

# Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

**Office of LG J&K**  
@OfficeOfLGJandK

Interacted & addressed Heads of IITs, IISERs, NITs, and Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities at Jammu. The 5-day leadership engagement program will discuss and debate various themes to achieve the goals of developing effective academic leaders as envisioned in NEP 2020.

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## SIA Raids Multiple Locations In Jammu



**JAMMU:** The State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Friday raided seven locations in different districts of the Jammu province as part of its probe into a Pakistan-backed terror conspiracy case, an official said.

After obtaining search warrants from the designated court in Jammu, SIA teams carried out searches simultaneously at three places in Doda district, two places in Reasi district. **•P-06**

## Formula-4 Car Run To Be Held In Srinagar On Sunday



**SRINAGAR:** In a first, a roaring show of Formula-4 Car run from Lalit Ghat to Nehru Park shall be held in Srinagar on Sunday in which renowned Formula drivers will enthrall spectators.

This would be a thrilling show to witness on the boulevard road while drivers shall engage in the race and stunts over a distance of 1.7Km route from 10:00Am to 2:00Pm. In this regard, **•P-06**

42.58 Lakh **Women Voters**

## Women Voter To Play Decisive Role In LS Polls



**ALI ASAD**

**SRINAGAR:** Women this time will have a decisive role to play during the forthcoming elections in Jammu and Kashmir with their electorate comprising 49 percent of total vote count.

According to details available, out of the total 86.93 lakh voters in Jammu and Kashmir, women make up 42.58 lakh voters. Anantnag leads in women's participation among the five parliamentary constituencies, with 9.02 lakh women voters.

Other constituencies also exhibit considerable female voter presence, with 8.52 lakh in Jammu, 8.44 lakh in Udhampur, 8.70 lakh in Srinagar, and 8.56 lakh in Baramulla. Over the years, the voting percentage of women in Lok Sabha elections has shown an increasing trend, albeit with slight fluctuations.

The recent enactment of the Nari Shakti Vandan Act and the provision of 33 percent reservation for women in the Legislative Assembly have bolstered enthusiasm among women, providing them with a golden opportunity to showcase their potential in politics. Efforts are underway at the party level to further enhance women's participation in politics, recognizing their longstanding contributions.

As the announcement of Lok Sabha elections draws near, women have begun actively ensuring their participation. The extent of their involvement as candidates will be revealed once all parties announce their nominees, with several parties, including the BJP, Congress, NC, PDP. **•P-06**

**AS THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOK SABHA ELECTIONS** draws near, women have begun actively ensuring their participation.

## Situation Along LAC Stable But Sensitive, Deployment Extremely Robust: Gen Pande

AGENCIES

**NEW DELHI:** Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande on Friday said he would describe the situation along the Line of Actual Control as "stable but sensitive" while asserting that deployment of Indian troops and other elements along the LAC is "extremely robust" and "balanced".

During a panel discussion at a conclave here, he as per news agency PTI said, "we need to keep a close watch and monitor" what other developments are taking place along the border in terms of infrastructure and movement of troops.

At the discussion on 'India & Indo-Pacific:



Threats and Opportunities', held as part of the India Today Conclave 2024, the Army chief was asked a range of questions in the context of China's growing influence in the region and the future preparedness of the army "if the situation along the LAC escalates".

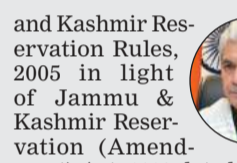
The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong Lake area.

Ties between the two countries nose-dived significantly following the clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades. **•P-06**

## Govt Approves Separate 10% Reservation To Newly Added Tribes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** The Administrative Council which met here under Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha approved the proposal of Social Welfare Department to amend the Jammu and Kashmir Reser-



vation Rules, 2005 in light of Jammu & Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Act, 2023 dated 15.12.2023, Constitution (Jammu & Kashmir) Scheduled Castes

Order (Amendment) Act, 2024, Constitution (Jammu & Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 2024 and recommendations of Jammu and Kashmir

Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission constituted vide Government Order No. 2030-JK (LD) of 2020 dated 19.03.2020.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant. **•P-06**

## First Friday of Ramadhan Hundreds Of Devotees Throng Jamia Masjid, Hazratbal Shrine



**REHAN QAYOUM MIR**

**SRINAGAR:** On the first Friday of Ramadhan, the historic Jamia Masjid in Old city here and Dargah Hazratbal shrine witnessed a massive rush of devotees as the people from different parts of thronged the religious places Friday to participate in the mandatory congregational prayers.

Emotional scenes were witnessed during the prayers as the devotees were seen seeking mercy from Almighty during the sacred month of Ramadhan.

The biggest congregational prayers were witnessed at the two religious places where special arrangements were made by the authorities to ensure better facilities to the devotees.

Special prayers were made on the occasion at **•P-06**

## Set New Standards In Technical Education: LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha impressed upon the academic institutions to adopt best practices and set new standards in technical education.

Today, it is difficult to predict the future. On one hand we are facing geo-political conflict in some areas of the globe, while on the other technology advancement is reaching its peak. In the last 10 years, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, India has developed rapidly. I am optimistic that India will lead the next big revolution, the Lt Governor said while addressed the Leadership Engagement program attended by Heads of Premier Institutions of the country.

The 5-day program will discuss and debate various themes to achieve the goals of developing effective academic leaders as envisioned in **•P-06**



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## Anti-National Activities Teacher Dismissed From Service

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Friday dismissed a teacher from his services over involvement in anti-national activities.

An official said that the activities of the employee namely Manzoor Ahmed Laway DH Pora Kulgam had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, as they found him involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the State.

He said that he is involved

in two FIRs registered at Police Station DH Pora, Kulgam and was one of the instigator who along with his associates instigated a mob on 09.07.2016 to cause damage and destruction to Government property and in the process, the mob marched towards Police Station DH Pora and looted Arms, Ammunition and other Government Property from the Police Station and later set the it on fire.

"In another incident on 10.09.2016, the subject along with his associates **•P-06**

## 'Artificial Ripened Fruits' Doctors' Warning Leads To 50% Drop In Watermelon Sales

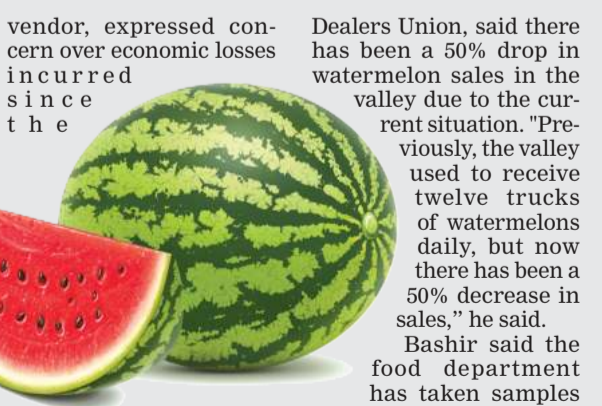
UMAISAR GULL GANIE

**SRINAGAR:** The Kashmir Valley has witnessed a 50% decrease in watermelon sales following concerns raised on social media regarding the safety of consuming artificially ripened watermelons.

Dr Wajahat, a clinical oncologist at a premier hospital, recently cautioned against consuming artificially ripened watermelons during the off-season, citing potential cancer risks.

"This Ramzan, say NO to artificially ripened watermelons. Protect yourself from harmful chemicals and potential chemotherapy," Dr Wajahat posted on a social media site X on March 08, which garnered support from several other doctors.

Ghulam Nabi Bhat, a



vendor, expressed concern over economic losses incurred since the beginning of Ramadan. He said that despite bringing watermelons to the market, nobody is buying them due to claims made by doctors. Bhat urged the government to investigate the matter to help vendors like him avoid further economic losses.

Bashir Ahmad Bashir, chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union, said there has been a 50% drop in watermelon sales in the valley due to the current situation. "Previously, the valley used to receive twelve trucks of watermelons daily, but now there has been a 50% decrease in sales," he said.

Bashir said the food department has taken samples of watermelons, and he hopes for clarity soon. "Health is a priority, but economic losses are also concerning. The government should share the test samples as soon as possible," he added.

Deputy Commissioner of Food Safety in Kashmir, Shagufta Jalal, said the department has collected hundreds of samples from various districts of the valley for testing. **•P-06**

## ACB Arrests JE For Accepting Bribe

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday said to have trapped and arrested J.E of Rural development department for demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 5000 from complainant for processing and preparing bill of the work executed by the complainant.

As per a statement issued, an information was received by Anti Corruption Bureau J&K on ACB Helpline Number 9419678060 from one complainant resident of village Kunnal Qaziabad, Handwara District Kupwara alleging that he has executed some work under MG-NREGA and for preparing & processing the Bill of said work & for preparing labour demand J.E Arshid Ayoub Marazi & GR Suboor Mir are demanding bribe of Rs 5000 & Rs 3000 from him as their commission etc.

"On receipt of this information a discreet verification into the matter was conducted by ACB to ascertain the veracity of allegations during which it was found that the complainant a resident of village Kunnal Panchayat Halqa Rangpath B Dist. Kupwara was authorized last year by panchayat to **•P-06**

### MOVIES Schedule

Saturday 16 March

**YODHA (HINDI)**  
12:00PM, 3:00PM, 6:00PM (U/A)

**SHAITAAN (HINDI)**  
12:40PM, 3:30PM 6:30PM (U/A)

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**DUNE PART TWO (ENGLISH)**  
WITH ENG SUBTITLES  
01:45PM (U/A)

**KUNG FU PANDA 4**  
(ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE) (U)  
05:00PM, 07:10PM HINDI 11:30AM

Minga Sherpa kick starts mega Chinar Plantation Drive in Uri

Urges for collective action from all for protection of our environment

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, in presence of Director Floriculture Kashmir, Farooq Ahmad Rather Friday kick-started a mega Chinar plantation drive at Uri, here.



ment of the authorities and the community towards a greener and healthier environment.

SDM Uri, Javid Ahmad Rather; Commander 12 Infantry, Brigade Kuldeep Singh Dyha and District Floriculture Officer Baramulla were present at the event.

The plantation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials, local community members, and volunteers, all joining hands to contribute to the greening of their surroundings.

The event kicked off with a ceremonial planting of Chinar saplings, symbolizing the commitment

The Floriculture Department's initiative represents a significant stride in the conservation of Chinar trees, the population of which has been steadily declining. Over 100 Chinar plants were planted during this event, emphasizing the

importance of preserving this iconic species.

Minga Sherpa commended the efforts of the Floriculture Department for organizing such initiatives with an aim to preserve biodiversity and combat climate change.

The DC further emphasized the need for collective action and urged everyone to take responsibility for

nurturing and protecting nature for future generations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director, Floriculture department, Kashmir said that the department will be distributing over 10,000 Chinar saplings free of charge to enhance the region's green cover and environmental sustainability.

NEP-2020 will foster creativity, innovation: VC CUK

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath Friday said the National Education Policy-2020 represents a bold vision for transforming the country's education system, by focusing on fostering creativity, knowledge creation, innovation, and excellence to meet the challenges of the 21st century.



"NEP-2020 seeks to empower learners with adequate knowledge, skills, and values necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing global landscape and contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation," Prof. A Ravinder Nath said, while inaugurating a one-day National Level workshop on "NEP-2020: A Workshop for Educators", organised by the Department of English at varsity's Tulmulla campus.

Head Deptt of Management Studies and former Dean (I/c), School of Languages, Prof. Abdul Gani, Dean School of Legal Studies and Registrar I/c, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Mir, Dean School of Business Studies, Prof. Fayaz Ahmad Nikka, Dean School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Prof. Mohammad Yousuf, Dean, School of Languages, Head, Deptt. of English,

and workshop Convenor, Prof. Sandhya Tiwari, Heads of departments, faculty members, research scholars and students were present.

CUK Vice-Chancellor further advocated for a curriculum that integrates international, national, and regional dimensions and aspirations, emphasizing the adoption of these three distinct approaches to ensure that students do not remain confined to a single direction in their educational journey.

