had access to necessary healthcare resources.

Embracing the rich cultural diversity of Anantnag, the Yatra showcased cultural events, festivals, and celebrations. This not only showcased the vibrant heritage of the region but also strengthened the bond between the Yatra and the local community.

In collaboration with local authorities and organizations, the Yatra initiated projects aimed at improving infrastructure in key areas. This included efforts to enhance educational facilities, upgrade basic amenities, and raise awareness about various Govt. sponsored schemes and contribute to the overall development of Anantnag District.

VBSY reaches Hayhama, Handwara blocks of Kupwara

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) on Friday reached Hayhama and Handwara blocks of Kupwara district.

Far flung Panchayats including Manigah A,B&C; Batpora A,B,C & D, Babapora, Chalgund, Goni-pora, Gundisana, Gutli-pora, Jugtyal, Hummander, Kashirah, Manzhar, Payer-pora and Qasba Hayhama of Block Hayhama and Maidan Chogal (i) & (ii), Shahlal, Wadi-pora-A & B of Block Handwara were covered under VBSY today.

At Panchayat Halqa Chalgund, BDO Hayhama administered the viksit pledge to the participants.

The VBSY-IEC vans reached far-flung villages where a large number of locals welcomed the van and listened to video speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other messages. IEC vans are helping empowerment of people through the



dissemination and delivery of people-centric services.

During the programme, people were made aware about centrally sponsored schemes and were asked to avail benefits of these schemes. People also highlighted various problems and demands which were taken note of by the concerned officials.

Pertinently, in frontier Kupwara district, the VBSY is proving to be a one-stop solution for beneficiaries who are getting themselves

enrolled for different welfare Schemes.

Under 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' beneficiaries of centrally sponsored schemes shared their experiences about the benefits they availed after enrolling themselves under these schemes. Beneficiaries urged others to come forward and reap the benefits of welfare schemes.

Resource persons of different departments also generated awareness regarding public welfare schemes.

The line departments also raised awareness on public welfare schemes through display of products in stalls at the venues of VBSY. Students and local artists took part in skits and other cultural events.

Women and other achievers were also felicitated for their exemplary work in respective fields during the programme. Local participants also availed health services including screening for various ailments at health camps conducted at the mega event.

Through VBSY, the government is reaching out to the people at their doorsteps. Beneficiaries who are saturated with schemes like PM Awas Yojna and PM Ujjwala Yojna are enthusiastic and exploring other welfare schemes through this massive campaign. As the campaign of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is moving ahead day by day it is instilling strong belief among people about good governance.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION GANDERBAL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
CIVIL WORKS
SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (uptoRs.2.50Crores)

EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-Tender NIT No. 188 of 2023-24 issued under endorsement No.14401-06 Dated:08.12.2023

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

S.No	Name of the Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class Of Contactor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Construction of Drain and laying of Iron Trash from H/o Abdul Ahad Rather to Qamaria Hr. Sec. School Qamar Shah Sahib under Normal Grants.	Rs.7.82 Lacs	Rs.300/=	Rs.15640/=	20-Days	Normal Grants 2023-24	CEE/DEE
2	Upgradation of Earthen Brooder Pond (Balance work phase-II) at NFSF Manasbal.	Rs.14.07 Lacs	Rs.600/=	Rs.28140/=	40-Days	Fisheries	BEE/CEE/DEE

Position of AAA:-Accorded,
Position of funds:-Available.

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08-12-2023 12:30 PM.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	08-12-2023 from12:30PM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	08-12-2023 from12:30 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	13-12-2023 upto4.00PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	14-12-2023at10:35AMinthetheofficeofExecutive Engineer R&B Division Ganderal

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderal.
Note:-The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.:
Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

- The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering/placed in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderal and 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ BG by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderal. The Performance Security i.e.5% shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security/after award of the contract for the Work is issued.
- Note:-All bidders shall submit the uploaded Treasury Challan in Original before issuance allotment.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on WebSite www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message ontheir e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderal (tender receiving authority).
- The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form)

No.14401-06
Dated:08-12-2023

DIPK-13486-23
DT: 08/12/2023

sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderal

ADGP L&O J&K chairs joint meeting at PCR Kashmir



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Law and order J&K, Vijay Kumar chaired a joint meeting of all the DMs & SSPs of Kashmir division on Friday afternoon at PCR Kashmir.

also attended the meeting, a police spokesman said in a statement issued. During the meeting, all the officers briefed the chair on the prevailing L&O and security scenario and shared the field-generated inputs with respect to all the expectedly emerging situations in view of upcoming events.

eye on the situation, and take preventive and punitive actions under law those who indulge in mischief, misinformation and misuse of social media. He stressed that miscreants and mischievous elements shouldn't be allowed to vitiate the peace and harmony.

patte different scenarios and accordingly plan an effective response for the same. All DMs and SSPs were asked by the ADGP and Div Com Kashmir to conduct meetings with field officers and other stakeholders. ADGP L&O sensitized them about the calibrated response to be taken in case of any untoward scene emerging out of the situation.

Khyber organizes medical camp in Khanmoh

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Khyber Cement, a flagship cement brand in Jammu & Kashmir, had recently launched its new logo with the tagline 'Dil se banao'. Recently, the esteemed organization organized an extensive medical checkup in collaboration with Khyber hospitals and consultation camp at Khanmoh Chhak village.

ager HR with other staff members from KIPL were present at the camp to ensure all arrangements were in place and the camp was concluded in an orderly manner.

The village administration and villagers were elated owing to the medical camp conducted in a professional manner, thanking KIPL and the entire contingent of doctors and medical support staff from Khyber Hospitals that was present for the endeavor. Mr. Umar Trumboo, Director Corporate & Strategy - Khyber Cement, said, "At Khyber Cement, we are committed towards the betterment of our region and citizens in the best way possible. It is important to pay due attention towards our health and ensure that any minor discomfort is attended to immediately.

The medical checkup camp was organized under the CSR initiatives by Khyber Industries Private Limited along with Khyber Hospitals. The team of doctors included Gynecologists, Pediatrician, General Physician and Nursing staff. The local villagers marked their attendance in impressive numbers.

A range of medical tests and diagnosis were conducted which also included basic medical tests and ECG's tests as per the requirement. Additionally free medicine was distributed among the patients as required. The medical camp witnessed an overwhelming response from the local community, and they appreciated the initiative by KIPL Administration for providing this opportunity for the well-being of the villagers.

Our small step of conducting a medical camp has seen a great response and we are glad that we could help so many people. We will be conducting more such camps in the near future and will ensure that more people are able to avail these health services. These initiatives align with our vision of contributing towards the community's welfare."

Also, the KIPL management representatives appreciated the support from the Village Community Members for arranging the space and other amenities for conducting the medical camp and for their assistance in making this initiative a successful venture. Arshad Peerzada - Chief HR & Admin Manager, Aamir Anwar - Lead Employee Relations & Training and Mukhtar Ahmad - Assistant Man-

The Kashmiri conglomerate is well-known for supporting causes like SAAYA (Shadow of Hope), the O-Sport Foundation, events including Buland Hosla, the Mixed Martial Arts Association of J&K, the O-Sport Foundation of India, and many more. Khyber Cement adheres to the ideology of contributing value by making meaningful buildings that have a positive impact not just on people's hearts but also on the environment.

Dilbagh Singh attends Internal Security Seminar in Tamil Nadu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Former DGP J&K Dilbagh Singh attended the Internal Security Seminar at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu on December 7. Singh gave a detailed description about the historical perspective of Kashmir imbroglio, emergence of terrorism in J&K and the role of police and other security forces in dealing with the challenges.

countries, participated in the seminar. The staff and student officers were enlightened with the dynamics of internal security by the visiting specialists.

Former DGP J&K Dilbagh Singh, while addressing the gathering, gave a through insight into the chronology of events as historical perspective to the Kashmir imbroglio and emergence of terrorism in J&K, role of J&K Police along with Security Forces, Intelligence Agencies, other stakeholders and the prevailing encouraging security scenario brought about due to consistent and persistent efforts of the Govt. He also shared his experiences with the participants and deliberated upon the way ahead achieve the desired end state to put in place sustainable peace and progress in J&K—(KNO)

The seminar was attended by Joint Secretary NSCS, DGP Assam, Additional Director, IB J&K and other senior officers. The seminar, was a deep drive into the numerous aspects of National Security with special reference to J&K's intricate landscape and the pulse of NE India. Over 500 officers from all the three services and a sizable number of officers from foreign friendly

Dir Agri visits Arapath Vegetable Garden Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Friday visited Arapath Vegetable Garden Anantnag.

