

Yoga for Self and Society

10th International Day
of

YOGA

2024

June 21, 2024 | Srinagar

*Be a part of the Global Movement for
Health and Wellness through Yoga*

LIVE on DD News

JKSC Football Academy trainee Maroof selected for FIFA-AIFF Academy Trials



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The J&K Sports Council Football Academy trainee Maroof Shafi has been selected for the FIFA-AIFF Academy selection trials based on his outstanding performance.

This was informed through a communication by the All India Football Federation to various State/UTs.

Meanwhile, it was also informed that the trials for the FIFA-AIFF Academy will take place in Odisha Football Academy, 7th Battalion, Gajapati Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751013, from 22nd, June to 25th June, 2024. Selected players are directed to report on June 21st, 2024 at the venue, the letter reads. Nuzhat Gul, Secre-

tary JKSC, congratulated Maroof, who hails from Budgam District, on his selection for the FIFA-AIFF Academy Trials in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. This is a testament to his talent, hard work, and dedication to the game of football, she added.

After graduating from SCFA, Maroof has been associated with various other teams as well.

In keeping with the JKSC's objective, we aim more and more of our local footballers in the National Teams as well as in the top football clubs of the world, said Nuzhat.

It is worth mentioning that over the years JKSC Football Academy has produced around 13 players for Indian National Teams and Professional Clubs of the country.

DDC Kupwara reviews progress on NH-701, RKCTC project

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Thursday chaired a meeting here to review progress on National Highway- 701, RKCTC (Rafabad-Kupwara-Chowkibal-Trehgam-Chamkote) National Highway project.

The deliberations focused on inter-departmental coordination, submission of draft awards, Section 3D, section 3G, utility shifting, ROW issues and resolving bottlenecks for smooth execution of this important road project.

The DDC meticulously reviewed the status of Langate Bye-Pass, Kupwara Bye-Pass, Trehgam Bye-Pass and curve improvement at Braripora, Vodhpura, Nutnoosa, Drugmulla, Bomhama, Gulgam and Hiri and directed the concerned departments to ramp up the process and complete it within the stipulated time frame.

She stressed the need for close coordination among the stakeholder departments and agencies involved in the execution of the NH-701, RKCTC project. The DC directed the officers to work in a complete synergy, so that this crucial national highway project is completed without any delay.

She directed the concerned departments to follow the timelines strictly and submit the draft awards and other necessary requirements within their timeframe.

The DDC directed the Beacon authorities to video graph the joint surveys, alignments and share ROW maps and copies of utility shifting projects with the Revenue officers.

She emphasized the concerned officers to be meticulous and take the services of the best teams as there is no scope of any error in this vital road project.

She stressed upon the revenue officers to keep a close vigil on the acquired

land for the highway project so that it is not encroached upon.

Earlier, Officer Commanding 109, RCC Beacon, V.V Sharma appraising the chair said that the total length of the NH-701, RKCTC Project is 119 kms. Under Package-1, from Delina to Guglosa 51- kms of the highway project has been approved, most portion of the land for the road project under Package -1 has been acquired and tender has been allotted.

From Gugloosa to Chamkote, remaining 68- kms of the national highway length area has been sanctioned by MoRT&H under Package-2 for which DPR formulation is underway.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rathi; ACR Kupwara, SDM Karnah, Executive Engineers, OC- Beacon, concerned Tehsildars, Chief Horticulture Officer Kupwara and other concerned officers.

DC Doda inspects Multi Car Parking in New Bus Stand

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh Thursday visited the site of a multi car parking facility in New Bus Stand Doda to conduct an inspection of the ongoing construction work.

The multi car parking project is nearing completion, and DC Doda was keen to assess the progress and ensure that the facility meets the required standards.

During the inspection, DC Doda interacted with officials from the R&B Department, as well as other key officers including the ACR Doda, Tehsildar Doda and EO MC Doda.

The discussions focused on various aspects of the project, including infrastructure development, safety measures, and timelines for completion. He emphasized the importance of efficient and well-maintained parking facilities in enhancing the overall infrastructure and



convenience for commuters in the area.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner also inspected District Library Doda.

During the visit, DC Doda engaged with students and staff members, highlighting the crucial role of libraries in facilitating education and knowledge dissemination. The inspection focused on evaluating the infrastructure and collection management conducive to learning within the library.

In his interaction with

students, DC encouraged them to take full advantage of the library resources for academic enrichment and personal growth. He emphasized the pivotal role of libraries in promoting literacy, research, and intellectual development in the community.

DC Doda interacted with library staff to ensure the cleanliness and maintenance of various areas, including the bathroom and other rooms within the library, underscoring the importance of a well-kept.

Thapa reviews preparedness for 10th Int'l Yoga Day celebration

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: Chief Education Officer Doda Parkash Lal Thapa Thursday chaired a virtual meeting with all Principals, Zonal Education Officers and Headmasters of the District today to review the preparation for celebrations of Tenth Edition of International Day of Yoga based on the theme "Yoga for self and Society" at school level.

While speaking in the meeting CEO directed all the HOIs to celebrate the day with full dedica-

tion and enthusiasm and ensure to do the activities as conveyed by the District



Administration as well as Directorate of School Education and submit/upload the performed activities to different platforms already circulated.

CEO Doda also discussed about the preparation of forthcoming JKSSB examination of supervisor and directed the HOIs of the established centres to ensure proper arrangements well in time by 22nd of June 2024 for successful completion of examination.

He also directed the HOIs of the concerned examination centres to provide your own MTS Staff as per the sitting capacity for conducting the JKSSB examination of 23rd of June 2024.

Students Actively Participate in Yoga Sessions

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: Students from both Government and Private Schools have been actively participating in various yoga events since June 13, 2024. These sessions, conducted both offline and online, have engaged students in activities that offer numerous benefits for individual health and the community. The theme for this initiative, "Yoga for Self and Society," underscores the holistic advantages of yoga.

Yoga sessions have provided students with an opportunity to enhance

their physical fitness while also promoting mental well-being, stress relief, and emotional balance. This multifaceted approach emphasizes the comprehensive benefits that yoga offers to young individuals.

This initiative is a collaborative effort by the Directorate of School Education Jammu, SAMAGRA, and the District Administration Doda. By engaging students in such healthy and beneficial activities, these organizations aim to foster a culture of well-being and holistic health among the youth.

Special Session on Mental Health Held in Bhandarwah

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BHANDARWAH: Following the direction of the District Development Commissioner

Doda Harvinder Singh and the application submitted by Dr. Meenakshi Gupta of the Art of Living Team, a special session was organized today to equip officers and officials of Sub Division Bhandarwah with essential skills for managing mental health and stress. The entire program

was conducted under the supervision of additional deputy commissioner Bhandarwah Sunil Kumar

The session, organized by the Art of Living, took place at Dak Bungalow Bhandarwah. The event was aimed at providing valuable techniques and knowledge to help manage stress and maintain mental well-being.

Prominent attendees included the Tehsildar Bhandarwah, EO MCB, Naib Tehsildars, and other offi-

cial from various departments within Sub Division Bhandarwah. Their participation underscored the importance of mental health and stress management in the workplace.