Addressing the participants, Prof. Abdul Gani, described NEP-2020 as a landmark reform in the field of education, emphasizing holistic development, flexible learning pathways, and integration of technology in education. He underscored the significance of adopting multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches in

education, positioning the NEP as a medium towards achieving the goal of a developed India (Viksit Bharat). He highlighted the pivotal role of educators in realising the objectives of the NEP.

I/c Registrar, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Mir gave insights into the shortcomings of the previous education system, particularly the Choice Based Credit System, attributing its failure to factors such as lack of awareness among both faculty and students. He elucidated on the preamble of the NEP 2020, which pledges to uphold equality and accountability in the education system, while also accentuating the indispensable role of teachers as collaborators and mentors in guiding students.

In her welcome address, Prof. Sandhya Tiwari emphasised the impor-

ance of conducting workshops on NEP 2020 and said the event will provide a suitable platform for educators to connect with like-minded peers, establish professional connections, and form collaborations for future initiatives in education reform. She highlighted the critical roles of the government, technology, and faculty in effectively implementing the NEP, while also delineating the workshop's objectives and agendas.

Associate Prof. Dept. of English, Dr. Krishna Chaitanya E. conducted the programme proceedings and Asst. Professor, (SG) Dr. Ihsan Ur Rahim Malik proposed the vote of thanks.

Later, during the technical sessions, Prof. Anil Kumar Aneja, Head, Deptt of English, Director, Centre for Disability Studies, University of Delhi, Prof. Zahoor Ahmad Geelani, Dean, School of Education, CUKashmir, Prof. Vanaja M. Dean, School of Education and Training Director, Directorate of Admissions MANUU and Dr. Rafi Mohammad, Associate professor, Deptt of Education and Training Deputy Director, Directorate of Admissions MANUU and Mr. Basit were the rapporteurs of the inaugural session.

DC Budgam inaugurates Children's Park in Sheikhpora



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, Akshay Labroo Friday inaugurated a children's park, a senior citizen's park and open gym facility at Migrant Pandit Colony, Sheikhpora.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the District Administration, under the directions of Hon'ble LG Administration has contributed and developed twin Parks within the Sheikhpora colony to ensure better facilities to the residents here.

The DC said that the same was demanded by the members during the last interaction with them.

He complimented officers of the concerned executing agency for completing the development of these parks in a short span of time and dedicating the same to the families residing at the Migrant Pandit Colony.

directions of Hon'ble LG Administration, the District Administration is focusing on creation of various other infrastructure projects to provide better facilities to the Kashmiri pandits, Kashmiri migrants and PM-package employees at Sheikhpora.

During his visit to Kashmiri Pandit Colony, the DC met members of the Pandit community and listened to them. He said the parks with the open gym facility, swings for the kids, benches, have the best possible recreational infrastructure available for the children and senior citizens of the colony.

He said that he was happy to inaugurate these parks, which he said were constructed and thrown open in a very short span of time.

The DC was accompanied by SE R&B, CPO, Executive Engineers of R&B, Tehsildar, DMO and other concerned officers and officials.

Financial support to 14110 B&OCWs paid in Kupwara



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: In an unwavering dedication towards the welfare of workers, the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan was Friday presented a cheque to the tune of Rs. 6,14,36,000 covering 14110 beneficiaries by Assistant Commissioner Labour Kupwara.

The cheque was specifically earmarked for registered beneficiaries of the Jammu And Kashmir Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (JKBOCWBB), aimed at providing essential financial support for educational assistance.

This initiative mirrors the resolute commitment of the Kupwara administration, under the leadership of the Assistant

Labour Commissioner, to stand by and uplift those grappling with challenging circumstances.

The distribution of the amount will offer much-needed relief to individuals facing diverse hardships, ensuring they have access to the necessary resources to navigate through these trying times.

The Deputy Commissioner Kupwara expressed deep appreciation for the collaborative efforts between the Assistant Labour Commissioner and the JKBOCWBB. This joint initiative underscores a shared commitment to safeguarding the well-being of workers and their families, recognizing the indispensable role they play in the progress and prosperity of the community.

Documentary on 'Nasha Mukht Bharat' screened at GDC Ramgarh

SAMBA: The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit-Prabha of Government Degree College, Ramgarh Friday screened a documentary on Nasha Mukht Bharat under the aegis of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA). The event was conducted under able guidance and leadership of Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra.

The documentary was screened to generate awareness among students about drug abuse and its catastrophic effects on the addicts, their families and the society as a whole.

NSS Program Officer, Prof. Brahm Dutt shared his insights on the issue of drug abuse and motivated students to refrain from the drugs and related narcotics. He encouraged students to embrace sports and yoga activities as a part of their daily lives to enhance their performance in sports and sharpen their minds, instead of falling into drug addiction. He added that all Indians must live up to the spirit of 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan'.

The students participated enthusiastically and patiently watched the documentary. All the faculty members attended the event.

DC Shopian chairs DLIC meeting for implementation of PMVS



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: A meeting of District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) for implementation of PM Vishwakarma Scheme was held Friday under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb at Mini-Secretariat, here. It is worth mentioning here that the PM Vishwakarma Scheme was launched to uplift traditional Artisans and Craftspeople.

At the outset, the DC took a firsthand appraisal of the progress made so far with regard to registration of artisans (Vishwakarmas). He emphasized the importance of concerted efforts and urged officers to promptly identify and

register the targeted beneficiaries.

Stressing the scheme's significance in uplifting traditional artisans and craftspeople, the DC instructed officers to conduct an extensive information, education and communication (IEC) campaign to cover eligible beneficiaries across the district in all identified trades.

The DC directed officers to achieve the targets for registration of beneficiaries under the scheme immediately.

The meeting was informed that 7800 registrations have been made so far in the District. The DC also reviewed the ongoing training program for artisans and reviewed progress of tool kits registrations.

Advertisement for 'Nasha Mukht Bharat' documentary screening, including contact information for the organizing committee.

Advertisement for the Office of the Child Development Project Officer Poshan Project Beerwah, including recruitment details, application forms, and eligibility criteria.

# Srinagar brothers blend technology, tradition in sheep farming venture

JAHANGIR SOFI

**SRINAGAR:** In the outskirts of Srinagar's HMT Zainakote area, two brothers, Uzair and Umair Shafi Dar, are crafting a unique blend of technology with sheep farming.

Uzair, a software engineer with a fervent passion for innovation, and Umair, a dedicated student and part-time electrician, have embarked on an inspiring journey of sheep farming.

Uzair said, "What started as a modest venture with just a handful of sheep has now blossomed into a thriving farm boasting over 40 sheep of diverse breeds."

We started with just a few sheep and today without any governmental support, we have managed and nurtured the farm with a range of diverse sheep breeds, he said.

At the heart of Uzair's vision along with his



younger brother lies an ambition to tap technology with traditional farming practices. He said that with his expertise in software development, he is diligently crafting specialised software aimed at streamlining sheep farming. Uzair claimed his novel innovative tool will revolutionise record-keeping by tracking the birth cycles and lineage of each sheep, providing invaluable insights for efficient management.

"I have already begun laying the groundwork for the software, focusing on developing robust algorithms and sophisticated analytics," he said.

Beyond technological prowess lies his brother Umair's hands-on approach to farm management, from monitoring fodder supplies to ensuring timely vaccinations.

Umair said, "Our sheep are exclusively farm-raised, receiving top-tier care and attention. We

prioritise their nutrition and health, ensuring they thrive in their natural habitat."

For the Dar brothers, their farm represents more than just a livelihood as it embodies a vision of sustainable prosperity. With their eyes set on the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha festival, they are gearing up to showcase their reared sheep, confident in their ability to provide quality produce and fetch good sales—(KNO)

# UT Level India Skills Competitions Showcase Diverse Skill Sets

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** Friday marked a significant milestone as the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed the UT Level India Skills Competitions in Cyber Security and Graphic Design Techniques organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Skill Development Mission (JKSDM).

This event, part of the IndiaSkills 2023-24 initiative, showcased the prowess of more than 250 participants across 18 skill trades.

J&K, renowned for its artistic and culinary skills, now sees its youth actively engaging in advanced skills like web design, graphic design, software solutions for business, and mobile robotics.

The IndiaSkills competition, orchestrated by JKSDM, aims to propel India onto the global stage as a hub for skill excellence.

The ongoing competitions, a collaborative effort between JKSDM, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) under the Gov-



ernment of India, and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), have received active support from the Skill Development Department in Jammu and Kashmir. These competitions encompass a diverse range of job roles, from beauty therapy, cooking, and fashion technology to technical skills such as CNC Turning and Cyber Security.

The State Level Competition for Cyber Security and IT software solutions was held today at partner institution NIELIT

Jammu. Participants from across the UT of J&K showcased their talents, marking a crucial stepping stone towards pre-National competitions, National level competitions, and the esteemed World Skills Competitions set to be held in Lyon, France later this year.

Leena Padha, Mission Director of JKSDM, expressed commitment to such initiatives, stating, "JKSDM remains dedicated to organizing opportunities for the youth of J&K.

State Level Competitions in 18 skill sets are being conducted at various venues across the UT, where more than 250 candidates will compete to represent J&K in Pre-National and National Level Competitions."

As the India Skills Competitions continue to unfold, they not only celebrate the talents of the youth but also position Jammu and Kashmir as a thriving hub for skill development and innovation on both national and international fronts.

## LG releases book "How to Live A Peaceful Life" by ID Soni



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday released a book titled "How to Live A Peaceful Life" authored by Sh I.D Soni, President Home for the Aged and Infirm, Jammu.

The Lt Governor congratulated the author for his excellent work.

## Releases KC Verma's book on Modern Educational System



**JAMMU:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha released a book titled "Essentials of Learning in Modern Educational System" written by eminent cardiologist Dr KC Verma, today at Raj Bhawan.

The Lt Governor congratulated and extended his best wishes to the author.

## FD roles out special procedures for manufacturing sector under GST Act

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** The Finance Department has rolled out a set of special procedures to govern registered entities engaged in manufacturing activities within Jammu and Kashmir under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Act.

According to a notification, the special procedures are slated to come into effect from April 1st, 2024 and the registered manufacturers will be required to adhere to specific guidelines outlined by the department.

The notification, designated as S.O. 153, is empowered by section 148 of the Jammu and Kashmir Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

As per the notification, registered manufacturers must electronically furnish details pertaining to their packing machines, utilized for filling and packaging purposes, through the designated FORM GST SRM-I. This filing must be completed within thirty days of the notification's commencement. Furthermore, entities newly registered after

the issuance of this notification must submit such details within fifteen days of registration grant.

Moreover, any additions or modifications to existing packing machines installed at registered premises must be promptly reported electronically within twenty-four hours of installation. Similarly, changes in the declared capacity of machines must also be updated within the same timeframe.

Upon submission of these details through FORM GST SRM-I, a unique registration number will be generated for each machine.

Furthermore, manufacturers must provide information regarding the production capacity of their units or machines, if previously submitted to any other governmental department or agency, within fifteen days of filing such declaration or submission.

In case of the disposal of existing packing machines from registered premises, details of such disposal must be furnished electronically within twenty-four hours.

## Para-cricketer Aamir Hussain thanks Gol, Tendulkar for opportunity in ISPL



JAHANGIR GANAIE

**ANANTNAG:** Aamir Hussain, a young para-cricketer from south Kashmir's Anantnag district, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Government of India and legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar for granting him the opportunity to play in the Indian Street Premier League (ISPL).

Aamir, hailing from Waghama Bijbehara, said that playing alongside legends like Sachin Tendulkar was a lifelong dream come true. He expressed his joy in spending time with Bollywood superstars like Amitabh Bachchan and Akshay Kumar, who appreciated his journey through life's challenges and encouraged him to continue inspiring others.

Aamir recounted a childhood accident at his family's sawmill that resulted in the loss of both his hands. Despite facing

discouragement from relatives and others who believed his life was over, he remained steadfast in his determination.

"Today, those same relatives and other people acknowledge my remarkable achievements, resilience and spirit," he said.

Aamir has honed his skills to bowl with his leg and bat by holding the bat between his neck and shoulder. "One should never lose hope," he stressed. "Under all circumstances, one must keep going and make efforts to do better so as to become independent. Losing a part of the body isn't the end of life."