During the visit, he took a tour of different sections of the garden and took stock of the different rabi Vegetable Crops.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture said that under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) a multi-dimensional project is being implemented by the department for the promotion and development of Vegetable sector in the region. He said Vegetable sector has a huge potential of revenue and employment generation.

Iqbal said the time when our vegetable production season is on, it is actually off-season for the rest of the country which makes

us special and allows our produce to have a readily available market and good prices. He asked the farmers to take benefit of these special agro-climatic conditions and fetch maximum returns for their produce.

Director Agriculture asked young farmers/ agripreneurs to take advantage of the different projects under HADP and contribute to the development of the agriculture economy. He said that young educated farmers are doing a good job and the trend is encouraging indeed.

He impressed upon the officers, Technical experts from the department to work shoulder to shoulder with these farmers particularly young farmers and guide them during the pre and post harvesting operations.

Chief Agriculture Officer Anantnag, Ajaz Ahmad Dar and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

Ram Lal takes review of snow clearance measures

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Superintendent Engineer (SE) R&B Kupwara, Ram Lal Friday chaired a meeting of all Executive Engineers and AEEs to review the snow clearance measures put in place by the department in the district.

On the occasion, the SE impressed upon the officers to work with enthusiasm and added dedication to tackle any situation in the event of snowfall. He asked them to gear up their men and machinery and maintain coordination with other departments and the general public so that no inconvenience is faced by them during snowfall.

cers to ensure that main roads and inner links are cleared of snow within 24 hours. He said that no road should remain closed due to snow accumulation beyond 24 hours. During the meeting, the SE reviewed the availability of snow clearance machines, action plan prepared by the department to prevent interruption in service delivery during this winter season.

He impressed upon officers to prepare a comprehensive and meticulous snow clearance plan to avoid any inconvenience to people.

He called for better coordination in dealing with snow clearance operations and instructed officers for activation of control rooms at District, Sub Division and Tehsil headquarters.

Advertisement in Urdu for 'Office of the Executive Engineer' regarding a tender for transport services. Includes details like 'Notice Inviting Tender', 'e-NIT No. STD I / 22 of 2023-24 Dated 24.11.2023', and a list of terms and conditions.

Div Com reviews installation of 4G BSNL service system in remote villages

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Friday reviewed the process of installation of 4G BSNL infrastructure across the valley especially in uncovered villages and the villages along border fencing line to saturate the delivery of advanced communication services to the people.

The meeting was attended by all Deputy Commissioners, Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Assistant Commissioner Revenue and officers of the BSNL.

Addressing the officers, Div Com directed DCs to supervise & expedite the process of saturation of



4G services in the identified villages where the advanced service is not available to the people. He directed to ensure

rapid mobilization of machinery and equipments by the client awarded the work. Div Com also empha-

sized for identification of villages ahead of fencing line where the work has to be done on priority basis.

No tourist vehicle to be allowed beyond Sonamarg: DC G'bl

Inspects Zojila Road for immediate safety measures

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Following the fatal road accident along the Zojila stretch, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir, conducted a thorough inspection of the Zojila pass, Friday.

Accompanied by SDM Kangan, Javid Ahmad Rather, ARTO Ganderbal, Tehsildar Gund, SDPO Kangan, and OC BEACON, the DC conducted a visit to evaluate the road conditions and assess immediate safety measures to prevent future mishaps.

During the visit, the DC inspected vulnerable spots on the Zojila road stretch and issued instructions to BEACON authorities to implement necessary safety measures promptly.

The authorities briefed the DC on the immediate safety measures already taken, including erecting Hesco barriers with reflecting tapes, signages, with reflecting mirrors, etc. The ongoing



project for long-term measures, such as retaining walls and permanent crash barriers, is slated for completion in the next year.

Expressing grief over recent tragic road accidents on Zojila pass, the DC directed the concerned authorities to ensure effective safety measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

A discussion was held on cutoff timing from

Sonamarg upward and Mini-marg downward, with a decision made to restrict tourist vehicles beyond Sonamarg starting tomorrow.

To enhance road safety, the DC directed BEACON authorities to conduct thorough trail runs before allowing traffic towards Zojila pass. He directed for displaying Speed limits prominently at key locations.

Meanwhile, The DC appealed to all commuters

to strictly adhere to road safety measures, avoiding rash driving on Zojila pass.

The DC emphasized the importance of immediate action to secure Zojila road, ensuring the safety of commuters and preventing further tragic incidents.

OC BEACON assured implementing both short-term and long-term safety measures to safeguard lives on this critical stretch of road.

Large advertisement for 'Office of the Executive Engineer' regarding a tender for transport services. Includes a detailed table of tender specifications and terms and conditions.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

From Reel To Real Life

Today's generation is a generation of Instagram reel making generation and a generation YouTube vlogger. Life has come a full circle. Earlier we would see our seventeen eighteen-year-olds set themselves up for some of the toughest tasks in life, get into some of the toughest and risky professions, ready to undertake a business venture, and get into upward mobility. However, time has changed. Social media has brought with it lots of changes. The amount of time the younger generation spends on Instagram and YouTube is huge. Our youth have taken fancy to making reels on Instagram, fetching more followers, soliciting other people's opinions on their content and those incurably yearning for validation and appreciation. Just a few decades back in Europe one can imagine the life of a 19-year-old guy. He was selected in conscription and straightaway sent to the frontline to serve his country. Today we are in an age when youth play with their lives to get more likes and more validation from the general public. Instead of using social media to learn new arts, new ways of making money, the general mapping of ways of wealth creation, and knowing about other countries, they use it to create an alternative version of themselves. This version may not necessarily be their alter-ego but it is a trend spawned by someone on the internet, a trend which becomes popular spawning shameless imitations of the same foolish act. There are also challenges like the ice bucket challenge, bear hug challenge, tortoise fight challenges, and so on. These needless, harmless, and without consequences acts give constant dopamine hits to youth and feel the emotion of a victor while they have wasted a day of their life.

We are seeing a lot of reels being made in educational institutions, some even in schools, many selfish parents use social media as a platform where they upload reels of their children jumping, dancing, eating, and running just for big bucks earned from thousands of likes and shares. Some family people share their entire daily chores, right from morning breakfast to evening supper without any regard to privacy. We must make youth use the Internet as the right platform and not where they waste their time. The heads of educational institutions in particular must ensure that there is limited or no usage of social media within the premises of educational institutions.

The Importance Of Positive Discipline



HILAL BUKHARI

Recently our education department held a brief training session on Positive Discipline. The main aim of this initiative is to end the curse of corporal punishment completely in our schools and replace it with a more efficient and effective technique. Many of our lecturers, masters, and teachers were (wittingly or unwittingly) already aware of this technique and were practicing this nonviolent and fruitful technique wholeheartedly. However, some of us might not be aware of the definition and the features of positive discipline.

Positive Discipline is a program designed to teach young people or learners to become responsible, respectful, and resourceful members of their communities. Positive discipline is a more effective way to manage misbehaving students in the classroom, rather than using punishment or rewards. It allows students to learn and adapt their behaviors to meet expectations in the classroom, while simultaneously teaching them how to make better choices in their path to adulthood.

Many of our teachers have already given up the habit of corporal punishment which they had learnt from their elders influenced by the traditional methods of teaching. Although, some teachers even nowadays think that corporal punishment must be an integral part of a successful education system due government's ban on it they hardly dare to practice it anymore now. Nowadays we don't see any sticks or other punishment tools in our schools which



have been a norm while we were learning in the schools in the recent past.

Many teachers are bewildered about the dearth of discipline among the students and they are unable to understand how they can make their students behave properly in the classrooms in the absence of any kind of corporal punishment. The contemporary education system does not allow even a teacher to scold a student violently in the school. Some teachers even feel such a system is more derogatory for themselves. But that is mainly due to the lack of proper training of these teachers. Those teachers who are not aware of the great features of positive discipline or lack their belief in these features still hope to bring back that outmoded system which was only devastating for the learners physically, mentally as well as emotionally.

Positive discipline is a brilliant strategy. It believes in the following features mainly for a perfect classroom situation. It gives importance to Mutual respect in classrooms. Both the teacher

and the learner must respect each other for ideal learning to prevail. Positive discipline teaches the teachers particularly the main skill of identifying the belief behind the behavior. The teacher has to take each learner as a proper case study a ponder deeply to decipher the complex behavioral pattern of any learner. Positive discipline also gives importance to effective communication and problem-solving skills properly and skillfully. Proper communication between the teacher and the learner can solve all the learning issues properly.