The session was well-received, highlighting the commitment of the local administration to prioritize the mental health of its officers and officials. This initiative is expected to foster a healthier, more productive work environment.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL SHOPIAN
C O R R I G E N D U M .
E - NIT No: MC/MC/2024/07 Dated: 12/06/2024.
Whereas MC Shopian has advertised a tender vide tender ID No: Dated: 2024_HAUDD_249793_1. There is no participant/bidder have participated. Hence as recommended the tender is hereby extended till 24/06/2024 the opening date is 25/06/2024 at 4:00 PM.
Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Shopian.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY GULMARG,
Email: gulmarggda@gmail.com TEL-01954294416
E- Did Document (Auction ID: _____)
Out-sourcing of Dormitory Hut Near Hotel Ashoka at Gulmarg "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" at Gulniarp through GeM Portal for a period of 05-years.
No: GDA/F-159/2024/ 2068 Dated 18/03/2024
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K Union Territory, E- Auction are invited online through GeM Portal for Outsourcing the "Dormitory Hut Near Hotel Ashoka at Gulmarg " AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", for a period of 05-years. The details are as under:
S.No Particulars Date/Amount Remarks
1. PQ (Pre- Qualification) Submission Start Date 13.06.2024= 10:00 AM Nil
2. PQ(Pre- Qualification) Submission End Date 29.06.2024 =1:00 PM Nil
3. PQ (Pre- Qualification) Assessment Date & Time 01.07.2024 =04:00 PM Nil
4. EMD Start Date 02.07.2024 =10:00AM Nil
5. EMD End Date 08.07.2024 = 04:00 PM Nil
6. EMD (Bid Security) Amount Rs. 5,00,000/- (Five Lacs Only) To be pledged in favour of Accounts Officer Gulmarg Development Authority
7. Bid Submission/Auction Start Date 09.07.2024= 12:00 PM Nil
8. Bid Submission/Auction End Date & Time 10.07.2024 =02:00 PM Nil
9. Reserve Bid Amount Rs. 50,00,000/- (Fifty lac Only) f Per year with 10% escalation " or each successive year
The e-auction has been finalized by the Outsourcing Committee under the Chairmanship of Director Tourism, Kashmir. Reliable/resourceful and experienced agencies/persons, who fulfill the ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (PRE QUALIFICATION) detailed as under shall only be eligible to participate in the E - Auction process.
PRE-QUALIFICATION (PQ) CRITERIA (TO BE UPLOADED ON GeM-PORTAL)
1. The bidder shall have to upload Certificate of Registration for Hotel or Restaurant if any duly issued by the Tourism Department under J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act and/or Relevant qualification(Degree/Diploma/Certificate Course) in the Hospitality sector and/or having experience in the Hospitality sector with documentary Proof be uploaded.
2. The bidder shall have to upload a Character Certificate from the concerned Additional Dy. Commissioner (ADC) or Police Station. The validity of character certificates shall have to be Six months from the date of issuance.
3. The bidder shall have to upload Self-attested PAN Card & Aadhar Card.
4. The bidder shall have to upload self-attested GST Registration Certification on the name and title of bid.
Specific Condition:
1. The bidder participating in the e- bid process must apply in his name or the firm duly registered in his name. There is no scope whatsoever of executing any partnership deed in the outsource deed
2. The minimum reserve bid has been fixed at Rs.50.00 lacs per annum with 10% escalation for each successive year, thereafter to be deposited before the start of every year.
3. The interested parties should compulsorily visit & inspect the asset before participating in the e- bidding process and the physical position of the asset As such, no claim of any deficiency, addition, alteration, rectification in the asset would be entertained during/after bidding process. Eligible persons shall be allowed to participate in the e- bidding process only after uploading of relevant documents mentioned in the Eligibility Criteria and EMD in the shape of CDR, amounting to Rs.500000/- pledged in favour of Accounts Officer Gulmarg Development Authority.
4. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 100% of the approved bid amount for the 1st year within a period of Seven days after the culmination of bidding process otherwise the claim shall get forfeited.
5. That the successful bidder shall has to pay all the taxes i.e GST & SGST Labour cess Income Tax and other taxes in vogue at his own. The bid amount received by the department is excluding the taxes mentioned above.
6. The contract shall be awarded for one year in the first instance and renewal of the same shall be subject to depositing of rentals for the each successive year in advance including 10% compound escalation, within 07-days from the date of completion of each year satisfactorily.
The department is in its right to cancel the contract.
8. In case the successful bidder fails to complete the term of contract, or leaves the contract half way or the contract is cancelled due to any dis-qualifications/non payment of advancement, the CDR shall be forfeited.
9. The safety, security and upkeep of the asset shall be sole responsibility of outsourcee during the period of contract.
10. The out-sourcing committee reserves the right to reject any or all the e- bids without assigning any reason thereof.
11. The successful bidder shall have to charge rates for various allotted services as perapproval of the Department from time to time.
12. The electric/water consumption charges shall be payable by the outsourcee.
13. The bidder should not be employee of any Govt. Deptt. or a Public Sector undertaking.
14. The successful bidder shall have to execute an agreement with the department on non-Judicial Stamp Paper regarding adherence to the instruction/terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Department during the course of the contract period.
15. The bidder shall have to bear all the costs and expenses for executing this agreement/ license deed.
16. The successful bidder shall have to provide the catering facilities for the full period of license and not on seasonal basis only.
17. The successful bidder shall be under an obligation to make arrangement for safe disposal of solid/liquid waste etc. And meet other requirements of pollution control/protection of environment.
18. That the successful bidder has to insure the property through any Nationalized insurance company in the name of the Chief Executive Officer Gulmarg Development Authority shall be issued by this office. The premium on this account shall be borne by the licensee.
No:GDA/F-80/2024-25/ 434-38
Dated: 12-06-2024
DIPK-NB-499-24
DT: 20/06/2024
Chief Executive Officer
Tourism Dev. Authority
Gulmarg

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS (R&B) DEPTT, DIVISION KARAN NAGAR SRINAGAR.
HQ's: Kaksarie, Karan Nagar Srinagar-190010. Email: eembkarannagar@gmail.com
eNIT No. EE/KNR/03/e-tendering/1388-93 of 2024-25,
DATED:- 14-06-2024
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K Union Territory, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following work:-
S.No Name of Work Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs) Bid Security (In Rupees) Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees) Time of completion Ref. to Authority /AAA Ref. to /T/S M.H of Account Class of Contractor
1. Improvement and Upgradation of road from Darish Kadal Qamarwari Road via Chattabal by way of 50 mm macadam and 25 mm semidense with 6mm seal coat Rs. 116.94 lacs 233880/- 2600/- 10 days SE PWD(R&B) Sgr/North/AAA/DB/13 of 2024-25, Dt: 12-06-2024 Accorded M-H 5054 C&T AAY
2. Upgradation of Bund Road from Rambagh Bridge to Tengpora bypass B.W.O P/L of GSB Filling, Grade-II, 50 mm thick BM, 25 mm thick Semi dense with 6 mm thick Seal Coat. Rs. 82.17 lacs 164340/- 1600/- 7 days SE PWD(R&B) Sgr/North/AAA/DB/11 of 2024-25, Dt: 12-06-2024 Accorded M-H 5054 C&T AAY
3. Upgradation Of Road from PCR to Batamaloo Bus stand via Reck chowk B.W.O providing and Laying Wet Mix, 50 mm thick BM, 25 mm thick Semi dense with 6 mm thick Seal Coat. Rs. 39.60 lacs 79200/- 1100/- 05 days SE PWD(R&B) Sgr/North/AAA/DB/12 of 2024-25, Dt: 12-06-2024 Accorded M-H 5054 C&T AAY & BEE
4. Upgradation of Road From PCR Chowk through New Secretariat back side to Neelam Chowk, by way of 50mm Thick Bituminous Macadam, 25mm Thick SemiDense and 6mm Thick Seal Coat Rs. 33.35 lacs 66700/- 1100/- 05 days SE PWD(R&B) Sgr/North/AAA/DB/10 of 2024-25, Dt: 12-06-2024 Accorded M-H 5054 C&T AAY & BEE
5. Improvement and Upgradation of road from Daris Kadal to Nawakadal by way of 50 mm macadam in stretches and 25 mm Semidense with 6mm seal coat Rs. 33.84 lacs 67680/- 1100/- 05 days SE PWD(R&B) Sgr/North/AAA/DB/14 of 2024-25, Dt: 12-06-2024 Accorded M-H 5054 C&T AAY & BEE
Position of funds : Available
1. Project Authority:- Public Works Department.
1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below :-
1 Date of Issue of Tender Notice 14-06-2024
2 Period of downloading of bidding documents 15-06-2024 from 10.00 A.M
3 Bid submission Start Date 15-06-2024 from 11.00 A.M
4 Bid Submission End Date 27-06-2024 upto 4.00 P.M
5 Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 28-06-2024 at 11.00AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Karan Nagar Srinagar
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
R&B Div. Karan Nagar Sgr.

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

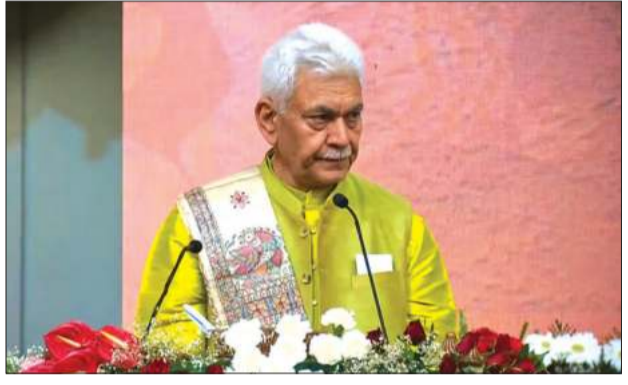
Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



We are working with dedication to unlock the potential of our youth so that they can contribute towards inclusive growth and prosperity of J&K UT.

