

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication



Chaired a high-level meeting to review the preparations ahead of Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela & Eid-ul-Adha festival. Directed to ensure seamless coordination between Distt Administrations & all line Depts on auspicious occasions.

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Narendra Modi To Take Oath As PM On June 9



AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu on Friday formally invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to form the next government, and begin his third successive term as Prime Minister, after the National Democratic Alliance's Parliamentary Party elected him as its leader. The new government will be sworn in on Sunday, June 9 at 7.15 p.m., the Rashtrapati Bhavan announced.

government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the Bharatiya Janata Party-led NDA knows how to digest victory without mocking the defeated, adding that 'na hum hare the, na hare hai' (We were neither defeated nor are we defeated). Addressing the meeting of newly elected MPs of the alliance in Parliament, PM Modi mocked the Opposition INDIA bloc saying that the Opposition Alliance were incapable of defeating them earlier and this time in Lok Sabha Elections. "They (Opposition) tried to keep us in the shade of defeat. But this never works. All citizens know that 'na hum hare the, na hare hai' (We were neither defeated nor are we defeated). But our

THEY (OPPOSITION) TRIED TO keep us in the shade of defeat. But this never works. All citizens know that 'na hum hare the, na hare hai'

LG Reviews Preparation For Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela, Eid-ul-Adha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday chaired a high level meeting to review the preparedness of District Administrations and various departments ahead of the annual Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela and Eid-ul-Adha festival. The meeting was attended by Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh RR Swain, DGP; Sh Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary Home Department; Sh Vijay Kumar, ADGP Law & Order; Administrative Secretaries; Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Divisional Commissioners; Deputy Commissioners, and senior officials of Civil and Police Administration.



The Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police to personally visit significant religious places and implement all necessary measures to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the auspicious occasions.

He laid emphasis on ensuring seamless coordination by all line Departments for the upcoming festivals. The Lt Governor directed the officials to take elaborate measures with regard to water and

power supply, medical facilities, fire and emergency services, sanitation and cleanliness. He stressed on making comprehensive security arrangements, Traffic & crowd management, designating appropriate parking areas, regular market checks and ensuring availability of essential commodities in the markets at regulated prices. The Lt Governor instructed the Divisional Commissioners and Relief Commissioner to work in close coordination for pleasant experience of the devotees during Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela. It should be ensured that all the arrangements of transportation, accommodation, power & water supply. P-06

20,000 Additional Security Personnel To Arrive For Amarnath Yatra



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Preparations for Shri Amarnath Yatra 2024 are in full swing as top police officials begin reviewing security arrangements on the ground to ensure smooth pilgrimage. Sources indicate that within the next week, companies of paramilitary forces will start arriving from various parts of the country to bolster the existing security framework. Approximately 50,000 paramilitary forces are stationed in the region. An additional 20,000 security personnel, including members of the CISF, CRPF, ITBP, and other units, will soon join them. These forces will report to the Jammu Police Control before being deployed to various strategic locations. Officials have commenced the process of identifying specific deployment areas for the incoming paramilitary forces. These P-06

Admin Sets June 20 Deadline For Completion Of Works In Amarnath Base Camp

AGENCIES

JAMMU: The main base camp for the Amarnath pilgrims in Jammu capital city is getting a major facelift with the authorities setting a deadline of June 20 for completion of the works, officials said. The 52-day pilgrimage to the 3,880-meter-high cave shrine in south Kashmir is scheduled to start on June 29 and conclude on August 19, they said. The Bhagwati Nagar-based



Yatri Niwas serves as the main base camp here for the pilgrims

from across the country before they leave for Kashmir to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath. Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar and Jammu Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anand Jain on Friday visited the base camp to review the preparations. Reviewing the preparations at a high-level official meeting, Kumar was apprised about the status of the ongoing works, including face-lifting of entry

gate, resurfacing of roads, leveling of parking ground, white-wash, renovation of washrooms, repair works of ACs, fans, installation of lights, flood lights, being executed by different departments and other works inside the Yatri Niwas for providing best facilities to the pilgrims, they said. The work is going on at the base camps with 200 hundred of workers engaged in face-lifting, including repairs and renovations at the camp. P-06

Kashmir Parts Experience Fresh Snowfall In June Month

OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: With the weatherman predicting light wet spell till tomorrow, several higher reaches of Kashmir on Friday experienced fresh snowfall while the plains received rains, bringing down the mercury in the Valley. The weatherman, however, has predicted another heat wave from June 10. Affarwat area of Gulmarg, Razdan Top, Zojilla, Sadhna Top and Sinthan Top experienced fresh snowfall today, which resulted in a slight fall in the mercury. Reports reaching here said that a few inches of rainfall

has been recorded at multiple places today while the intermittent rainfall continued for the third straight day today in the plains of Jammu and Kashmir. The mercury has plummeted further today with Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir recording a maximum temperature of 21.6 degree Celsius. Qazigund, a gate way of Kashmir, has recorded a maximum temperature of 23.8 degree Celsius, the MeT said, adding that the mercury in Pahalgam, a famous tourist place has settled at 20.4 degree Celsius. In Kupwara, the P-06



Low Rates, Adverse Weather Hits Cherry Growers In Valley

RAJIA SYED RATHER

GANDERBAL: Low rates have disappointed cherry orchardists in Ganderbal district known for juicy and delicious varieties of red cherry. The top most cherry producing district with 60 percent total production of cherry in Kashmir has approximately around 1200 hectares of land under its cultivation. A rough estimate suggests that about 5000 growers are associated with the trade. The areas where cherry is produced includes Chunt Waliwar, Gulabpora, Lar, Gutlibagh, Wakura, Dab, Batwina and some



areas of Kangan. The varieties include Awwal Number, Double, Mishri and Makhmali which are exported to the other states but the growers have no direct control on dealing with the market. The fruit is plucked from trees and packed by these P-06

CS Reviews Land Acquisition For Degree Colleges



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Friday chaired a meeting to review the status of land acquisition for establishment of new Degree Colleges in Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Secretary Revenue Department, Director Colleges and other concerned

officers while Deputy Commissioner's of Srinagar, Budgam, Kupwara, Anantnag, Samba, Udhampur, Ramban and Rajouri districts participated online. The Chief Secretary directed the concerned officers to put in extra efforts to remove bottlenecks impeding establishment of new degree colleges in the UT. He also asked the concerned officers to explore options for acquiring additional P-06

J&K Set To Get Massive Industrial Push In Private Sector

ALI ASAD

SRINAGAR: Preparations are being made to spark an industrial revolution in the private sector of Jammu and Kashmir with investors seeking land in both Kashmir and Jammu regions, official sources disclosed. The Jammu and Kashmir Private Industrial Estate Development Policy 2021-30 is expected to be released by mid-June. As per the sources, once these guidelines are released, the registration process will commence with the Director of Industries and Commerce Department, Jammu and Kashmir. This initiative aims to establish new industrial estates on private land, with a target to develop approximately 2,000 kanals (250 acres) of land annually through private industrial estates. According to sources, the guidelines for the private industrial estate development policy are in the final stages of preparation. The Industry and Commerce



Department has provided several proposals and recommendations to simplify the policy, ensuring it meets the rising demand for industrial land from investors in Jammu and Kashmir. Despite significant interest from both domestic and international investors in the industrial sector of Jammu and Kashmir, the availability of land has not kept pace with demand. Efforts are being made to develop new estates on thousands of kanals of state land, most notably in the Bagthali Industrial Estate of Kathua. However, due to the substantial gap between demand and availability, private industrial estates will play an increasingly important role. Private lands have been identified in Kathua, Ghagwal, Samba, and Jammu. Sources reveal P-06

Govt Shelves Process Of Constitution Of Child Rights Panel

MUBASHIR ALAM

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Government has shelved the process of appointment of chairperson and members of the Union Territory's commission for protection of child rights. The UT's Social Welfare department has withdrawn the advertisement seeking applications for the appointment of chairperson and members of the panel. "It is hereby notified for information of the general public and all concerned that the advertisement notice issued under endorsement No. SWD-ICPS/55/2021, dated 15.6.2023 read with public notice issued under endorsement No. SWD-ICPS/55/2021 dated 15.6.2023 by the Department of Social Welfare, J&K, for the appointment of one chairperson and six members of the Jammu & Kashmir Commission for Protection of Child Rights, is hereby, withdrawn ab-initio," reads the notice issued by the Social Welfare department. A senior official told KNO that the process has been terminated due to poor response to the notice inviting applications for these positions. P-06

INOX CINEMA SHIVPORA SRINAGAR

Saturday 08 June **MOVIES Schedule**

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| BAD BOYS RIDE OR DIE (ENG ATMOS) WITH ENG SUBTITLE 01:35PM, 07:00PM HINDI 10:55AM (A) | MR & MRS MAHI (HINDI) 11:15AM, 05:00PM (U) | MUNJYA (HINDI) 12:00PM, 2:15PM, 6:30PM (U/A) |
| NI MAIN SASS KUTNI 2 (PUNJABI) 04:15PM (U/A) | GULLY BOY (HINDI) 02:45PM (U/A) | |

www.bookmyshow.com | www.inoxmovies.com | Paytm, Inox App or Directly from the booking counter at the cinema.

Call 95416 13868 For assistance with tickets

DC Budgam throws open Lift facility, allied infra at SDH Chadoora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo Friday threw open the much awaited Operation Theatre (OT) Floor facility, new equipment, lift facility, boundary wall work, functionality of toilet complex Sub-District Hospital, Chadoora.



During the visit to the hospital, the DC took stock of the functioning of lift facility, health related machinery and other health facilities for better patient care in Chadoora.

He inspected the development of boundary wall, functionality of toilet complex and other allied infrastructure works at SDH Chadoora.

He also inspected various wards and interacted

with patients and staff for first hand appraisal of facilities available to the general public.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that during the last review visit, various issues including non-functioning of the lift facility and OT Floor were raised by the public and staff at SDH.

He said that all major facilities including operation theatre, which was

facing last mile connectivity issues including retro fitting, internal electrification and upgraded equipment has been completed and dedicated to the general public.

Similarly, the DC said that construction of boundary wall, toilet complex and replacement of black and white USG with colour Doppler has also been carried out and are functioning seamlessly at the hospital.

Among others, CPO Budgam, SDM Chadoora, CMO Budgam, Executive Engineer R&B, engineers of the Housing Board, BMO Chadoora Tehsildar and other concerned were also present on the occasion.

Later, the DC also took stock of ongoing macadamization work on Chadoora-Surasyar Road. He emphasized on speedy work completion on the remaining road portion for better connectivity to the locals.

He said that macadamization of long pending road project has facilitated better connectivity to all habitations and seamless plying of both public and private transport in the area.

Among others, CPO Budgam, SDM Chadoora, Executive Engineer R&B and other concerned also accompanied the DC.

DC Bandipora chairs District Skill Committee meet

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman, who is also Chairman, District Skill Committee on Friday chaired a meeting of District Skill Committee to discuss coordinated efforts among various stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of skill development schemes.



On the occasion, detailed discussions were held on the formulation of District Skill Action Plan 2024-25 and the progress achieved so far, besides threadbare discussions were held regarding the initiatives to enhance skill development in the district.

Superintendent ITI Bandipora informed the meeting that various short-term courses have been proposed to bridge the skill gap including Bee-

keeper, Mushroom Grower, Makeup Artist, Baking Technician, Graphic Designer, and in the meanwhile various courses have been proposed for up-skilling also.

The DC on the occasion emphasized identifying

local skill gaps and asked the officers from skill development and other concerned departments to conduct surveys and submit proposals accordingly to bridge the skill gap and stressed for efficient and accountable imple-

mentation of Skill development programmes.

