

# Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

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



**Glad to have met H.E. Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India, at Raj Bhawan Srinagar. Discussed J&K's investment potential in diverse sectors like Industries, Tourism, Start-ups, Handloom, Handicrafts, Food Processing, Agri & allied sectors.**

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## Temp Records Slight Dip

### J&K Breathes Sigh Of Relief From Heat Wave



**OWAIS GUL**

**SRINAGAR:** After recording back-to-back hottest July days, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir and other parts breathed a sigh of relief on Friday as the mercury plummeted slightly, ending the four day-long heat wave in the Valley.

According to the details available, Srinagar has recorded a maximum temperature of 34.2 degree Celsius, which was 1.5 degree Celsius less than yesterday.

Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, has recorded a maximum temperature of 32.0 degree Celsius while Pahalgam, a famous destination, recorded 26.3 degree Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara settled at 32.8 degree Celsius while Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 30.9 degree Celsius and 23.4 degree Celsius respectively.

In Jammu division, most of the stations have recorded above 30 degree Celsius. In Jammu, 34.3 degree Celsius day temperature was recorded today while Banihal recorded a maximum temperature of 30.4 degree Celsius.

Batote, Katra and Bhaderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 26.8 degree Celsius, 30.7 degree Celsius and 31.1 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the weatherman has predicted intermittent rainfall at most places of Jammu and Kashmir till tomorrow.

There is a possibility of intermittent moderate rainfall at most places of J&K with heavy showers, rainfall at few places till tomorrow.

However on July 07, an intermittent spell ●P-06

## J&K Witnessing Historic Changes Under PM Modi: LG Sinha

**GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday reiterated that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a new era of peace and changes under the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Jammu Kashmir is on the verge of becoming a notable success story among Indian states and a global model for socio-economic development," Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said this while discussing investment potential of Jammu Kashmir in diverse sectors with H.E. Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India.


The Lt Governor discussed with the Czech Republic Ambassador the investment potential of Jammu Kashmir in diverse sectors like Industries, Tourism, Start-ups, Handloom, Handicrafts, Food Processing, Agriculture & allied sectors.

He also spoke on the historic and transformative changes the UT of J&K is witnessing under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

"Jammu Kashmir is on the verge of becoming a notable success story among Indian states and a global model for socio-economic development," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor invited Trade and Business Leaders from Czech Republic to explore the limitless opportunities that Jammu Kashmir has to offer.

He said the progressive reforms and futuristic policy interventions have positioned Jammu Kashmir ●P-06




## ECI To Hold Meeting With District Election Officers

**NASIR AZAM**

**SRINAGAR:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) will review preparedness for special summary revision of electoral rolls with the district election officers (DEOs) of Jammu & Kashmir on July 10.

Ahead of the beginning of the special summary revision of electoral rolls, the poll-body has convened a meeting with all 20 district election officers of the Union Territory to discuss the issues relating to the exercise, which will begin on July 25 and culminate on August 20.

As per the letter written by joint chief electoral officer to DEOs, the meeting would discuss vacancies of electoral registration officers and assistant electoral registration officers, status of appointment of booth level officers, status of house-to-house verification by BLOs, rationalization/rearrangement of polling stations, health of electoral roll, removal of ●P-06



## BJP Ready For Assembly Elections In J&K: G K Reddy

**AGENCIES**

**JAMMU:** Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, who is the BJP's election in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir, on Friday said his party is fully ready for polls whenever they are held.

Reddy's remarks came as the BJP commenced a two-day meeting of the state working committee conclave on Friday to discuss strategy and planning for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

National President J P Nadda. "I have come here for the first time. After conclusion of the Parliamentary elections, BJP is ready for the assembly elections when they are held", Reddy told reporters at the party headquarters here.

Reddy further said that following the conclusion of the Parliamentary elections, senior leaders are visiting various states to conduct office bearers' meetings and review the party's activities.