Srinagar • Friday 21, June 2024 • Vol: 15 • Issue No: 143 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paise) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

PM Modi Inspirational Power Of New India: LG



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Thursday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is an inspirational power of new India.

While addressing 'Empowering Youth, Transforming J&K' event in Srinagar, LG Manoj Sinha said, "It is our good fortune that PM Modi is amongst us. I want to congratulate him on becoming the PM for the third time. I believe that PM Modi is an inspirational power of new India who has spent his every moment working for the people and in realising 'Viksit Bharat'."

Sinha said that only three months ago, PM Modi inaugurated developmental projects worth Rs 39000 Crore in Srinagar. "Due to the efforts of PM Modi, Kashmiri youth have replaced stones with the tools of innovations," he said.

The J&K LG said that there is no stone pelting

taking place in Kashmir now and hartals are a history. "Schools, Colleges and Universities remain open throughout the year and youth are chasing their dreams with zeal in the fields of sports, business and innovations. Youth are taking part in sports events in large numbers and becoming part of Naya Kashmir," he said.

LG Sinha emphasized the administration's efforts to align with the vision of Viksit Bharat by providing essential skills and opportunities to the youth. "In the pursuit of building a bright and empowered future for our young generation, the UT administration

IT IS OUR GOOD fortune that PM Modi is amongst us. I want to congratulate him on becoming the PM for the third time.

Will Not Hesitate To Teach Lesson To Enemies Of J&K: PM Modi

Says Preparations For J&K Assembly Polls Have Begun

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Centre will not hesitate to teach a lesson to enemies of Jammu and Kashmir and added the government is seriously concerned about recent terror attacks in the valley.

The prime minister, who reached Thursday for a two-day visit inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for various development works worth Rs 1,500 crore in Srinagar. Modi said the Centre views the recent terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir seriously. Modi assured the people that permanent peace would be established in Jammu and Kashmir. "The government has taken the recent terror attacks very seriously. I assure you that we will not hesitate to teach a lesson to the enemies of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Modi added, "The home minister held a meeting and reviewed the entire mechanism. I want to assure that we will leave no stone



turned to punish the enemies of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Modi added assembly polls will be held soon in the union territory. "The preparations for the Assembly elections have started. The time is not far when you will elect the new government of Jammu and Kashmir with your votes. That day will also come soon, when Jammu and Kashmir will once again make its future better as a state," ANI quoted him as saying.

The prime minister praised the youths of Jammu and Kashmir for the high turnout in the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls and said they have ensured victory of democracy.

Modi said the wall of Article 370, which was scrapped in August 2019, collapsed and the fruits of the Indian Constitution ensued in Jammu and Kashmir. "Today the Indian Constitution has truly been implemented in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 'Empowering Youth, Transforming J&K' event at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference

'UT Will Get Back Its Statehood Soon'

On his first trip to J&K after being sworn in as a prime minister for the third time, Narendra

Inaugurates Developmental Projects Worth Rs 1,500 Crores

PM inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects in J&K worth over

'Trying To Bridge Distances Between Delhi And J&K'

PM Narendra Modi, who is on two day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, said on Thursday that his

'Wall Of Article 370 Collapsed'

PM Modi highlighted India's achievement of electing a government for a third consecutive term, calling

Democracy, Indian Constitution Thriving In J&K: PM


NAVEED UL HAQ

SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said that democracy and the Indian constitution is thriving in J&K in real terms and those not still adopting it are the real enemies of Kashmiri people.

"In J&K, democracy and the Indian constitution is thriving in real terms. Those still out of it and not abiding by it, are the real enemies of Kashmiri people," PM Modi said addressing a young gathering at SKICC here.

He said that the NDA government at the Centre was committed to take forward the mission of former Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee—Kashmiriyat, Insaniyat and Jhamaoriyat. "Article 370 was a wall that has been broken forever to make the journey of people of J&K towards

Narendra Modi
@narendramodi



We will further strengthen the path of progress chosen by the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Along with this, we will leave no stone unturned in teaching a lesson to the enemies of peace and humanity.

Killing Of Foreign Terrorists In Rafiabad 'Big Success': Army



WARIS FAYAZ

RAFIABAD: Security Forces claimed to have achieved a major success by killing two foreign terrorists in Hadipora, Rafiabad encounter on June 19.

Addressing a press conference at Pohrupet, Commander 7 sector Rashtriya Rifles (RR) Depak said that since the last few days, there were continuous inputs about the presence of terrorists in

Sopore's Rafiabad. "On June 19, a specific information was generated by the J&K police about the presence of terrorists in a house at Hadipora, Rafiabad, after which the army, police and CRPF launched a joint operation. After zeroing in the house, two terrorists were eliminated in an encounter," he said. The army officer was flanked by Deputy Inspector General of Police north Kashmir, Vivek

Scorching Heat

6 Srinagar Pilgrims Among 10 Die Due To Heatwave During Hajj

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Ten pilgrims from J&K including six from Srinagar district have died due to the heatwave while performing Hajj.

Sixty-eight Indian nationals were among the 645 persons who died during the Hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia's Mecca this year, which was marked by soaring temperatures, AFP reported on Wednesday.

The deceased pilgrims from Srinagar have been identified as Mubina Akhter from Nowshera, Jana Begum from Karewa Damosdar, Manzoor Ahmad Rangrez and



Rifat from Rawalpura, Tahira from Chattabal and Sara Begum from Sanat Nagar.

Pilgrims from Kulgam include Hafeeza from Kharbrari

First Batch Of Pilgrims To Return On June 22

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: The first flight carrying pilgrims from Saudi Arabia is scheduled to return to the Kashmir Valley on June 22 (Saturday).

The flight, carrying about 322 pilgrims, is expected to land

Kashmir Consumes Mutton Worth Rs 72 Crore On Eid-Ul-Adha



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: On this Eid-ul-Adha, the people across Kashmir have consumed mutton worth Rs 72 crore in the Valley with the concerned dealers informing that 400 trucks loaded with the livestock reached here last four days ahead of the Muslim festival.

General Secretary of the

Mutton Dealers Association Kashmir, Mehraj ud Din, said that 400 trucks loaded with the livestock reached Kashmir four days ahead of the Eid-ul-Adha.

According to the data shared by him, 60,000 livestock reached here particularly for the Eid, which costs around 72 crore.

He further informed that

Train To Kashmir Successful Trial On World's Highest Railway Bridge Sparks Joy

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The dream of travelling to Kashmir by train is nearing reality as the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project progresses.

On Thursday, a successful trial run of a ten-coach train from Sangaldan to Reasi brought this dream closer.

The train journey included crossing the world's highest railway bridge, the Chenab bridge, which stands taller than the Eiffel Tower. The Chenab bridge boasts a height of 359 meters compared to the Eiffel Tower's 300 meters.

Constructed at a cost of Rs 1,486 crore, the bridge utilized 30,000 metric tons of steel and can endure winds of up to 260 kilometers per hour.

The trial run began at around 12 noon from Sangaldan and reached Reasi Railway Station by 2 PM. The train carried employees



working on the project and railway officials. Upon its arrival at Reasi Railway Station, the air was filled with cheers of "Bharat Mata ki Jai" from the local onlookers who had gathered to witness the historic moment.

The success of this trial run signifies that regular train services from Reasi to Kashmir could commence soon, bringing the vision of a train journey to the picturesque region of Kashmir one step closer to fulfillment.

"After an extensive inspection of the newly constructed Chenab Bridge by senior officers from Railway Board, Northern Railway and Konkan Railway, a trial run was conducted on a 46-km-long electrified line section between Sangaldan in Ramban district and Reasi at a speed of 40 kmph," the Railway Ministry

Skyrocketing Airfares Worry Tourists, Locals

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Amid record breaking tourist arrivals, the airlines companies have hiked the airfare from various destinations to Kashmir by more than 40 per cent.

As such, the stakeholders fear it could impact the flow of tourists in the coming months when Kashmir usually remains abuzz with visitors.

A cursory look at the airfare chart by various airline companies suggest that a one way trip from New Delhi to Srinagar costs between Rs 8000-11000 per person.

Normally the same ticket would sell at Rs 4500-Rs 5000 per person.

Similarly, an air ticket from West Bengal, where Kashmir receives maximum tourists during the ongoing season, sells between Rs 13000 to Rs 20000 per person. A return ticket costs between Rs 15000 to Rs 20000 per person.