Positive Discipline is the discipline that teaches focusing on solutions instead of punishment. It is neither permissive nor punitive. It is rather progressive in its approach. Positive discipline believes in Encouragement instead of praise. Praise can be a sheer flattering often which may lead to dangerous consequences in the long run. Encouraging a learner keeps him or her on the right track. Positive Discipline is not aimed at creating better classroom

and school environments only. It is an approach that may help us in better parenting. We have to practice it everywhere to get the better results. When we learn it wholeheartedly we understand our mistakes while nurturing the tender minds of our children and learn how to take care of them in a proper manner.

In a nutshell, we have every right to believe that if all the basic features of positive discipline are applied properly in our homes and schools we shall be able to bring revolutionary results beneficial for the whole society and the nation for sure. The main thing is that the parents and the teachers must believe that this technique is going to help everyone in the long run. We must learn to change our rigid attitudes and embrace the changes wholeheartedly which are necessary to bring revolutionary results in our education system particularly.

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Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Approach For Climate Change



BHARAT DOGRA

One of the most remarkable aspects of the challenge of climate change is that often what is in any case needed in the interests of justice and sustainability is also compatible with and helpful for climate change mitigation and adaptation. If this does not appear to be so in a lot of the climate change discourse we encounter is because the big business interests have in many ways hijacked the discourse along the lines suitable for them, resulting in several serious distortions.

All this is most clearly evident in the food and agriculture sector. Agro-ecology is most suitable for protecting soil and the environment, it also provides the most sustainable livelihoods. Agroecology cannot be practiced under the highly mechanized monocultures of big business. The kind of caring and creative cultivation that agroecology needs is best provided by small farmers and family farmers, with a very special contribution by women farmers. Agro-ecology is best practiced on a land-owning pattern based on equal distribution of land among small farmer units, who work in cooperation with each other for common good. As is self-evident and is agreed by almost everyone, it is such a system of agroecology practiced by small



farmers which is most likely to produce healthy and safe food, and which is also likely to provide the best food security to the rural community and its various members.

As has been increasingly shown by a number of studies, in terms of yield per acre the agro-ecology system is capable of equaling and sometimes even surpassing the industrial farming system, all the more so if sustainability and longer-term aspects are also considered. The ability of the family farm system to minimize waste is also well-established.

At the same time, this is the system most likely to achieve very good results of climate change mitigation as well as adaptation. This system minimizes the use of fossil fuels in the form of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, diesel, and big, heavy machines. With its emphasis on integrating

trees with crops and on various soil conservation practices, this system enables a lot of absorbing of carbon. With its strength of food security and land rights of all or almost all people, this system is capable of increasing the resilience of communities in meeting more frequent adverse weather events. Its adaptation is also enhanced by the greater cooperation for a more common good which is maximized under conditions of equality, in turn based on almost all rural households owning small plots of farmland, which can be adequately cared for and protected by those who own them and care for them. Adaptation is also enhanced by the fact that small farmers practicing agro-ecology do not have to spend a lot of cash on outside inputs or industrial inputs, and are by and large self-reliant in terms of their input needs.

Hence the chances of their indebtedness and ruin related to big expenses incurred even in bad weather years are minimized. They are self-reliant in terms of their seeds and skills; hence they can quickly adapt to weather conditions suddenly turning adverse and do not have to keep waiting for any advice from the top. Their highly decentralized system based on local skills and understanding of local conditions is great for climate change adaptation, just as it is great for climate change mitigation.

Hence the compatibility and mutually supportive nature of all the requirements of a desirable food and farming system (healthy and safe food, adequate yield, satisfactory and sustainable livelihoods, climate change mitigation and adaptation) are well-established under a small farmer agro-ecology system. This should be

widely appreciated and understood for farm and food policy.

However as big business is unable to extract its big profits and is unable to secure its dominance and control under such a system, it is opposed to such a system. It loses no opportunity to advance all sorts of highly suspect and even dangerous arguments to instead promote its own big business model as desirable or even essential for achieving food security as well as for meeting the challenge of climate change. These distortions spread by big business interests should not confuse and mislead food and farm policy, pushing it in entirely wrong and harmful directions. (Courtesy: Counter Currents)

Bharat Dogra is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now.

IDEAS, OPINIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES PUBLISHED ARE WRITERS' OWN AND MAY NOT BE FOUND IN ACCORD WITH THOSE OF GOOD MORNING KASHMIR

Good Morning Kashmir

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Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editor:

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

Regd No: 109555

Office No: 0194-3593724

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Office Address:

B-11, Budshah Flats, Jehangir

Chowk, Srinagar-190001

Printed at:

Khidmat Offset Printing

Press, The Bund, Srinagar

Published From:

Main Bus Stand, Near Masjid Rehmat,

Lal Bazar, Srinagar - 190023

Layout Designer

Aijaz Ahmad Dar

Enabling A Safer Digital Space For Women



SHOBHA SHUKLA

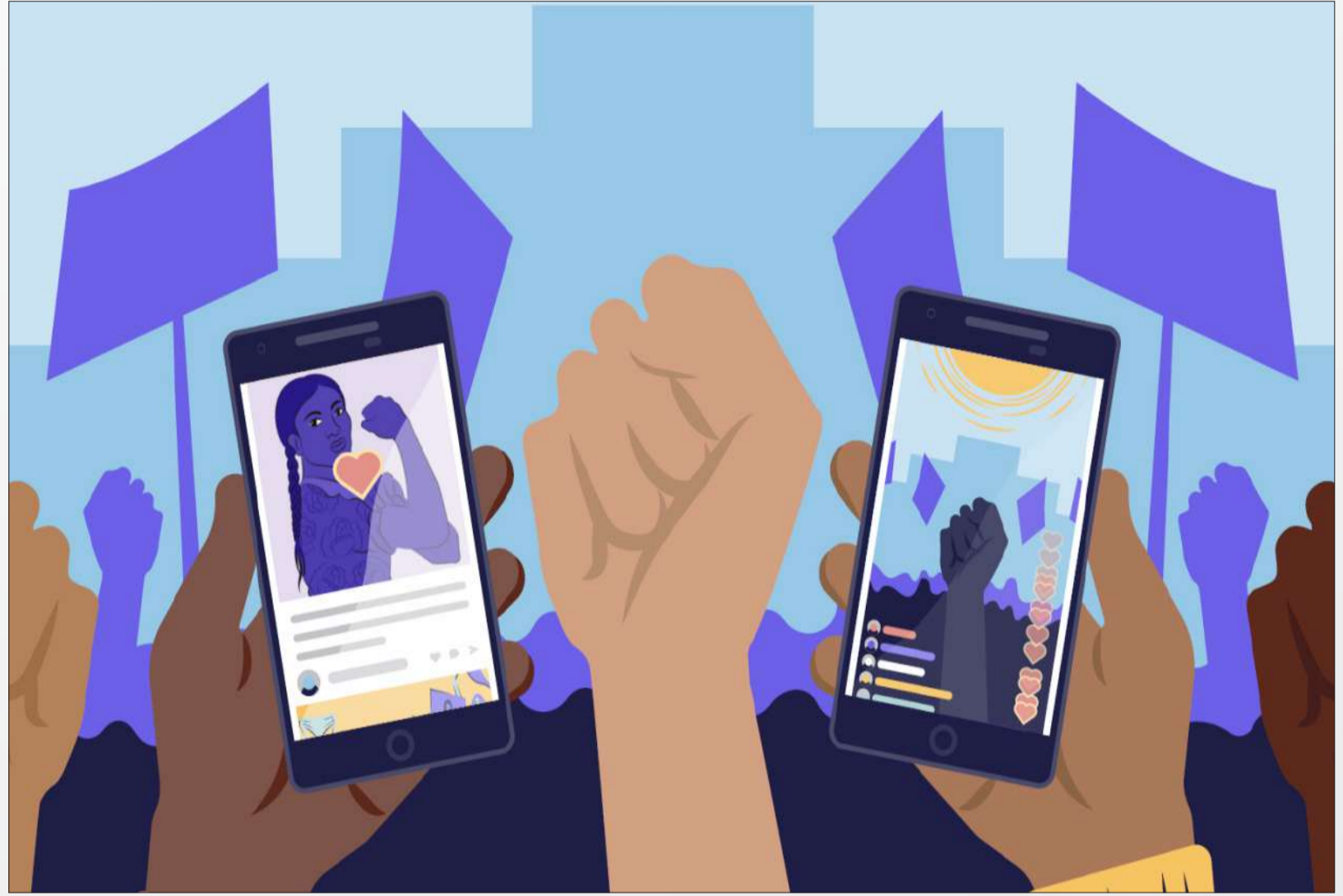
In today's world, many human interactions are taking place in online spaces. As the internet and mobile technologies, as well as social media spaces, become more and more accessible, this is where many of our real-life activities take place. Many of us find virtual spaces safe and convenient to share opinions, exchange ideas, increase our knowledge, and find entertainment, without even stepping out of our homes.