Praising Aamir's remarkable feats, Sachin Tendulkar lauded him for making the impossible possible.

The Adani Foundation also announced its commitment to support Aamir Hussain Lone in his journey by offering him all possible assistance—(KNO)

## Amid power paucity, Budgam residents rue hike in power tariff

NAVEED UL HAQ

**BUDGAM:** The residents of Ichgam area in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Friday held a protest against the non-availability of electricity and hike in the monthly power tariff.

The protesting residents said that they belong to the poor section of the society and the Power Development Department (PDD) at the same time has been pushing them to the wall by hiking their monthly power tariff.

"Earlier the PDD was charging us Rs 700 per

month and then they hiked the tariff to Rs 1100/ month. However, the tariff has been hiked further as a Rs 1500 bill has been served to them this month, which is not affordable, they said.

They also complained that since a long time they have not been receiving the power supply as per the schedule.

They later appealed the administration to look into the matter and roll back the decision of hike in monthly tariffs so that residents can have sigh of relief—(KNO)

## Motorcyclist dies in Shopian accident

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** A motorcyclist lost his life in a road accident at Keegam area of South Kashmir's Shopian district on Friday.

An official said that an unknown Tata Mobile hit a motorcycle bearing number

JK22B-5234 at Keegam. In the incident, a motorcyclist identified as Peerzada Feroz Ahmad, son of Gh Mustafa Shah, resident of Babnad Tukroo Shopian died on the spot, he said.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance and started an investigation—(KNO)

## Students meet Jatinder Singh in Delhi during Bharat Darshan Tour

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** Students from various schools of District Doda, who are currently on Bharat Darshan tour-2024 sponsored 33 BN CRPF under Civic Action Plan, met Union Minister, Dr. Jatinder Singh at the Institute of Civil Service Office

Delhi. Under the Civic Action Program, 33 Battalion CRPF based at Sarna Bhardwah has organised Bharat Darshan tour-2024 for the under-privileged students of district Doda. Dr. Jatinder Singh interacted with students and also arranged lunch

for them at PMO's Civil Service Office Institute, Delhi. The students are being escorted by two teachers from the school education department namely Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Koul-Teacher & Associate NCC Officer (PM Shri GHSS Bhalra, Bharderwah) and

Umesh Kumar-Teacher (GHS Pranoo). It may be recalled that the tour has been organised to expose the students from underprivileged sections of the society to the external world and also acquaint them with the Socio-Historical perspective of the country.

### SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

#### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RIGHT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

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**SHORT TERM**  
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER No.60 of 2023-2024  
Dated: 14.03.2024

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Commissioner, e-tenders are invited on a percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned works.

S. No.	Name of the Work	Adv. cost in lacs	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of tender documents	Time of Completion	Head of Account	Class of contractor	AA order No	T.S. Order No. dated
1	Construction of Ramp with proper Gradient for polling station at Community Center-BasantBagh	0.31	620	200	2 Weeks	Internal Resources	DEE	Order No. 181 of 2024 Dated: 12-03-2024	607 13-03-2024
2	Construction of Ramp with proper Gradient for polling station at Lal Ded Cultural Hall at BadyariBala	0.31	620	201	2 Weeks	Internal Resources	DEE	Order No. 181 of 2024 Dated: 12-03-2024	608 13-03-2024

Position of AAA: Accorded, Technical Sanction: Accorded  
The NIEF consists of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per the date schedule given below:-

S. No.	Particulars	Date from to
1	Date of publication of e-portal	14.03.2024
2	Date of Downloading of bid documents for said e-NIT	14.03.2024 from 06:00 PM
3	Date of uploading of bid document / bid submission starts	14.03.2024 from 06:00 PM
4	Date of uploading of bid document/ bid submission Ends	19.03.2024 at 06:00 PM
5	Date of Bid opening	20.03.2024 at 11:00 AM
6	Date of Submission of Uploaded documents (Hard Copies) by Successful Bidder including Bid Security (CDR/FDR), Tender document fee.	22.03.2023 up to 04:00 PM

Note: - (The Date of EMD/Challan must be from the date of start of bid upto Bid Submission End date,

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- The intending tenders should attach a call deposit receipt equivalent to 2% of the advertised cost / total cost of the work shown against each work pledged to the Executive Engineer Right River Works Division, SMC, drawn from any scheduled Bank without which no tender will be entertained.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Bank Receipt / challan as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No. 021601020000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (with NIT No and Serial No of work mentioned and Division name Viz RRWD) and Earnest Money/ bid security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Bank Receipt/ Challan and earned money/ bid security should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date). The tender fees is non-refundable and can also be paid through online mode via NEFT/RTGS in favour of F./A. Chief Accounts officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with Bank Details as given below:-  
Name of the Bank: - Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.  
Branch: - Balgarden, Srinagar  
Bank Account No: - 021601020000007  
IFSC code: - JAKA0GARDEN  
MICR CODE: 190051008
- Any payment for tenders fees through online mode shall necessarily mention the following information. (Sender Name, Account No of Sender/Beneficiary, Transaction ID, Reference ID, Transaction date and time, The Remarks should necessarily mention NIT NO, SMO and RRWD viz. NIT 03, SMO, 10, RRWD)  
For one particular work, only one bank Receipt / challan (not more than one) of the exact amount of tender fees (neither lesser nor greater) as shown against that particular work must be paid and uploaded with the tenders. The same tender fees paid and uploaded for a particular work should not be again used/ uploaded for any other work in the NIEF (i.e. one Bank Receipt / Bank Challan for one work only)
- Tender Fee and other relevant documents including Bid security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found uploaded, with any ambiguity or un-attested correction/over writing for any work such tender /bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action under rules shall be initiated.
- Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S. No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided.
- The participating agencies/ contractors are advised in their own interest not to resort to any cheating while submitting and uploading the tender document Fees or any other document.
- The bidders are requested to upload following documents:  
▶ Tender fees.  
▶ EMD in the shape of CDR and FDR.  
▶ Registration card and its latest renewal.  
▶ Verification of Registration Card from competent Authority  
▶ Latest GST clearance.  
▶ PAN Card.  
▶ Correspondence Address of the Agency with active Mobile No.  
▶ Bank Account details (16-digit Bank Account No, Branch office, IFSC code)  
▶ Any other document required to be uploaded as per the NIEF.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an E-mail message on their email address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Engineer, Right River Works Division, SMC (Regal Lane, Lal Chowk, Srinagar) or in the office of the Informatics officer, SMC (Karan Nagar Srinagar). In case of holidays/ offices happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, or there is any Net problem the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- The lowest successful bidder has to furnish 5% of the contract value/ allotted cost cost as performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR immediately after opening of tenders. The performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after DLP is successfully over. Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be released after performance security is received. The earnest money in favour of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Bank Receipts/ challans.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if: -  
a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications to the terms and conditions of the bid.  
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.  
c) Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process  
No: SMC/EERRWD/3173-78  
Dated: - 14/03/2024.  
DIPK-NB-6046-23  
DT: 15/03/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Right River Works Division  
Srinagar Municipal Corporation

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

# Adulterated Fruits

According to a recent study the number of cancer patients is witnessing an exponential rise in the Kashmir valley. This is a matter of great worry. Among a long list of factors, one of the core factors is considered to eat 'pesticide-ridden' and 'artificially-ripened fruits' over a long duration of time.

The month of fasting Ramadan is going on. Since in this month, people consume fruits like watermelon in good quantity a Kashmir-based doctor went on social media campaigning against artificially-ripened fruits and claimed that artificially ripened watermelons are one of the primary reasons why the number of cancer patients is increasing in Kashmir. Even though the doctor made this claim in his personal capacity it set a wave of caution in the general public. People wanted a clarification from the establishment about the same.

In the wake of concerns about the early ripening of fruits in the market, the Food Safety Department of Kashmir has deployed mobile testing labs across various parts of Kashmir.

The initiative aims to ensure the safety and quality of fruits available to the public, especially during the holy month of Ramadan, when the consumption of watermelons sees a significant increase. Thus far the government is saying that all is good and there is no cause to worry. However, the government is doing all it can to ensure that no adulterated food reaches the market.

Watermelons sell in good quantities and hundreds if not thousands of people are associated with its trade in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. In one full calendar year, hundreds of crores of revenue are generated through the selling of watermelons in the union territory. The government has to walk a tightrope not to harm the livelihood of people associated with the fruit-selling business.

Some good news from Anantnag finally. Food Safety team Anantnag Wednesday tested more than 30 samples of watermelon on the spot for artificial colors through the Mobile Food Testing Van (MFTV) during an intensive market inspection in view of the apprehensions surrounding on social media regarding the availability of artificially ripened watermelon in markets during the holy month of Ramadan. However, during on spot analysis, none of the samples showed a positive test for artificial colors.

We hope and pray that none of the fruits reaching Kashmir is adulterated, or artificially ripened. We wish everyone a healthy Ramadhan

# Ramadan – In The Spirit Of Unity



MAHMUD

Ramadan provides a unique opportunity for Family and Community Bonding

The primary purpose of Ramadan is to purify one's heart, mind, and soul. Fasting serves as a means to cultivate self-control, empathy, and gratitude. By restraining ourselves from food and drink during daylight hours, we gain a deeper appreciation for our blessings while developing compassion for those less fortunate. Moreover, Ramadan fosters unity within the Muslim community by bringing families together for "Sahri" & "Iftar" meals – where bonds are strengthened over shared meals and conversations. Additionally, congregational Taraweeh prayers create an atmosphere of collective supplication that further strengthens communal ties. Ramadan can be a very powerful cultural event for the development of inter-community links, promotion of mutual understanding, and celebration of diversity. The inclusive features of Ramadan traditions make people of different faiths unite.

Furthermore, Ramadan fosters community harmony and unity. It is a time when families and friends come together to break their fast, share meals, and engage in worship. The sense of unity and support that Ramadan fosters is an important aspect of its excellence, as it strengthens relationships among individuals and promotes solidarity within the Muslim community. Ramadan



holds significance beyond fasting, as it becomes a special time for friends and family to come together during iftar. Ramadan provides a unique opportunity for families to come together. The pre-dawn meal, known as "Sahri," and the evening meal to break the fast, called "Iftar," are often communal experiences. Families gather to share these moments, reinforcing bonds and creating lasting memories. Communities also organize special events, lectures, and charitable activities, further strengthening the social fabric.

Ramadan is a month of mercy and bonding – Muslims all over the world help one another, and those outside their community, spreading happiness all around. This month is a shining example of the unity that can be achieved among all classes of people in any society, as the rich and poor, the employer as well as the employee, the parents as well as the child, the ruler as

well as the subjects, all keep fast. Regardless of the color of their skin or their social stature, fasting unites us all. It reminds us how we should conduct ourselves and our behavior towards those around us, while also teaching us the importance of respect. Not only do we learn to abstain from food and drink, but we also abstain from making any statements and actions that may cause harm to people or violate their rights.

It gives us an opportunity to rectify ourselves through performing numerous good deeds such as providing food or aid to the needy, improving social interaction, giving charity and sadaqah, zakat, and so on. Ramadan teaches unity through the shared experience of fasting and devotion to faith, as well as through communal prayer and breaking fast together. Muslims are encouraged to come together as a community during Ramadan, promoting a sense of together-

ness and unity. All Muslims at the same time, in the month of Ramadan, abide by the same rules, refraining from eating and drinking from dawn to dusk. And collectively, that is, rich-poor, fair-black, men and women all obey the command of Allah together. Hence, the image of great unity emerged.

Fasting teaches people to refrain from quarrels and fights. In this way, it encourages the establishment of harmony and love between each other. When we are united – either with our friends in a common cause for good or with our partners in a marriage – we gain a sense of strength and belonging as part of a greater unit. This idea of strength and unity applies to the broader Ummah as well. Uniting with others to reach greater goals is a powerful force. On a personal level, Ramadan encourages Muslims to reflect on their actions and strive to become better versions of themselves. It is a time to practice self-discipline and

strengthen faith. Even as we gather and bond, we take the necessary time to heal and find peace. Ramadan also teaches us the importance of empathy and compassion towards others. By fasting, we are reminded of the struggles of those less fortunate than us and are encouraged to give

back to our communities through acts of charity and volunteer work. Many Muslims come together to help others.