He also emphasized market linkage of SHGs and SSI for tailoring skill development efforts to the specific needs of the district, thereby enhancing employment opportunities and economic growth, besides stressed on improved quality and market relevance of skill development programmes.

Among others, the meeting was attended by ADDC Mohammad Ashraf Bhatt, ADC Umar Shafi Pandit, CEO, CMO, CAO, CAHO, Assistant Labour Commissioner, AD Fisheries Bandipora, District Social Welfare Officer, Superintendent ITI Bandipora, Superintendent ITI Hajin, District Officer JKEDI Bandipora and Accounts Officer with Deputy Commissioner besides other concerned.

HKM B'pora conducts Awareness programme on 'Use of e-Resources through N-List Platform'



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: In a collaborative effort, the College Library and the Department of Computer Applications of HKM Bandipora on Friday organized an awareness programme on 'How to Use e-Resources through N-List Platform.'

The event was conducted to educate students, researchers, and faculty members on effectively utilizing the National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST).

N-LIST, a college component of e-Shodh Sindhu, provides access to a wide range of e-resources through login-based access via the Shibboleth setup at the INFILIBNET Centre.

The programme commenced with an inaugural address by the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Masood Ahmad Malik, who welcomed the initiative and lauded the organizers for their efforts in enhancing the academic environment of the college.

The programme featured two informative lecture sessions. Dr. Tariq Shafi, Chief Librarian, delivered an in-depth lec-

ture on the utilization of the N-LIST platform by the college library. He covered various aspects of accessing and navigating the platform, highlighting its importance in academic research and study. His detailed explanation helped attendees understand the vast array of e-resources available through N-LIST and how to make the best use of them.

Professor Audil Husain, Head of the Department of Computer Applications, presented the second lecture focusing on Web OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) and other online facilities arranged by the college. He explained how these online tools can assist students in accessing study materials efficiently. His session provided practical insights into the technological resources available at the college for academic support.

The lectures were followed by an interactive question-answer session, allowing participants to clarify their doubts and gain further insights into the topics discussed.

DC Kulgam visits Mata Kheer Bhawani Asthan Manzgam

Takes stock of arrangements for Mela Kheer Bhawani

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan along with SSP Kulgam Sahil Sarangal Friday visited Mata Kheer Bhawani Asthan Manzgam to oversee the arrangements being put in place for celebration of annual Kheer Bhawani Mela.

On the occasion, Officers from KPDCL, Jal Shakti, Health and other line departments briefed the DC about the arrangements put in place for smooth conduct of the celebrations.

The DC instructed the concerned officers to synthesize efforts to ensure smooth celebration of Mela Kheer Bhawani and extend all requisite facilities to the devotees.

He directed all the officers to ensure appropriate arrangements are put in place for the smooth conduct of Mela.

He also interacted with the management committee members.

Among others, the DC was accompanied by SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal, Ex. Engineer R&B, Tehsildar, Dy-SP, TSO and other officers.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY SANKALP-HEW, Mission Shakti conduct Plantation Drive in Aloosa

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Under BBBP (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao) campaign, SANKALP-Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Bandipora conducted mega plantation drive on the name of the girl child as part of World Environment Day, themed 'Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience.'

The event witnessed participation of girls from different areas of Bandipora who voluntarily planted saplings in deforested areas of the Aloosa Block.

During the event, participants raised slogans

'Our Land. Our Future,' 'Greener Earth Our Worth,' and 'Plant Trees, Save Earth,' holding placards, pamphlets and banners, and also took pledge emphasizing their commitment to environmental conservation and social progress.

On the occasion, an Eco Walk was also organized to showcase the area's ecology, and highlight the ecological importance and beauty of Wular Lake.

The SANKALP-HEW staff also highlighted the importance of protecting the environment and motivating participants to continue their efforts in environmental preservation.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir. Email: cdpoedstral@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN TRAL

Subject: - Provisional Selection List of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) of Poshan Project Tral and inviting of objections thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In pursuance to the Government Order No 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated:-28.04.2023 and approval from Mission Director Poshan J&K vide No:-SMD/ICDS/Recruit/2022-23/6231-34 dated:-21.02.2024, an advertisement Notice was issued vide notification No:CDPO/Poshan/T/Adv/2024/1492-1510 dated:- 22.02.2024 for selection of 06 Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) for 06 AWCs of Poshan Project Tral. In response to these notifications 30 applications were received within cut-off date against advertised 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) of 2023 dated:- 28.04.2023 and accordingly provisional selection list has been framed for 05 Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) on the basis of merit list by the Selection Committee. Both Provisional Selection List (Annexure A) and merit list (Annexure B) are hereby published for information of public in general and applicants /Candidates in particular for filing appeal/objection if any against the selection list shall be filed in the office of the Child Development Project Officer Tral against proper receipt within 10 days (in office hours) in black and white from the date of publication of this provisional selection list. No objection/appeal shall be entertained after expiry of last date of filing appeal/objection.

No.- CDPO/POSHAN/T/2024/ 134-42
Dated:- 06.06.2024

SD/-
Child Dev. Project Officer
Poshan Tral.

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT TRAL

Provisional Selection list of applicants for the engagement of Anganwadi Workers (Sanginis) advertised vide No:- CDPO/Poshan/T/Adv/2024/ 1492-1510 DATED:- 22.02.2024 of Panchayat Halga's

| S.No | Name of Applicant | Parentage | Date of Birth | Residence | Panchayat Halga | Ward No | Name of AWC Applied for | Qualification | Marks Obtained in 12th | Max Marks in 12th | Percentage | If the candidate belongs to the family of retired AWW/AWH (Yes/No) | Total Weightage | Remarks |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|--|-----------------|----------|
| 1 | Aiman Ji | Ghulam Nabi Khan | 02.12.1996 | Gamraj | Diver | 8 | Gamraj A | B.A | 384 | 500 | 76.80 | No | 76.8 | Selected |
| 2 | Nabeeda Tabasum | Mohd Maqbool Ganie | 15.03.1998 | Buchoo Bala | Buchoo | 7 | Buchoo Bala A | B.A | 418 | 500 | 83.60 | No | 83.6 | Selected |
| 3 | Farkhanda Magbool | Mohd Maqbool Ganie | 23.08.1998 | Hayuna | Nigeenpora | 7 | Hayuna | B.A | 364 | 500 | 72.80 | No | 72.8 | Selected |
| 4 | Rukhsana Akhter | Mohd Shafi Gojar | 01.11.2002 | Doodmarg | Lalpora B | 3 | Doodmarg | 12 th | 333 | 500 | 66.60 | No | 66.6 | Selected |
| 5 | Ishrat Rasheed | Ab. Rasheed Dar | 26.04.1999 | Batagund | Batagund | 4 | Batagund B | 12 th | 309 | 500 | 61.80 | No | 61.8 | Selected |

No. CDPO/ICDS/T/2024/134-42
Dated:- 06.06.2024

DIPK-980-24
DT: 07/06/2024

SD/-
Child Development Project Officer,
ICDS Tral.

ADDC reviews arrangements for Eid-ul-Adha in Kulgam



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Bashir Ahmad Wani Friday reviewed the arrangements put in place for the upcoming festive occasion of Eid-ul-Adha.

During the meeting, the ADDC directed officers of Jal Shakti and KPDCL to ensure a smooth supply of water and electricity across the district. He also directed the Jal Shakti department to press water tankers in required areas and ensure no shortage of water at any place.

The District Sheep Husbandry Officer informed

the chair that adequate numbers of sacrificial animals (Goats/Sheep) are available in the district.

Chief Animal Husbandry Officer informed the meeting that adequate numbers of poultry birds are available in the district.

Instructions were passed by the ADDC to intensify market checking to check the quality of food items such as Bakery, Confectionery, Milk, Meat Chicken, Vegetables, and other essentials in the market and ensure the availability of quality products.

Municipal authorities were directed to ensure proper sanitation in towns, masjids, and eidgahs. They were also directed to repair defunct lights in town if any.

World Food Safety Day celebrated in Shopian



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: The Department of Drugs and Food Control Organisation in collaboration with the School Education Department Friday organised a function to commemorate 'World Food Safety Day' at Gujjar & Bakerwal Hostel, Shirmal Shopian.

The theme for this year's World Food Safety Day-2024 is 'Food Safety: Prepare for the unexpected.' The theme highlights the importance of being prepared for Food Safety incidents, which can range from minor events to measure international crises.

On the occasion, speakers highlighted the impor-

ance of Food Safety Day. They stressed on taking a balanced diet and its critical role in maintaining good health.

Speakers said that ensuring food safety is essential for public health, economic prosperity and agriculture besides access to markets, tourism and sustainable development.

Assistant Commissioner Food Safety, Shopian, Gh Quadir Azhar; Food Safety Officer, Headmaster, HS Sindu Shirmal and a large number of students of the school participated in the function.

Later, a pledge was taken by the participating dignitaries and the students.

KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED (KPDC) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC DIVISION BUDGAM

E-mail:edbudgam@gmail.com Tel:No:01951-255218

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited, e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from Govt. approved Electrical Contractors, for works, as details below:-

| NIT No:EDB_01_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Provision of electricity supply at the USO sites under 4G Saturation project of GOI. |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Adv. Cost | INR 47.91Lacs |
| | Completion period | 45 Days |
| NIT No:EDB_02_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Chadoora of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_03_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Chararisharief of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_04_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Budgam of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_05_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Beerwah of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_06_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Narnal of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |

The tender document is available on website <http://ktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view or download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to date as per the details mentioned in the table below:

| A | Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document | The standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://ktenders.gov.in from |
|---|--|---|
| B | Sale of Bid Document (Start) | 08-06-2024; 4:00 PM |
| C | Sale of Bid Document (End) | 24-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| D | Clarification start date | 10-06-2024; 11:00 AM |
| E | Clarification End date | 12-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| F | e-Bid submission (start) date and time (submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) | 13-06-2024; 10:00 AM |
| G | e-Bid submission (End) date and time (submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) | 24-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| H | Hard Copy of e-tender fee and EMD Instrument & Affidavit that the Firm/Contractor is not Black listed by any of the Govt. Offices. | Up-to 24-06-2024, 3:00 PM in office of the Executive Engineer ED- Budgam |
| I | Online commercial and technical e-bid opening date and time | 25-06-2024; 03:00 PM |
| J | Online financial e-bid opening date & time (only of the technically qualified bidders) | Will be communicated to the technically qualified bidders office of the Executive Engineer ED- Budgam |
| K | Venue of opening of technical & financial e-bids | |

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

No: EDB/1780
Dated: 06-06-2024.

SD/-
Executive Engineer,
Electric Division Budgam.

DIPK-NB-318-24
DT: 07/06/2024

CS reviews Tawi Riverfront, artificial lake development project



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Friday convened a meeting to review the progress achieved, so far, in development of Tawi Riverfront and artificial lake being established as part of the Jammu Smart City project.

Among others the meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti, Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, MD HADP, CEO, JSCL, Chief Engineer, I&FC besides other concerned officers while Jammu based officers participated online.

The Chief Secretary had a detailed overview of the progress registered on different components of this mega beautification project of Jammu City. He defined the project as vital for further enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the city by giving it an upgraded look for the visitors. He impressed upon the officers to maintain inter-departmental coordination for meeting the set deadlines for project execution. He stressed on close monitoring of works by the senior officers to ensure both quality and efficiency in delivery outcomes.

Dulloo exhorted upon the concerned authorities to ensure that all the diversion works and installation

Reviews development projects of Culture Deptt

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Friday chaired a meeting to review the status of various projects being executed by the Culture Department in the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Finance, Principal Secretary, Culture, Managing Director, Police Housing Corporation, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Engineer-in-Chief, PW (R&B) Department, Director Archives, Archaeology and Museums and other officers while officers stationed at Jammu participated online.