Alas! Patriarchy is spreading its tentacles in this area too, and with every passing day, these spaces are getting more and more dangerous and unsafe for many—especially for women and girls and other marginalized communities.

From posting abusive and obscene messages and/or pornographic videos and sexually explicit photos of females with the intent of blackmail, to unauthorized use and manipulation of personal information, including fake images and videos, issuing life threats and trolling, stalking women who do not toe the line or dare to question the patriarchal subjugation of women, technology-driven online violence against women and girls has taken myriad forms.

Online violence can be defined as “any act of gender-based violence against women that is committed, assisted or aggravated in part or fully by the use of ICT, such as mobile phones and smartphones, the internet, social media platforms or email, against a woman because she is a woman, or affects women disproportionately.”

One must not forget that online public sphere is as real and impactful as its offline counterpart and the impact of online gender based violence (OGBV) is increasingly spilling over into offline spaces, sometimes with severe consequences. Correlations between in-person abuse and OGBV have been documented through multiple studies. In a recent global survey by UNESCO



feminism in the virtual space’, reveals that various men’s groups are launching online attacks against feminism and women’s rights activists on social media platforms. The study specifically captured anti-feminist and anti-gender equality content on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube platforms that are used to oppose gender equality and women’s rights in India, Bangladesh, and the Philippines.

False narratives of the online manosphere

The analysis found that these groups of men, commonly called the online “manosphere”, use a range of narratives and tactics that attack feminism and promote men’s issues, and belittle women’s rights activists. The narratives spread by them portray men as victims of gender equality and justify misogyny under the pretext of religion, culture, and

riage, family, and motherhood.

Examples from India

India is one of the world’s biggest internet-enabled nations, that is estimated to have an active internet user base of 900 million by 2025. 519 million Indians currently use social media. The country also boasts of the highest number of Facebook users globally at 280 million users. There has been an increased interest in topics such as “feminazi”, and “why men are better than women”. Their content often uses slang in local languages, terms such as “fake feminists”, viral celebrity names, and hashtags to attract followers.

More than half of the posts in India’s manosphere claim that men have fallen victim to gender equality. Some of these groups propagate gender-unequal ideas of what constitutes a “good woman” according to dominant

This narrative not only wrongly portrays women as false victims who use melodramatic pleas to gain sympathy, but also discredits and belittles the judicial process.

In Bangladesh and the Philippines, too activists in the manosphere are growing in number. Topics such as “men’s rights activists”, “women belong to the kitchen”, and “feminism destroys society” are becoming increasingly common and women celebrities and journalists are denigrated. These posts are mired in misogyny, sexism, and hatred towards women.

The way forward

Despite the rise in OGBV, and its devastating effects it is often trivialized due to authorities taking poor punitive action—more so as there are no visible scars of the intense mental and emotional trauma associated with OGBV,

patchwork of laws in the country is inadequate to sufficiently address the complexities of the lived.

realities of violence in the digital sphere. The study authors say that “to make online spaces safe for women, governments must review and update legislation and policies to fully protect people from OGBV”.

This observation is pertinent for other countries too. We have to engage with regressive social norms that still persist in the judicial systems of many countries. There is an urgent need to: Bring about legal change internationally and nationally to make online spaces safer for women, including through criminalizing online misogyny and violence; Training and equipping police and law enforcement agencies to handle complaints about online harassment effectively; Making response services survivor-centred.

Private sector companies and online platforms need to identify, prevent, and remove online threats, harmful content, and abuse directed at women and other marginalized genders.

This year, the United Nations marks 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign under the theme ‘UNiTE! Invest To Prevent Violence against Women & Girls. By using #NoExcuse as a slogan and hashtag, the campaign calls for financing different prevention strategies and transforming social norms to end violence against women and girls.

Aligned with this global campaign, UN Women Türkiye’s #NoExcuse campaign underlines the importance of protective legal frameworks and calls for the effective implementation of laws to prevent all forms of violence against women, including online gender-based violence.

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on online violence against women journalists 73% of the participants said they had experienced online violence and 20% said they had been attacked offline in connection with online violence targeting them. The top perpetrators included anonymous people (57%), government officials (14%), and colleagues (14%), and political parties (10%).

A research study released by UN Women’s Regional Office for Asia-Pacific on “understanding opposition to gender equality and

political ideologies.

Dominant narratives used by manosphere groups in these countries justify patriarchy violence and hostility against women. They propagate victim blaming, jokes about rape, justification of attacks against feminists, and rally behind political leaders who approve of sexism and violence. They share excerpts of religious texts and sermons from religious leaders to show how gender equality has led women astray and tarnished traditional institutions such as mar-

religious beliefs and ideals. A Facebook page by the Save Indian Family Foundation aims to fight gender-friendly laws. For example, one shared meme discredits women who try to access their rights through the law. Catchphrases of the meme ask women the following two questions: Do you earn more money than your husband? Do you hide this fact in court? The meme concludes with this message to men: “We should learn how to do melodrama in court from them.”

that go unnoticed, leaving indelible marks on the women’s psyche. In the UNSECO study, 26% of the participating women journalists identified severe mental health impacts, while 4% had quit their jobs as a result of online violence. And this is just the tip of the iceberg of this gigantic problem.

There is an urgent need to understand this online opposition to gender equality and to develop strategies to prevent the violence it produces. One recent Indian study points out that ‘the existing

Thousands Bid

The family members were also present. They were weeping and wailing.

Masroor fell victim to an attack while he was enjoying a game of cricket on a sunny day in Srinagar, on October 29, at Eidgah playground. Despite battling with immense fortitude, he succumbed to his grievous injuries in AIIMS Delhi on Thursday.

As the body of the martyred police inspector reached back home, an atmosphere of mourning engulfed the area. Friends, colleagues and community members poured in, their eyes drenched with tears, to bid a last goodbye to the beloved.

Everyone around shared their pain as they said goodbye to the beloved patriot. The uncontainable tears reflected the shared pain of those present.

Masroor's recent posting was as the Station House Officer (SHO) at Chanapora, where he was posted for a few days. Lastly, he was posted at the Police Control Room (PCR), Batamaloo.

"Masroor was a gentle and down-to-earth man. Despite being a police officer, he had zero craze. We were like brothers and he used to share everything with me," his friend Iqbal (name changed) said.

"I fail to understand why anybody would kill such a noble soul. The thought of his wife becoming a widow and his unborn child an orphan sends shivers down our spines. We are unable to come to terms with this tragic loss. We deeply miss him. May Allah grant him Jannat-ul-Firdous," said Iqbal, who was inconsolable and continued sobbing. Meanwhile, hundreds of people including senior police officers and officers from the administration attended the funeral of the slain inspector at Eidgah amid tears and sobs. A pall of gloom had descended in the entire area with women wailing and mourning the death of Inspector Wani—(KNO)

'Police To Ensure

spirit while on leave or on duty to avoid incidents like the one in which a police inspector was attacked on October 29 at Eidgah, Srinagar.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the wreath-laying ceremony slain police inspector Masroor Ahmed Wani, who was injured in a terrorist attack while playing cricket at Eidgah on October 29, and succumbed yesterday at AIIMS, at DPL Srinagar, ADGP Law and Order J&K Vijay Kumar said and the officers and other ranks have been directed to follow the SoPs in spirit.

"Fresh directions passed to one and all to follow SoPs while on leave or while performing the duties to avoid becoming soft targets," Kumar said. Inspector Wani succumbed at AIIMS yesterday after battling for life for 39 days. A bullet had stuck his head. Wani's body was brought to Srinagar from AIIMS this morning.

ADGP Kumar while replying to a query admitted that police had inputs about possible attack by the terrorists on October 29. "Yes, we had inputs about a possible attack by terrorists. But mistakes happen at some times and in this case also, a mistake happened and we lost an officer," he said, adding that a "fool-proof mechanism has been put in place to avoid Eidgah-like incidents."

Asked about the attackers involved in Wani's killing, he said: "J&K police and NIA is jointly dealing with the case. We are working some important leads. Those involved will be eliminated or arrested soon. It is not advisable to reveal anything about the ongoing investigations." Meanwhile, senior officers from the administration and police attended the wreath-laying ceremony of slain inspector Masroor Ahmed Wani at DPL amid moist eyes. Floral tributes were paid to the fallen cop—(KNO)

Union Power Minister

expeditiously implement smart metering, ensuring end to end solution including integration with MDM, enabling pre-paid functionality and other smart features so that benefits of the technology are effectively passed on to the consumers.