After the month is over, and we have all observed our final fast, and the Eid celebrations are dealt with, we will all return to our normal lives. But, it is important that we keep the spirit of Ramadan alive for the rest of the year, and indeed the rest of our lives. Because it is only through unity, modesty, and temperance that we can make the world a better place for all of us.

M Ahmad is a regular writer for Good Morning Kashmir. He can be reached at specialchivers78@gmail.com

# Towards Understanding The Digital Misinformation



FAROOQ AHMAD BAKLOO

In today's interconnected world, where information flows freely and swiftly through digital channels, the challenges of misinformation, disinformation, and fake news have become more pronounced than ever before. Amid this digital discord, the Quran continues to offer everlasting wisdom that can escort us into navigating the complexities of modern society. Surah Al-Hujurat, the 49th chapter of the Quran, offers thoughtful insights and principles that resonate deeply with the fight against misinformation in the present overloaded digital age especially during the election seasons. During these election seasons, a lot of misinformation and fake news become common and this sometimes becomes fatal for some particular communities.

Election season and Misinformation, particularly during elections, can have significant ramifications, especially concerning particular (like Muslims in some countries) communities here's how:

**TARGETED FALSEHOODS:** Misinformation often targets specific communities, including Muslims, exploiting existing social tensions or prejudices. During elections, this misinformation can be particularly harmful, aiming to sway opinions or incite fear and division.

**POLARIZATION AND DIVISION:** False narratives about certain communities (Muslims) can exacerbate existing societal divisions, fostering mistrust and animosity between different religious or ethnic groups. This polarization can lead to social unrest and even violence, especially when fuelled by misinformation spread through digital channels.

**UNDERMINING DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES:** Misinformation undermines the integrity of democratic processes by distorting public discourse and manipulating public opinion. When false information spreads unchecked, it can influence electoral outcomes, undermining the principles of free and fair elections.

**IMPACT ON MINORITY COMMUNITIES:** Muslim communities are often disproportionately affected by misinformation campaigns due to existing prejudices and stereotypes. False narratives can fuel discrimination, marginalization, and even violence against Muslim individuals and communities.

**LOSS OF TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS:** When misinformation runs rampant, it erodes trust in traditional media, government institutions, and other authoritative sources of information. This loss of trust makes it easier for false narratives to take hold and spread rapidly through digital platforms.

**VIOLENCE AND HATE CRIMES:** Misinformation can contribute to the escalation of violence and hate crimes targeting certain religions or communities. False rumors and inflammatory content shared online can incite individuals or groups to commit acts of violence or vandalism.

**UNDERSTANDING SURAH AL-HUJURAT:** Surah Al-Hujurat, comprised of 18 verses, serves as a guidebook for social conduct, ethics, and interpersonal relations. Its teachings highlight the importance of respect, harmony, justice, and integrity in human interactions. At its fundamental, the surah emphasizes the need for communication, empathy, and mutual understanding among individuals and communities.

**RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE:** In the age of social media and digital communication platforms, how we communicate has a profound impact on the spread of information. Surah Al-Hujurat retells us of the importance of respectful



and well-mannered communication. It cautions against spreading rumors, engaging in gossip, and making assumptions without verification – all of which are predominant challenges in today's digital landscape.

In the milieu of present digital misinformation, respectful communication involves critically evaluating information before sharing it, verifying sources, and avoiding the spread of false or misleading content. By adhering to the principles of Surah Al-Hujurat, we can contribute to fostering a more informed and responsible digital society.

**BUILDING TRUST AND INTEGRITY ONLINE:** Trust and integrity are essential pillars of a healthy digital ecosystem. Surah Al-Hujurat emphasizes the importance of honesty, trustworthiness, and fulfilling commitments – principles that are integral to combating digital misinformation. In an environment where

trust in online information is constantly tested, individuals must strive to uphold these values in their online interactions. By being transparent about the sources of information, fact-checking content before sharing it, and refraining from spreading misleading information, we can contribute to building trust and integrity in online discourse. Surah Al-Hujurat reminds us that integrity is not only a personal virtue but also a collective responsibility in the digital realm.

Promoting Critical Thinking and Media Literacy: In the battle against digital misinformation, critical thinking, and media literacy are powerful weapons. Surah Al-Hujurat encourages thoughtful reflection and discernment, urging believers to verify information before accepting it as truth. In the context of modern society, this principle translates into the promotion of critical thinking skills and media literacy

education.

Educating individuals, particularly the youth, about the importance of questioning information, evaluating sources, and distinguishing between reliable and unreliable content is crucial in combating the spread of misinformation. Surah Al-Hujurat is a timeless reminder of the importance of intellectual curiosity and skepticism in the pursuit of truth.

Cultivating Empathy and Understanding: In an era characterized by polarization and echo chambers, cultivating empathy and understanding is essential for bridging divides and fostering meaningful dialogue. Surah Al-Hujurat emphasizes the importance of treating others with kindness, respect, and compassion, which are sorely needed in the digital sphere. By empathizing with diverse perspectives, engaging in constructive dialogue, and seeking common ground, we can mitigate the spread of misinformation and build bridges across ideological divides. Surah Al-Hujurat reminds us that true wisdom lies not in blindly adhering to one's beliefs but in seeking understanding and empathy for others.

Wrap-up: As we navigate the complexities of the digital age, the teachings of Surah Al-Hujurat offer everlasting guidance and wisdom that are deeply needed. By keeping principles of respect, integrity, critical thinking, and empathy, we can face the challenges of digital misinformation and contribute to building a more informed, responsible, and compassionate society. In the battle against misinformation, let us draw inspiration from the thoughtful teachings of Surah Al-Hujurat and strive to be beacons of truth, integrity, and wisdom in the digital realm. Together, we can harness the power of ancient wisdom to create a brighter and more enlightened future for all.

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# Early Screening Of Glaucoma



DR. MAHIPAL S SACHDEV

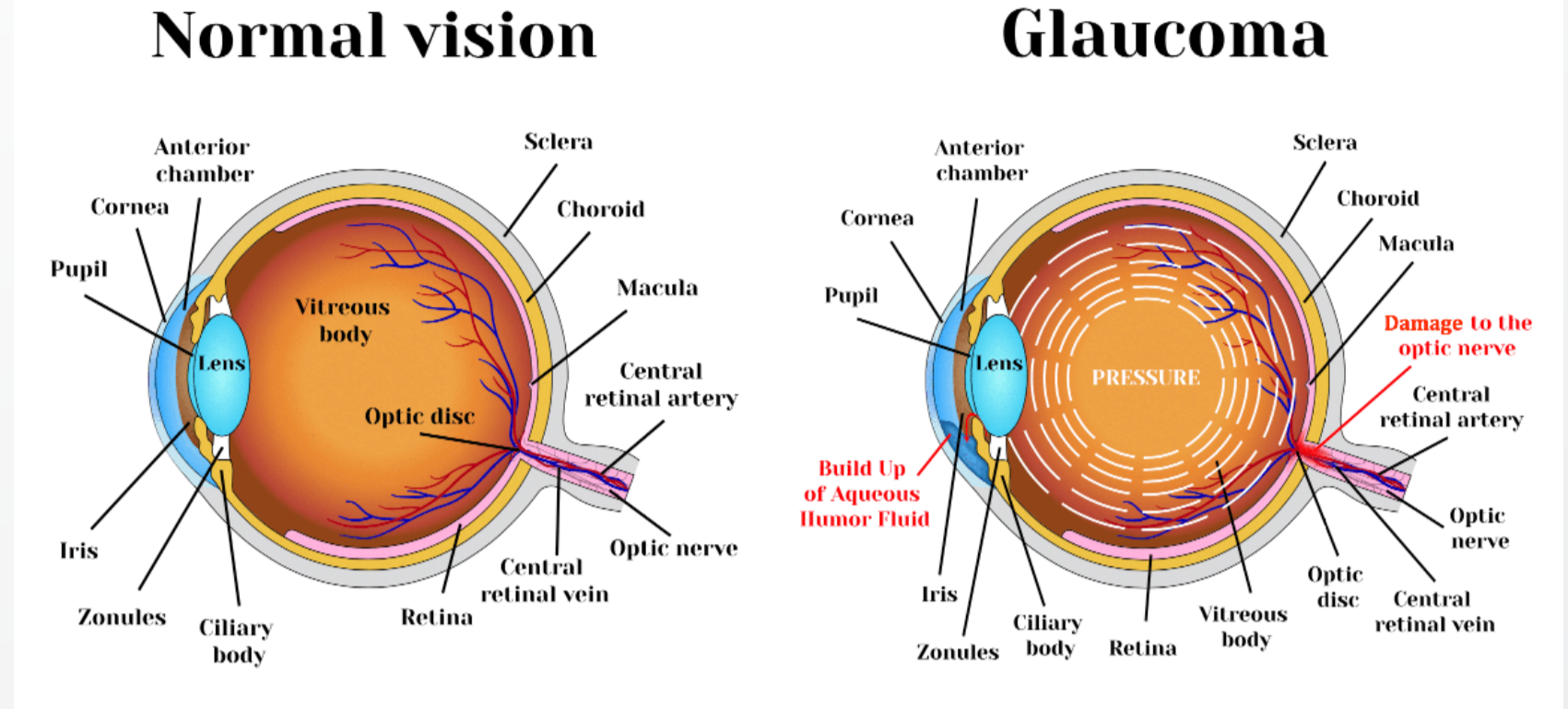
**G**laucoma is a serious disorder that encompasses a group of eye disease that leads to progressive damage to the optic nerve, which transmits electrical signals from the eye to the brain. This problem usually occurs when a fluid builds up in the front part of the eye. This extra fluid increases the pressure in the eye, which damages the optic nerve. People above the age of 60 years face the complications of Glaucoma which is a leading cause of blindness.

The early stages of Glaucoma have no symptoms and by the time patient start notice problems with the sight, this disease progresses so much that irreversible vision loss has already occurred and additional loss is difficult to stop. But Glaucoma can be controlled and prevented with early treatment.

Glaucoma can induce without noticeable symptoms. An ophthalmologist will diagnose this disease by doing a comprehensive medical eye examination. The best way to protect your sight from glaucoma is to have regular eye examination tests to assess your eye pressure, optic nerve, cornea and other potential problems.

The following components of tests that help early detection are as follows:

- Medical History
- Medications you are taking
- Questions about diabetes, high blood pressure, smoking and sun exposure.
- Vision History
- Your last eye examination, present tests and recent changes in your vision.
- Eye disease in your family.



- Any previous treatments and surgeries.

Vision acuity test to determine the sharpness and clarity of your sight. This test is done to determine if your vision can be improved by using glasses or lenses. It also helps the doctor to determine the risk of glaucoma in your eyes. Basic Visual Field testing is done to determine how much side vision and how much surrounding area patient can see.

An anterior segment of eye including the cornea, pupil, iris, lens and aqueous drainage structure is examined through a microscope. A special lens which allows the doctor to see inside the eye to examine the retina and optic nerve is called a dilated eye examination. The test through which the fluid pressure is measured inside the eye is referred as the tonometry test or IOP.

The Warning Signs, following signs,

indicate that you need a thorough examination by an eye doctor:

- Change in the color of iris
- Double vision
- The centre of viewing has a dark spot.
- Feeling unusual in dark rooms
- Difficulty in focusing on near objects
- Squinting due to unusual sensitivity to light
- Swollen lids
- Pain in eyes
- Watery eyes
- Itching and burning in eyes.
- Seeing ghost-like images in dark.

Who is at Risk? The risk factors that determine for developing the disease include:

- Elevated eye pressure
- Family history

- Age
- Past injuries to eye
- Use of steroid
- Thin cornea
- Severe anemia

How is Glaucoma Detected? If an ophthalmologist suspects that you may have glaucoma, then the patient has to undergo additional tests that help to ensure the certainty of the disease.

**Pachymetry:** An instrument that emits an ultrasonic wave to measure the thickness of the cornea is used in this test. A painless ultrasound wave emits from the probe and the doctor numbs the surface of eye to measure the corneal thickness.