The projects that came up for discussion included SPS Museum, Shergarhi Complex and Tehzeeb Mehal, Srinagar.

The Chief Secretary was apprised of the present status of SPS museum besides the issues being faced in completing the project.

Underscoring the importance of preserving and promoting the region's cultural heritage, the Chief Secretary

impressed upon the stakeholders to work in synergy for speedy completion of the prestigious project. He asked the PW (R&B) department to frame a comprehensive DPR for remaining works of the SPS museum so that it functions in all respects.

The Chief Secretary said that the museum serves as a bridge connecting the past with the present, fostering a deeper appreciation for the region's cultural diversity saying that all efforts have to be undertaken for sustainable conservation of the artefacts. He described the museums as the knowledge hubs that enthuse youngsters with pride about their culture and heritage.

The meeting also had a three-hour discussion on development and conservation of Shergarhi Complex and Tehzeeb Mehal. The participants put forth various suggestions for expeditious completion of these prestigious projects.

other executing agencies so that the project gets accomplished at an earliest.

The Chief Secretary enquired about the quantum of work still pending on diversion work of each nallah on the right and left

bank of the lake.

Earlier, ACS, Jal Shakti Department, Shaleen Kabra, presented a broad overview of the works being carried out by his department for development of the lake inside the Tawi river from 4th bridge up to Gujjar Nagar in first phase. He informed that the works included construction of 4 promenades and embankments for a length of 2.7 km on both sides of the river from Bhagwati Nagar Barrage to Bikram Bridge including central island as part of phase first of this project. He added that the project, being established with an estimated cost of Rs 191.15 crore, is expected to be completed by September this year with an aggregate progress of nearly 80% on all of its components.

Regarding physical progress of the project, the updated photographs of the works carried out on right and left banks including the central island were displayed during the meeting.

In another presentation, Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur, also detailed out the possible land use pattern on both the banks. She explained that the intended land use includes for development of land parcels for residential, commercial and recreational purpose.

EC to accept applications from registered unrecognised parties in J&K

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: In an indication that assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir are imminent, the Election Commission on Friday said it has decided to accept applications seeking allotment of 'common symbols' from registered unrecognised parties in the Union Territory with immediate effect.

An official explained that under Para 10 B of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968, any registered unrecognised political party can apply for a 'common symbol' six months prior to the end of the term of a House.

But since no assembly

is functional in Jammu and Kashmir, the Election Commission (EC) has issued a press statement inviting applications for symbols.

While recognised national and state parties have their 'reserved symbols', registered unrecognised parties have to apply for one to field candidates. When free symbols are allocated to unrecognised parties, the returning officer allocates the remaining unclaimed symbols to Independents "on the spot".

"The Commission has decided to accept applications seeking allotment of common symbols under Para 10B of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968,

for the General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with immediate effect," the EC statement read.

Enthusied by the voter participation in Jammu and Kashmir in the just-held Lok Sabha polls, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar had recently told PTI Video that the poll panel will "very soon" initiate the process of holding assembly polls in the Union Territory.

While announcing the schedule for the Lok Sabha elections in March, Kumar said holding assembly and parliamentary elections simultaneously was not practical due to logistical and security reasons.

Whenever assembly elections are held in Jammu and Kashmir, they will be the first since the August 2019 abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.

The electoral exercise in Jammu and Kashmir is usually spread over a month.

Following a delimitation exercise, the number of assembly seats has gone up from 83 to 90, excluding those allocated to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

In December, the Supreme Court directed the poll panel to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

Opposition in new Lok Sabha would be stronger: Farooq Abdullah

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The days of "dictatorship" are over and the opposition in the new Lok Sabha would be stronger, National Conference president Farooq Abdullah said here on Friday.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir said people have given their verdict and the Constitution has been saved.

"This time there will be a strong opposition. When I was in Parliament, we were weak. Nobody used to listen to us and there was dictatorship, but thank God, dictatorship is over now," Abdullah told reporters here.

He was responding to a question about whether the opposition in the new Lok Sabha would be stronger than the last one given their strength has increased.

Asked about the NDA forming the government for the third consecutive time, the NC president, who represented Srinagar in the previous Lok Sabha, said, "Let them form the govern-

ment, then we will see".

To a question whether the new NDA government will succeed, the former Union minister said, "Let us wait and see what happens".

"You are in media and you and I both will see. Let us wait. Why are you in haste?" he added. In response to a question about the results of the Parliamentary polls, Abdullah said people have given their verdict.

"They showed that people hold the power and it was proven in these elections. This is a huge achievement. People have the power to vote and can make or break anyone," he said.

Referring to the exit polls which claimed a brute majority for the BJP, the NC president said the pollsters should shut their shops and apologise to the people.

"Those who claimed 370-400 paar (cross), I think they should stop these exit polls, they should shut their shops. These people (exit pollsters) should apologise to the people for creating misunderstandings among the people," he said.

68% of candidates in J-K polled fewer than NOTA votes

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Sixty-eight per cent of the total 100 candidates in the fray on Jammu and Kashmir's five Lok Sabha seats polled fewer than None Of The Above (NOTA) votes, according to Election Commission data.

Cumulatively, 34,788 voters pressed the NOTA button in the five seats, showing their rejection of the candidates fielded by parties.

The maximum 12,938 NOTA votes were polled in the Udhampur constituency of Jammu region, a seat retained by BJP candidate Jitendra Singh.

There were 11 other candidates in the fray from Udhampur, and NOTA polled more votes than nine of them.

In the neighbouring Jammu seat, 4,645 voters pressed the NOTA button, which is more than votes individually garnered by 18 candidates. There were 22 candidates in the fray from the seat which has been retained by the BJP's Jugal Kishore.

In the Srinagar seat, the

number of NOTA votes was 5,998. There were 24 candidates in the fray from the constituency and most of them -- 18 -- got fewer votes than NOTA.

In the Anantnag-Rajouri constituency, 6,223 voters favoured NOTA. There were 20 candidates were in the fray from the seat, and nine of them secured fewer than NOTA votes.

In the Baramulla seat, 4,984 voters used the NOTA option. There were 22 candidates in the fray and 14 of them polled fewer votes.

Thus, out of the total 100, 68 candidates have secured fewer votes than NOTA, an analysis of the EC data shows.

Meanwhile, in the Ladakh Union territory, which was part of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir until the Centre divided J-K into two Union territories and abrogated Article 370 in August 2019, NOTA was favoured only by 912 voters.

Ladakh is the sole Parliamentary constituency in the UT. There were only three candidates in the fray and all of them got more votes than NOTA.

Ex-BDO, Others Booked For Misappropriation Of Funds In Poonch

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau registered a case against several officials of the rural development department, particularly the former block development officer (BDO) on Friday in the Poonch district for misappropriation of funds worth about Rs 2 lakh, a spokesman said.

The FIR was registered against former BDO Aftab Ahmed and the then officials of the department of rural development at Mendhar on the basis of a verification conducted into the allegations of misappropriation of government funds to the tune of over Rs 1.83 lakh pertaining to the non-existent works

incurring loss to the state exchequer, he said.

The probe was conducted regarding works executed under MGNREGA by the department for the financial years 2018-19 in Galhuta-Kangra. It revealed that the officers and officials abused their official position and, in furtherance of a well knit conspiracy hatched amongst themselves and the beneficiaries, released excess labour payment in respect of the works of construction at Mohalla Shabab, he said.

During the course of the probe, omissions and commissions on the part of the officials prima facie constitute offences punishable under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, he added.

Notorious drug smuggler booked under NPDS Act in B'la: Police

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Acting tough against drug peddlers and to eradicate the menace of drugs from society, Police booked notorious drug smuggler under PIT NDPS Act in Baramulla after obtaining formal detention order from competent authority.

A police in a statement said the notorious drug smuggler namely Tauseef Nabi Ganie @Tauseef Pujji son of Ghulam Nabi resident of Stadium Colony Baramulla has been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent Authority. The booked drug smuggler has been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu, they said.

They added there were

many cases registered against the said drug smuggler and was involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth of Town Baramulla and other areas of the district. They also added that despite his involvement in many FIRs, he did not mend his activities and was again involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth.

General public appreciated the role of police for their action against drug peddlers. Our consistent actions against the drug peddlers should reassure the community members that police is making all efforts to keep our society free from drug abuse, police in a statement said.

Khyber Cement Strengthens Industry Bonds with Influencer Meetup

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Khyber Cement proudly hosted its Influencer Meet, an event dedicated to nurturing and strengthening key relationships within the industry. Held on various occasions at notable locations across the state of Jammu and Kashmir these gatherings exemplify Khyber Cement's commitment to encouraging collaboration and mutual growth.

Acknowledging the influential role such meetings play in cementing the industry's future, Khyber Cement meticulously focuses each meeting on enhancing these vital connections. The company ensures that influencers feel valued, appreciated, and empowered about

their association with Khyber Cement. Together, they celebrate progress and development, united under the inspiring banner of "Taraqi Ke Hamsafar."

The agenda of these Influencer Meetups is thoughtfully curated to provide a thorough insight into the world of Khyber Cement. The event commences with a detailed introduction to the company, emphasizing its mission, vision, and core values, thereby imparting influencers with a deep understanding of the brand's values. Attendees then explore what distinguishes Khyber Cement from its counterparts, highlighting unique selling points and distinctive features that set the com-

pany apart.

A fundamental aspect of these meetups is the technical lecture, where influencers are educated about Khyber Cement's product range OPC grade 43 and grade 53. Discussions delve into product features, functionalities, and their alignment with consumer needs, improving influencers' knowledge and equipping them with Khyber Cement's offerings effectively. During the meet-up, one of the influencers said, "I have used many cements, but Khyber Cement has been at the forefront for me over the years."

Following these enlightening sessions, influencers engage in an open Q&A, providing invaluable feedback

and insights. During the subsequent networking lunch, they socialize with the Khyber Cement team, exploring potential collaborations. This interaction ensures influencers depart with a comprehensive understanding of Khyber Cement, solidifying mutual trust and appreciation.

As a gesture of gratitude, attendees are bestowed with exclusive goodies. This gesture surpasses mere appreciation, symbolizing Khyber Cement's commitment to nurturing a meaningful and enduring relationship with its influencers. These thoughtful gifts enhance the bond, underscoring a collective dedication to advancing the legacy of excellence with sincerity.

KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED (KPDC)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ELECTRIC DIVISION BUDGAM

E-mail:edbudgam@gmail.com | Tel.No:01951-255218

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited, e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from Govt. approved Electrical Contractors, for works, as details below:-

| NIT No:EDB_01_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Provision of electricity supply at the USO sites under 4G Saturation project of GOI. |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Adv. Cost | INR 47.91Lacs |
| | Completion period | 45 Days |
| NIT No:EDB_02_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Chadoora of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_03_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Chararisharief of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_04_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Budgam of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_05_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Beerwah of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |
| NIT No:EDB_06_of-2024-25 | Name of work(s) | Annual Rate Contract for Carrying out various electrical maintenance works including SITC, ITC/ supply of various Line materials and 11/0.433 kV Distribution Substations and dismantling of existing deteriorated / out lived electrical infrastructure and other electrical works for the year 2024-25 under the jurisdiction of Electric Sub-Division Narbal of Electric Division Budgam KPDC. |
| Dated:- 06-06-2024 | Estimated Cost | INR10.0 Lacs |
| | Validity of Rate Contract | 24-25 |

The tender document is available on website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view or download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to date as per the details mentioned in the table below:

| A | Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document | The standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from |
|---|--|---|
| B | Sale of Bid Document (Start) | 08-06-2024; 4:00 PM |
| C | Sale of Bid Document (End) | 24-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| D | Clarification start date | 10-06-2024; 11:00 AM |
| E | Clarification End date | 12-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| F | e-Bid submission (start) date and time (submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) | 13-06-2024; 10:00 AM |
| G | e-Bid submission (End) date and time (submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format) | 24-06-2024; 3:00 PM |
| H | Hard Copy of e-tender fee and EMD Instrument & Affidavit that the Firm/Contractor is not Black listed by any of the Govt. Offices. | Up-to 24-06-2024, 3:00 PM in office of the Executive Engineer ED- Budgam |
| I | Online commercial and technical e-bid opening date and time | 25-06-2024; 03:00 PM |
| J | Online financial e-bid opening date & time (only of the technically qualified bidders) | Will be communicated to the technically qualified bidders |
| K | Venue of opening of technical & financial e-bids | office of the Executive Engineer ED- Budgam |

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

No: EDB/1780
 Dated: 06-06-2024.