He directed the CPSUs engaged in RDSS implementation to promptly award and initiate execution of all projects entrusted to them, recognizing the intended impact of RDSS works in transforming J&K's power sector.

Lieutenant Governor apprised the Union Minister of continuance of obsolete wires and other network elements especially in rural areas which cause undue power interruptions.

The Union Minister called for a comprehensive proposal for the same and assured sufficient funding for system revamping.

Apart from the technical matters, a notable highlight of the meeting was launching of 4E Wave - A Student led National Movement for Energy Conservation by the Union Minister and Lieutenant Governor of J&K.

While launching the 4E Wave - a Student led National Movement for Energy Conservation, the Union Minister was elated to know that the youth of J&K has taken the initiative to launch a national movement on energy conservation, which holds the potential to make a substantial impact on nation's energy conservation efforts.

The 4E Wave movement, first of its kind, encapsulates four key elements including eco-friendliness; promoting energy-saving practices that are environmentally friendly, economy; emphasizing energy-saving solutions that lead to economic benefits for individuals and communities, education; focusing on educating the

public about energy-saving methods and their importance and empowerment; empowering individuals and communities to take active roles in conserving energy.

The movement strives to promote sustainable practices and instil a sense of responsibility in individuals and communities to save energy.

Originating from the students of Government College of Engineering & Technology (GCET), Jammu, this youth led movement, launched with the support of J&K Power Development Department and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Union Ministry of Power, invites individuals across the nation to contribute to the vital cause of energy conservation.

During the launching ceremony of the 4E wave, a web portal viz. www.4ewave.com was also unveiled by the dignitaries, which will provide an interactive platform to the citizens nationwide for information and resource sharing related to energy conservation.

The user-friendly portal requires a simple registration process for on-boarding in the movement and the participants are provided with certificates of acknowledgment on registration. Any Indian citizen can be a part of this campaign. Beyond this recognition, participants enjoy a wealth of benefits, including personalized energy-saving tips tailored to their consumption patterns, regular updates on latest developments in energy conservation, and a dynamic platform for sharing articles on energy conservation for publication in the e-magazine named 'e-kshiti' to be published quarterly. Additionally, the portal will host contests focusing on energy conservation, providing an interactive experience for users.

Union Minister emphasized that the 4E Wave movement marks a resolute commitment to mitigate the impact of harmful carbon emissions, and paving the way for a sustainable energy future. By actively engaging in the 4E Wave campaign, individuals are not only taking steps toward reducing carbon footprints but are also fostering a collective responsibility for a more sustainable and eco-friendly future. He invited all Indian citizens to be part of this impactful journey toward energy conservation and sustainable future.

Lieutenant Governor, appreciated the active participation of J&K youth in this noble cause. He commended the efforts of State Designated Agency for Energy Conservation, J&K Power Development Department, Principal GCET Jammu and Director General BEE, MoP for supporting the campaign.

Lieutenant Governor mentioned that this initiative will significantly contribute towards promoting the National Cause of Energy Conservation and play a crucial role in safeguarding the planet.

Besides, a real time portal, www.dtreportj.in, for tracking Distribution Transformer's damage status and replacement time was also launched by the dignitaries during the occasion. The portal provides the citizens with the up-to-date information concerning damage status of Distribution Transformers in their respective areas. The portal aligns with the concern of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, who consistently emphasizes for minimizing the replacement time of damaged DTs in both urban and rural areas, for avoiding inconvenience to the public.

'PDD To Sign 472

Kashmir, Manoj Sinha met Union Power and NRE Minister R. K. Singh in New Delhi last evening in the wake of rising power demand in UT, as a result of economic growth and increasing electrification, during the ongoing winter season.

In the meeting Sinha had informed that the current demand of UT of J&K has touched around 2800 MW with a deficit of approximately 1400 MW in the current winter season.

He requested the Union Power Minister for allocating more power to the UT.

In the meeting, Singh informed LG of Jammu and Kashmir that the Ministry of Power has already allocated 1500 MW from the Central pool to meet the winter requirements of J&K.

"Further, 472 MW is also allocated under Shakti policy, for which, Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Power department of J&K is proposed to be signed by the end of Dec, 23," reads the official statement of Ministry of Power.

It further states that an overall, 1972 MW of additional allocation has been made by the Central government to take care of the urgent power requirement of the Union Territory.

The Union Minister directed the officers of the Ministry of Power to ensure adequate allocation of Power to the UT of J&K to meet the rising demand.

He also reviewed various programmes of the Ministry of Power being implemented in the UT, under Central Sector Schemes—(KNO)

DSEJ Announces

classes from 9th to 12th standard shall observe the vacations from December-18 to February-29 respectively.

The directorate further ordered that the Chief Education Officers shall ensure online classes for Class 10 and 12th through CRC's.

It also ordered that the teaching staff shall report back to their respective schools on February-21 so that they remain available for making arrangements regarding preparation of ensuing examinations.

"All teachers shall remain available on demand for any online guidance of students during vacation period," it reads.

DSEJ said that any default on part of the Head of the Schools or Teaching staff in observance of the instruction schedule

shall attract strict action under rules—(KNO)

5 Arrested With

Arms Act at Vijaypur police station, they said.

Singh was arrested in 2018 with three others in connection with a kidnapping and attempt to murder case, according to police.

In the second incident, police received information that some people were collecting royalty from the mining mafia at the cricket ground in Sum Toph, Phallian Mandal area. A team rushed to the spot and arrested four people who were identified as Abhishek Singh, Ravi Singh, Harbax Singh and Sachin Singh, officials said.

During a search, a sharp-edged weapon was recovered from the accused. A case under the Arms Act has been registered against them and an investigation is underway, they said.(Agencies)

J&K Has 2nd Highest

which includes 100 GW from solar, 60 GW from wind, 10 GW from bio-power, and 5 GW from small hydro-power.

This year, the Centre has also focused on establishing infrastructure for utilizing renewable energy sources in Jammu and Kashmir.

In the budget released earlier this year, the Centre proposed installing 4,000 additional agricultural solar pumps and commissioning about 80 megawatts of solar capacity, which would cover 20,000 families in the union territory.

Meanwhile, the Jammu and Kashmir government is also planning to harness 500 Megawatts of solar energy by 2030 under a clean energy mission.

As per the vision document of the Jammu and Kashmir government, the government has to complete the target of generating 1500 MW of solar energy in the union territory by 2047.

An official of the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency said they have been promoting the use of solar energy driven appliances.

"We are offering financial assistance for solar water heaters, cookers, and other everyday goods. A significant effort to encourage people to utilize appliances powered by renewable energy would be launched in the upcoming months," he said—(KNO)

12,497 Families

initiative.

These include 86,192 from Anantnag, 22,221 from Ramban, 12,714 from Kulgam, 10,223 from Pulwama, 9758 from Ganderbal, 6897 from Shopian, 3593 from Srinagar, 17,48 from Budgam, 1717 from Bandipora and 1152 from Baramulla. The arrangements at district level were supervised by the respective Deputy Commissioners.

The concept of transport service was introduced after 1st International Conference on Transhumance held in Albania in 2021 shared International best practices for sustaining transhumance and supporting the pastoral communities in migration to avoid conflict, mitigate losses and establish institutional mechanisms.

Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary informed that as per 2021 survey conducted by the department tribal families possess an average livestock of 12.48 and family size is 5.8. This year total livestock numbering 1.56 Lakh was transported along with the families from various districts of Kashmir to Jammu. An evidence based approach public policy has been introduced to acknowledge the rangeland management and environmental conservation services provided by the migratory tribal families based on which transport service is being provided an incentive.

Dr Choudhary informed that at an average each family saves 20 days of transit and taking into account man-days and prevailing wage rates there's is saving of Rs 20,380 per family of 3 adults and additional saving of transport costs upto Rs 40,000. He said that notional saving of these families during current migration season is Rs 25.46 Cr for days saved and Rs 48.72 Cr for transportation and other expenses. These initiative lead to poverty reduction and also safeguarding the livestock against losses related to accidents, exhaustion deaths and climatic conditions.

He added that the United Nations has declared 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) to create awareness about role of pastoralists in sustainability and drive public policies for their inclusion and empowerment. Jammu and Kashmir, over last two years, has taken substantial steps to promote sustainable transhumance and economic growth of the migratory tribal pastoral families.

Secretary Tribal Affairs appreciated the coordinated role played by the Deputy Commissioners, J&K Road Transport Corporation, Planning Department, Sheep Husbandry Deptt, Traffic Police and other departments to support and facilitate migration of families through National Highway -44 and the Mughal road over last more than 10 weeks which also benefited the smooth export of Kashmir's horticulture produce and traffic management.