**Perimetry:** This test draws the map of patients virtual field and show where he has lost the vision especially the peripheral vision. The doctor can easily see the areas of vision damaged and the areas that are going to

be affected.

**Gonioscopy:** The doctor cant see directly the damaged angle by looking directly into the eye. So this test gives access to check the drainage canal that is formed between cornea and iris. The drainage canal is located at the corner of the cornea. It is very important to examine the drainage canal to ensure they are working properly.

The angle or the drainage canal is viewed through the lens with a mirror, the doctor numbs the surface of the eye and then places this lens.

The reports from these tests provide an indication of the effectiveness of the treatment being used and whether further treatments may be necessary. All the tests are not necessary for every person. The objective is just to determine if the glaucoma has stated affecting or damaged eye over time.

Author is a Chairman & Founder, Centre for Sight group of Eye Hospitals

# CAA Through The Lens Of Islamic Mercy And Justice



PROF JASIM MOHAMMAD

**T**he Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) has been a subject of intense debate and scrutiny across the nation. The CAA was introduced with the intention of providing a pathway to Indian citizenship for persecuted minorities from neighbouring countries. It specifically aims to assist non-Muslim migrants from Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan who arrived in India before December 31, 2014. The act does not apply to Indian citizens and does not alter the rights of any Indian citizen, irrespective of their religion, caste, creed, sect, ethnicity, or race.

There is a common misconception that the CAA threatens the secular fabric of India and discriminates against Muslims. However, the act does not affect the citizenship status of Indian Muslims or any other existing Indian citizen. It is a targeted measure to aid those who have faced religious persecution in their home countries and have sought refuge in India. The CAA should be viewed in the broader context of humanitarian efforts. It seeks to remove legal barriers and provide a dignified life to refugees who have suffered for decades. By offering them citizenship, the act aims to integrate these individuals into the social and economic fabric of the country, allowing them to contribute positively to society.

The implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) can be seen as a positive step for humanity which aligns with the compassionate principles found in many faiths, including Islam. CAA has been a topic of much debate. However, when viewed through the lens of humanitarian values, it is



evident that the act is a commendable step towards providing relief to those who have suffered persecution. The CAA offers a pathway to citizenship for minorities from neighbouring countries, ensuring they have the opportunity to live with dignity and security.

Islam, a faith that emphasizes compassion and mercy, teaches its followers to assist those in distress, including refugees and asylum seekers. The Quran and Hadith are replete with examples and injunctions that encourage Muslims to offer protection and support to those in need, regardless of their faith. Islam teaches the protection of the oppressed and support for those in distress. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "Support your brother, whether he is an oppressor or he is an oppressed one." When asked how to support an oppressor, he replied, "By preventing him from oppressing others." (Sahih Bukhari). In this spirit, Muslims are encouraged to understand the CAA's provisions for persecuted minorities

from neighbouring countries and to ensure that the act aligns with the principles of justice and compassion.

From an Islamic perspective, the principles of justice, compassion, and protection of the oppressed are paramount. The CAA, as stated by the Indian government, is a humanitarian gesture aimed at providing relief to persecuted minorities from neighbouring Islamic countries, and it does not affect the citizenship rights of Indian Muslims.

The CAA's intent to provide sanctuary to persecuted individuals resonates with these Islamic values. It embodies the spirit of global brotherhood and the idea that we must look beyond borders and religious distinctions to help our fellow human beings. members. The CAA is based on the historical context of partition and the subsequent treatment of minorities in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. These countries have Islam as their state religion, and the act aims to protect religious minorities who have faced persecution in these

Islamic nations.

The act is a targeted measure to provide relief to specific religious minorities who have historically faced persecution in their home countries. It is not a general immigration policy but a special provision for those who have suffered due to their religious beliefs. Muslims from these countries are not barred from applying for Indian citizenship. They can still apply under the standard naturalization process, which remains open to all individuals regardless of their religion.

Similar narrow-window legislations exist in other countries, like the Lautenberg-Specter Amendments in the United States, which provide preferential shelter to persecuted minorities from specific countries. The CAA follows a similar principle, focusing on religious minorities from neighbouring Islamic states. The CAA addresses religious persecution, not sectarian conflicts within Islam. While sects like Shias and Ahmadiyya's may face discrimination, the act's

focus is on religious minorities in the context of the state religion of the neighbouring countries.

The political landscape surrounding the CAA has been tumultuous, with some politicians presenting the act in a manner that may provoke unrest. It is not uncommon for political narratives to be crafted in a way that serves the interests of those who present them. In the context of the CAA, some politicians portray the act in a negative light, potentially inciting protests or dissatisfaction among certain groups for their political gain. Muslims, and indeed all citizens, should exercise caution and not allow themselves to be swayed by interpretations that may not fully represent the truth. It is essential to read the act thoroughly, understand its implications, and consider the government's clarifications that the CAA does not impact the citizenship of Indian Muslims.

It is important for Indian Muslims, as well as all citizens, to thoroughly understand the legislation. Islam emphasizes the importance of seeking knowledge and being well-informed, especially regarding matters that impact the community. The Quran teaches that humanity is one family and that the protection of the persecuted is a noble endeavour. The CAA's objective to offer sanctuary to those in need resonates with these teachings. It is important for Indian Muslims to engage with the act's provisions with an informed understanding, ensuring that their interpretations align with both the spirit of their faith and the secular ethos of the Indian Constitution.

It is beneficial for Indian Muslims to read and understand the CAA thoroughly. Doing so not only aligns with Islamic directives on seeking knowledge and protecting the oppressed but also enables them to engage in meaningful dialogue and contribute to the welfare of the broader society.

Author is Professor in Comparative Literature and Former Media Advisor of Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. He can be mailed at proffjasimmd@gmail.com

# Follow These Prevention Tips For Better Eye Health

**W**orld Glaucoma Day is an annual awareness day observed, dedicated to raising awareness about glaucoma—a group of eye conditions that can lead to optic nerve damage and vision loss. The day serves as a global initiative to educate people about the importance of early detection, regular eye examinations, and the potential consequences of glaucoma. This year's theme for World Glaucoma Week is 'Uniting for a Glaucoma-Free World'. Now is the time to take a stand and

unite as a global community. Recognised internationally, World Glaucoma Day aims to promote eye health, encourage preventive measures, and support research efforts to combat this eye disease. While it may not be possible to completely prevent glaucoma, several strategies can help lower the risk and manage the condition. Keep reading as we share a list of preventive tips you can follow for better eye health. Follow these preventive strategies for better eye health and reduced risk of glaucoma:

1. Regular eye exams

2. Know your family history  
Understanding your family's eye health history can help identify genetic risk factors for glaucoma. Gather information on the eye health of your close relatives and share it with your eye care provider.
3. Maintain healthy blood pressure  
Proper blood pressure control is crucial for eye health, as hyper-

tension can contribute to glaucoma. Monitor and manage your blood pressure through a healthy diet, regular exercise, and medication if prescribed by your doctor.

4. Regular exercise  
Exercise improves blood flow, which can benefit the optic nerve and reduce the risk of glaucoma. Engage in regular moderate-intensity exercise, such as brisk walking or cycling, for at least 150 minutes per week.
5. Maintain a healthy diet  
Antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals found in fruits and vegetables support overall eye health. Include a variety of

colourful fruits and vegetables in your diet, along with omega-3 fatty acids from sources like fish.

6. Protect your eyes from injuries  
Eye injuries can increase the risk of glaucoma, so protective eyewear is crucial during sports and certain activities. Wear safety glasses or goggles when participating in activities that pose a risk of eye injury.
7. Limit caffeine intake  
Excessive caffeine consumption may increase intraocular pressure, a risk factor for glaucoma. Moderation is key; limit caffeine intake from coffee, tea,

and energy drinks.

8. Avoid smoking  
Smoking has been linked to an increased risk of developing glaucoma. Quit smoking and avoid exposure to secondhand smoke.
9. Manage diabetes  
Diabetes is a risk factor for glaucoma, so proper diabetes management is essential. Monitor blood sugar levels, adhere to a healthy diet, take prescribed medications, and follow your healthcare provider's recommendations.
10. Maintain a healthy body weight

Obesity is associated with an increased risk of glaucoma. Adopt a balanced diet and engage in regular physical activity to achieve and maintain a healthy weight. It's important to note that while these strategies may help lower the risk of glaucoma, they are not foolproof. Regular eye check-ups and early detection remain crucial for managing and preventing vision loss associated with glaucoma. Always consult with your eye care professional for personalised advice based on your specific health needs.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE .....

### Women Voter To

Apni Party, and others, nominating women candidates, activating their respective wings. Pulwama emerges as the sole district in Jammu and Kashmir where women voters outnumber men, with 2726 more women voters than men, out of a total of 403,795 voters. In other districts, male voters surpass female voters. In a bid to foster a conducive environment for women voters, pink booths will be established in all districts during the Lok Sabha elections, staffed entirely by female employees, an initiative by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer. Pertinent to mention that the increased participation of women was evident in the District Development Council (DDC) elections held in 2020, with over 98 percent voter turnout and the occupation of more than five DDCs by women—(KNO)

### Situation Along LAC

Asked what was the current situation at the LAC, Gen Pande said, "Very briefly if I were to sum up as to what the situation is, I would describe it to be stable but sensitive. And, this is where we need to keep a close watch, monitor very closely the activities across the LAC, both in the immediate, shall we say depth, and further behind." "I would say upfront, our deployment in terms of the troops and other elements that we have along the LAC, is extremely robust and, it is balanced. We also have or we do maintain adequate reserves, in terms of our infantry formation and other artilleries and the other elements, to be able to deal with any situation that may arise across the entire length of the LAC. So, this is as far as our preparedness is concerned," he was quoted as saying by news agency PTI.

India and China recently held a fresh round of high-level military talks to resolve the border row that witnessed both sides agreeing to maintain "peace and tranquillity" on the ground but there was no indication of any breakthrough. The Army chief was also asked what lessons have been learnt from tussles at the border, to which he said, not only what is happening along the border, "I would say there are very profound lessons that we need to learn from conflicts happening around the world."

These lessons are at the "strategic level, operational level and tactical level". "At the strategic level, national security is gaining salience in the international system and what it has shown is that when national interests are involved, nations would not hesitate to go to war. Second, in situation where you have contested borders, such as ours, the land will continue to remain a decisive domain of warfare," Gen Pande said.

Third is self-reliance, it has shown that not only in this conflict, but also during the pandemic time, "the importance for us to become self-reliant, to have near zero dependency on ex/import requirements". "At the operational level, the importance of non-contact warfare, as we call it non-kinetic warfare... cyber, information space, battle of narratives, influence operations, these are some of the areas. All the lessons we need to see in our context," he said.

Asked about a recent international report that claims the situation along the LAC may escalate, the Army chief said, "We do plan for different contingencies, and for each contingency, the responses would be different". "So, I would not want to get into the specifics as to what the response would be, but leave it by saying that our current deployment... is robust, and we do have response mechanism, for different contingencies that may arise, which also will be equally robust, equally effective," he asserted.

And, while what is happening at the border is also important, there is also a need to "keep a close watch and monitor what other developments are taking place in terms of infrastructure, movement of troops, concentration of troops etc, so, this is a constant process, so not only the military in consonance with other intelligence agencies at the strategy level, we have all the wherewithal", Gen Pande said.

"So, it is for us to put it all together to make sure that we are neither strategically surprised nor tactically surprised," the Army chief added.

Asked if the situation escalates, will Indian military's response will be different than what it was in the 1962 war, he said, "Certainly. Response will be effective and it will be what situation that comes about." Gen Pandey also said there is a need to identify as to how future conflicts will play out, and how one can leverage the technology, one will have to "look beyond the conventional, shall we say instruments of war, the conventional domains".

"We have to see as to how artificial intelligence, 5G, Internet of Things, drones, surveillance systems, cyber, these are the areas we are currently focussing on. We want to leverage the immense innovative as well the start-up potential that we have in the country," he added.

### Govt Approves

Governor, Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, J&K; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

In light of addition of four new tribes i.e. Pahari Ethnic Group, Paddari Tribe, Kolis and Gadda Brahmins, to the Scheduled Tribes Order as applicable to the J&K by the Parliament, the Administrative Council approved 10% reservation in favour of newly added tribes taking the overall reservation for STs to 20%. In order to ensure that both already notified and now newly added tribes get benefits of reservation equally and separately, the AC approved an equal and separate percentage of reservation for them i.e. 10% each.