DIPK-NB-318-24
 DT: 07/06/2024

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer,
 Electric Division Budgam.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

River Transport

The City of Srinagar is getting choked. Everywhere on the roads, we see single-occupancy vehicles inching past each other. Though there are bicycle paths very few people use it for daily commute to office, college, or school. The bicycling paths are mainly used by a tiny majority of bicycling enthusiasts for morning and evening rides. The transport scenario of Kashmir valley it appears is back to square one.

There was a talk of Srinagar metro being functional by 2025. We are in the middle of the 2024 and a metro riding through the heart of Srinagar looks a far-fetched prospect. There is no talk of the metro in the press. There is, however, a lot of talk going on about a couple of new flyovers. Having had our brushes with the Jahangir Chowk-Barzullah flyover we are well aware that this flyover business is a time-consuming business.

At the same time, the apple trade is thriving as is tourism and the remittances sent home by the non-resident Kashmiris in various Gulf countries means that every other family in Kashmir now owns a car. In some families, there are now as many cars as there are family members. One theory is that the affluent and the novae riche class does not want to be too dependent on unreliable public transport, especially during the evening hours.

River transport was an effective way to manage the city's transport woes. Medium-size ferries could be run from Pampore to the wier in Chattabal. The ease of navigation on this stretch is the most feasible. It can mean thousands of fewer cars on the road, lesser traffic jams, and less pollution. The ferry system is effectively used as a mode of transport in Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, and Uttar Pradesh. If it has worked in these states there is no reason why it won't work in the Srinagar city. Greater problems demand innovative solutions and river transport is the best solution for the traffic problem in the Srinagar city.

Increasing Form Of Bonded Labour – Migrating To Work In Brick Kilns



BHARAT DOGRA

In many villages of Banda district, Uttar Pradesh, livelihood conditions for many landless worker households and even for many marginal farmer households, those with very small and sometimes disputed land holdings, have become so precious that for almost nine months in a year they migrate to work in brick kilns of many distant places.

In the case of a typical such household, this migration is likely to start around the month of October and November while the return may take place around the month of July next year.

While leaving, a household is likely to get a lump sum of around Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 50,000 the bulk of which in turn is used for paying back, at least partially, some pending loan. If the migrating family is leaving behind some elderly members and small children with them, then it is likely that a part of the advance payment will be left with them. Hence the worker, his wife and adolescent/young children will leave with very little money in their own hands. In fact paying back the pending loan, generally only partially, may be the most important reason why the worker is so eager to get the advance.

While a truck collects many workers and worker households at a single village or collection point, they are likely to be dispersed at various different brick kilns. An isolated worker household in a brick kiln is almost completely at the mercy of the brick kiln owner or manager. While some of them may behave in a relatively better way, the more general experience of a worker household is likely to be that of exploitation at various levels.

The payment of a worker is often made on the basis of work of making per set of 1000 bricks. If adverse weather stands in the way of any work being done on certain days then workers will not be paid for this period, but they can



still get an advance for food. In fact this food allowance is all that the worker household gets most of the time, as other payment keeps getting adjusted against the advance taken while coming here. So if a member of the worker households falls seriously ill, or has other urgent need, then the situation becomes very difficult.

The wage accounts keep getting complicated. These is the first advance, various food advances, this to be adjusted against various piece rate wages. It is difficult for the worker to know how the final accounts are settled and whether unfair deductions have been made and to what extent.

Child labour is used frequently as both sides are keen to increase production. Working hours are very long. Living and work conditions are frequently very unhealthy.

While children at brick kilns generally cannot access any education, those left behind in villages with grandparents or other elders also find it difficult to pursue education properly without the presence of their parents. The living conditions of these households consisting of only children and very elderly persons are also often quite precarious.

Another high risk issue, generally not discussed openly, is that young working girls at these brick kilns are very vulnerable for sexual exploitation by powerful persons of the area where the brick kiln workers have hardly any

friends and protectors and where the working places can be in very isolated locations.

The overall result is that brick kiln migrant work households are condemned to live in poverty and deprivation. They often suffer from serious ailments related to their work conditions, living conditions, poor nutrition and lack of medical care at an early stage of the ailments. They are also exposed to accidents in the course of migration, return and at work site. There are very high levels of distress and depression.

When they return to their village they often do not return to a little time of rest and relaxation. This is because they often return with very low levels of savings. During the nearly 3 months when they are in their village they must again try to find some local work in order to make both ends meet. So there can be hardly any rest before the entire difficult cycle of migrating to brick kilns starts all over again.

It is very important to provide better and firmer livelihood support in the villages from where large-scale migration takes place. Perhaps to a somewhat lesser extent, large-scale distress migration also takes place in other neighbouring districts particularly of Bundelkhand region. There is tremendous scope for improving MG-NREGA (rural employment) works here in ways which also help to improve water conservation which is a very pressing need

too. The cause of landless and near landless workers will be helped greatly by giving them land pattas for cultivation (or ensuring that the land pattas already given by them can be actually occupied and cultivated successfully by them). At least kitchen gardens should be cultivated by all of them. A range of village-based small and cottage industries can be started, while already started industrial ventures such as glass industry based on extensive silica sand in Bargarh can be completed instead of remaining neglected for so long.

However, to the extent that distress migration to brick kilns still continues for some time, the labour department must take strong steps to implement the various provisions of the laws relating to migrant workers so that several exploitative practices can be curbed and the highly exploited migrant workers can get some badly needed justice.

Voluntary organizations can help in this entire effort with their sincere work helped by their close links with weaker sections. They can also help in ensuring that rescued bonded workers receive the due help from the government for their proper rehabilitation.(CC)

Bharat Dogra is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include Planet in Peril, Protecting Earth for Children, When the Two Streams Met and A Day in 2071.

Beware!

Scammers and Swindlers are Around



DR. SHIBBEN KRISHEN RAINA

Let me share with you a story from around 40-50 years ago when I first ventured out to explore Delhi. As I made my way through the bustling crowds of Chandni Chowk, I came across vendors enticing customers with their wares spread out on the footpaths. One particular stall caught my attention – they were selling shirt pieces, with a special offer of "buy one, get one free." The seller was lavishly praising the quality of the fabric, claiming it wouldn't shrink or fade. "In the market, you won't find these two pieces for less than 40 rupees. But here, for my sale, I'm giving you both for just fifteen! Loot it, brother, loot it!" the owner exclaimed.

Before I could even contemplate the purchase, two or three young men standing near me swiftly took out fifteen rupees each from their pockets and handed them over to the vendor, as if they were grabbing a rare item at a little bargain. Inspired by their enthusiasm, I too bought two pieces for fifteen rupees.

Alas, within three or four months, both shirts had shrunk and their colors had faded. It was then that an acquaintance, well-versed in the cunning ways of Delhi, informed me that those initial enthusiastic customers were actually in cahoots/connivance with the vendor. Their purpose was to build trust and convince others to buy the subpar merchandise.

He advised me to be more cautious in the future.

Modern-Day Scams
Another instance involves a common phenomenon these days. I received a phone-call one morning:

"Is this Mr. Raina speaking?"
"Yes, who is speaking?"
"You didn't recognize my voice? I recognized yours."

"Buddy, frankly speaking, I can't recall. I'm not able to catch your voice at all."
"Sir, think a little more."
"Tell me now, I don't know who you are."
"Sir, it's me, Meena."
"But which Meena? I know many Meenas."
"I'm Madanlal Meena. Remember now? I'm calling from Udaipur."

"Oh, Meena Ji! Director of All India Radio, Alwar? Buddy, did you get transferred to Udaipur, when?"
"Yes, I'll tell you all about that later. First, do me a favor please, I'll be very grateful."
"Yes, yes. Tell me, what do you need?"
"Here in Udaipur, someone I knew had borrowed money from me long ago."
"So then?"
"Now he has agreed to return it with great difficulty. But he will make the payment via PhonePe or GooglePay. I don't have this facility. I used to but currently my SIM has expired."
"So how can I help you, Meena Ji?"
"If you give your PhonePe number, this gentleman will transfer the money to your account, and later I'll meet you and take the amount from you."
"How much money will you transfer?"
"Around thirty thousand. You keep this money with you. I'll come to Alwar later and collect it. At the moment, he is depositing five rupees in your account, and once it's confirmed, he will transfer the



rest."
"Buddy, why don't you just take the cash from him there itself?" I asked out of curiosity.

"He does not have that much cash on hand, it's in the bank. On top of that, there's the COVID problem. He is an elderly person so he is hesitant to move out. Don't worry, you won't face any trouble. Just give me your PhonePe number, please."

I don't know why, but I felt something was fishy. Am I the only one Meena Ji could find in this entire city? He could have approached any of his staff members, relatives, family members, friends, etc. I disconnected the call. He called many a times, but I didn't respond.

An idea struck me. I called another acquaintance of mine who is an official at the All India Radio center in Alwar. I told him the whole story. He said this was a scam. There was, indeed, a director named Madanlal fifteen years ago. But currently, someone else is in the director's position. "Sir, I also keep getting such calls regularly. Be careful and don't respond to them. The caller will gain your trust by depositing a small amount and later send a link asking you to click it to receive the remaining amount in your account. The moment you click the link, instead of receiving the money, the money in your own account

will be syphoned out."
Yet Another Amusing Tale from Abroad

I visit my son in Dubai (UAE) almost every year for around three months, and I carry many memorable experiences along with me when I am back to India. I am reminded of such a worth mentioning experience which happened quite a few years back. Around the festival of Eid, I came across a very amusing experience. I was going for some shopping in a mall when a car suddenly stopped by my side. One gentleman sat back in the driver's seat while the other one got out of the car. Polite and polished, I first thought that they would ask me for directions, but that was not to be. Instead, both of them emphasized that they were from Italy and had run short of money and wanted to sell off some suit pieces, which they had carried all the way from Italy. The driver said: "Wonderful and high-quality Italian fabric!"

I smelt the rat. Just to get out of the situation, I skillfully offered them as little as Dh50 for a pack of five suit pieces, which was almost agonizing for them. The original offer was Dh500 from these crooks. They could very easily understand my play as I could theirs.

One of my friends who is a widely travelled gentleman told me later that this type

of underhanded activity by crooks is to be seen almost everywhere in the world.

Conclusion: These stories, spanning decades and continents, highlight the persistent presence of impostors and scammers all around. Whether in the bustling markets of Delhi or the modern malls of Dubai, the tactics may vary, but the underlying deceit remains the same. It is a reminder to stay vigilant, question offers that seem too good to be true, and trust our instincts when something feels off. As the world becomes more interconnected, so do the schemes of these cheaters flourish immensely. Staying well-informed and cautious should be our best defense against these impostors around.