The airfare has also hiked for other

INOX CINEMA SHIVPORA SRINAGAR

Friday 21 June **MOVIES Schedule**

 ISHQ VISHK REBOUND (HINDI) 05:05PM (U/A)	 INSIDE OUT 2 (3D ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE) 04:35PM (U)	 MUNJYA (HINDI) 03:15PM (U/A)
 CHANDU CHAMPION (HINDI) 02:10PM, 06:50PM (U/A)	 ROCKSTAR (HINDI) 06:00PM (U/A)	 THE EXORCISM (ENGLISH) 07:30PM (A)

DIGIWAY ADS

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

Welcome PM Modi

Barely two weeks after winning the third term as the prime minister of the world's largest democracy, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi decided to celebrate 21st June - celebrated as International Yoga Day after Modi designated it so- in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. There is a wave of joy and enthusiasm in the people of Jammu and Kashmir for Modi deciding to celebrate the first Yoga Day post electoral victory in Kashmir is symbolic of his commitment towards the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Modi had visited Kashmir earlier also in the current year in March inaugurating projects worth 6000 crore rupees.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects in Jammu and Kashmir. PM Modi will be on a two-day tour in the union territory and he will lead the 10th International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrations in Srinagar today.

This visit is also important as assembly elections are due in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir this year and PM Modi's first visit after forming his third government assumes significance in this backdrop. The International Day of Yoga will be celebrated at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) on the banks of Dal Lake. PM Modi will perform yoga there on Friday and deliver a speech.

The people in Kashmir valley will be waiting with bated breath if PM Modi may inaugurate the Sangaldan-Reasi stretch of the Baramulla-Srinagar-Reasi stretch or at least provide a tangible timeline within which the train will start chugging on this all-important stretch. The chugging of trains on this platform would be a historical moment for Kashmir as the history of Kashmir would be divided into two periods - one before the train started chugging on this stretch and one period after the train started chugging on this platform. One should in the same breath also congratulate Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for the tremendous work he has done in removing the deadly tentacles of corruption from the power corridors. The reconstruction of the city centers, conduction of numerous events with tourism marketing potential and a straight-jacketed communication throughout the rank and file of bureaucracy. The projects are being completed under the stipulated time and hardly do we notice the maddening delays that had ridden the administrative works before Manoj Sinha took over as the lieutenant governor.

With these words we once again welcome PM Modi with an open heart and wish him a pleasant stay in the Kashmir valley!

Yoga: An Invaluable Gift To Humankind

ZIA DARAKSHAN

P rime Minister Narendra Modi, after retaining the power as prime minister of India for third consecutive term has hit global headlines for leading the International Day of Yoga 2024 at a major yoga event being organised at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar on June 21. The number of participants is going beyond 50000 as 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir are being virtually connected where over a gathering of at least 2000 participants from each district is expected to join the Yoga session with the prime minister. The theme for 2024 is "Yoga for self and society" and is 10th in the series after launched as a global event nine years back."

Last year, the Prime Minister Modi led the International Yoga Day celebrations at the UN Headquarters in New York on June 21, Diplomats, academicians, entrepreneurs, leaders, artists, key cultural figures and others from different walks of life from 180 countries had joined the celebrations. Remarkably, Modi after being elected as the Prime Minister of India in 2014, in his maiden address at the UN General Assembly described Yoga - the ancient Indian tradition - as an invaluable gift to humankind and called for adoption of an International Day of Yoga. And, the call got a spontaneous response from the world.

It's worth mentioning that proclamation of June 21 as the International Yoga Day that too in his first year in office is one of the landmark achievements of the Modi government.

Yoga an Art and Science of healthy living

Originating in India, Yoga is one of the oldest sciences known to mankind, dating back over 5,000 years and possibly even 10,000 years. Its roots can be traced to the ancient Indus-Sarasvati civilization in Northern India, as mentioned in the texts of the Rig Veda.

The term 'Yoga' is derived from the Sanskrit root 'YUJ', meaning 'to join' or 'to yoke' or 'to unite'. Yoga is a practice that holds immense wisdom. It teaches us to connect our individual consciousness with the Universal Consciousness, fostering a beautiful harmony between our mind, body, and the world around us. Its purpose is to help us realize our true selves and embark on a journey of self-discovery.

Exclusive Modi initiative

In contemporary time, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi played a significant role in promoting Yoga and popularizing it on the global stage. The United Nations General Assembly declared June 21st as the International Day of Yoga in 2014, and this recognition aimed to raise awareness about the benefits of Yoga and promote its practice worldwide. Besides, the Yoga Day celebrated worldwide will remain a constant reminder for all generations to come about the Modi-led government's overseas successes and overall measures to boost India's global image.



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Today, since 2014, each year, on June 21, the world comes together to celebrate International Yoga Day, to embrace and promote the practice of yoga and explore its potential to foster harmony, balance, and well-being in individuals and communities alike across the globe. Notably, the date also holds special significance as it coincides with the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The summer solstice symbolizes a transition from darkness to light, mirroring the transformative journey that yoga can facilitate in a person's life.

Yoga in Jammu & Kashmir

Since none other than the Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading the 10th edition of the Yoga day in Srinagar, the celebration of the Day throughout the UT of Jammu and Kashmir would be exemplary as people from different background would be congregating

to celebrate the occasion with enthusiasm and joy. However, considering the prolonged instability and sedentary lifestyles that have affected the region, it's important to move beyond an annual celebration. Kashmir, like many other places faces issues such as anxiety, depression, neurotic disorders, and other illness, making it necessary to incorporate Yoga into the daily curriculum, particularly in schools.

To address these challenges proficiently, it's imperative to make Yoga a mandatory subject in schools. Integrating Yoga into the daily routine of children can have numerous benefits for their comprehensive wellbeing. Likewise, it should be introduced in colleges and universities, beyond celebrating it on Yoga Day.

Furthermore, in areas where the drug menace is prevalent, free Yoga centers should be established to combat the menace. To encourage community involvement and the establishment of more Yoga centers, incentives can be provided to individuals interested in opening such centers. This approach

would help create a sense of ownership and responsibility among the local population, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

By implementing these measures, Yoga can serve as a powerful tool in combating the drug menace, promoting physical and mental well-being, and fostering a healthier and more harmonious society in Kashmir.

Promoting Yoga centres in Kashmir would be a thoughtful and valuable gift to people of Kashmir, empowering them to lead a healthier and more fulfilling lives amidst the challenges they face.

Meanwhile, in the words of the Prime Minister Modi, Yoga as a mantra is a significant one for every Indian, in particular, in the ongoing AzadiKaAmritKaal. PM Modi asserts, "Through Yoga, we know the selfless action, we decide the journey from Karma to Karmayoga." It is yoga, according to him, that has the potential to foster physical strength and mental expansion needed to create a developed India by 2047.

The author is a freelance writer

Stemming The Rot: Tackling Question Paper Leaks



DR. SHIBEN KRISHEN RAINA

The recent leaks of question papers for the prestigious NEET and NET exams have sparked nationwide outrage, igniting anger among examinees, parents, and the media. These incidents have cast a shadow over India's education system, highlighting vulnerabilities in a process meant to be foolproof. Having been closely associated with exam conduction, I understand the delicate nature and immense responsibility involved. Ensuring smooth, fair, and timely exams is a great challenge for examination-controlling bodies.

The examination process is intricate, encompassing multiple stages - from appointing question paper setters to printing, packing, and dispatching papers/OMRs to exam centers, including those in remote areas. Maintaining utmost confidentiality, privacy, and trust is crucial, as any breach at any stage can have catastrophic consequences.

Question papers are set by eminent subject experts and experienced academics, carefully vetted by the examination controller. These scholars are presumed to possess unim-



peachable integrity. However, past instances reveal that even such luminaries can succumb to temptation, leaking their creation for undisclosed gains and disgracing the sacred examination process.

An examination controller has limited oversight capability and must rely on subordinate personnel to execute their duties diligently. Unfortunately, at times, these very employees collude with unscrupulous external elements for personal

benefits, enabling such anti-academic activities. The root cause lies in the deteriorating moral fabric of our society, which fosters economic and academic scams alike.

It is high time concerted efforts were made to break this unholy nexus between paper leakers and their collaborators. Urgent measures are needed to plug loopholes in the question paper distribution system. Examination authorities must enforce the highest levels of

secrecy at every stage - paper setting, printing, and distribution - to preempt any untoward incidents.

Both perpetrators and consumers of leaked papers must face stringent punitive action to serve as a deterrent. Exemplary punishment alone can curb this growing menace that tarnishes India's credibility on the global education landscape.

Enhancing and modernizing the examination process with cutting-edge technology

and robust security measures is crucial. Equally important is the revitalization of societal ethics and principles. Only through these combined efforts can we preserve the sanctity of the examination system that shapes India's future.