CS For Ensuring

valuable for people at grassroots level. He impressed upon the Department to carry forward this campaign ensuring that the cleanliness parameters actually aspired for in the ODF+ Model category which J&K has secured do not fall short anywhere in the UT. He directed for having continuous assessment of the same by the Department for all the villages of the UT to maintain it for all the times.

The Chief Secretary further made out that the door to door collection and segregation of waste in rural areas shall be monitored to ensure that the agencies or persons put on this job are doing it as per the schedule and set criteria. He asked for looking into the collection of user charges in the villages for this purpose and the ways to make this exercise sustainable for all the times.

Regarding the NRLM the Chief Secretary maintained that the empowerment of women is another focus area nationally and a concern too for PM. He made out that the rural women shall be imparted all the training to turn options into opportunities. He expressed that these women are creative enough to keep on adding value to their enterprises once they are given freedom to establish and flourish them as per their convenience.

He advised for encouraging them through capacity building and strengthening their cadre by efficient utilization of Community Resource Persons provided by the mission. He called for making it a regular exercise for these resource persons to visit far off places to bring a positive drive among the women there to channelize their energies into successful enterprises.

Regarding other schemes Dulloo stressed on strictly adhering to National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) in execution of MGNREGA works. He asked for completing all the targeted works taken up under convergence in the scheduled time during the ensuing financial year.

He also took note of the houses completed under PMAY and asked the department to ensure that the housing needs of all the houseless are fulfilled here.

He asked for digitization of Back to Village data besides devising a mechanism to make it a year long demand raising and interface between public and administration. He even asked for creation of a dedicated portal for the same displaying the status of all such demands received by the Prabhari officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary took appraisal of the online services offered by the Department. He enquired about their uptake in different areas. He asked for the service wise status in different parts of the UT for checking their smooth availability in all the areas.

The Commissioner Secretary, RDD, Mandeep Kaur presented the overall status of all the schemes and projects under implementation here by the Department. She also brought forth all the issues related to the implementation of such schemes and programmes.

The Commissioner Secretary apprised about the physical and financial progress made by the Department under MGNREGA, Convergence, PMAY, NRLM, SBM(G), RSGA, B2V4 besides other projects of the department. She also presented the details about Panchayat Development Index and the achievements made in other deliverables set out for the department for the ensuing financial year.

Cold Conditions

for the famous resort in south Kashmir. Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a minimum of minus 2.0°C against minus 1.4°C on the previous night and the temperature was below normal by 1.3°C and coldest for the place, the official said.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 2.5°C against minus 3.1°C on the previous night and it was 0.7°C below normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg, the official said, recorded a low of minus 3.0°C against minus 2.5°C on the previous night and the temperature was 0.7°C above normal for the famous skiing resort in north Kashmir.

Jammu recorded a minimum of 8.6°C against 9.6°C on previous night, and it was below normal by 1.4°C for the winter capital of J&K, he said.

MeT has predicted further drop by 1-2°C is expected in the next two days before some relief from the freezing cold conditions.

Till December 10, he said, mainly dry weather is expected in J&K.

On December 11, he said, the weather is expected to be generally cloudy.

From December 12-15, he said, weather is likely to be generally cloudy with light rain/snow at isolated higher reaches.

"Fall in Minimum temperature by 1-2°C is expected during next 2 days over all the stations and thereafter slight improvement till December 15," he said. (GNS)

With Winter, Migratory

frozen, the birds are being provided artificial feed, however these birds rely on the natural food only.

About the poaching incidents, she said, "I appeal to the people that these birds are our guests and cooperate with the department in ensuring their safety here in the wetlands of Kashmir," she said—(KNO)

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Three Ram Lalla idols to be ready for selection in mid-December

IANAS

AYODHYA: All three idols of Ram Lalla (child form of Lord Ram) will be ready for final selection by a five-member committee of prominent seers of the 'Ramanandi' Sampradaya (sect) in mid-December.

Three renowned sculptors are busy giving final touches to the idols in Ayodhya at separate locations, behind closed doors which are out of bounds for common people.

Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirath Kshetra Trust has constituted the panel that will select one of the three idols that will be enthroned at the Ram temple's sanctum-sanctorum next month.

It is most likely that the three idols will be ready between December 15 and 20 to go through the selection process.

Kameshwar Chaupal, a member of the Trust, said, "Ram Lalla's idol that is aesthetically closer to the deity will be selected. The 51-inch idol must resemble the five-year-old Ram Lalla."

Mahant Kamal Nayan Das, who is part of the panel that will select the idol, said, "The idol must be a replica of five-year-old Ram Lalla. Selecting one idol out of the three will not be easy. The only criterion will be its resemblance to Ram Lalla."



Two other members of the committee are Mithilesh Nandani Sharanji and Jagadguru Ramanandacharya. All three idols of Ram Lalla will be based on the sketch of renowned Mumbai-based artist Vasudeo Kamath.

He had presented pencil-made sketches of Ram Lalla to Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust.

Born in Karkala, a nondescript town in Karnataka, Kamath grew up in Mumbai. His 28 paintings that form his Ramayana series are globally acclaimed. Kamath is known for his paintings based on mythology and historical subjects.

He still practises the

rare art of creating portraits from actual sittings.

The Trust will reveal the finally selected idol before the people of Ayodhya in a Shobha Yatra on January 17, 2024, before placing it at the sanctum-sanctorum of the Ram temple.

From January 18, five-day rituals of Pran Pratishtha (consecration) ceremony of Ram Lalla will start and will end on January 22.

The Trust has roped in three renowned sculptors of the country to carve out the idol. Ganesh Bhatt of Karnataka is carving out the idol from Nellikaru rocks (black stones) which are also known as 'Shyam Shila' or 'Krishna Shila' due to resemblance of their colour to that of Lord Krishna.

Famous sculptor Arun Yogiraj of Mysore is carving out the idol from another rock sourced from Karnataka. Yogiraj had also carved out a 12-ft statue of Adi Shankaracharya in Kedarnath that was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.

He is the son of famous sculptor Yogiraj Shilpi and hails from a family of Mysore palace artists.

Arun Yogiraj has also sculpted the 28-ft-tall black granite statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that is placed at India Gate.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had unveiled the statue in September last year. Satya Narayan Pandey of Rajasthan is chiselling the idol from white Makrana marble stones.

Stop fighting, let's focus on climate justice, children plead to COP28 dignitaries

IANAS

DUBAI: Children are the most impacted by the climate emergency and they represent one third of the world's population (around 2.2 billion people), with half of them (more than one billion) currently living in places exposed to severe climate risks, especially in the Global South.

Children tell how the climate emergency has affected their lives. They are being seen and heard at the most influential spaces at the ongoing UN Climate Change Conference (COP28), which has entered the final and crucial phase to set the pace for a new era in climate action.

Now roughly the 196 parties to the UN climate agreement have to sort out that the fossil fuels need to be rapidly cut and poor and vulnerable nations are being hammered.

COP28 meetings will have a different participation: in addition to traditionally suited representatives of countries, 25 children's testimonies from 12 countries will be heard this week. They talk about how their lives have been impacted by the climate emergency and demand effective action from authorities.

The films were produced by UNICEF and Alana, in partnership with Bernard van Leer Foundation.

In the world today, more than one in four deaths of children under five years of age are attributable to unhealthy environments.

Despite this, the children do not participate or



are taken into consideration in COP (conference of parties) agendas and negotiations, which will define their lives.

In more than 30 years since the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) entry into force, there has never been a decision focused on the protection of children and adolescents.

"When we speak about climate change, we are speaking about children. We need to protect their futures -- it's that simple. The powerful testimonials of children like these need to be the last thing that negotiators hear before entering discussions that determine what kind of world they will grow up in. We can only hope they listen," an official statement quoting UNICEF global lead on climate change Gautam Narasim-

han said. "Children are not just victims, but also active contributors as agents of change. We have seen children stand up around the world and push for solutions. They have the right to participate in decisions," said J.P. Amaral, Nature Manager at Alana.

In the films, children from Madagascar, Somalia, Serbia, Australia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, the US, Barbados, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Brazil spontaneously express their genuine concerns and call for immediate solutions from the planet's top leaders.

The statements arose from the question "Do you think adults are doing enough to help solve the problems of climate change?"

The children were definitive in their responses: "I would like to say yes, but

they are not," says Yehansa from Australia; "I don't think adults do anything about climate change," says Hidayat from Somalia;

"Stop fighting and let's focus on what really matters," says Sadie of the US; and "If you keep burning, we are going to die in this heat," says Raoni from Brazil, the host to COP30 in the Amazonian city of Belem do Para in 2025.