The stories narrated above serve as cautionary tales, reminding us to be vigilant and discerning in our interactions, both in person and over the phone. Scammers and swindlers employ various tactics to gain our trust and exploit our goodwill. By staying informed and alert, we can protect ourselves from falling victim to their schemes. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is. Trust your instincts, verify information, and don't be afraid to ask questions or seek advice from those with more experience navigating such situations.

(The stories narrated serve as cautionary tales, reminding us to be vigilant and discerning in our interactions, both in person and over the phone. Scammers and swindlers employ various tactics to gain our trust and exploit our goodwill. By staying informed and alert, we can protect ourselves from falling victim to their schemes.)

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Indo-Pacific: Navigating Troubled Waters

AFTAB ALAM

Despite some distractions brought about by the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine and Gaza, recent developments indicate that the global geopolitical spotlight on the Indo-Pacific remains solid. Escalating tensions in the South China Sea, compounded by intensifying US-China geostrategic competition, are bound to have a profound effect on security and stability in the Indo-Pacific, which has emerged as a 'new, expanded theatre of power competition' in the recent past, highlighting the remarkable shifts in the world's centre of gravity from west to east. The Indo-Pacific is a contested geo-strategic construct, imagining the Asia-Pacific and the Indian Ocean Region as one contiguous area. This comparatively new terminology for a historically thriving region is in fact quite symptomatic of the changing geopolitical architecture and shifting global power politics, recognising the growing importance of India and the Indian Ocean.

Amid rising maritime tensions with China, the Philippines challenged China on May 20 to open Scarborough Shoal to international scrutiny, alleging that China is destroying the marine environment around the shoal. The Scarborough Shoal is a triangular reef encircling a resource-rich lagoon. The Philippines has been repeatedly accusing China of blocking its shipping vessels in and around the Scarborough Shoal. China's coast-guard had set up a barrier near the Scarborough Shoal, blocking Filipino fishermen from getting closer to the reef, which was fully accessible until China effectively seized it in 2012. However, the Philippine Coast Guards later dismantled this, causing heightened tension between the two.

The most recent incident occurred on April 30, when Chinese Coast Guards water-cannoned two Philippine patrol vessels as they tried to approach the waters near the Scarborough Shoal, locally known as Bajo De Masinloc in the South China Sea. Previously, on March 23, the Chinese coast guards reportedly fired water cannons at a Filipino supply ship, leaving three troops injured. Over the past few years, the behaviour of Chinese coast guards has become increasingly confrontational in the South China Sea. The Philippine President, though, sought to avoid direct military confrontation but insisted on continuing with its nonviolent resistance to Chinese pressure by maintaining a presence in Philippine waters.

It is worth noting that despite the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) sweeping ruling in favour of the Philippines in 2016, China continues to claim sovereignty over the vast majority of the South China Sea, including land parcels, using its so-called "nine-dash line," a U-shaped nine-dash line etched on the Chinese map in the 1940s by a Chinese geographer named Yang Huairen to assert control over the region's waterways, islands, and resources based on perceived historic rights, which conflicts with the claims of neighbouring countries, including the Philippines, wVI-



etnam, Indonesia, Brunei, Malaysia, and Taiwan. They have recently experienced aggressive encroachment into portions of their exclusive economic zones (EEZ) by Chinese fishing and maritime law-enforcement vessels, resulting in frequent run-ins and deteriorating relations between China and the countries surrounding the contentious sea.

In its ruling the PCA rejected Beijing's claim of sovereignty over 90% of the South China Sea, saying such claims had no basis under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The PCA also ruled that Beijing's activities within the Philippines' EEZ, such as illegal fishing and artificial island construction, not only infringed on Manila's sovereign rights but also caused "irreparable harm" to the marine environment of the South China Sea. There are several submerged features in the South China Sea that fall within the Philippines' EEZ that have been occupied by China, and has converted them into military bases by heaping upon them thousands of tons of sand and concrete.

The Indo-Pacific is facing a host of shared security challenges, from maritime piracy and crime to heated territorial disputes. In this vast maritime space — stretching from East Africa to the Pacific Island chains — the foundations of regional commerce and security are secured through the freedom of navigation and secure sea lines of communication.

Yet, there are a number of key challenges to the rules and order in the region that have underpinned security and prosperity for the littoral states. In the South China Sea, Beijing continues to practice salami-slicing tactics aimed at ensuring its de-facto control of much of this key water way through extensive land reclamation and the imposition of military equipment and infrastructure.

Meanwhile, Beijing also continues to raise regional concerns through its constant incursions into the maritime and airspace surrounding Japan's Senkaku islands, also claimed by China and referred to as the Diaoyu, in the East China Sea.

Amid Beijing's increasingly aggressive behaviour in the South China Sea, especially harassment of Philippine patrols and resupply missions, US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin hosted a meeting of the Defence Ministers of the "Squad," which include Japan, the United States, Australia, and the Philippines, on May 2, in Hawaii, also home to the headquarters of the US Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM). They had met for the first time in June 2023 on the sidelines of the Shangri-La security dialogue in Singapore. The "Squad" members share similar threats and concerns over China's increasing assertiveness in the South China Sea. The Hawaii meeting underlined their commitment to "advance a shared vision for a free, open, secure, and prosperous Indo-Pacific." It must be noted that states like the United States, Japan, India, and Australia have crafted their Indo-Pacific strategies under the banner of "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (FOIP) as a counter narrative directed against a potential Sino-centric reorganisation or restructuring of the region.

Initially, the Philippines tried to play down its tensions with China despite having got a favourable ruling from the PCA. However, under Marcos Jr, who assumed power in June 2022 as President, Manila has not only started asserting its rights over the disputed waters, but has also started publicly denouncing and publicising China's actions, along with strengthening defence and strategic ties with Washington, which has always been looking for credible allies to counter rising China in the region. In February,

Marcos Jr. provided four new locations for American military sites in the Philippines under the Enhanced Defence Cooperation Agreement (EDCA). Earlier in April, the Philippines held a joint maritime exercise with the US, Japan, and Australia within its EEZ, demonstrating their commitment "to strengthen regional and international cooperation in support of a FOIP." The increasing defence cooperation with the U.S. and joining security groupings like the "Squad" have emboldened the Philippines in its disputes with China.

The significant rise in China's economic and military prowess over a decade has changed the geopolitical architecture and global power politics of the Indo-Pacific. China's assertive tone on Taiwan, maritime disputes with the Philippines, efforts to reclaim land in the South China Sea by physically increasing the size of islands or creating new artificial islands altogether in disputed waters, and their unprecedented militarization have caused immense unease and concern not only in the countries of the region, but also in other stakeholders and important strategic players, including the US. While China considers the Indo-Pacific to be its strategic backyard, other players like the United States, Japan, India, and Australia contest this and promote the idea of the region being open for all.

While recent years have witnessed a resumption of high-level discussions between U.S. and Chinese defense officials at the Pentagon, marking a potential détente, there exists an underlying strategic calculus. China's engagement in military diplomacy — including the hosting of international naval delegations in Qingdao — unfolds even as it steadfastly sidesteps international laws and dismisses adverse rulings that challenge its sweeping maritime claims. This

juxtaposition of diplomatic overtures with steadfast territorial assertions signals a nuanced strategy; one that potentially buys time and leverages the geopolitical chessboard in favor of long-term regional ambitions, rather than committing to internationally recognized paths to conflict resolution.

The South China Sea, a nexus of global trade routes and repository of vast natural resources, stands as more than a mere collection of shipping lanes and territorial waters; it is a barometer for the health of the international order. China's ongoing construction, military patrols, and provocations are not merely about regional dominance — they are testaments to the international community's resolve to uphold a rules-based order. The global community must remain vigilant, with the knowledge that the intricacies of the South China Sea's present are inextricably linked to the tapestry of the Indo-Pacific's future.

The great power contestation in the Indo-Pacific can best be explained as China's quest to dominate global trade and reshape the global order; the US bid to contain assertive China; India's aspiration for a greater role as an emerging power; Japan's plan to regain lost influence; and Australia capitalising on its role as a balancing power. However, all the major players in the Indo-Pacific must be mindful of the risks that their actions pose to the region and the world. They must be ready for negotiated solutions without compromising their interests or undermining their security, as any miscalculation or coercion could deteriorate the situation further, adversely affecting international peace and security. (C-Counter Currents)

Aftab Alam is Professor and Head, Department of Strategic and Security Studies, Aligarh Muslim University.



8 Reasons Why You Should Eat Pineapple During Hot Summer Months

Pineapple is one of the most popular tropical fruits that is enjoyed by people all over the world. This delicious fruit is packed with numerous essential nutrients that can help your body cope with the hot summer months.

Adding this nutritious fruit to your summer diet might help boost your overall health along with keeping you cool. In this article, we list reasons why you should consider eating more pineapple during this time of year.

Here are 8 reasons why you should eat pineapples in summer:

1. **Helps to rehydrate your body**
With the scorching heat that accompanies the summer season, it is crucial to keep yourself well-hydrated to avoid dehydration. Pineapples have high water content, which can help to keep you hydrated and prevent heat stroke, especially when consumed in its natural form.

2. **Boosts your immunity**
Due to the hot weather, your body may be prone to infections and illnesses. Pineapples contain a high



amount of vitamin C, which is an essential nutrient to boost your immunity and keep your body healthy and strong. 3. **Aids digestion**
During the summer months, it is important to

maintain a healthy digestive system to avoid gastrointestinal issues. Pineapples contain an enzyme called bromelain which can help to break down proteins and improve digestion. This enzyme has anti-inflammatory properties that can soothe the digestive tract and alleviate any discomfort.

4. **Lowers blood pressure**
The heat and humidity can cause your blood pressure to spike, leading to hypertension. Pineapples contain potassium, which can help to lower your blood pressure, reduce stress on your arteries and lower the risk of heart disease.

5. **Acts as a natural anti-inflammatory**
Mild swelling and inflammation are common during the hot summer months due to excessive heat exposure and physical activity. Pineapples' bromelain enzymes have anti-inflammatory properties that can help to reduce inflammation and alleviate pain naturally.

6. **Promotes healthy skin**
Too much sun exposure during the summer can cause skin damage and premature aging. Pineapples contain vitamin C and anti-

oxidants that can help to protect the skin against free radicals that damage the skin cells caused by sun exposure and results in redness, age spots, and wrinkles.

7. **Increases your energy level**

The heat can leave you feeling exhausted and low on energy. Pineapples contain natural sugar, which can give you a quick boost of energy to keep you going throughout the day. It is also a refreshing fruit that may be a healthier alternative to sodas and sweetened drinks.

8. **Aids weight loss**
Summer is an excellent time to lose some weight and get in shape. Pineapples are low in calories and high in fibre, which can help you to reduce your calorie intake, control your appetite, and aid in your weight loss journey.

In conclusion, pineapples are a delicious and healthy fruit that can provide numerous benefits during the hot summer months. Whether consumed in its natural form or included in various dishes, it is a fantastic way to improve your overall health and well-being during summer.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Narendra Modi To

behaviour after the June 4th shows our identity that we know how to digest victory. Our values are such that we do not get over excited in the lap of victory and neither do we have the values of mocking the defeated. We protect the victorious and we do not have the intention of mocking the defeated. These are our values.

"You can ask any child whose government was in power before the Lok Sabha Elections. He will say NDA. Then ask him who formed the government after 2024, and he will say NDA...Pehle bhi NDA thi, aaj bhi NDA hai, aur kal bhi NDA hai'... Even after 10 years, Congress could not touch the figure of 100 seats," he said.