Author is Former Principal and Fellow at IIAS, Shimla (H.P), Ex-Senior Fellow, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. He can be mailed at skraina123@gmail.com

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

PM's Yoga Day Visit And Kashmir's Potential As Global Wellness Hub



PREM PAWA

By celebrating the International Day of Yoga with the people of Kashmir in Srinagar, PM Modi not only marks a significant milestone in recognising and rejuvenating the region's rich spiritual and cultural heritage, but also positions Jammu Kashmir as a global health and wellness destination.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Srinagar on June 21, the International Day of Yoga, marks a significant chapter in the valley's ongoing journey to celebrate its yogic heritage. His presence in Jammu Kashmir on this day not only underscores the importance of yoga in India's cultural and spiritual journey but also serves as a catalyst for its revival and universal acclaim. By celebrating the International Day of Yoga with the people of Kashmir in Srinagar, PM Modi not only marks a significant milestone in recognising and rejuvenating the region's rich spiritual and cultural heritage, but also positions Jammu Kashmir as a global health and wellness destination.

Yoga, an ancient Indian practice that has transcended borders to become a global phenomenon, has deep roots in Jammu Kashmir, particularly through the lens of Kashmir Shaivism. The story of yoga in Kashmir begins with the legendary sage Kashyap Rishi. One of the seven sages or sapt rishi's, his contributions to spiritual practices laid the groundwork for yoga and meditation in the Valley. According to recorded ancient texts, Kashyap's teachings emphasised harmony with nature and the pursuit of inner peace, principles that resonate deeply with the core tenets of yoga.

In the 10th century, Abhinavagupta, a philosopher and theologian, emerged as a monumental figure in the history



of Kashmir Shaivism. His seminal work, the "Tantraloka," remains a cornerstone in the study of yoga and meditation. Abhinavagupta's philosophy extended beyond physical postures, focusing on mental discipline and spiritual enlightenment. His teachings integrated various aspects of life, positioning yoga as a holistic way of living rather than merely a physical exercise.

Lalitaditya Muktapida, the 8th-century King of the Karkota dynasty, was instrumental in promoting arts and culture, including yoga. His reign is noted for the construction of grand temples that provided spaces for the practice and dissemination of yoga. This royal patronage ensured that yoga thrived among the populace, fostering a culture of spiritual and physical well-being.

Moreover, Kashmir's history is woven with the contributions of several kings and queens who enriched

the practice of yoga. Queen Didda, a wise and powerful ruler of the late 10th and early 11th centuries, and King Avantivarman, who ruled in the 9th century, both played pivotal roles in nurturing the spiritual and cultural milieu of the region. Their patronage of learning and spirituality further solidified yoga's place in Kashmir's heritage.

In recent years, Prime Minister Modi has often referred to yoga as India's super gift to the world, a practice that promotes physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. His advocacy for yoga on international platforms including at the headquarters multilateral institutions like the United Nations in New York has significantly boosted its global reach and appeal. By reinstating this message in Kashmir, PM Modi acknowledged the region's historical contributions to yoga and its potential to become an epicentre

for health and wellness reveal and tourism.

As evidenced by the global rise in wellness tourism, travellers are increasingly seeking destinations that offer holistic health experiences. Kashmir, with its rich historical and spiritual association with yoga and meditation, is ideally positioned to become a leading destination in this sector. The region's blend of spiritual heritage and unparalleled natural beauty, characterised by lush valleys, serene lakes, and majestic mountains, provides an ideal environment for yoga practice, making it an attractive destination for wellness retreats, yoga workshops, and holistic health programs.

Since the amendment of Article 370 in August 2019, the government has prioritised tourism, launching several initiatives to develop infrastructure and promote Jammu and Kashmir as a premier tourist destination. However,

creating a sustainable and appealing environment for both domestic and international visitors still requires significant effort, especially in hospitality services skilling and training.

Moreover, to fully realise the potential of wellness tourism in Kashmir, ongoing enhancements to tourism and wellness services are essential. This includes constructing state-of-the-art yoga centers, wellness resorts, and eco-friendly accommodations. Additionally, developing programs that offer authentic and immersive yoga experiences will attract wellness tourists seeking holistic health benefits. By focusing on these areas, Kashmir can truly emerge as a global hub for wellness tourism. Most importantly, ensuring that the development of wellness tourism in Kashmir is sustainable and inclusive is paramount. This involves protecting the natural environment, preserving cultural heritage, and providing opportunities for local communities. Inclusive development will ensure that the benefits of tourism reach all sections of society, promoting economic growth and social well-being.

The deep connection between yoga and the Kashmir Valley spans centuries, intertwining history, culture, and spirituality. From the teachings of Kashyap Rishi and the philosophical insights of Abhinavagupta to the royal patronage of kings like Lalitaditya Muktapida, yoga has long been a cornerstone of Kashmir's heritage. Today, the valley's potential as a wellness tourism hub offers a promising future, where visitors can experience the profound benefits of yoga amidst the spiritual and serene beauty of Kashmir.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit on the International Day of Yoga heralds a new chapter in this journey, reaffirming yoga's timeless relevance and its power to heal and unite. By embracing and promoting its rich yoga heritage, Jammu and Kashmir can once again become a beacon of peace, wellness, and spiritual enlightenment for the world.

Prem Pawa is a pioneering travel-trade leader from Srinagar, J&K and director at future-tech firm Neurolytica Consulting

President Droupadi Murmu - A Trailblazer In Indian Politics



DR NOWHERA SHAIK

On 20th June 2024, it was the 66th birthday of President Droupadi Murmu. President Droupadi Murmu has always been a symbol of perseverance and dedication. Born in a small village in Odisha on June 20, 1958, she faced many challenges from an early age and emerged as the prominent figure in Indian politics and an inspiration to many. As the 15th President of India, she has made history by being the first person from the tribal community and the second woman to hold this esteemed office. Her contributions to society are manifold. She has been a staunch advocate for healthcare, economic development, and education within tribal communities. Her efforts have improved the quality of life for many and also ensured the preservation of tribal culture and heritage.

President Murmu is the name of leadership and resilience. Her ability to connect with people from all walks of life is remarkable. She listens attentively and responds with empathy, which are significant traits for any leader. Her focus on education is particularly inspiring. She believes in the power of knowledge to transform lives. She has promoted access to quality education for all, recognizing that education is the foundation for personal and national growth. One notable instance of her discerning judgment was the appointment of Professor Naima Khatoon from Odisha as the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU). This decision of appointing woman as Vice Chancellor reflects President Murmu's strategic

approach of promoting inclusive and progressive academic environments. Appointing a female Vice Chancellor at one of the most prominent universities in the country breaks down traditional barriers and challenges long-standing stereotypes. It sends a strong message that leadership roles should be based on merit and capability, not gender. Murmu empowers women and encourages institutions to embrace diversity in their leadership. By prioritizing meritocracy and inclusivity in leadership appointments, President Murmu ensures that institutions like AMU continue to serve as bastions of learning, research, and community engagement and Professor Khatoon's leadership is expected to uphold and strengthen these values. By appointing leaders who are not only academically accomplished but also visionary in their approach to institutional governance, she demonstrates a commitment to steering educational institutions towards greater excellence and relevance in a rapidly changing global context.

President Murmu is also a strong advocate for women's rights. She supports initiatives that promote gender equality and empower women. Her efforts have encouraged many women to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals. Sustainability is another area where President Murmu has made significant contributions. She supports environmental conservation and sustainable development. Her vision is to balance economic growth with the preservation of our natural resources. Inclusivity is at the core of her leadership. She works towards ensuring that all communities, especially marginalized ones, have a voice. This approach has helped in creating policies that are fair and beneficial to all. Her humility is a defining characteristic. Despite holding the highest office in the country, she remains grounded and approachable. This quality makes her a relatable and beloved leader.

President Murmu's dedication to



public service is commendable. She has spent her career working for the betterment of society. Her commitment to serving others is a lesson for all of us. She encourages innovation and progress. Her support for technological advancements and modern solutions is helping our country move forward. She believes in the potential of new ideas to solve old problems.

She has always been a strong advocate for tribal rights and education. She has worked extensively to ensure that tribal communities have access to quality education and employment opportunities. Her efforts have paved the way for many young people from these communities to pursue higher education and build successful careers. As Governor, she also emphasized the importance of sustainable development. She supported various initiatives aimed at preserving the environment while promoting economic growth. Her balanced approach to development is a model for other

leaders.