Flanked by Union ●P-06



The conclave follows closely on the heels of party's leadership meeting of J&K held in New Delhi on Thursday night, chaired jointly by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP

## Gallantry Awards

### Five J&K Police Officers Honoured For Valour

**REHAN QAYOOM MIR**

**SRINAGAR:** The President of India has conferred 36 Gallantry awards, including 10 Kirti Chakras and 26 Shaurya Chakras, recognising the outstanding bravery and sacrifice of individuals in service. These awards, which include seven posthumous Kirti Chakras and seven posthumous Shaurya Chakras, highlight the unwavering commitment and courage of those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

As per details obtained, among the distinguished awardees are five officers from the Jammu and Kashmir Police, honoured for their exceptional valour and dedication to duty. The gallantry awards are a testament to the extraordinary valour displayed by individuals in various operations across the country.

Shaurya Chakra (Posthumous): Selection Grade Constable Saifullah Qadri, a well-known encounter specialist, was posthumously awarded the Shaurya Chakra for his bravery in numerous gun battles with terrorists. His most notable act of valour occurred during the Bhisember Nagar operation in Srinagar, where he displayed exemplary courage. His dedication and sacrifice have left a lasting impact on his colleagues and the ●P-06

## PM Surya Ghar 36,000 Solar Rooftops To Be Installed In Next 3 Years: KPDCL

**GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) Friday urged the domestic consumers to immediately apply and register for installation of Solar Rooftop Plants under the Centre's flagship PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to reap benefits of free solar energy.

It further stated that around 40 empanelled Solar PV Vendors are being onboarded on the National PM Surya Ghar portal, paving way for rolling out the subsidized scheme in Kashmir Division.

In a statement released to the press here today, a KPDCL spokesperson stated that 36,400 solar rooftops shall be installed under the scheme target till March 31, 2027. "A large number of interested consumers have already registered on the national portal and with onboarding of empanelled vendors, installation of solar rooftops ●P-06



## CS Takes Stock Of Physical Status Of Transit Accommodations


**GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday chaired a meeting to take stock of physical status of transit accommodations being constructed for PM package employees from migrant Kashmiri Pandit community across different districts of valley.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Home, Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, Secretary, R&B, Secretary, DMRR&R, Relief Commissioner, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers.

During this meeting, the Chief Secretary took note of flats completed so far by executing agencies and asked them about the timeline for completing those presently under progress.

He enquired about the status of blocks raised at each of 12 locations in different districts of the valley. He asked about the ●P-06



## Tourism Boom

### 15.65 Lakh Tourist Arrivals Till June In Kashmir

**MUBASHIR AALAM WANI**

**SRINAGAR:** The administration is focusing on creation of demand-driven infrastructure to accommodate even swelling tourist numbers in future.

Kashmir post-pandemic has been witnessing a record breaking tourist number. Last year, Kashmir recorded a tourist flow of 27.1 lakh visitors including 4.5 lakh Amarnath pilgrims. Officials said, this year till June as many as 15.65 lakh tourists including 26,000 foreigners have visited the valley.

With swelling numbers, the government is encouraging and promoting the development of accommodation for the tourists throughout the valley.

As per the official figures, Jammu and valley has witnessed an addition of 1,485 homestays boasting 13,000 rooms in the last few couple of years.

"To accommodate the increasing tourist flow and provide quality services, the Union Territory government devised homestay guidelines. More than 1,485 homestays with a bed capacity of 13,000 have been registered so far across Jammu and Kashmir," official document said.

"This comes after the tourism sector was granted industry status, leading to enormous growth in investments. Initiatives are also being undertaken to involve local communities in tourism activities and ensure equitable benefit sharing," the document said.

As per the figures access, currently the total registered capacity for tourist accommodation in Kashmir is 62,488 beds, which include all the hotels of A, B and C category and also the Guest Houses and Houseboats.

The 'A' category hotels in Srinagar have 8,778-bed capacity, 'B' category hotels in Srinagar ●P-06




## Amarnath Yatra Crosses 1.30 Lakh Mark In Six Days

**YOGESH**

**JAMMU:** Over 24,000 pilgrims paid obeisance at naturally formed Ice Shivalingam at Himalayan cave in South Kashmir's Anantnag district till yesterday evening, this year's yatra crossed 1.30 lakh mark in just six days, breaking all previous records of scared pilgrimage. While a fresh batch of 6919 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas base camp in Jammu towards twin base camps of Baltal in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district and Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag district under tight security measures early this morning.