He also targeted the Congress party and said, "Even after 10 years, Congress could not touch the figure of 100 seats. If we combine the 2014, 2019 and 2024 elections, Congress did not even get as many seats as BJP got in these three election. I can clearly see the people of the INDI alliance were sinking slowly earlier, now they are going to sink at a fast pace."

PM Modi claimed that the country trusts only the NDA and added, "When there is such unwavering trust and confidence it is natural that the country's expectations will also increase and I consider this good."

PM Modi was today formally elected as the leader of the BJP, leader of NDA Parliamentary Party and leader of the Lok Sabha. Leaders of the NDA allies garlanded Narendra Modi.

He said that in terms of numbers in the history of coalition, this is the strongest coalition government.

PM Modi also vowed to continue his efforts towards consensus as he called the NDA the most successful alliance.

He also asserted that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is synonymous to good governance.

"The NDA government has given good governance to the country and in a way, just saying NDA becomes synonymous with good governance. Poor welfare and good governance have been paramount in the focus of all of us," PM Modi said.

Earlier this week, leaders of parties in the NDA held a meeting and passed a resolution to elect Prime Minister Narendra Modi as their leader. According to sources, Narendra Modi is likely to take oath as the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time on June 9.

According to the results announced by the Election Commission of India on Tuesday, the BJP won 240 seats and along with its allies, it stands at 293 seats. Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and Nitish Kumar's JDU, having won 16 and 12 seats respectively in their respective states, have extended support to the NDA. (ANI)

LG Reviews Preparation

sanitation, cleanliness, medical aid, fire & emergency services, waterproof tents and security are in place well in advance, he said.

The Lt Governor directed the concerned Deputy Commissioners for conducting on spot assessment of the facilities at the shrine, besides identifying requirements of any additional services for comfortable stay of the devotees.

Taking stock of the arrangement for the transportation of pilgrims, the Lt Governor instructed the concerned authorities to take necessary measures.

He also directed the officials to make arrangements to tackle any weather vagaries during the Mela so that pilgrims do not face any inconvenience.

Admin Sets June 20

The divisional commissioner asked the officials for completion of renovation, upgradation works by June 20.

He also held discussions on the security arrangements and directions were issued to ensure all the necessary preparations well within the given timeframe.

Over one lakh pilgrims have been registered for undertaking yatra to the shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi in south Kashmir Himalayas.

The journey can be undertaken through two routes — the traditional 48-km route through Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

20,000 Additional

personnel will be stationed not only along the Amarnath Yatra route and at base camps but also in border areas to counter potential terrorist infiltration attempts from across the border during the pilgrimage.

A robust three-tier security system will be in place, combining the efforts of local police and paramilitary forces to secure the region. The enhanced security measures will also extend to crowded areas to ensure the safety of pilgrims and residents alike.

A senior police officer confirmed that companies of paramilitary forces would start arriving from outside within a week and will be swiftly deployed to create a safer environment in Kashmir and other sensitive areas. "This comprehensive security strategy aims to ensure a smooth and secure Amarnath Yatra for all participants," said the senior officer—(KNO)

Kashmir Parts Experience

mercury settled at 20.9 degree Celsius while in Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 22.7 degree Celsius and 11.2 degree Celsius respectively.

Pertinently, the Monsoon season commenced in Kashmir on June 01 while under its influence the rainfall continued to occur intermittently across the Valley in the last couple of days.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that the weather would remain partly to generally cloudy tomorrow while there is also a possibility of light rain and thunder at scattered places towards afternoon.

However, he said that the weather conditions would improve from June 09, saying that generally dry weather is expected till June 17 with possibility of light rain and thunder at isolated places can't be ruled out.

In its advisory, the MeT said that the farmers are advised to resume farm operations (Spray, fertilizer application) from 9th June onwards, adding that a fresh spell of Hot & dry weather, heat wave is expected from 10th June onwards—(KNO)

Low Rates, Adverse

growers with the help of paid labourers and then sold at nearby Fruit mandi at Zazna. The growers apprehend losses due to decline of prices upto 60 percent compared to the last year.

Cherries are extremely perishable with a very brief shelf-life so growers are fearing huge losses due to the present situa-

tion of the market where they are getting the rates which they used to get at the end of harvest.

The cherry harvest season is in full swing across the Kashmir Valley with vibrant fruit containers adorning markets in both towns and villages. The growers cite significant challenges this year due to adverse weather conditions particularly the heavy rains in April, which have severely impacted the cherry crop.

"This year, our crop was almost 60% damaged by the heavy rains last month. We are only getting 18 to 22 percent of what we usually harvest. Last month's heavy rains, combined with a lack of effective treatments, are the main reasons for this damage," said Nissar Khan, a farmer from Gutlibagh.

The impact of the weather is evident in the quality of the cherries. "The fruit we are able to pick is so poor that only three out of every ten cherries are good enough to pack in containers. The rest are discarded," Khan added. This significant loss has left farmers struggling to cover their costs, including wages for workers.

Despite these challenges, the markets are still seeing an influx of cherries, though in reduced quantities.

The farmers in Ganderbal and elsewhere in the Valley are urging for support and solutions to mitigate the impact of such erratic weather in the future. They hope for better conditions in the coming seasons to ensure the sustainability of their livelihood.

These growers have appealed that the government should intervene and come to the rescue of these growers—(KNO)

CS Reviews Land

land adjacent to some colleges, wherever required, for upgradation of college infrastructure there. He exhorted upon the officers to vigorously follow the court cases and other land related issues so that the institutions are established within the shortest possible time.

During the meeting, the Principal Secretary Higher Education highlighted all the land related issues impeding the progress on establishment of these colleges. The issues were discussed with the concerned officials and the modus operandi for their resolution was explored.

Giving status report of their respective districts, Deputy Commissioners informed the meeting that land for new degree colleges has been identified and the process for land transfer is in progress. They assured that no college would face any delay for want of transfer of land for its establishment or for upgradation and any college facing land related matters in the district will be looked into on priority basis.

During the meeting, threadbare discussion was also held on Private Universities Policy and various suggestions were put forth in this regard.

Govt Shelves Process

"Those who had applied didn't possess requisite qualification and experience for these positions," the official added.

The administration had last year invited applications for the constitution of the child rights body in the UT.

In 2022, it had also constituted a three-member selection panel for filling these posts.

Headed by Chief Secretary, the committee comprised administrative secretaries of social Welfare and Law departments—(KNO)

J&K Set To Get

that investors have demanded over 62,000 kanals of land in Jammu and Kashmir, with more than 34,000 kanals sought in the Jammu division and over 27,000 kanals in the Kashmir division. The proposals for investment exceed Rs 99,000 crore. The Industries Department expects to secure 6,000 to 8,000 kanals of private land in the Jammu division, primarily in Kathua, Ghagwal, Samba, and Jammu.

Dr. Arun Manhas, Director of Industries and Commerce Department, Jammu has stated that the new private industrial policy has been simplified to promote industrial activities in the private sector.

The Jammu and Kashmir Private Industrial Estate Development Policy was amended last February, though the guidelines are yet to be issued. Under this policy, any citizen of the state or country can develop industry and industrial estates on private land in Jammu and Kashmir, provided they possess 40 kanals (five acres) or more of land.

The policy stipulates that there should be proposals for at least five units on the minimum land, with no single unit exceeding 50 percent of the total land. Additionally, the policy provides for 100% reimbursement of stamp duty on land purchases, land use change fees, and registration fees on land sale deeds. Applications will be reviewed within 30 days and sent to the concerned Divisional Commissioner for land-related approvals—(KNO)

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NDA meet underlines message of unity and vision beyond 2029

IAN S

NEW DELHI: On Friday noon, Prime Minister Narendra Modi walked inside the Central Hall of the old Parliament House, amid cheers, clapping and thumping of desks, straight to a decorated corner near the podium to bow before the original copy of India's Constitution and lift it for a few moments to touch it to his forehead.

The symbolism or the messaging of it couldn't have been missed - for PM Modi, it was "Samvidhan Sarvopari (Constitution supreme)", particularly when his political rivals in the run-up to the elections tried to weave a rather fictional narrative that if re-elected, the Modi government would change the constitution and scrap reservation for marginalised classes.

The significance of the venue, chosen for the special occasion - for the election of PM Modi as leader of the 293-member strong pre-poll alliance NDA, their unanimous choice to be the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time - as mentioned by Home Minister Amit Shah was noteworthy.

The Constituent Assembly sat here to draft the Constitution. Also, it sent another message that the old Parliament House was not abandoned by the ruling dispensation, and its historicity and dignity shall be maintained.

The nation, which was hooked to the live proceedings of the occasion, was keenly watching to see whether there was a



sense of unity and purpose among the PM Modi-led NDA. It was all positive - their body language, the cordiality, the bonhomie, the speeches made by the top leaders of the ruling alliance on how they worked together to reach this momentous occasion, creating history after 62 years when an incumbent Prime Minister for two terms is all set to take the oath of office for the third straight term and what the road ahead is.

It should be noted that the friendliness, the connect seen on the podium between Prime Minister Modi and two NDA partners, N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister-designate of Andhra Pradesh and TDP chief, and Nitish Kumar, the Bihar Chief Minister and JD-U chief, was not new-found and certainly not for the camera. They share a long-standing relationship, over two and a half decades old. There had been some hiccups but now they are back in one

fold, back as colleagues, friends and peers, as they say, all's well that ends well.

The mutual appreciation and vision for the future, not just for the next five years but as both Naidu and Nitish said, beyond 2029 flowed freely. PM Modi asserted that in the next 10 years, the NDA government will write fresh chapters of good governance.

PM Modi made particular mention of how NDA had remained intact for the last two and half decades. It had seen many seasons including three full terms in power at the centre and was now poised to take yet another historic leap forward.

Nitish Kumar, then as leader of the Samata Party, was part of the original NDA coalition that was built by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, L.K. Advani, George Fernandes of Samata Party, Parkash Singh Badal of Akali Dal, and Balasaheb Thackeray

of Shiv Sena in 1998. Modi was then the youngest national General Secretary of the BJP and had a backroom role to play in stitching the alliance.

Chandrababu Naidu became part of the NDA in 1999. He remained Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and his party nominee G.M.C. Balayogi was named as Speaker of Lok Sabha and the TDP extended outside support to the Vajpayee government. In 2001 when Modi became Chief Minister of Gujarat, Nitish Kumar was Railway Minister and they worked closely on various projects. As chief ministers of two NDA-ruled states, Modi and Naidu shared another kind of equation.

Over two decades later, they have come to share yet another kind of close equation. PM Modi said: "NDA stands stronger and more united than ever before." The NDA, according to him, was an alliance committed to the 'Nation First' philosophy.

BJP's 2024 number alone trumps Congress' total of 2014, 2019: PM Modi

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Narendra Modi, after being elected as the leader of the NDA Parliamentary party on Friday, congratulated the alliance partners on their victory and slammed the Congress-led INDIA bloc over the latter's posturing over Lok Sabha numbers.

The PM-designate described the 2024 victory as one of the biggest for the BJP-led alliance and said that the Opposition parties, in spite of conceding defeat, were projecting it as a loss for the NDA and a victory for the INDIA bloc.

He said that the Congress party couldn't even touch the 100 mark this time and its numbers taken together in previous 2014, 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections couldn't match the BJP's strength in this election alone but despite that, it goes the whole hog to discredit our victory.

"This shows their duplicity and eagerness to peddle false propaganda," he added.

Notably, the BJP won 240 seats in the 545-member Parliament in 2024 polls

while the Congress party won 99 seats. In the 2014 and 2019 polls, Congress won 44 and 52 Lok Sabha seats collectively. Together, that takes the Congress tally to 195, which is 45 less than BJP's 2024 numbers.

The PM-designate also took potshots at the INDIA bloc over the latter's cribbing on the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and said that the issue may have died down for now but the Opposition will again turn it into a poll plank in the 2029 elections.