The AC also approved the addition of 15 new castes in OBCs and enhancement of reservation in favour of OBCs to 8%, which will meet the long pending demand of the OBC category in the UT. It also approved change in nomenclature and synonymy of some castes as recommend by the SEBC Commission.

Approval was also accorded to replace the term physically challenged persons or handicapped wherever appearing in the rules with the term Persons with Disabilities in conformity with the provisions of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

The said amendments shall fulfill the long pending demands of these communities regarding their right to adequate representation in government jobs and professional courses, which they stood hitherto deprived of, due to their social, educational and economical backwardness.

### SIA Raids Multiple

and one place each in Ramban and Jammu districts in the morning, a spokesperson of the anti-terror agency said.

The raids were conducted at the residential premises of Hasan Babar Nehru and Muhammad Irfan of Bhagwah and Sabder Ali of Phagsoo in Doda; Abdul Rashid of Arnas and Shamshad Begum of Pouni in Reasi; Abdul Rashid Naik of Khari in Ramban; and Sajad Ahmed alias "Shadu" in the Sidhra area of Jammu.

Several android mobile-phones and incriminating material were seized during the searches, the spokesperson said, expecting some leads from the seized articles to reach the bottom of a deep-rooted conspiracy of terrorist networks.

The official said that the raids were conducted in connection with an ongoing probe into a case registered at the SIA, Jammu, to unravel a criminal conspiracy hatched by the cadre and Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of various militant organizations and their affiliates or off-shoots to carry out terrorist and subversive activities.

The official said, a number of border guides and couriers are active in the hinterland and assist terrorist networks of different outfits by facilitating infiltration of terrorists from across the border, and further guiding them through the tough and treacherous terrain by bypassing anti-infiltration obstacles set up by security forces.

Many of them are also in touch with their Pakistani handlers and active terrorists, operating from across the border, through their mobile phones and using different applications, the official said.

### Formula-4 Car

Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Friday chaired a meeting to ensure the arrangements for the successful conduct of the event.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com stated that this first of its kind event will be a major attraction for youth and will instill passion among them for Formula-4 sport.

Termining the hosting of Formula-4 car race in Srinagar as one of the major achievements, Div Com said the occasion will open the spectrum of options for sports lovers of Kashmir and will be the beginning of a new career option for enthusiasts of the valley.

This 'adrenaline rushing' car race will be very exciting and enthralling for people, he said and added that such shows will also leverage adventure tourism of Kashmir.

While reviewing the arrangements, Div Com directed concerned officers to ensure leveling of the said road and black-topping

of potholes on the route.

To ensure safety of drivers, Div Com instructed installation of C-type 2-tier barricades including red barricades at both the ends of the route besides deployment of a medical team with two critical care ambulances and fire extinguishers.

Moreover, Div Com directed for proper security arrangements for the event and other requirements for event management including drone permission.

The meeting was attended by VC, LCMA; Director Tourism; Joint Commissioner SMC; officers of PWD, Health Department, Traffic, police, Fire & Emergency and representatives of Racing Promotions Private Ltd.

### Hundreds Of Devotees

both the places. Imams highlighted the teachings of Islam and also the significance of the sacred month of Ramadhan. They appealed to all sects and organisations -religious, social or political to rise above personal and sectarian interests and ensure unity and brotherhood among the people of Jammu and Kashmir to preserve and protect its collective identity. He said that the best way to ensure collectivism is by following basic human, moral and religious principles and values. Otherwise in fighting and one upmanship will make us perish.

Addressing the youth, they said that they are the future of this place and through pursuance of education and awareness that will bring out their inner capabilities and consciousness they can help shape a just and prosperous community.

Appealing to the authorities Mirwaiz said that they should listen to the voice of peoples collective conscience and unconditionally release prisoners who are in jails in jammu and Kashmir and all over India, as a gesture of good will in the holy month of Ramzan.

They said that it is incumbent upon authorities to address the issues of people including the lack of electricity, that has increased the hardships for people especially in the holy month of Ramzan, particularly for the poor who don't have alternative means.

Meanwhile, the devotees sought forgiveness from the Almighty.

Moreover, the markets in and around the twin religious places wore festive looks today as the devotees after participating in the prayers, were seen buying essentials, clothes and other stuff.

At Jamia Masjid as well as at Dargah Hazratbal, the markets remained abuzz with the shoppers throughout the day.

Pertinently, Waqf Board and Anjuman-e-Auqaf Jamia Masjid had made elaborate arrangements for the holy month of Ramadhan to ensure that the devotees visiting the places will not face any hardships—(KNO)

### Set New Standards

National Education Policy 2020. The Lt Governor impressed upon the academic institutions to adopt best practices and set new standards in technical education.

We should not miss this opportunity and develop a futuristic roadmap that will lead the reforms in diverse sectors and establish India as a Knowledge economy. India regaining its old glory should be our prime goal, he said.

He also emphasized on making necessary interventions to meet the needs of the industries. Our focus on the Science and Technology sector will play an important role in realising the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

The Lt Governor also shared the transformation taking place in the education sector in Jammu Kashmir. Heads of IITs, IISERS, NITs, Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities and other reputed institutions were present.

### Teacher Dismissed

led an unruly mob which resorted to stone pelting on joint party of Police and security forces in which armed gunmen from amongst the mob fired indiscriminately upon the police party," he said.

He added that Manzoor Ahmed Laway as teacher had the responsibility to guide the students not to indulge in activities directed against the security of the state and when the subject is himself instrumental in fomenting secessionism among the student fraternity, then his role as a teacher does not serve the purpose for which he has been appointed to Government service.

### ACB Arrests JE For

execute two developmental works title

(A) Improvement of road from Chainag to Ashoponor. (B) Filling and leveling of grave yard near Jamia Masjid Kunnel & that the complainant had completed both the works for which department initially give him some amount under labour head but full labour payment was not given to him," the statement said.

It was also found that on completion of the works complainant (contractor) requested JE concerned to prepare the bill of both the works but JE concerned demanded bribe of RS 5000 as commission & it was also found that GRS was also demanding bribe of Rs 3000 from complainant as his commission for preparing labour demand. Discreet probe also reveal that both these officials use to take bribe from complainant through m-pay as well as cash on earlier occasions also & were demanding more bribe for final bill & labour demand. As complainant was not interested in paying birbe to these officials he accordingly approached ACB through helpline number & with written complaint subsequently. Under these circumstances the complainant approached ACB and requested for legal action against both these officials JE as well as GRS for demanding bribe from him, the statement added.

Accordingly on the basis of the findings & recommendation of the Verifying Officer dated 14.03.2024, prima facie offence U/S 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended in 2018) & section 120-B IPC were made out against accused Public servants namely Arshid Ayoub Marazi, JE & GR Suboor Mir both officials of Rural Development Department Kralgund Handwara for demanding & accepting bribe from complainant for processing/preparing his Bill & putting demand for remaining labour payments case FIR No 02-2024 U/S 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended in 2018) & section 120-B IPC was registered at PS ACB Baramulla & investigations were initiated," the statement said.

During the course of investigation a trap team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused JE red handed while demanding and accepting bribe of ₹5000 from complainant. The bribe money was later recovered from possession of accused as well as one shopkeeper to whom he has given the money in presence of independent witnesses. The accused public servants were arrested on the spot after completing all legal formalities. The role of GRS & other officials in case is being investigated," it said, adding that further investigation in the case is going on—(KNO)


### Doctors' Warning

"The test reports will be available tomorrow," she said.

Once the report is available, it will be shared with the public to address any concerns, Shagufta said, adding that there have been no adverse findings so far in the surveillance sampling—(KNO)

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SARAI DANGERPORA,  
SUMBAL. 193501

# PFBR proves India's capabilities in advanced nuclear sciences, engineering

PRABHAT KUMAR

**NEW DELHI:** It is heartening that Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently visited Kalpakkam to witness the start of fuel loading in the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR). Commencement of fuel loading is a major milestone for PFBR, indicating that all major sodium and water loops are functional, and that all static and dynamic equipment are in healthy state.

PFBR, built by Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI), is currently in the final stage of commissioning. PFBR marks the commencement of the second of the three-stage commercial nuclear power production, planned by Homi Jahagir Bhabha way back in 1950.

This is an occasion for the entire Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) fraternity -- and for that matter for every Indian -- to be proud of the combined achievement of the BHAVINI and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic



Research (IGCAR) teams.

In October 2004, then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had marked the occasion by starting concreting of PFBR Raft.

This highly complex reactor is now nearing completion.

Visits of Prime Ministers, President (Abdul Kalam), several Union Ministers, Director General of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (Mohamed ElBaradei and

Yukiya Amano), Deputy Director Generals of IAEA, several other international dignitaries and ambassadors, Parliamentary committees, many Padma Awardee Scientists and others to PFBR in the past, is a testimony to the importance of PFBR in the global scenario.

The fast breeder reactor technology has the potential to generate more nuclear fuel (plutonium) than it consumes. This

is achieved by using fast neutrons to convert fertile material (depleted uranium) into fissile material. The PFBR contributes to India's efforts to achieve energy security by efficiently utilising its indigenous uranium and abundant resources of thorium.

PFBR is a stepping stone to move from U235 fuel to U233 fuel. PFBR is designed and constructed entirely in India, showcasing the country's capability in advanced nuclear sciences and engineering, and close fuel cycle.

The PFBR project has brought several laurels for India, contributing to the country's nuclear energy programme and technological prowess. Achievements and accolades associated with the PFBR encompass Indigenous technology development and demonstrate the country's capability to design, construct, and operate advanced nuclear reactors without relying on foreign assistance.

PFBR involves cutting-edge research and innovation in nuclear reactor technology. It fosters advancements in reactor design, materials science, safety analysis, and operational efficiency.

The PFBR project has facilitated collaboration with international partners, including knowledge exchange, and research cooperation.

# BJP-led NDA to breach 400 mark in 2024 LS polls: Opinion Poll

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led NDA is headed for a historic mandate in the 2024 general elections and is all set to attain the '400 paar' target, set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, says a poll survey by a leading media house.

The Opinion Poll has predicted a landslide victory for the BJP-led NDA, a setback for the INDIA bloc and below-average performance for regional satraps including TMC, DMK, AIADMK, BJD and more.

According to the Opinion poll, the NDA is set to fetch 411 seats in the 543-member Lok Sabha and the BJP could alone bag a record 350 seats.

The News18 Opinion poll conducted survey of more than 1 lakh respondents in about 518 LS constituencies spread across 21 states.

The BJP is expected to make a clean sweep in the Hindi heartland including states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh and make significant gains in West Bengal and South India. BJP's alliance partners including JD (U) and TDP are likely to put together another 61 seats in the NDA kitty.

The survey also sees BJP making big inroads in Down South and springing major surprises by winning 5 seats in Tamil Nadu and 2 in Kerala and increase it's tally in West Bengal to a whopping 25 seats, a tad higher as compared to its 2019 performance.

As per the Opinion poll, the BJP is likely to bag 77 seats in Uttar Pradesh, 28 in Madhya Pradesh, 38 in Bihar, 12 in Jharkhand and 25 in Karnataka and clinch victory in all 26 seats of PM Modi's home state Gujarat.



Some other states, where BJP is not looked upon as a formidable force are also seen titling towards it. The party is likely to repeat its 2019 performance and win 38 out of 40 seats, 8 in Telangana and 18 in Andhra Pradesh.

INDIA bloc, a rainbow alliance of Opposition parties, is unlikely to pose any threat to Modi juggernaut and the survey finds it finishing at yet another miserable number. It says that Congress may end up at just 49 Lok Sabha seats, its second-worst eve performance after the humiliating show in 2014 elections.

Forecasting a lacklustre performance by regional satraps, the Opinion poll sees parties like AIADMK, BSP, BRS, BJD, and YSRCP not bagging more than 27 seats.

The survey also found the BJP-led NDA garnering close to 50 per cent votes, which in turn reflects in the projected thumping numbers.