Officials said, on the sixth day (yesterday), 24,978 pilgrims paid obeisance at holy cave of Swami Amarnath Ji. With this, the total number of pilgrims visiting the 3888-metre-high ●P-06



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**Movie Watchlist**

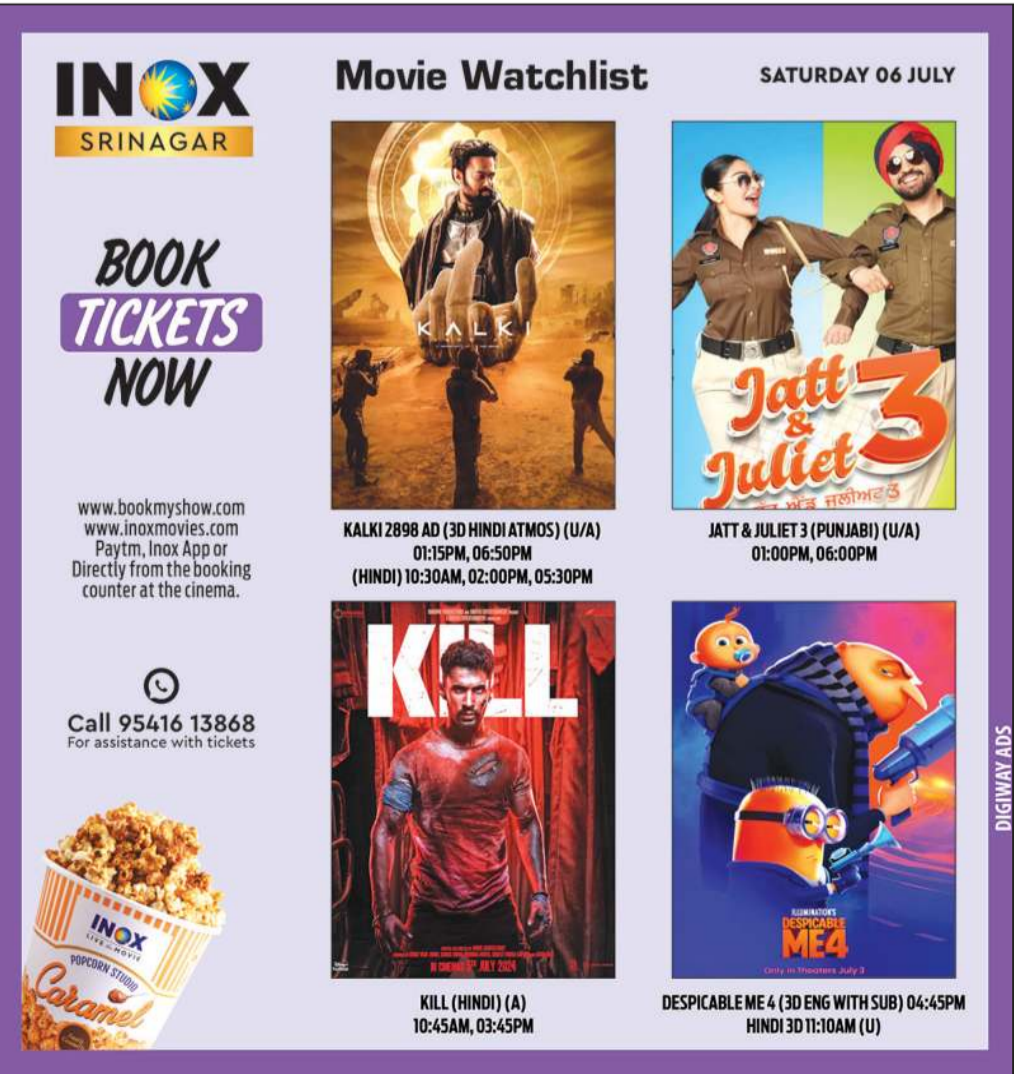
**KALKI 2898 AD (3D HINDI ATMOS) (U/A)**  
01:15PM, 06:50PM  
(HINDI) 10:30AM, 02:00PM, 05:30PM

**JATT & JULIET 3 (PUNJABI) (U/A)**  
01:00PM, 06:00PM

**KILL (HINDI) (A)**  
10:45AM, 03:45PM

**DESPICABLE ME 4 (3D ENG WITH SUB) (U)**  
04:45PM  
HINDI 3D 11:10AM (U)

**DIGITAL ADS**



# Principal Secretary PDD chairs Public Darbar in Mandal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** Principal Secretary, Power Development department (PDD) H Rajesh Prasad Friday chaired a Public Darbar at Block Mandal here to address various issues and grievances of the general public.

Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya; Additional District Development Commissioner, Sher Singh; Chief Planning Officer, ACD, Block Development Officer and other senior officers were also present on the occasion. The darbar also saw participation from BDC Chairman, Madan Lal, former PRI representatives, eminent citizens, and large number of locals.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Principal Secretary urged upon all to welcome the installation of smart meters. He underlined that in order to achieve



robust and uninterrupted power supply for prosperity of Jammu & Kashmir, the ongoing power reforms are crucial and must be welcomed wholeheartedly.

During the darbar, the locals raised several issues before the Principal Secretary like enhancement of interior village roads, flood mitigation measures, mining related concerns pertaining to river Tawi, issues related to Rural Development, Revenue departments and others.

The public also appreciated the introduction of

been invested to enhance the power infrastructure, including setting up grid stations, receiving stations, transformers, and power line networks besides a n additional amount of Rs 10,500 crores have been allocated for replacing poles and wires with superior insulated power cables.

The Principal Secretary further highlighted that despite challenges, the UT government continues to provide power to consumers at subsidised rates. He emphasised on the need to reduce power losses in Jammu and Kashmir, which are primarily due to non-payment of dues and pilferage. He informed that 22 lakh consumers are slated to receive smart meters, with 6 lakh already installed, to ensure accurate billing and payment of dues. He also dispelled concerns about overcharging or arbitrary charges by smart meters.

Smart Buses and expressed hope for more such buses in the future.

While interacting with locals, the Principal Secretary assured them that all of their genuine demands and grievances would be addressed promptly. He noted that some issues would be taken up with the UT administration as well.

During the interaction, the Principal Secretary made out that significant reforms have been initiated in power sector from last several years, adding that Rs.10,000 crores have

# Shailendra Kumar chairs Public Darbar in Budgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BUDGAM:** Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar Friday chaired a public darbar at Conference Hall, Budgam.

At the outset, the Principal Secretary APD listened to the public issues and demands and assessed overall public service delivery in the district.

Speaking on the occasion, Shailendra Kumar encouraged the District Administration to ensure prompt service delivery in the district.

Principal Secretary APD asserted on timely completion of all ongoing developmental works and commissioning of completed projects for the public use.

Shailendra Kumar urged the public to ensure their positive role in curbing drug abuse and act as



responsible citizens to help police and civil administration in addressing the issue effectively.

He also appealed General Public to provide their cooperation for successful implementation of the Swachhata campaign across all Towns and rural areas of the district, and sensitized about the garbage dumping and proper disposal.

Shailendra Kumar appreciated public participation in such programmes and emphasised on creating massive awareness regarding government schemes and services.

He said that public participation in interaction programs or public darbars is important to make public part of government's developmental

activities and ensure successful implementation of flagship initiatives and welfare schemes at the grass root level.

Public delegations from different areas of the district raised their issues and demands with the chair.

While taking cognizance of genuine demands raised by the general public, Principal Secretary APD, said that all these will be taken up with the concerned quarters for timely and early action.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, Akshay Labroo said that all the directions and suggestions have been duly recorded and will be adhered to in letter and spirit.

DC said that action taken report shall also be submitted and district administration shall continue prompt service delivery with same tempo.

# DC Kupwara reviews performance of PM Vishwakarma scheme



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**KUPWARA:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, who is Chairperson of Vishwakarma District Implementation Committee, convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the progress made under PM Vishwakarma scheme.

The scheme which is aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and skill development among artisans and craftsmen has facilitated skill development training, provided access to modern tools and technologies and promoted market linkages for artisans in the district.

It was informed in the meeting that 15575 applications under the scheme were received under Gram Panchayat and ULB Zone out of which 10292 applications were recommended under Stage 1. Under Stage 2, 4063 applications were recommended out of which 3787 applications were approved under Stage 3.

On the occasion, the DC impressed upon the officers to clear all pending cases to ensure coverage of the targeted beneficiaries under the PM Vishwakarma scheme.