Tzaporah Berman, chairwoman of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, said: "The COP presidency has brought baggage to this process, and far too many oil lobbyists.

"For many, the presence of fossil fuel lobbyists at COP is a sign of an event that has been purchased by the opposition, and ultimately compromised.

"However, is there more here that we're missing? We think so."

Maha govt to take up ban on sugarcane juice for ethanol with Centre: Ajit Pawar

IANAS

NAGPUR: Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Friday assured the agitated Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly that the government has taken up the Centre's ban on the use of sugarcane juice for manufacturing Ethanol.

"I had a discussion with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and tried speaking to Union Minister for Trade and Commerce, Piyush Goyal but could not speak to him," said Pawar.

Responding to the members' concern in the Assembly, Pawar informed the House that the issue was discussed with Union Minister for Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari who had invited him for further discussion.

Pawar said those manufacturing Ethanol in Maharashtra will be in trouble as on five per cent seed capital they have raised institutional loan to the tune of 95 per cent and will face consequences if ban is not revoked

In a later development, the entire Opposition staged a walkout in the Maharashtra Assembly over the denial of a full fledged discussion on the reservation policy, compensation to farmers over losses to oranges, cotton and other crops due to untimely rain in the state.

Leader of Opposition, Vijay Wadettiwar, group leader Nana Patole, (both Congress), Jayant Patil (NCP) and others insisted that the House should take up discussion immediately while Speaker Rahul Narvekar said he will allow it later in the day or Saturday, which irked them and led to walkout.

Patole said the government was not serious on the important issue affecting a large number of farmers, cotton and orange growers.

Sunil Prabha (Shiv Sena-UBT) and Varsha Gaikwad (Congress) were heard shouting anti-government slogans on the stairs of Vidhan Bhawan along with others.

RBI hikes limits for UPI payments & e-mandates, to set up cloud facility, FinTech repository

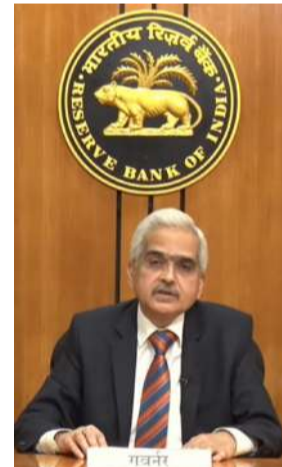
IANAS

CHENNAI: Enhancing the payment limits for Unified Payments Interface (UPI), electronic mandates, setting up of cloud facilities, the financial sector and fintech repository were some of the major announcements made by the Reserve Bank of India Governor, Shaktikanta Das on Friday.

Das announced these measures on Friday after declaring the Monetary Policy Committee's decision to retain the repo rate at 6.5 per cent and predicting the gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate at 7 per cent and inflation rate at 5.4 per cent for FY24.

"To encourage the use of UPI for medical and educational services, it is proposed to enhance the limit for payments to hospitals and educational institutions from Rs1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh per transaction. Separate instructions will be issued shortly," he said.

According to Das, the UPI is becoming popular and the transaction limit was set at Rs 1 lakh bar-



ring categories like Capital Markets (AMC, Broking, Mutual Funds and others), Collections (Credit card payments, Loan repayments, EMI), Insurance and others where the transaction limit was set as Rs 2 lakh.

In December 2021, the transaction limit for UPI payments for Retail Direct Scheme and for IPO subscriptions was increased to Rs 5 lakh.

As regards the electronic mandates, Das also

said the RBI has decided to exempt the additional factor of authentication (AFA) for transactions up to Rs 1 lakh for the following categories, viz., subscription to mutual funds, payment of insurance premium and payments of credit card bills.

The other existing requirements such as pre- and post-transaction notifications, opt-out facility for users, etc., shall continue to apply to these transactions.

The RBI Governor said the number of electronic mandates registered currently stands at 8.5 crore, processing nearly Rs 2,800 crore of transactions per month.

In order to ensure the security, integrity and privacy of financial sector data, the RBI has decided to set up a cloud facility for the sector and will be operated by Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS) a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.

"Eventually, the cloud facility will be transferred to a separate entity owned

by the financial sector participants. This cloud facility is intended to be rolled out in a calibrated fashion in the medium term," Das said.

He said banks and financial entities are maintaining an ever-increasing volume of data utilising various public and private cloud facilities.

Similarly, for better understanding of the developments in the FinTech ecosystem with an objective to appropriately support the sector, Das said it is proposed to set-up a Repository for capturing essential information about FinTechs, encompassing their activities, products, technology stack, financial information and others.

FinTechs would be encouraged to provide relevant information voluntarily to the Repository which will aid in designing appropriate policy approaches. The Repository will be operationalised by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub in April 2024 or earlier.

'Can't keep people in detention for so long', SC grants bail to excise policy case accused Benoy Babu

IANAS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to excise policy case accused Benoy Babu saying that 13 months of pre-trial incarceration is "long-enough".

In November of the previous year, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had arrested the Pernod Ricard India official in a money laundering case connected to the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22.

"This is not proper. You cannot keep people in detention before trial for so long... There seems to be contradictions between what CBI and ED are alleging," a bench headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna told Additional Solicitor S.V. Raju, a senior law officer of the Centre.

The bench, also comprising S.V.N. Bhatti, noted that Babu has suffered incarceration for about 13 months and the trial has not commenced in the sense that charges have not yet been framed.

"We allow the present appeal and direct that appellant Benoy Babu be released on bail," it ordered, observing that the liquor company's General Manager is

not an accused in the charge sheet filed by the CBI in the excise policy case.

In July this year, a bench of Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma of the Delhi High Court denied bail to former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and co-accused - Hyderabad businessman Abhishek Boinpally, AAP's communications in charge Vijay Nair and French spirits company's India General Manager Benoy Babu saying that they failed to meet the twin conditions for grant of bail under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), and the triple test for grant of bail.

The trial court had previously stated that the available evidence suggested that Babu played a pivotal role in Pernod Ricard's decision to furnish corporate guarantees worth Rs 200 crore for loans obtained by other members of the cartel from HSBC Bank.

The ED's money laundering case originates from an FIR registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation, which was initiated after Delhi Lt. Governor V.K. Saxena recommended a CBI probe.

Air quality remains 'very poor', Delhi records min temp of 9.4

IANAS

NEW DELHI: The air quality in the national capital continued to remain 'very poor' at several AQI stations across the city on Friday morning.

The India Meteorological Department said that the minimum temperature was registered at 9.4 degrees Celsius, a seasonal average.

The weather department predicted that on Friday the maximum temperature is likely to hover around 25 degree Celsius while there will be clear sky.

On Friday morning, the air quality at Anand Vihar was in the 'very poor' category with PM 2.5 at 345 and PM 10 at 248 in the 'poor' category, while the NO2 reached 86 and CO was at 80 or 'satisfactory', as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The Bawana station

recorded PM 2.5 at 346 in the 'very poor' category while the PM 10 reached 228, in the 'poor' category, while the CO reached 68, or 'satisfactory' levels.

The air quality index (AQI) monitoring station at Dwarka Sector 8 recorded PM 2.5 at 335, in the 'very poor' category while PM 10 was at 216 or 'poor' while the CO was at 74, in 'satisfactory' levels.

The AQI at the ITO station was in the 'very poor' category with PM 2.5 at 339 and PM 10 at 190, in the 'moderate' category, while the carbon monoxide (CO) was at 116 or 'moderate' and CO was at 42, in good levels.

The PM 2.5 at Okhla Phase-II was recorded at 314, in the 'very poor' category and PM 10 at 174, the 'moderate' category. The NO2 was at 116 or 'moderate' and CO was at 42, in good levels.

Kerala Guv acts tough, writes to Univs to send nominee for V-C selection search committee

IANAS

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, who is also the Chancellor, has written to registrars of nine universities in the state asking them to send their nominee to the search committee to select Vice Chancellors.

According to the rule of selection of new Vice-Chancellor, the Chancellor constitutes a three-member search committee and it includes one person nominated by the particular syndicate of the university which is looking for a new Vice Chancellor.

The other two includes a nominee of the Chancellor and one from the University Grants Commission.

Incidentally, it was Wednesday in reply to a question on the vacant posts of Vice Chancellors in the Universities of the state, Khan said he was not responsible for it.

"I wrote three letters to the Kerala University to give their nominee to the selection panel, but they have not given. Then when I went ahead with a two-member selection panel, the High Court did not allow that. But now with the very recent Supreme Court directive,

we have started the process to constitute the interview panel," said Khan.

"They (those not cooperating by sending the University syndicate nominee) know that my term will end in a year and are waiting for that," added Khan and said will wait to see what happens.