In July 2022, Droupadi Murmu was elected as the 15th President of India, making history as the first tribal woman to hold the highest constitutional office in the country. Her election was a moment of pride for the entire nation and a significant step towards inclusive representation in Indian politics.

As President, she has continued to champion the causes close to her heart. Her presidency has been marked by a commitment to social justice, education, and sustainable development. Her leadership style is characterized by humility and a deep sense of service. She is known for her ability to listen and understand the issues faced by the common people. This quality has endeared her to many and has been a cornerstone of her success as a leader.

President Droupadi Murmu has transformed Bharat with her determination and commitment to women

empowerment and inclusive development. Her leadership has brought about significant changes, making a lasting impact on society. Under her guidance, women empowerment has seen remarkable progress. She believes in the strength and potential of women. She has implemented policies that support women's education, healthcare, and employment. One of her major achievements is breaking gender barriers in leadership roles. By appointing women to key positions, she has shown that women can lead and excel in any field. This has inspired many women to pursue their dreams and take on leadership roles.

President Murmu's transparent and accountable governance has strengthened trust between the government and the people. Her ethical approach and dedication to public service set a high standard for leadership. She believes in being answerable to the people, which develops a confidence in her administration. Her support for mental health awareness and social welfare initiatives has also made a significant impact. She is helping to create a society that cares for all its members and has transformed Bharat through her commitment to women empowerment, education, sustainable development, and inclusivity. Her strong and visionary leadership continues to inspire and guide the nation towards a brighter and more equitable future. Hopefully, she will steadfastly advance women's empowerment, drive educational reforms, and champion sustainable development. Her commitment to inclusivity and social justice will work to ensure that all citizens have equitable opportunities. Through her visionary leadership and dedication, she will continue to steer the nation towards a more prosperous and fair future and will reinforce her legacy as a transformative and progressive leader.

Author is Founder Chairman, HLA & Dr Nowhera Shaik Global Foundation, New Delhi. She can be mailed at drnowheraoffice@gmail.com

World's citizens to gather at UN to showcase yoga's power to unite

ARUL LOUIS

UNITED NATIONS: Citizens from around the globe will gather here on Friday to show the uniting power of yoga across boundaries and divisions as the world organisation celebrates the 10th International Day of Yoga.

The theme for this year's celebration is 'Yoga for Women Empowerment' and it will be featured on the North Lawn of the UN headquarters where diplomats, UN officials and employees, and aficionados of the ancient art will perform asanas in synchronicity.

Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed is expected to participate in the event and a video message from General Assembly President Dennis Francis is anticipated.

The global celebrations with millions participating every year were set in motion by the General Assembly in December 2014 when it declared June



21 as the International Day of Yoga in a resolution proposed by India, cosponsored by 175 countries and adopted unanimously.

The date was chosen because the Summer Solstice falls on that day in the northern hemisphere most years, although it is a day early this year and next.

The yoga celebration is here at 6 p.m. New York Time (3:30 a.m. IST Saturday) will be webcast by the UN (https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1b/k1bvb85iak).

With a blazing temperature of 35 degrees Centi-

grade, it will be held on a day that is forecast to be the hottest so far this year. India's UN Mission is cosponsoring it with the UN Secretariat.

Last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the yoga celebration at the UN and it made it to the Guinness Book of World Records for the most nationalities -- 135 -- participating in yoga practice at one place.

On the day of the Solstice, Thursday, the annual 'Mind over Madness' event will be held at Times

PM Modi presented the idea of an International Day of Yoga in September 2014 at his first address to the General Assembly, declaring, "Yoga is an invaluable gift from our ancient tradition". Asoke Kumar Mukerji, who was then the permanent representative, rounded up the 175 cosponsors cutting across international divisions and had it adopted within three months -- likely a record for the quickest passage of a resolution at the General Assembly.(IANS)

RBI Governor urges banks to adopt AI for reducing risk of fraud

IAN S

MUMBAI: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday underlined the importance for banks and NBFCs to adopt advanced and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML) to prevent financial fraud.

Addressing the Global Conference on Financial Resilience here, the RBI Governor said, "Integrating advanced and emerging technologies such as AI, ML and big data analytics in organisational functioning can transform the way financial institutions operate. AI and ML can enhance predictive analytics and enable banks and NBFCs to identify potential risks and trends more accurately. These technologies can



improve fraud detection by recognising unusual patterns and transactions in real time. Thus, they can protect the institutions and their customers from financial crimes and frauds."

"As the financial sector gets increasingly digitised, adoption of advanced technologies can significantly strengthen the ability of banks and NBFCs to withstand and respond to various risks. It has to be, however, ensured that these technologies are secure, reliable and aligned with the institution's overall

strategic goals," Das said.

He observed that operational efficiency can be improved through the automation of routine tasks, which reduces human error and frees up resources for more strategic activities. Robotic process automation (RPA) can handle high-volume and repetitive tasks, such as data entry and transaction processing, more quickly and accurately than humans, the RBI Governor added.

Das also pointed out that as financial institutions increasingly rely on advanced technologies to enhance their operations, the dependence on third-party vendors and service providers may increase. A vendor's inability to deliver services reliably can directly impact the regulated entity's operations and

customer service. Therefore, thorough due diligence becomes necessary before selecting third-party vendors, he added.

The RBI Governor also observed that while the pursuit of business growth is important for banks and NBFCs, it should never come at the expense of taking on unacceptable risks.

Robust risk mitigations are essential for ensuring the long-term success and resilience of a regulated entity as well as the overall financial system, he added.

Das also highlighted the importance of ethics in the governance of financial institutions which involves compliance with laws and regulations, both in letter and spirit; pursuit of sustainable business practices; and avoidance of mindless pursuit of bottom lines.

TN HOOD TRAGEDY

Death toll rises to 34, CM announces Rs 10 lakh compensation

IAN S

CHENNAI: The death toll in the hood tragedy in Tamil Nadu's Kallakurichi district has risen to 34, confirmed Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday, adding that a compensation of Rs 10 lakh will be paid to their families.

In a statement issued here, CM Stalin also said the government has also appointed a one-man committee under retired High Court Justice B. Gokuldas to look into the issue and recommend measures to prevent such occurrences in the future.

CM Stalin said he was pained to hear about the death of 34 persons due to the consumption of illicit liquor in the Kallakurichi district in Tamil Nadu.

He said the orders have been issued to pay Rs10 lakh to the families of the 34 dead and Rs 50,000 out of the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to those who

are getting treated in the hospitals.

He said four persons have been arrested in this connection and action will also be taken against those who had supplied methanol for making the illicit liquor.

The CM said police have been asked to investigate the source of methanol. According to him, action has been taken against the concerned police officials and the District Collector has been transferred.

Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi, condoling the deaths and wishing a speedy recovery of the victims blamed the state government for its lapses.

He said: "Every now and then tragic loss of lives due to consumption of illicit liquors are reported from various parts of our state. This reflects continuing lapses in preventing production and consumption of illicit liquor. This is a matter of serious concern."

Delhi court reserves order on CM Kejriwal's bail plea in excise policy case

IAN S

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday reserved its order on Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's bail plea and his application to allow his wife Sunita Kejriwal to be present during his medical examination.

While the court had on Wednesday said that it won't reserve the order, it had also extended CM Kejriwal's judicial custody in the excise policy case after hearing arguments at length on his regular bail plea. Vacation Judge Niyay Bindu said that she would not reserve order. Everyone knows it is a high-profile matter. I will pass the order after hearing it," she had said as she posted the continuation of the hearing on Thursday.

On Wednesday, the court had heard arguments from CM Kejriwal's counsel, while the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had presented its case but could not complete it.

The judge had deferred the hearing to Thursday,

stating: "I have to pass some orders (in other cases) and give 'dasti' (copies of notice in person) service."

The judge had also heard CM Kejriwal's application to allow his wife Sunita Kejriwal to be present during his medical examination, with the court awaiting a report from Tihar Jail on the matter.

The judge had clarified that the central agency had no role in CM Kejriwal's request for treatment inside jail. During the bail arguments, senior advocate Vikram Chaudhary, representing CM Kejriwal, had contended that the case against him relied on statements from individuals who were allegedly promised bail for supporting the ED's case.

He had questioned the credibility of these witnesses and suggested their statements were made under duress after failing to obtain bail. Chaudhary had also cited the timing of CM Kejriwal's arrest before the Lok Sabha elections, suggesting it was politically motivated.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION BANDIPORA NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Fresh e-NIT No: 18 of 2024-25 For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on a percentage age basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works. The Contractors should mandatorily be registered on JKPDOMS for making online payment to the agency as per Govt. Order No.: 186-PW(R&B) of 2023 dated 08-05-2023. Dated: 15-06-2024

Table with 8 columns: S.No, Name of Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs), Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs), EMD (In Rs), Time of completion, M.H of Account, Class of Contractor. It lists various road upgrade and construction projects.