It was also informed in the meeting that 3405 candidates were enrolled for Pre-Skilling out of which basic skilling of 1625 candidates have been completed under PM Vishwakarma scheme by different institutes including Government ITIs, Polytechnic College and Private Institutions.

The DC also reviewed the performance of Panchayat Development Index (PDI) during which the meeting discussed in detail the indicators under Panchayat Development Index, which evaluates the performance of Panchayats based on various development parameters.

ACD Kupwara, ACP, LDM, BDOs, Superintendent ITI Kupwara, CSC Manager and other concerned were present in the meeting.

# Director Agriculture visits SMF Haran



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Friday visited Seed Multiplication Farm Haran, inspected different blocks of the farm and took stock of different Agriculture activities, crop status of different agriculture crops cultivated for seed purpose.

Addressing the staff and technical experts of Haran Farm, Director Agriculture expressed satisfaction over the successful production, yield of different vegetable crops (raised for seed purpose). He said the departmental farms are transforming into model agriculture centers.

Director Agriculture said the Department has introduced innovative initiatives and is endeavouring to optimize the utility of Departmental farms to attain self-reliance in the field of seed produc-

tion and to fulfill the seed requirement for Kashmir Division.

We have already started many interventions in order to maximize the output from different departmental Farms, he said.

Director Agriculture appreciated the efforts of the concerned technical experts and asked them to work in a mission mode so that the Farm could achieve new heights in the years to come.

Later, the Director visited different crop areas of Budgam district and took stock of the agriculture scenario. He talked to the farmers at many places and received feedback regarding various interventions by the department.

Amid prevailing climatic conditions, he directed the officers and field functionaries to guide the farmers during different agriculture activities.

# FSD Anantnag imposes heavy fines on FBOs for violating FS&SA

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**ANANTNAG:** The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag, Fayaz Ahmad Bandy (Adjudicating Officer under Food Safety and Standards Act) imposed a penalty of Rs. 1,83,000 on various Food Business Operators (FBOs) for contravention of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

The penalty has been imposed in exercise of the powers vested with Additional Deputy Commissioner under Section 68 of FSS Act, 2006. The accused during the trial of the cases filed by the Food Safety Department were convicted after they were found violating the regulatory provisions of law on the subject. During the trial, it was revealed that they had breached regulatory provisions, leading to their products being of sub-standard and misbranded qualities.

The ADC after considering the complaints filed by the Food Safety Department and the submissions made by the authorized counsels on behalf of the accused came to the conclusion that the charges of contravention of aforementioned provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act were substantiated and warranted imposition of penalty on the accused to the extent of the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act.

# Day-long Camp for Specially-abled Citizens held in Chadoora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BUDGAM:** In a collaborative effort, the District Administration Budgam, Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) Friday organised a daylong camp for specially-abled citizens at Chadoora, Budgam to streamline access and empower individuals with special abilities.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo, distributed hearing aids, wheelchairs, tricycles and other prosthetics among the eligible beneficiaries of the Sub-division Chadoora.

Speaking at the event, the DC emphasised the camp's objective towards empowering persons with special abilities. The DC said this initiative aims to enhance mobility, improve the quality of life and foster independence among differently-abled individuals in the region. During the distribution event, the DC emphasized the administration's commit-



ment to ensuring the welfare and inclusion of all specially-abled members of society.

The DC said that the District Administration remains dedicated to organizing similar events in the future, ensuring the well-being and empowerment of Budgam's specially-abled community. He further highlighted the ongoing efforts to identify and support more individuals requiring assistance and ensure that they receive the necessary prosthetics and aids to enhance their daily lives.

On the occasion, District Social Welfare Officer Budgam said that these aids

would empower specially-abled citizens to access various government benefits more easily. The distribution of these aids is part of a broader initiative to promote social welfare and inclusivity of these people.

In the said camp, total 131 Aids & Assistive devices of different categories like Motorized Tricycle - 11, Wheelchair - 19, Hearing Aids - 60, Smart Phone-01, Suganya Cane - 01, Braille kit - 05, ADL kit - 01, Crutches - 06, Walking stick - 09, CP Chair- 08, Rollator-02 were distributed amongst 103 Beneficiaries.

# GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, POSHAN, BIJBEHARA.

RE-ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE NO- 05 OF 2024

D A T E D : - 05 - 07 - 2024.