So now all eyes are on the response of these nine universities on what their response would be as on Friday State secretary of CPI-M M.V.Govindan said the Governor is indulging in things which is beyond his brief not just in one or two issues, but in several and this will be strongly opposed.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
SKIMS MEDICAL COLLEGE-HOSPITAL
 BEMINA, SRINAGAR, J&K - 190017
DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS MANAGEMENT
 0194-2493226, Email: Mmo@Skimsmc.edu.in

Sub: Procurement of X-ray films of various sizes for CR Systems (Make: Agfa) on Proprietary Article basis - Notice for invitation of objections thereof.

SKIMS Medical College-Hospital, Bemina, Srinagar J&K, intends to procure X-ray films of various sizes for CR Systems (Make: Agfa) from M/s Agfa Healthcare India Private Ltd., through their local authorized distributor, on PAC basis as per provisions of Rule 166 of GFR.

In this connection, objections (if any) from companies manufacturing/ marketing such items compatible with the above machine and capable of delivering the same result as intended from the above items, regarding the proprietary nature of the above items, should be communicated on the above mentioned email id within a weeks' period i.e., by or before 18th of December, 2023 up to 04:00 PM.

After due date, it will be presumed that no manufacturer/ company has any objection/ comments to offer and the claim for the proprietorship of the item, shall be accepted.

No: SKIMS/MCH/MMD/137/23-4879-85
 Dated: 07/12/2023

Sd/-
 DIPK-NB-4678-23
 DT: 08/12/2023
 Materials Management Officer
 (SKIMS MCH Bemina)

(Enclosure: Proprietary Article Certificate of M/s Agfa Healthcare India Pvt. Ltd.)

Pampore's martial arts player clinches National Icon Award

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PAMPORE: Maroof Hilal Sofi, a talented martial arts player hailing from the Saffron Town of Pampore in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, has been felicitated with the prestigious National Icon Award in sports. Known for his exceptional skills, Maroof has previously represented India at various levels, securing several medals.

Maroof said he had a passion for martial arts since childhood. "I began learning martial arts at the age of 8," he said.

He won a bronze medal at the 16th World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation Championship held in



the Philippines last year. "Receiving any award means recognition of efforts and it boosts confidence and provides cour-

age to showcase skills more efficiently," he said.

Proud of his achievement, Maroof received the National Icon Award at a ceremony held in Delhi, attended by high-ranking officials.

He said awards make his parents happy and proud. "This gives me more happiness," he said.

Sofi said he has participated in various tournaments at the state, national and international levels and has consistently clinched medals – 6 gold medals at the national level and a bronze medal at the international level.

He also serves as the head coach of Thang Ta Academy in Pampore,

where he trains youth interested in martial arts. He said sports promote physical fitness and prevent drug addiction among youth.

Commenting on the sports infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir, the athlete said, "We lack infrastructure and have only a few stadiums available that too for cricket only. However, infrastructure is being developed."

There is a need for more indoor sports stadiums as during winter, players are unable to practice. "Such facilities should be made available round-the-year so that athletes can practice well and excel more at various stages," he said—(KNO)

DC Sgr reviews progress in implementation of PMVS

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to review the progress on implementation of PM Vishwakarma scheme, launched to uplift traditional Artisans and Craftspeople, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner(DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here Friday at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a first hand appraisal about the progress made so far with regard to registration of Artisans (Vishwakarmas), verification process in both rural and urban areas, capacity building of stakeholders and monitoring & evaluation mechanism in place for Artisans (Vishwakarmas).

The chair also took stock of the login issues on PM Vishwakarma Portal and establishing communication channels with MSME.

On the occasion, the DC was informed that as of date as many as 796 applications have been received in the District for registration under Vishwakarma scheme and 20 Panchayats of Srinagar District have been on-boarded on the PM



Vishwakarma Portal.

The DC asked the Officers of line Departments to complete Teir-1 verification process within 2 days to further speed up the process.

The DC also stressed on resolving the issues related to login issues on PM Vishwakarma Portal at the earliest to ensure a smooth process. He also reviewed the process being undertaken by Common Service Centers (CSCs) in ensuring smooth enrolment of beneficiaries under the scheme.

On the occasion, the DC asked the Officers of all line Departments to be more practical in successful implementation of the scheme so that the target

group is benefitted for their overall socio-economic development.

Highlighting the features of PM Vishwakarma, the Deputy Commissioner said that the scheme will directly benefit thousands of Artisans and Craftspeople of the District working with their hands and tools besides transforming the lives of the Artisans and Craftspeople contributing in preservation of traditional and heritage crafts.

The DC further said the scheme will enable the recognition of Artisans and Craftspeople as Vishwakarmas (Traditional Artisans) making them eligible to avail the benefits under the Scheme. The DC hoped that

through implementation of the Vishwakarma scheme, the Artisans who are the economic growth of the society will get easy access to collateral free credit, skill upgradation besides getting a platform for brand promotion and market linkages through modern technological interventions.

Pertinent to mention that PM Vishwakarma scheme offers a range of benefits including toolkit incentive of Rs 15,000, training to artisans, Rs 500 per day during training, collateral-free credit support up to Rs 1 lakh (first tranche) and Rs 2 lakh (second tranche) at a concessional interest rate of 5%, incentives for digital transactions and marketing support.

It was also informed that initially Government has recognized more 18 trades under PM Vishwakarma including Carpenter, Boat Maker, Armorer, Blacksmith, Hammer and Tool Kit Maker, Locksmith, Goldsmith, Potter, Cobbler, Masons, Basket/Mat/ Broom Maker/ Coir Weaver, Doll & Toy Maker, Barber, Garland Maker, Washerman, Tailor and Fishing Net Maker.

VBSY continues in full swing across B'la

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, kick-started on November 25th, continues its impactful stride across Baramulla district, marking a significant leap forward in driving progress and inclusive development.

The Yatra, today journeyed through 10 panchayats across the district including Delina and Chandoosa among others where officials from diverse departments actively engaged with the local public, providing crucial information on multitude of Centrally Sponsored and UT based beneficiary schemes run by the Government of India.

The Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Vans traversed between panchayats,

servicing as dynamic platforms to raise awareness about different government schemes. These vans are equipped with advanced technology, enabling them to conduct audio-visual presentations, interactive sessions, workshops, and awareness programs.

Moreover, Health, Agriculture and other departments organized camps offering free services to the residents of the panchayats aiming to enhance their access to healthcare and agricultural assistance and other services at their doorsteps.

Pertinently, Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is a nationwide endeavour aimed at achieving maximum coverage of government flagship schemes. The primary objective is to ensure timely and targeted delivery of scheme benefits to all intended beneficiaries across the country.

DLTFC approves 36 cases under JKREGP

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) under JKREGP Scheme of J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board was today held under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad Khan at Mini secretariat, here.

A number of beneficiaries attended the meeting and after interacting/ interviewed were selected by committee for Sponsorship under different Industries and sectors including Diagnostic Lab, Hollow Blocks, Shawl Embroidery, Cutting Tailoring Boutique, Dairy farm, Departmental Store etc.

Out of 51 applications, 36 cases were approved by the DLTFC Committee, the rest of 15 Cases were deferred for the next DLTFC meeting.

Among others Lead District Manager JK Bank, Director RSETI, District Coordinator State Cooperative Bank, Representative of DIC, ITI Ganderbal, and Government Polytechnic College were present in the meeting.

Abdullahs condole demise of Insp Masroor Wani

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) President and Member of the Parliament from Srinagar Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah on Friday expressed grief over the death of J&K Police Inspector Masroor Ahmad Wani.

In his condolence message, Dr. Farooq said, "My heart goes out to the

family of the slain police cop. There is no place for such abominable acts of violence. Such violence only leaves behind a trail of pain and misery. May the departed soul rest in Jannat."

In his condolence message, Omar said, "Deeply saddened to learn of the death of Sub-Inspector Masroor Ahmed Wani. He put up a very brave fight

after being injured when he was fired upon by terrorists in Srinagar recently while he was playing cricket with boys in his neighbourhood. My condolences to his loved ones & his colleagues. May Allah grant him a place in Jannat."

Meanwhile Omar Abdullah visited the Narwara locality in Shahar-e-Khas to commiserate with the bereaved household of

the slain police cop Masroor Ahmad Wani. Joined by party functionaries he offered fateha and prayed for peace to the departed soul. He was accompanied by party treasurer Shammi Oberoi, Provincial President Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq, Political Advisor to President Mushtaq Guroo, Political Advisor to VP Mudassar Shamiri—(KNO)

MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR
— DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI —
DIL KE EHSAAAS