Table with 8 columns: S.No, Name of Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs), Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs), EMD (In Rs), Time of completion, M.H of Account, Class of Contractor. It lists more road and construction projects.

Position of AAA: Accredited Position of TS Accredited 1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below: -

Table with 2 columns: Item number and description. 1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice 15-06-2024. 2. Period of downloading of bidding documents 16-06-2024 from 10:00 AM to 20:00 PM. 3. Bid Submission Start Date 19-06-2024 from 10:00 AM to 18:00 PM. 4. Bid Submission End Date 24-06-2024 up to 04:00 P.M. 5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 25-06-2024 at 10:30 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora.

- 2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora(tender inviting authority) as cost of the tender document. 3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/ Maintenance Period. 4. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora (tender receiving authority). 5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids. 6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process. 1.1 Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.jktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process. 1.2 In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate. 1.3 Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted. 1.4 Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1. 1.5 Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid. Note: - 6. The department will not be held responsible for any delays in online submission due to unanticipated circumstances. 7. The original Treasury Challan (Cost of tender document) and other Uploaded bid documents shall have to be produced on demand by the successful bidder at the time of contract signing, and in the case of unsuccessful bidders, 2 percent EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora, will be released only after production of Original Treasury Challan of uploaded Scanned copy (Cost of tender document). 8. Bidders are advised not to change the contents of the BOQ (Bill of Quantities). They should never attempt to create similar BOQ manually. 9. Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/ submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contractor/bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/ Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited. 10. Price escalation and Taxes: The bidder's percentage shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to the completion of the work. Taxes shall be deducted from the contractor's bills on the gross amount of the bill at the time of recovery at the rates in effect at the time of recovery. 11. Bidders are advised to use the "My Documents" area in their R&B e-Tendering portal user account to store any required documents. 12. All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the qualification criteria / qualification information, (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English): • All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address. • A valid Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act. • Treasury Challan/Earnest money • Valid GSTIN Registration & PAN Card • A Civil Contractor who does not own HMP and is bidding for Bitumen Macadam Works is required to upload an MOU with HMP, from whom the material/machinery for the subject work will be procured. The Memorandum of Understanding must be registered and duly executed in the Hon'ble Court of 1st Class Magistrate, specifying clearly that failure on the part of the HMP shall be deemed failure on the part of the bidder, and vice versa • Scanned copy of GSTIN registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B from the previous quarter or month, whichever is applicable, preceding Month or Latest Qtr. • Contractors should mandatorily be registered on JKPDOMS for making online payments, which is mandatory to upload with BID, non submission of the same shall be rendered the Bid non responsive. No: EE/R&B/Bpr/1137-43 Dated: 15-06-2024

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION VAILOO

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER Email: executiveengineernbdv.vailoo@gmail.com NIT No. 07/1630-39 of R&B/Vailoo /2024-2025/ e-tendering/ DATED: 15 / 06 / 2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory J&K e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

Table with 8 columns: S.No, Name of Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs), Cost of document (Rs in lacs.) in shape of Treasury Receipt/ Chelan, Time of completion, Project Intending Department, Earnest Money(2% of Adv. Cost (Rs in lacs.)), M.H of Account, Class of Contractor. It lists various road and construction projects.

AA Accredited TS Accredited

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below: -

Table with 2 columns: Item number and description. 1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice 15 / 06 / 2024. 2. Period of downloading of bidding documents 15 / 06 / 2024 (04:00 PM) to 19 / 06 / 2024 (04:00 PM). 3. Bid Submission Start Date 15 / 06 / 2024 (04:00 PM) to 19 / 06 / 2024 (04:00 PM). 4. Bid Submission End Date 24 / 06 / 2024 (04:00 PM). 5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 25 / 06 / 2024 (10:00 AM) In the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Vailoo.

- 2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division VAILOO (tender inviting authority) as cost of the tender document. 3. The Advertized cost is inclusive of GST @18% and Contract Price is exclusive of GST. b) The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirement as laid down in NIT

DIPK-1523-24 Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo DT: 20/06/2024

New varieties from Italy fetch good rates, say Kashmir's cherry growers

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: The newly imported cherry varieties from various countries, mainly Italy, are proving to be highly profitable for growers in Kashmir, even as the main traditional varieties await harvesting.

Growers across the valley said that these new varieties are fetching good rates. While some traditional varieties ready at this time are also performing well, the main traditional harvest is yet to commence.

Despite the new varieties not matching the traditional ones in terms of crunch, colour and nutritional value, they are less susceptible to rain damage and therefore fetch better prices, they said, adding that traditional varieties are often damaged by even low-intensity rain, resulting in lower market rates.

Rashid Ahmad, a cherry grower from south Kashmir's Shopian district, said that traditional varieties are frequently damaged



aged by rain, even at low to moderate intensities. In contrast, the new varieties only suffer damage from very heavy rains, he said.

"Traditional varieties tend to ripen simultaneously, disrupting the supply and demand chain and forcing growers to sell at lower rates due to their short shelf life. However, the new varieties ripen at staggered intervals, maintaining a steady supply and demand chain, thus yielding higher profits," he said.

Another grower Asif Ahmad said that among the traditional varieties currently ready for harvest is the Siyah variety,

along with the new Italian varieties. All are fetching good returns similar to last year, he said, adding, "Cherries are being sold at around Rs 150 per kg, which, though not exceedingly high, is considered a good return."

Growers said that while traditional varieties are typically harvested from mid-June to the first week of July, the new varieties extend the season to around two months. This prolonged season provides more job opportunities for both local and non-local manual workers.

Peer Muhammad Amin, President of Fruit Mandi

Shopian, said that cherry rates are currently favourable. He expressed hope that the trend will continue with the traditional varieties. "This is just the initial stage, and with the peak season of traditional varieties approaching, there is optimism for sustained demand and good prices," Amin said.

A member of the Fruit Growers Association Kashmir said that approximately 85 percent of cherries are traditional, with most still awaiting harvest. The varieties being grown include Makhmal, Siyah, Awal Number, Italy, Jadi, Holland, Double, Mishry, Splendor and Steela.

According to official data, Kashmir produces over 15 lakh metric tonnes of cherries, making it the highest cherry-producing region in the country. Jammu and Kashmir has a total of 2,317 hectares under cherry cultivation, with Shopian, Ganderbal and Srinagar being the chief producing areas—(KNO)

Rodic Consultants Receives FICCI's Smart Urban Innovation Award

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Rodic Consultants, a leading engineering and digital infrastructure consulting company, has been awarded the prestigious FICCI's Smart Urban Innovation Award for its Smart Healthcare project in Bihar. The award was presented by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) at a formal event at the Federation House, FICCI, New Delhi. This recognition highlights Rodic's unwavering commitment to excellence and professionalism in providing viable infrastructure solutions.

As a Manager Service Provider (MSP) for the Bihar Healthcare Project (BHAVYA), Rodic Consultants, along with its technology associate, developed, designed, and implemented an integrated health information management system (HIMS) solution across 13,000 state government-operated health facilities in Bihar, spanning from district hospitals to health sub-centres across 38 districts. So far, the company has completed HIMS implementation across 38 districts, with all



districts integrated in May 2024 through the state-of-the-art HIMS platform. The implemented HIMS platform includes more than 20 different modules such as patient registration, OPD & IPD management, doctor's scheduling, pharmacy, radiology, and lab information modules, all operational across the state.

The HIMS platform is also integrated with all legacy or existing stand-alone applications used by the state government, creating a unified HIMS platform named "BHAVYA," currently used across Bihar to address the digital needs of the health sector. Additionally, a state-of-the-art integrated control and command centre at a

central location monitors health indicators and the functioning of health facilities, ensuring a shift from a government/system-centric view to a citizen/beneficiary-centric approach. This helps the authority transition from reactive to proactive decision-making in managing the growing health demands.

Speaking on this achievement, Raj Kumar, Chairman and Managing Director of Rodic Consultants, said, "We are immensely proud to be recognised as a managed service provider towards the public healthcare digitalisation project under one state-one system scheme. This award reflects our commitment to leveraging technol-

ogy for the betterment of healthcare services and underscores our dedication to driving impactful change in the nation's healthcare sector."