In Uttar Pradesh, the survey sees NDA gaining its biggest clout ever, with a likely vote share of 57 per cent while the SP-Congress combine is likely to settle at 26 per cent votes. Out of 80 seats, the BJP is projected to win 77 and the rest three

seats could be claimed by the INDIA alliance (2 seats) and Mayawati's BSP (1).

In Bihar, the BJP-JD(U) alliance is expected to repeat its 2019 performance and win 38 out of 40 seats, though a number less than previous Lok Sabha elections. Here also, the NDA alliance is expected to fetch at least 58 per cent vote share while the INDIA bloc will be settling at a mere 28 per cent.

In Tamil Nadu, the BJP is projected to open its account for the first time and claim victory in 5 seats. The DMK-Congress alliance will remain a major force, winning about 30 out of 39 seats, says the poll survey. DMK-Cong alliance had won 38 seats in 2019 elections and AIADMK got 1.

In Maharashtra, the survey forecasts clear victory for NDA as it is likely to win 41 of 48 seats. Opposition is likely to claim victory on the rest of 7 seats.

In West Bengal, the BJP is expected to register a big leap in numbers and it may go from 17 seats to 25 seats. TMC is likely to bag 17 seats while Congress is likely to draw a blank. In the 2019 polls, Mamata-led TMC won 22 while BJP settled at 18 seats.

## SC issues notice to SBI for non-disclosure of alphanumeric code of Electoral Bonds

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to the State Bank of India (SBI) for non-disclosure of alphanumeric code of Electoral Bonds.

"They have not disclosed the bond number because that has to be disclosed by the State Bank of India (SBI). If you see our judgement, all details have to be furnished by the SBI," said a Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud.

Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, urged the 5-judge Bench to issue notice to SBI before issuing any directions.

"They (SBI) filed an application (seeking extension of time) which was disposed of. They are not parties to the proceedings," submitted Solicitor General Mehta, clarifying that he is not representing the SBI.

At this, the Constitution Bench, also comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B.R. Gavai, J.B. Padiwala and Manoj Misra, said: "We can take exception to what they have disclosed because they were duty bound."

"We direct the registry to issue notice to SBI returnable on Monday," it said, adding that a copy of its order may be forwarded to the standing counsel of SBI.

During the hearing, senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the February 15 judgement was an "inclusive order" directing SBI to share details of Electoral Bonds encashed by political parties, "including" the date of encashment and the denomination of the Electoral Bond.

The Constitution Bench was considering the application filed by the Election Commission seeking the release of sealed cover data on Electoral Bonds, which the poll panel had supplied to the top court during the pendency of the proceedings.

In its application, the ECI said that it forwarded the documents in sealed covers/boxes without retaining any copies of the information so submitted.

Directing release of the sealed cover envelopes, the top court directed that ECI will upload digitized copy on its official website by Sunday, March 17.

## SIT to probe 'push' theory behind Mamata Banerjee's injury

IAN S

**KOLKATA:** A special investigation team (SIT) of Kolkata Police will probe the "push" theory behind the forehead injury that West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee suffered as she fell down at her residence while walking.

The "push" theory surfaced after the Director of S.S.K.M. Medical College and Hospital, Manimoy Bandopadhyay said, on Thursday night, that the Chief Minister might have been "pushed" from behind at her residence.

While speaking to the mediapersons, the S.S.K.M. director said that the injury might have been caused "within the vicinity of her home due to some push from behind".

Sources from the city police said that officers from different departments will be included in the SIT which will probe the matter. The investigation process by the SIT will be directly overseen and supervised by the city police, Vineet Kumar Goyal.

It is learnt that the members of the SIT will be examining the CCTV



footage both in the inner and outer peripheries of the official residence of the Chief Minister at Kalighat in South Kolkata. The SIT members will also question the security personnel deployed at the residence of the Chief Minister.

Insiders in city police said that the matter is being viewed with extreme seriousness by the city police considering that it involves the security aspects of a V.V.I.P. like the Chief Minister.

Besides investigating the "push" theory behind the mishap, the existing security arrangements at the Chief Minister's residence

will also be reviewed.

On Thursday evening, the Chief Minister received a forehead injury after she tripped while walking within her residence premises. She was immediately taken to the nearby S.S.K.M. Medical College and Hospital.

Later in the night she was released from the hospital after the doctor had put four stitches on her forehead.

Almost an hour after her release from the hospital the S.S.K.M. director had an interaction with the mediapersons and during the course of interaction the "push" theory surfaced.

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT KAKAPORA

Subject: - Provisional Selection list of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) of Poshan Project Kakapora and inviting of Objections thereof.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

In pursuance to the Government Order No: 103 JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated 28.01.2023 and approval from Mission Director Poshan J&K Vide No: MD/Poshan/Estt/20164-20283 dated 03.07.2023, an advertisement Notice was Issued vide Notification No:- CDPO/Kak/Adv/2024/842-59 Dated :- 19.02.2024 with opening date of receipt of application forms as on 21.02.2024 and closing date as on 10.03.2024 for selection of 01 Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) for 01 Anganwadi Centre (Newa-C) and approval from Mission Director Poshan J&K Vide No: SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2022 23/6231 34 dated :- 21.02.2024, an advertisement Notice was issued vide Notification No:- CDPO/Kak/Adv/2024/870-83 Dated 22.02.2024 with opening date of receipt of application forms as on 24.02.2024 and closing date as on 25.02.2024 for selection of 01 Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) for 01 Anganwadi Centre (Gudoora-C) of Poshan Project Kakapora In response to these notification 05 applications were received within cutoff date against (02) vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers). Merit list of the candidates has been prepared as per the criteria laid down vide Govt Order No :- 103-JK (SWD) Dated :- 28.04.2023 and accordingly Provisional list has been framed for 02 Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) on the basis of merit list by the Selection Committee. Both Provisional Selection list along with merit position (Annexure-A) are hereby published for information of public in general and Applicants/Candidates in Particular for filing appeal/Objections if any. The appeal/Objection if any against the selection list shall be filed in the Office of the Child Development Project Officer Kakapora against proper receipt within 07 days (in Office Hours) from the date of publication of this notification. No objection/Appeal shall be entertained after expiry of last date of filing appeal/Objection.

No: - CDPO/Poshan/Kak/2024/947-56  
Dated: - 15.03.2024

Child Dev, Project Officer  
Poshan Project Kakapora

### Annexure (A)

The Provisional Selection list of Anganwadi Workers (Sanginis) Advertised Vide No:- CDPO/Kak/Adv/2024/870-83 Dated:- 22.02.2024 of Poshan Project Kakapora

S.No	Name of Applicant	Parentage D/O	W/O	Date Of Birth	Residence	Panchayat Hatqa Name	Punch Ward No	Name of AWC Applied for	Qualification	Marks Obtained Out of	Percentage	if the applicant belongs to family of retired AWW/AWH (Yes/No)	Total Weightage	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Ishrat Manzoor	W/o Aqib Rasbid Lone		06.05.1996	Gudoora	Gudoora	PC-02	Gudoora-C	TDC	265/500	53.00	No	53.00	Selected

The Provisional Selection list of Anganwadi Workers (Sanginis) Advertised Vide No:- CDPO/Kak/Adv/2024/842-59 Dated:- 19.02.2024 of Poshan Project Kakapora

S.No	Name of Applicant	Parentage D/O	W/O	Date Of Birth	Residence	Panchayat Hatqa Name	Punch Ward No	Name of AWC Applied for	Qualification	Marks Obtained Out of	Percentage	if the applicant belongs to family of retired AWW/AWH (Yes/No)	Total Weightage	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Heena Qayoom	D/o Ab Qayoom Khan		05.04.2001	Newa	Newa	PC-07	Newa-C	TDC	413/500	82.60	No	82.60	Selected

DIPK-17976-23  
DT: 15/03/2024

CDPO/Kakapora

**Government Of Jammu And Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER GANDEBAL**  
Tel No.: 0194-2416905, 2416909, email: planningceogbl@gmail.com  
Address: Mini Secretariat Duderhama Ganderal

Subject: Publication of revised tentative seniority list of i/c lab assistants, i/c lib assistants and Qualified Class IV's (mts) staff.

**Notification**  
On the basis of service particulars of Qualified Class IV's received from the concerned D.D.O's the tentative seniority list of Qualified Class IV employees is hereby framed and is uploaded on the website of this office www.ceoganderal.in and also Official Whats App group of this office for information of the concerned. The notification in this regard is also published in the local leading news paper through information department for its wide publicity. The i/c lab assistants, i/c lib assistants and Qualified Class IV's employees as listed in the Annexure to this notification are hereby directed to verify his/her particulars reflected in the tentative seniority list. Any variation in the particulars, if detected, by any of the official, he/she shall submit his/ her objection along with documentary evidence before the DDO as well as this office within 07 days from the date of publishing of this notification. However after expiry of stipulated period of 07 days, no objection in this regard shall be entertained.

(Muzamil Akhtar)  
Chief Education Officer  
Ganderal

DIPK-18003-23  
DT: 15/03/2024

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SHOPIAN**  
Fax No/ Tell No: 01933-260226 Email: rmbdivisonshopian@gmail.com

**CORRIGENDUM**  
It is notified for the information of all concerned that due to single tender response for the work advertised vide this office NIT No: 114/13224-33/SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2023-24 Dated:-07-03-2024 at S.No:-01 the work is hereby:

**Extended as**

1	Bid Submission End Date	23-03-2024 up to 12:00 PM
2	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	23-03-2024 at 02:00 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian.

**Instead of**

1	Bid Submission End Date	15-03-2024 up to 12:00 PM
2	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	15-03-2024 at 02:00 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian.

No: NIT/13430-36  
Dt: 15-03-2024

DIPK-17993-23  
DT: 15/03/2024

sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Shopian

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, J&K**  
Jammu Office: 127-AD, Opposite Police Residential Quarters Gandhinagar Jammu. Pin code 180004  
Kashmir Office: Dalgate Suleiman Complex First Floor Srinagar. Pin Code No. 190001.

Subject: - Extension of Date.

The date for verification of defective online Scholarship applications under the Scheme "Post-Matric Scholarship to ST students & Pre-Matric Scholarship to ST Student for Class 9th & 10th" for the year 2023-24 is hereby extended at INO & DNO/SNO Level on National Scholarship Portal as per the following details:

S.No.	Institute (INO Level) verification Date	Defective application verification Date	State/District Nodal Officer Level Verification Date
01	Upto 18th of March, 2024	Upto 18th of March, 2024	Upto 20th of March, 2024

Note: No. further extension shall be granted.

No:-DTA/Sch/PMS/2023-24/767-84  
Dated: - 15 .03.2024

DIPK-18006-23  
DT: 15/03/2024

Director Tribal Affairs,  
J&K

# CS chairs UT-level ECM to approve plans for RDD schemes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday chaired the UT level Empowered Committee Meeting on the schemes of Rural Development Department (RDD) to discuss their annual plans for 2024-25 besides reviewing the performance made so far.

Besides the Secretary RDD the meeting was attended by several Administrative Secretaries, HoDs of RDD and other concerned officers of the Department.

While speaking in this meeting the Chief Secretary remarked that the Department has a vital function of raising the critical infrastructure in rural areas that has a bearing on the lives of the population there. He called on having a greater coordination between the departments to prioritize works that are most emergent in nature and in demand by the locals of the area.

Dulloo further stressed on carrying out studies by the reputed institutions verifying the social impact of such projects on the lives of people there. He asked for carrying out third-party evaluation of such works to get the actual outcomes and benefits accruing to



public on ground.

As far as the working of J&K Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) is concerned, the Chief Secretary impressed on providing the quality handholding to the SHGs immediately after their registration. He called on providing them the desirable counselling through social mobilization besides enhancing their capacity to enlarge their enterprises on commercial lines.

The Chief Secretary also took stock of the performance made by the Department in PMAY(G), IWMP and Himayat schemes. He enjoined upon the concerned to meet the targets set under each scheme. He asked them to cover all the beneficiaries eligible under such housing and livelihood generation schemes.

In his presentation the

Secretary, RDD, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary gave out the gist of the performance made by the Department under different schemes during the ensuing financial year. He also threw light on the action plans proposed by the Department for the year 2024-25.