Subject :- Re-advertisement for Recruitment of Sahiyikas (AWHs) in Anganwadi Centre of Poshan Project Bijbehara .

- Reference:-
1. Government Order No: 222-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022.
  2. Government Order No: 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated:-28.04.2023.
  3. SMD/Poshan/ICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/6235-38 Dated: 21.02.2024.

Application on prescribed proforma (Annexure "A") are hereby invited from the female candidates of the panch wards / M.Wards shown against the below mentioned Panchayat Halqas/Municipal wards for the engagement of Sahiyikas (AWHs) for the Anganwadi Centre of Poshan Project, Bijbehara. The applicants who have already filled the application bas for this post needs not to fill-up application again. The application along with required enclosures shall be submitted in the Office of Child Development Project Officer, Poshan Project Bijbehara, by or before 20<sup>th</sup> of July, 2024 upto 4: 00 PM. against proper receipt.

Detail of vacant post of Sahiyikas (AWHs) along with name and location of Anganwadi Centre.

S.No.	Name of Anganwadi Centre	Ward No	Name of Post	No. of post.
1.	Peersah Mohalla	Municipality Ward No:07	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
2.	Baba Mohalla -A	Municipality Ward No :02	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
3.	Dupatyar -A	Panch Ward No :05	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
4.	Adder -B	Panch Ward No :02	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
5.	Uranhall	Panch Ward No :05	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
6.	Dadoo-A	Panch Ward No :05	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
7.	Gantalpora	Panch Ward No :06	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
8.	Wagahama-C	Panch Ward No :04	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
9.	Marhma-I	Panch Ward No :01	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
10.	Mahind-A	Panch Ward No :01	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
11.	Dargund-B	Panch Ward No :08	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
12.	Dirhma-B	Panch Ward No :06	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
13.	Kullar-B	Panch Ward No :05	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1
14.	Marhma-A	Panch Ward No :02	Sahiyikas (AWH)	1

(ANNEXURE 'A')

Format of Application

Name of the District : ANANTNAG

1. Name of POSHAN Project: Bijbehara
2. Name of Anganwadi Centre: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Post Applied for \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of the Candidate (In Block Letters) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Father's Name (In Block Letters) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Marital Status :Married/Un Married \_\_\_\_\_
7. Husband's Name \_\_\_\_\_
8. Residence \_\_\_\_\_
9. Ward No: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Address for correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
13. Age as on 01.01.2024 \_\_\_\_\_
14. Academic Qualification: \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph of the applicant duly attested by Gazetted Officer

S.No	Examination passed	Board/University	Year of passing	Marks obtained	Total Marks	Percentage

15. Do the candidate belong to retiring AWW/AWH (YES/ NO)
16. Document Attached.

Signature of candidate Dated:-

- A. Criteria for selection of Sahiyikas (Anganwadi Helpers).
1. The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is located.
  2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years as on 01-01-2024 shall be eligible.
  3. The candidate should be a domicile of the UT of J&K.
  4. Minimum qualification for the Anganwadi Helper shall be Matriculation
  5. In case no Matriculate candidate is available in the ward, candidate with qualification not less than VIII standard shall be considered.
  6. Selection Committee comprising of Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) ,Block Development Officer, BDO and Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) concerned in each project /Block shall have the mandate to make selection of the eligible candidates for the position of AWH.
  7. The Committee shall select the most destitute /needy married woman of the ward as Helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried candidate may be considered.
  8. In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points.

Document Verification

- 1) The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document verification along with the original documents as well as self attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.
  - a). Marks sheet(s) Diploma /Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.
  - a) Marks sheet (s) /Diploma /Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per advertisement notification.
  - b) Date of Birth/Matriculation certificate.
  - c) Domicile Certificate.
  - d) Unmarried Certificate (where required).
  - 2) Candidate has to bring two passport size recent color photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:
    - i) Aadhaar Card.
    - i) Voter ID Card.
  - 3) The candidate who are supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the Committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

ANNEXURE C

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

1. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.
2. Maximum qualification is Graduate for vacancy of Anganwadi Worker and Class X for Anganwadi Helper and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.
3. The deponent has read the HR Policy No: 22-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi Worker/Anganwadi Helper.