Rodic Consultants takes immense pride in this recognition and remains dedicated to positively contributing to public health infrastructure. Rodic's commitment to quality services is upheld by a dedicated team of more than 1,600 skilled professionals. For over 23 years, the company has been providing consultancy services in multiple domains, including highways, bridges, tunnels, railways & metro, hydropower, water & urban development, power distribution, and renewable energy.

Secy ARI, Trainings Deptt discuss measures for improving public service delivery in J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: With the objective of introducing corrective measures and latest administrative reforms in Government departments of Jammu and Kashmir and in order to improve the SOPs / Proformas for administrative inspections, Secretary, ARI & Trainings, Shabnam Kamili chaired a meeting with the representatives of Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad (ASCI) here Thursday.

Dr. B.N.V. Parthasarathi (Senior Consultant), Prof. Hareesh Meppat (Faculty) and Dr. Bharath Shashanka Katkam (Faculty), from ASCI, Hyderabad attended the meet-

ing virtually. Secretary (Technical), ARI & Trainings department, Director Finance, Special Secretary, Additional Secretary and other officers of ARI and Trainings department also attended the meeting in which various issues related to Administrative Reforms for UT of J&K were discussed in detail.

During the meeting, the Secretary gave brief introduction of ARI & Trainings department to ASCI intimating its mandate and aim. She conveyed about the procedure adopted for Administrative inspection of the government departments and challenges/concerns faced in the process.

She specifically stressed upon to find scientific ways



to put in place result oriented SOPs/ formats and guidelines for removing the lacunae in the system as well as plugging the gaps and improving the system with ultimate aim of enhancing its accountability and transparency vis-a-vis optimizing the public delivery system in the interest of general public.

During the meeting, discussions were also held on optimization of delivery mechanism, proper feedback system, introducing reforms on scientific lines, ways to improve transparency and accountability among others.

The representatives of ASCI, Hyderabad, during the meeting, gave a brief introduction of ASCI intimating various steps

being taken by them in improvement of administrative procedures at different places including State of Kerala and Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

After understanding the issues being faced by the department of ARI & Trainings of J&K, they conveyed their perspective for introducing ways to improve the system for increasing the efficacy and efficiency of whole administrative set-up at different levels.

Their suggestions included requirement of structural changes in work flow chart, reporting structure and manpower planning, introduction of self-regulations by the departments, improving the already existing pro-forma and introduction of addition-

al formats for inspections, introduction of best practices and to add values to the existing practices, scientific ways for removing lacunae in the administration, enhancing the inter-personal relationship between seniors and subordinates, capacity building with the special focus on personality development etc.

The representatives requested to identify the scope of work expected from ASCI, along with required timelines so that necessary MoU can be signed at the earliest.

The Secretary on the occasion appreciated the inputs provided by the representatives of ASCI, Hyderabad and requested them to identify the roadmap for collaboration.

Police detain four in connection with June 12 terror incident in Doda

AGENCIES

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir Police have detained four persons in connection with the June 12 terror incident at Kota Top in the Tanta area of Gundoh, Doda district.

They are being held at the Joint Interrogation Centre (JIC) at the district headquarters in Doda for questioning to uncover details about terrorists' movements in the upper reaches of Gundoh, where a police constable was injured when terrorists fired upon security forces.

Sources said that the four detainees were picked up by the police for allegedly not providing information about the movement of terrorists in the upper

reaches. "These terrorists were reportedly seen in Dhoks (temporary shelters in the upper reaches) belonging to locals before June 12, but no information was provided to the police," a source said.

"Today, two of the four arrested persons were taken to the Gundoh area by the police, and by evening, they had not returned to the JIC," another source added.

J&K Police, along with the army and paramilitary forces, have launched a combing operation in the Chattergala area of Bhaderwah and Tanta Top area of Gundoh following two terror-related incidents on June 11 and 12.

On June 11, five army soldiers of the 4 RR and

one SPO of J&K Police were injured when terrorists fired upon them at Chattergala on the Bhaderwah-Bani road. On the evening of June 12, a policeman was injured when hiding terrorists opened fire upon security forces in the forests and fled from the area.

In addition to these areas, the police and army have established several checkpoints on different routes in the Doda district, including the Batote-Kishtwar national highway, to monitor the movement of any suspected persons.

Even minor information about suspected movement is being taken seriously, and security forces ensure that no area is left unattended—(KNO)

Dir Agri receives prestigious 'IASWC Gold Medal Award-2023'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DEHRADUN: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal has been honored with the prestigious "IASWC Gold Medal Award-2023" for his exceptional contributions to the overall development of agriculture sector and implementation of soil and water conservation works in the UT of J&K.

The award was given to Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the overall development of agriculture in the UT of J&K.

The award presented in Dehradun by Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservationists (IASWC) highlights Chowdhury Iqbal's



dedication and impactful efforts in the field of agriculture, implementation of soil and water conservation works in the UT of J&K.

Director Agriculture Kashmir expressed his profound happiness and termed the award a matter of immense pride. He conveyed his deepest gratitude to Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo and Principal Secretary Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department, Shailender Kumar for their unwaver-

ing support and guidance, which have been instrumental in this accomplishment.

Chowdhury Iqbal also thanked the farming community of J&K and all the stakeholders associated with agriculture, soil and water conservation works.

Each year the Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservation (IASWC) honors individuals and organisations for their outstanding contribution to Agriculture and soil water conservation.

J&K assembly elections expected to be announced after Raksha Bandhan

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: In a significant development, the administrative preparations for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir have intensified for the first time since the abrogation of Article 370.

Sources suggest that the election announcement might come after the Raksha Bandhan festival, with plans to conduct the elections in five phases.

A three-day training program for the state's master trainers is scheduled in New Delhi from June 24 to June 26.

This training will be conducted by Election Commission officials and national master trainers,

and will include about 25 master trainers who will be briefed on the entire election process.

The last assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir were held in November-December 2014, resulting in a PDP-BJP coalition government in 2015.

However, the coalition fell apart in June 2018 when the BJP withdrew its support, leaving Jammu and Kashmir without an elected government since then.

Previously trained for the Lok Sabha elections, the master trainers will now focus on preparing for the upcoming assembly elections. The official notification for the elections is expected to be issued immediately after Raksha Bandhan—(KNO)

'No employee forced to participate' Dir Colleges issues clarification over Yoga Day celebrations

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In response to the misinformation circulating on the social media regarding Yoga Day celebrations, where it was alleged that employees were forced to participate in the event, female employees were made to change their clothes and even pregnant women were forced to take part in celebrations.

The Director Colleges J&K has rebutted this misinformation stating that all participants in the Yoga Day celebrations have volunteered to take part in the event and no employee was compelled to join the event

against their will.

The Director further asserted that employees were not required to change their clothing. They were provided with long tunics to wear over their existing attire, ensuring their comfort and convenience.

The Director also stated that the employees' well-being was prioritized. Pregnant employees and those with medical conditions were not asked to participate in the Yoga Day celebrations. The Director has urged everyone to verify facts before spreading false narratives that can cause unnecessary concern and confusion.

Mutton dealers question govt's regulation of rates of local breeders

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: The Mutton Dealers Association of Kashmir has raised concerns over the regulation of mutton prices by the local breeders in the Kashmir Valley during Eid-ul-Adha.

Mehraj ud Din, General Secretary of the Mutton Dealers Association, Kashmir, questioned the oversight and pricing policies enforced by the Department of Sheep Husbandry and the district administration.

"Why the Department of Sheep Husbandry failed to keep a check on the rates of local breeders," he said,



adding that the local breeders had no check on rates.

If the government had earlier set up units in different places of the valley, including Eidgah Srinagar, on the occasion of Eid ul Adha, why

didn't the local breeders sell livestock at regulated prices, he questioned.

About Srinagar's Eidgah, he said there were instances at the time of Eid when mutton was

being sold at highly varied prices. "We have personally seen the livestock, one sheep being sold at Rs 2 lakh, some at Rs 1.5 lakh, and some at Rs 3 lakh," he said—(KNO)

DPAP Welcomes PM's Statement on Elections, Statehood Restoration

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) has welcomed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent statement on conducting elections and restoring statehood in Jammu and Kashmir.

Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami expressed the party's support during a press briefing, highlighting the importance of these developments for the region.

Nizami said that the high participation in the recent Lok Sabha elec-

tions indicates a strong desire for change among the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "The citizens are eagerly awaiting the chance to elect a government of their choice, a sentiment that has been a long-standing desire and demand," he stated.

The DPAP spokesperson urged the government to ensure peace and facilitate the smooth conduct of upcoming elections. "Fulfilling the aspirations of the citizens is crucial. This will pave the way for a more representative and responsive governance structure," Nizami added. (KNS)