"Is the EVM matter alive or dead?" he asked, poking fun at the Opposition.

He also condemned the Opposition's 'medieval and regressive' approach and said that they always tried to put stumbling blocks in the introduction of new technology.

"From UPI to Aadhar, they found faults with everything new. This shows their medieval thought," he said.

He also claimed that the INDIA bloc was bound for its worst downslide as the latter has consistently failed to understand country's beliefs and value system.

PM Modi hails students, faculty on improved performance of Indian universities



IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has praised the education sector for the improved performance of Indian universities as reflected in the QS World University Rankings 2025 and said that in the new term, a boost will be given to research and innovation.

"Over the last decade, we have focused on qualitative changes in the education sector. This is reflected in the QS World University Rankings. Compliments to the students, faculty and institutions for their hard work and dedication. In this term, we want to do even more to boost research and innovation," said PM Modi.

The Prime Minister said

this while reposting a post by the CEO and Managing Director of QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd, Nunzio Quacquarelli.

In his post on X, Quacquarelli said, "Under Narendra Modi's leadership, the last 10 years have seen continued improvement in the performance of Indian universities in QS World University Rankings. 46 institutions compared to 11 in 2015, a 318% increase in 10 years, the best amongst the G20. @PMOIndia"

The report said that over the past decade, India has increased its representation in the rankings by 318 per cent, the highest among the G20 nations. In 2015, there were only 11 institutions in the Rankings while in 2024 the number has risen to 46.

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

K'taka Minister Nagendra resigns; upbeat BJP demands CM to step down

IAN S

BENGALURU: Karnataka Minister for Youth Empowerment, Sports, and Tribal Welfare, B. Nagendra, tendered his resignation to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday following the suicide of a Tribal Welfare Board employee that triggered allegations of money laundering against the Minister.

The death of Chandrashekar P (50), the Superintendent of Karnataka Maharishi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation (KMVST-DC), who allegedly died by suicide on May 26 after leaving a note blaming senior officials for coercing him to facilitate misappropriation of funds, has triggered a political row in Karnataka.

The Congress government has come under pressure following allegations of transferring huge funds to some private accounts for spending in the Lok Sabha elections in Telangana and other parts of the country.

Nagendra submitted a one-line resignation letter, claiming that he stepping down out of his own will.

Nagendra is at the centre of controversy over his alleged involvement in the tribal board staffer's suicide case. He

is also facing charges of being instrumental in transferring Rs 187 crore from the Tribal Welfare Board's account to some 'fake' accounts at a bank in Telangana for election campaigning.

Speaking to reporters at the Vidhana Soudha, Nagendra said, "I am innocent. I am submitting my resignation out of my own will, and not due to any pressure. The media has been reporting on the issue, and allegations have been levelled against me for the past 10 days."

Commenting on the development, Deputy CM Shivakumar said that Nagendra offered to resign voluntarily to avoid embarrassment for the party, adding that he was not asked by the state Congress to step down.

"There were many investigations into illegal funds transfers during the BJP's term, but they were swept under the carpet. All such cases will be investigated now," he said.

"The Chief Minister and the ministers of the previous BJP government are well aware of the scams during their term. We have also received information regarding the same. I won't go to the extent of saying that the BJP leaders are

involved in this, but we will investigate everything," Shivakumar said.

Asked if officials are committing crimes without the knowledge of the ministers, the Deputy CM said, "Funds can't be transferred from one bank account to another without a board resolution. Many bankers used to come to me when I was the Power Minister requesting deposits in their banks but we did not pay heed to those requests."

"The Chief Minister has already formed an SIT and ordered an investigation. The CBI will also investigate the case," he added.

The alleged scam in the KMVSTDC came to light following the suicide of Chandrashekar, who was allegedly pressurised to move large sums of money to various illegal accounts.

In his suicide note, he detailed how he was pressured by a sitting Cabinet minister of the department.

Meanwhile, the BJP in Karnataka, which had set June 6 as the deadline for dropping Nagendra from the Cabinet, welcomed the Minister's resignation on Thursday.

Buoyed by the development, the BJP has now demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Maharshi Valmiki Devel-

opment Corporation Chairman and Congress MLA, Basavaraja Dadda.

Leader of opposition in the state Assembly, R. Ashoka, accused Siddaramaiah of directly colluding with Nagendra in the alleged scam, claiming that the CM should also tender his resignation.

Karnataka BJP President B.Y. Vijayendra described the development as a victory for the agitations staged by the state unit of the party.

"The resignation of Nagendra is the first step. Many prominent politicians are involved in the scandal in which Rs 187 crore of public money has been looted. Until all the guilty persons are punished, the BJP won't stop its agitation," Vijayendra said. BJP MLC and former national General Secretary C.T. Ravi also demanded the resignation of Siddaramaiah and Basavaraj Dadda.

"CM Siddaramaiah should take moral responsibility and tender his resignation. The resignation of Nagendra is not enough. We suspect the involvement of invisible hands from Bengaluru to New Delhi. This is a scandal involving Rs 187 crore, yet the government tried to project it as a minor case," Ravi said.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir cdpoicdskeller@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN

PROJECT KELLER

Subject: Engagement of Sahiyakas (AWHs) in Anganwadi centres of Poshan Project Keller on honorarium basis

Ref: Government Order No. 103 JK(SWD) of 2023 Dated 28-04-2023 issued by Commissioner Secretary to Government Social Welfare Department J&K

Ref: MD/Poshan/Estt/2023/6278-86 Dated 22-02-2024

Ref: DPO/Poshan/Estt/2024/1461-62 Dated 22-02-2024

Ref: SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2023-24/6227-30 Dated 21-07-2024

Ref: DPO/Poshan/Estt/24/1463-64 Dated 22-02-2024

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

a) Opening date of receipt of application forms:-08-06-2024
b) Closing date of receipt of application forms:-14-06-2024

Whereas wide notification No.CDPO/POSHAN/KEL/ADV/1230-43 Applications were invited from eligible female candidates of qualification 10th Pass of Panch Ward 01 of Panchayat Halqa Sonbanger for the Post of AWH (Sahiyakis) of AWC Sakloo with opening date of application form as 28.02.2024 and closing date as 20.03.2024. In response to this advertisement no application form with qualification 10th pass/Matriculate has been received. As per Govt order No 103-JK(SWD) of 2023 Dated 28.01.2023, candidates with qualification not less than VIII Standard shall be considered in case no matriculate candidate is available in Ward. Accordingly applications on prescribed proforma (Annexure-A) are hereby invited from the eligible female candidates of the Panch ward 01 of Panchayat Halqa Sonbanger with qualification 8th Pass for Sahiyakis (AWHs) for the Anganwadi Centres Sakloof POSHAN Project Keller on "Honorarium basis"

| S.No | Name of District | Name of Project | Name of Panchayat | Recruitment of Sahiyakis (AWHs) | |
|------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | Panch Ward | Name of AWC |
| 1 | Pulwama | Keller | Sonbanger | 1 | Saikloo |

Criteria for Selection of Sahiyakis (Anganwadi Helpers):-

- The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi centre is located.
- Women Candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be considered for the post as on 01-01-2024
- The candidate should be a resident of the Electoral Ward where AWC is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as a proof of residence of the candidate. Wherever there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
- The Candidate should be the domicile of the UT of J&K
- Minimum qualification for the post of Helper shall be 8th Pass.
- The committee shall select the most destitute / needy married women of the ward as Helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried candidates may be considered.

Self-attested copies of documents to be attached with the application form for Sahiyakis(AWHs):

- Voter List of the Panch Ward of the Panchayat Halqa highlighting name of applicant and her family members.
- Domicile Certificate issued by Tehsildar concerned.
- Date of Birth Certificate.
- Academic Qualification Certificates with Marks card of 8th.
- E-ration ticket mentioning category and family details duly attested by TSO concerned..
- Non employment Certificate from a Gazetted Officer.
- Income certificate issued by concerned Tehsildar.
- Unmarried Certificate from respective Tehsildars (wherever applicable)
- Voter List of the Panch Ward of the Panchayat Halqa highlighting name of applicant and her family members

No:-CDPOS/POSHAN/Kel/Adv/2024-25/101-114 Child Dev. Project Officer
Dated:06.06-2024 Poshan, Keller

ANNEXURE-A

APPLICATION FORM FOR ENGAGEMENT OF SANGINI (ANGANWADI WORKER)/Sahiyakis (ANGANWADI HELPERS)

Whether Applied for AWW/AWH.....

- Panch Ward/ Panchayat Halqa.....
- Epic No in panch ward.....
- Name of the Candidate (In Block Letters)
- Fathers Name (In Block Letters).....
- Marital Status:- Married /Un Married
- Husbands Name (if married)
- Place of Permanent Residence.....
- Mohalla.....Village.....
- Panch Ward Constituency.....
- Name of the Panchayat Halqa.....
- House No.....(As per latest Panchayat Ward Electoral Block :.....)
- Address for Correspondence.....Mobile No.....
- Date of Birth.....

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | D | M | M | Y | Y | Y | Y |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

- Age as on 01-01-2024.....
- Academic Qualification

| S.No | Examination passed | Board/School | Year of passing | Marks Obtained | Max. Marks | %age |
|------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|------|
| 1. | 8 th | | | | | |
| 2. | 10 th | | | | | |
| 3. | 10+2 | | | | | |
| 4. | Graduation | | | | | |

- Do candidate belong to family of retired AWW/AWH (yes/No)

Signature of Candidate

I,.....D/o,W/o.....R/o..... do hereby certify that the contents of the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge. In case any of the above contents is found incorrect, the selection committee shall have the right to reject my application and similarly revoke my engagement order.

Signature of Candidate

Acknowledgment

Received application formD/O,W/O..... Residencefor the post of AWW today on

DIPK-945-24
DT: 07/06/2024

Signature of Dealing Assistant

Investors gain Rs 28 lakh crore in just 3 trading sessions

IAN S

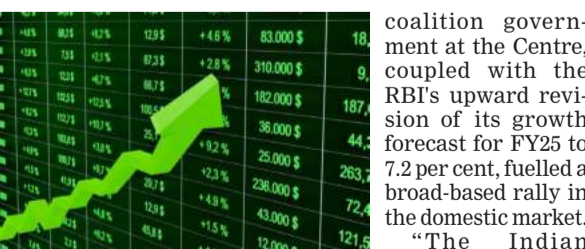
MUMBAI: As Prime Minister Narendra Modi was elected as leader of the NDA Parliamentary party amid the RBI's monetary policy announcements, the Indian indices on Friday recovered from losses it suffered before the election results, giving investors Rs 28 lakh crore back in just three trading sessions, from over Rs 30 lakh crore loss they had suffered.

The Sensex and Nifty surged more than 2 per cent over positive domestic cues to reach fresh peaks, as investors gained around Rs 7 lakh crore in a single trading session on Friday, with the BSE market cap touching Rs 423 lakh crore.

While the Sensex closed at 76,693 points, or 1,618 points up, the Nifty reached 23,290 (468 points up) at the day's closing.

Earlier in the day, the Central Bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to keep the policy rates unchanged at 6.5 per cent for the eighth consecutive time.

The RBI also raised India's



real GDP forecast to 7.2 per cent for FY25 from the earlier 7 per cent.

Bank Nifty went up 511 points, or 1.04 per cent, to close at 49,803.

According to market experts, the anticipation of stability within the

coalition government at the Centre, coupled with the RBI's upward revision of its growth forecast for FY25 to 7.2 per cent, fuelled a broad-based rally in the domestic market.