The Secretary apprised the meeting that till now around 3.31 crore person days of work had been generated under MGNREGA which is 114% of the target set for the year. It was added that the fund utilization stands at an impressive rate of 97% this year. He further gave out that this year around 1,16,295 works had been completed and 2,95,834 works still going on at different stages of completion.

Regarding the annual action plan 2024-25 for

MGNREGA it was revealed that the Department is going to augment the critical infrastructure in rural areas in convergence with this scheme. It was given out that the Department is going to accomplish around 195000 works with around 12000 works under convergence mode.

Moreover the plan will lay focus on District Convergence Plans with extension of providing support to Departments either in augmenting their infrastructure. In addition focus on provisioning of common infrastructure for NRLM complaint SHGs besides empowering CLFs of JKRLM as PIAs in the FY 2024-25 aiming for holistic rural development.

Among other features this year's plan is aiming at allocating 44% of AAP to

natural resources management works with an objective of sustainable development and environmental conservation.

Under PMAY (G) the Department has completed 38,440 works and registered an expenditure of over Rs 1344 Cr this year. It was said the Department has completed 62,777 houses under both SECC and Awasplus this financial year aiming to complete 2,00,500 houses cumulatively.

The meeting was also apprised about the performance of NRLM in the UT. It was said that 1.58 lakh lakh houses have been mobilized into SHGs upto January this FY. The department has provided the RF amount of Rs 1080.15 lakhs and CIF to the tune of Rs8949 lakhs till January.

Under IWMP it was said that out of 19 projects sanctioned under WDC-PMKSY 2.0, DPRs of 16 have been prepared and approved by technical committee.

While under HIMAYAT the Department has trained 1247 candidates and has made an expenditure of Rs 12.84 Cr till February this year and is planning to train around 4900 candidates and place around 4000 of them in the year 2024-25, as given out during this meeting.

# Sports Council distributes Sports kits among trainees of Khelo India Centres

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Only a few days after the cash awards were transferred into the accounts of the outstanding performers both at the International and National level, the Sports Council Friday distributed sports kits among the registered trainees of its Khelo India Centres.

The function was held at the M.A. Stadium Jammu, in which the trainees of district Jammu from the disciplines of Soft Tennis, Table Tennis, and Hockey received new sports kits.

The kit distribution function was held after following the proper verification of individual NSRS and KID numbers. The function was supervised by Muhammad Hanief, Chief Sports Officer; Baljinder Pal Singh, Divisional Sports Officer Jammu, Nodal Officer of KIC and High-Performance Coaches and other coaches besides many officials of Sports Council were also present on the occasion.

More than one hundred brand-new sports kits which included a tracksuit, shirt, shorts, stockings, shoes, and a kit bag were



presented to the trainees. Similar Sports kits will be distributed among trainees from the Khelo India Centres belonging to other districts as well.

Speaking on the occasion, Muhammad Hanief, Chief Sports Officer said that all the Khelo India Centres are functional in J&K. He said J&K holds the distinction of surpassing other states and union territories in the number of such centers and becoming the first

to achieve the milestone of crossing the hundred figure mark in the entire country.

The Divisional Sports Officer Jammu, Baljinder Pal Singh said that besides a hundred operational Khelo India Centres, two Khelo India Centres of Excellence in Water Sports and Fencing are also functional, adding that more than 120 former athletes have been hired to train potential youth in these centers in last few years.

# PM Modi's roadshow in Hyderabad draws huge crowd



IANS

HYDERABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a roadshow in Malkajgiri Lok Sabha constituency in Hyderabad on Friday.

As part of the BJP's increased focus on Telangana, he arrived on another visit to the state ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. The roadshow from Miralguda to Malkajgiri X Roads for 1.3 km evoked a huge response from thousands of people who had lined up on both sides of the road to give him a rousing reception.

Chanting 'Modi Modi' the people showered petals on PM Modi, who was standing on a special vehicle waving at the crowd.

Wearing a cap with the BJP's poll symbol, PM Modi responded to the people's show of support by waving at them.

Amid tight security, the Prime Minister's vehicle moved ahead along the route with barricades erected on both sides.

Union Minister for Tourism and Culture, and state BJP president, G. Kishan Reddy, who is also seeking re-election from Secunderabad constitu-

ency, BJP candidate from Malkajgiri and former minister Eatala Rajender accompanied PM Modi.

The roadshow was the last programme of the day for PM Modi, who earlier addressed public meetings in Tamil Nadu and Kerala to campaign for NDA candidates.

The police in Hyderabad had imposed traffic restrictions in parts of the city in view of the Prime Minister's visit and roadshow.

Hyderabad and Cyberabad police announced traffic diversions on some key routes.

After the roadshow, the Prime Minister reached Raj Bhavan, where he would have a night halt.

The next day, he would leave for Nagarkurnool to address a public meeting.

This was PM Modi's second visit to Telangana in 10 days.

He addressed public meetings at Adilabad and Sangareddy on March 4 and 5 and also launched several development projects.

The BJP had won four out of 17 Lok Sabha seats in 2019 and this time the party has set a target of more than 12 seats.

# DC Bandipora kick-starts Chinar Plantation Drive

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: To mark the celebration of Chinar Day, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman on Friday kick-started Chinar plantation drive by planting a Chinar sapling within the premises of Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

ADC Bandipora, Umar Shafi Pandit; ACD Bandipora, Peer Mumtaz Ahmad besides officers and officials of Floriculture Department were present

on the occasion.

Besides, Mini Secretariat Bandipora, the plantation of Chinar saplings was also held at Nishat Park Bandipora and Wullar Vantage Park, Garoora.

On the occasion, the concerned officials of the floriculture department informed that around 150 Chinar saplings are available with District Floriculture Office and shall be provided free of cost to Educational Institutions, Shrines and Government Departments.

# SVEEP Sports Event Promotes Voters Awareness, Physical Fitness in Reasi

GMK NEWS NETWORK

REASI: Department of Youth Services and Sports Reasi organized sports activities at GHS Gari, Block Jij Bagli, as part of the "SVEEP" Programme (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation) under the guidance of District Development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan. Participants of different ages engaged in Volleyball, Carrom and Tug of War.

The event underscored the importance of voters awareness, aligning with the theme "Fit Mind, Fit Voters" for the upcoming parliamentary elections. Such initiatives aim to engage citizens in the electoral process while promoting physical fitness and well-being.

The event was graced by the presence of the Incharge Headmaster of Gari, who emphasized the crucial role of SVEEP programs in educating and engaging



new and upcoming voters in the electoral process. He highlighted that the SVEEP program aims to provide necessary information and resources to empower citizens to exercise their democratic rights effectively. Vijay Kumar Incharge

ZEPO Arnas, and Official Harjeet Singh P.E.T HSS Salal, Balbir Singh REK HS Dharmatha, Manzoor Ahmed REK HSS Judda, Sanjay Kumar P.E.T HS Gari and Akshay Kumar P.E.T BMS Arnas attended the event."

# Representatives of Kashmiri Pandit organisations call on LG



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Representatives of several displaced Kashmiri Pandit organisations Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

The members of the delegation apprised the Lt Governor of various welfare issues of the community. They also presented several publications to the Lt Governor including a book titled "Kashmir After Kalhana" written by Dr R L Bhat and 'Pavak' magazine of Jonaraja Institute of Genocide & Atrocities Studies.

Members of Lalitaditya Sports Organization, led by its President Sh Anil Bhat expressed gratitude to Lt Governor for the support extended to the organisation for promotion of sports among the community youth.

# Former Legislators call on LG

JAMMU: Mohd Syed Akhoun and Sh Ishfaq Jabbar - former Legislators Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

Sh Murtaza Khan, former MLC also called on the Lt Governor and put forth various issues concerning the Pahari community particularly the youth and students across the UT. Subsequently, Thakur Fallail Singh, senior political leader and Sh Sheikh Muzaffar, President, J&K Nationalist People's Front (JKNPF) also called on the Lt Governor at Raj Bhawan today.

A delegation of Bazigar community called on the Lt Governor and apprised him of several welfare issues of their community.

The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegations of appropriate redressal of the genuine issues projected by them during the interaction.

# Night temp drops at most places in J&K



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Amid forecast for generally dry weather till March 20, most places witnessed a drop in night temperature with Gulmarg recording minus 5.2°C on Friday.

A meteorological department official here said that Srinagar recorded a minimum of 1.7°C against 4.4°C on the previous night which was below normal by 2.0°C for the summer capital of JK for this time of the year.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 2.2°C against 1.8°C on the previous night and it was 0.1°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 3.1°C against minus 1.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.9°C below normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir. Kokernag, also in south

Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 2.3°C against 1.3°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C below normal, the official said.

Kupwara town recorded a low of 0.6°C against 1.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.7°C below normal there, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 5.2°C against minus 4.8°C on the previous night and it was below normal by 1.9°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Jammu, he said, recorded a minimum of 10.5°C and it was below normal by 3.5°C for the winter capital of J&K.

Banihal recorded a low of 3.2°C, Batote 5.6°C and Bhaderwah 2.7°C, he said. While largely dry weather has been forecast till March 20, the weatherman said that a fresh spell of rain and snow was expected in J&K from thereafter till March 24. (GNS)

# 66TH, 67TH NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES

# YSS Grants Scholarships to Athletes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) announced the allocation of Annual Sports Scholarships to outstanding students and athletes who demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication during the 66th and 67th National School Games (NSG) held in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24, respectively.

Following the deliberations of the Scholarship Committee on January 30, 2024, the government's resolute backing for youth development and sports excellence in the region is evidenced by this decision.

In the 66th NSG (2022-23), a total of Rs. 5,47,500/- has been earmarked, benefiting 294 students and players, including medalists, representing

the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir at the national level. The distribution of scholarships spans various districts, with the Jammu Division receiving Rs. 3,94,000/- and the Kashmir Division receiving Rs. 1,53,500/-.

For the 67th NSG (2023-24), a substantial amount of Rs. 28,23,500/- (Twenty-Eight Lac Twenty-Three Thousand Five Hundred) has been sanctioned, benefiting 1307 students and players, including medalists, from Jammu and Kashmir who excelled at the national level. The scholarship allocations were disbursed across districts, with the Jammu Division receiving Rs. 15,88,250/- and the Kashmir Division receiving Rs. 12,35,250/-.

The cumulative scholarships disbursed for the 66th and 67th NSG amount to Rs. 33,71,500/-

(Thirty-Three Lacs Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Rupees only).

Acknowledging the indispensable role played by District Youth Services & Sports Officers, the Directorate has authorized the release of funds through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode, ensuring a seamless and transparent disbursement process to deserving beneficiaries.

The initiative underscores the steadfast commitment of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir towards nurturing sporting talent and instilling a culture of sportsmanship among the youth. The Directorate of Youth Services and Sports extends its heartfelt congratulations to all the scholarship recipients and wishes them continued success in their sporting pursuits.

# Orientation program for Haj pilgrims of Shopian on 17th March

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: The orientation/ training programme scheduled for the selected Hajj Pilgrims of district Shopian has been fixed by the State Hajj Committee on 17th March 2024.

Accordingly, all the selected pilgrims of district Shopian have been asked to attend the said orientation/ training programme at Jamia Masjid Sharief Shopian on 17th March 2024 at 10:00 am onwards.

# DDMA Kupwara approves 46 Relief Cases under SDRF Norms

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: District Disaster Management Committee, (DDMA) Kupwara Friday approved 46 relief cases in favour of the disaster affected persons of the district.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan who is also Chairperson of District Disaster Management Authority, chaired the meeting and took a case wise review of all the claims pertaining to loss of lives, property and livestock damages.

During the meeting, a total of 49 cases, relating

to the damage of residential houses and loss of livestock, and DDM death cases, were put forth for discussion, out of which 46 cases amounting to Rs 34.24 lakh were approved for grant of relief under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) norms and the committee also cleared 2 death cases. 3 cases were deferred by the committee for re-verification.

ADC Kupwara, Muhammad Rouf Rehman; ACR Kupwara, SDM Lolab, ACD Kupwara, ACP Kupwara, CMO, CAHO, Executive Engineers, Tehsildars and other concerned officers attended the meeting.