"The Indian market surpassed its previous record set on the exit-poll day and reached a fresh peak. Though the last mile towards the inflation target remains sticky, investors are expecting the MPC to be one step closer to the easing cycle," they added.

Shamsipora flyover on Jammu-Srinagar NH opens after 14 years

UMAISAR GULLGANIE

KULGAM: After nearly fourteen years in the making, the flyover at Shamsipora on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in south Kashmir's Anantnag district has been opened for vehicular traffic. This development is expected to improve traffic management and reduce congestion in the area.

Aehsan Andrabi, the Project Manager, informed that the Shamsipora flyover, which cost approximately Rs 30 crore and spans 74 metres (with a total length of 800 metres including the approach), has been officially opened for traffic today.

The construction of the flyover began in 2014 but faced numerous delays due to various factors.

"The completion of the



REPRESENTATIONAL PIC

flyover will enhance connectivity along this stretch and will be particularly beneficial for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra traffic flow," another official stated. Previously, traffic in the area was frequently halted

due to the Shamsipora railway crossing, causing significant delays. With the new flyover, travellers will no longer have to wait for trains to pass, greatly improving travel times. In addition to the Sham-

sipora flyover, another flyover at Dalwatch (Chaimulla) was opened for traffic a few months ago. The highway is also being repainted in preparation for the Amarnath Yatra, the official added—(KNO)

Ensure availability of sacrificial animals on reasonable prices: Div Com to officers

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to facilitate people to observe the Eid ul Adha with religious fervor and to ensure availability of essentials & sacrificial animals in the market, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bihuri Friday convened a meeting to review arrangements put in place by District Administrations and concerned departments, here.

Besides Deputy Commissioners and SSPs, the meeting was attended by Director Health Services Kashmir, SSP Traffic Rural, SP Traffic Srinagar, Joint Commissioner SMC, officers of PHE, UEED, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Legal Metrology, RTC and other concerned departments.

Emphasizing extensive arrangements of basic amenities across the division, Div Com directed concerned Officers to ensure availability of regular electricity and drinking water to the people on



the occasion of religious festival.

He directed concerned officer to ensure availability of sacrificial animals, particularly sheep at all the 104 sale spots established by the Sheep Husbandry Department.

He stressed on determination and fixation of reasonable rates for sacrificial animals and enforcement of the same to curb exorbitant prices.

Underlining the necessity to avoid environmental pollution and choking of drains caused by injudicious disposal of hides, Div Com advised the gen-

eral public to keep fleeces of animals at home which shall be collected by SMC and other Municipal bodies from door to door for proper disposal.

Div Com also asked Animal Husbandry Department officers to ensure availability of poultry birds in abundance in the market.

To curb malpractice of overcharging by traders and shopkeepers, Div Com directed all Deputy Commissioners to constitute joint market checking teams to enforce reasonable prices of essentials and

other commodities.

Reviewing arrangements at prominent religious places including Masjids and Shrines, he stressed on filling of pot-holes on all approach roads, establishing medical camps, stationing of fire tenders and availability of water tankers at these places besides ensuring sanitation, cleanliness and toilet facility.

Meanwhile, the Div Com directed the Waqf Board to conduct a cleanliness drive to clean water storage tanks installed at religious places and add chlorine tablets to provide pure water to people.

Bidhuri further directed for making SRTC and Srinagar Smart City buses available on different routes to ferry devotees to Dargah Hazratbal Shrine on the occasion of Eid to facilitate them to offer prayers.

Moreover, Waqf Board officials were asked to publicize prayer timings of different religious places in advance for the information of the public.

Food & Drugs Deptt celebrates world food safety day across J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Food and Drugs Administration, Drugs & Food Control Organization, Friday organized various programmes to commemorate the World Food Safety Day, across all districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

The theme of this year's World Food Safety Day was "Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected," that aimed to raise awareness and support actions and plans to achieve 'safer food for a healthier planet'. The initiative also intended to highlight the role of government in preparing for the unexpected by committing to national plans for food safety emergency responses, strengthening surveillance systems and enhancing monitoring capabilities. The celebration also emphasised the importance of the roles of both food compa-

nies and consumers in preparing for unexpected incidents.

As part of the program, two mega programmes were held at Jammu and Srinagar districts which were presided over by Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), Hashmat Ali and Deputy Commissioner Food Safety Kashmir Division respectively.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner FDA said that "Food needs to be safe, nutritious, sufficient and affordable. From producers to consumers, Food Safety is everyone's business. We need to work collectively and better prepare for unexpected challenges to prevent foodborne illnesses and save lives". He further said that Food Safety wing of Drugs & Food control organization has achieved numerous accomplishments in the area of "preparing for the unexpected," which is this year's World Food



Safety Day theme. Key achievements included effective communication with the National

Contact Point through Food Safety Emergency Response System and activation of a mul-

tidisciplinary team (Enforcement/ICLC) besides strengthening of the roles of surveil-

lance, response and emergency preparedness in food safety.

The Deputy Commissioner Food Safety Kashmir, in her address, said that "we all as stakeholders need to join hands to contribute towards promotion of safe and healthy food safety culture through participation in various eat right initiatives of Eat Right India Movement". She further said that this day signifies that food safety is a shared responsibility of the government, producers and consumers and everyone has a role to play to ensure the food we consume is safe and healthy.

During organizing the events, the department in collaboration with the other line departments of the district administrations showcased different activities including Skit-Jingles, Poster Competition, Seminars, Quiz, Lectures, Presentation, Walkathon, Display of Mobile Food

Testing Vans etc.

The events witnessed huge participation of various stakeholders including Joint Commissioner Food Safety, J&K, Deputy Commissioner Food Safety, Jammu, Food Safety Officers, Food Analysts, Civil Society Members, Presidents/Chairman of various Food Business Associations and NGOs, College and school students, teachers, lecturers, Professors and common masses.

All the events concluded with the Slogan "Let's Make Food Safety Everyone's Business" and a pledge on the subject was also taken by all the participants.

All the participants were requested to approach the department through any medium for feedback on food safety and quality issues and register their grievances and complaints at toll free number 104, for redressal.

Five cattle die due to dangling electric wires in Pulwama's Dangerpora

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: In a tragic incident, at least five cattle lost their lives due to faulty power infrastructure in the Dangerpora area of Awantipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, locals alleged.

Residents said that dangling electric wires tied to trees and old poles are posing a grave threat to their lives and property. They said that five cattle belonging to a poor farmer were electrocuted due to the substandard infrastructure in the area.

Locals said they have been living in constant fear due to low-lying electric wires tied to trees for decades, with no intervention from the authorities. The poor Low Tension (LT) infrastructure often leads to faults and causes unscheduled power cuts, they said.

Rashid Hussain, a local resident, said that the electric lines touch the roofs of houses and trees on roads, posing a risk to life and property. "The lines are



very weak and fall frequently, risking people's lives," he said.

Hussain added, "We have repeatedly requested the concerned department to replace the dangling and damaged electric wires and poles, but our pleas have fallen on deaf ears."

Showkat Ahmad, another local, said that despite raising the issue in all "Back to Village" programmes, no development has been seen. "Most LT wires in our village are tied to trees due to the absence of poles, making them very low and weak. They often get damaged," he said.

Residents said they

have repeatedly brought this issue to the notice of concerned authorities but to no avail. They said the infrastructure must be upgraded to prevent such incidents in the future and called for compensation for the affected farmer.

They further said that despite repeated hikes in tariffs, they have been paying on time but still receive unscheduled power cuts due to the poor infrastructure.

The locals requested higher authorities to look into the matter and take immediate steps to ensure that people do not suffer any longer—(KNO)

Potato Seed Distribution held at Iz marg Gurez Station of SKUAST-K



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: ICAR-CPRI, Shimla and ICAR-CITH Srinagar in collaboration with KVK Gurez of SKUAST Kashmir organised Potato Seed Distribution programme at Iz marg Station of SKUAST Kashmir.

The programme organised under Tribal Sub Plan was attended by more than 85 farmers and farm women from Bagtore block of Gurez valley.

During the programme

farmers were sensitized about the quality seed production and multiplication in potatoes.

Dr Bilal Ahmad Bhat Head KVK-Gurez highlighted the importance of quality potato seed production under the Gurez conditions.

Dr Anil Sharma Head ICAR-CPRI-RS Jalandhar made farmers acquainted with the importance of quality seed production of potato varieties of ICAR-CPRI.

Dr Sajad-un-Nabi, Scien-

tist ICAR-CITH, Srinagar highlighted the importance of disease management in potatoes for quality seed production and deliberated on the importance of bio-control measuring for disease management of Potato and other crops cultivated in this organic Himalayan valley.

At the end of the program quality potato seed (Breeder Seed) was distributed amongst the selected farmers for the purpose of Seed Production along with tarpaulin sheets.

DGP's grievance redressal programme to recommence from today in Pulwama

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The grievance redressal programme of Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police RR Swain will recommence from tomorrow at district police lines Pulwama, police said.

In a statement, issued, a spokesperson said that citizens who have grievances pertaining to police investigation, enquiries, delay in verifications, delay or refusal in registering FIR or faulty investigation shall be given first preference.

The statement reads that second preference will be to the families of the martyrs and third preference will be given to families and kin of other

police personnel. "Fourth preference will be to the serving Police personnel and SPOs to listen to their service issues.

The programme will be strictly for the citizens of Pulwama district only. Recruitment related applications or requests will not be entertained at all," it reads.

It added that individuals with grievances related to police services should visit the DPL Pulwama to register at the help desk established for the purpose.

"People who wish to bring their grievances to the attention of the DGP should submit a written application containing complete details including that of a working mobile number," it added.

DDC Budgam holds deliberations on formulation of Capex Plan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo Friday held deliberations on formulation of plan under the District Capex Budget 2024-25.

At the outset, the DDC reviewed the status of implementation of previous year's plan and took feedback from various executing agencies on the priority sectors and works that need to be taken up during FY 2024-25.

The DDC directed executing agencies under key sectors like R&B, PHE, PDD, RDD, Education, Health,

Agriculture, Horticulture and other allied sectors to work in coordination to formulate district plan that is to be executed in a time bound manner to contribute in the holistic development of the district.

He also emphasized on keeping in place advance mechanisms that allow timely tendering and work execution of the duly approved works under the plan.

The meeting among others was attended by CPO, ACD, CMO, CEO, ACP, all Executive Engineers of Engineering wings, all BDOs and other district heads of concerned departments.

NIT Srinagar hosts 2nd SEC meeting on Engineering & Technology

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The 2nd Subject Expert Committee (SEC) meeting on Engineering and Technology under the WISE-fellowship for Postdoctoral (WISE-PDF) program, sponsored by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, successfully concluded its three-

day deliberations at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The SEC meeting was organized by the Mechanical Engineering Department, from May 30th to June 1st, 2024, and was coordinated by Dr. Sandeep Rathee, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at NIT Srinagar. The Department of Sci-

ence and Technology's 'Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN)' scheme aims to enhance women's participation in Science and Technology (S&T) to achieve gender parity. The WISE-PDF and PhD programs provide opportunities for women scientists and technologists to pursue research in STEM fields as

bench-level scientists.

In his keynote address, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath and chief patron of the event, highlighted the SEC meeting as a vital platform for supporting women pursuing postdoctoral research. It allows them to present their work and receive feedback from established experts in their

fields, he added.

Institute Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, expressed the institute's commitment to organizing similar events in the future.

Dr. Sandeep Rathee emphasized the importance of such gatherings in fostering a collaborative research environment, guiding women researchers to align their

work with national priorities, and contributing to technological advancement in India.

The event saw the participation of over 100 participants and delegates, both online and offline, including SEC members, DST officials, and postdoctoral fellows. Various proposals covering topics in basic science and engineering were presented.