No: CDPO/Poshan/BJ/2023/Adv/ 240-64  
Dated:- 05-07.2024.

DIPK-2481-24  
DT: 05/07/2024

Child Development Project Officer,  
Poshan Project, Bijbehara.

# DC Sgr conducts extensive tour of Lal Chowk areas, reviews pace of dev works



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat Friday undertook a comprehensive tour of Lal Chowk and adjoining areas to review the pace of development works.

The visit began with a detailed interaction with the Traders Association of central Lal Chowk in order to address their developmental issues.

On the occasion, the traders projected several demands, including revival and maintenance of the old lower court building and the macadamization

of the area extending to Regal Chowk. They also demanded the upliftment of the surrounding area of the old Lower Court, suggesting it should be incorporated into the Srinagar Smart City project.

DC Srinagar attentively listened to the traders' demands and assured them that he would bring up the matter of the heritage building of the old Lower court complex with the Higher authorities.

He also assured that once approval is obtained from higher authorities, the Administration would consider relocating any Government Department

into the said building.

Regarding the macadamization, the DC confirmed that the process would be carried out up to Regal Chowk soon and that the area would be developed to align with the standards of Srinagar Smart City.

In addition to addressing the traders' demands, DC emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and order in Lal Chowk. He mentioned that regular inspections would be conducted to ensure that the area remains in good condition and that any issues are promptly addressed.

During the tour, the DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria and other senior Officers of District Administration Srinagar.

DC Srinagar also highlighted the significance of collaboration between the administration and the traders in achieving Lal Chowk's development goals.

He encouraged the traders to actively participate in the planning and execution of projects to ensure that their needs and concerns were adequately addressed.

DC Srinagar also highlighted the significance of collaboration between the administration and the traders in achieving Lal Chowk's development goals.

# DG Rural Sanitation reviews sanitation arrangements at Baltal, Domail

Emphasizes eco-friendly initiatives during Amarnath Ji Yatra



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BALTAL:** Director General Rural Sanitation, Anoo Malhotra Friday reviewed the status of sanitation and allied services being extended to the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra at Baltal base camp and Domail.

At Domail Waste Management Facility, the DG inspected the arrangements for proper disposal of dry, wet and inert waste.

Anoo Malhotra Malhotra appreciated the sanitation activities while recognizing the critical role of sanitation workers in ensuring a smooth and hygienic pilgrimage experience for thousands of devotees participating in the yatra. "We are proud of our sanitation workers who are professionally managing the waste at Baltal, the largest base camp for pilgrims where around 30,000 people visit every day since commence-

ment of the annual Yatra," she maintained.

The DG instructed the officers to launch special sanitation drives focused on keeping the yatra axis clean and eco-friendly with regular collection and disposal of waste, maintenance of clean tracks and rest areas besides ensuring decontaminated water sources. She stressed the need for intensifying public awareness campaigns to educate pilgrims on the importance of maintaining cleanliness and minimizing their environmental footprint.

Besides inspecting the yatra route, she visited the "Waste to Wonder" exhibition at the Baltal base camp, being thronged by 2,000 to 3,000 visitors daily. Showcasing innovative ways to manage waste and convert it into useful resources, the exhibition aligns with the department's vision of sustainable practices.

# Chronic hypertension may damage kidneys, digestive system: Doctors

JAHANGEER GANAIE

**ANANTNAG:** Chronic hypertension can lead to kidney damage and affect the digestive system, doctors said on Friday. They said it poses complications for both maternal and fetal health and stressed the need for early management of hypertension.

This information was revealed during a session organised by the Department of General Medicine at Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag.

Prof (Dr) Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, the Chief Organiser and Head of the Department of General Medicine, delivered the welcome speech, greeting all delegates and emphasising the importance of continuous education in managing hypertension.

Prof (Dr) Rukhsana Najeeb, Principal of GMC Anantnag, said that hypertension, one of the most common non-communicable diseases (NCD), affects over 1.3 billion people worldwide. "It is important to manage hypertension through preventive measures and treatment, particularly in surgical patients, to avoid last-minute cancellations," she said.

Drawing from her extensive experience in Anaesthesiology and Critical Care as Professor and Head of the Department of Anaesthesiology, GMC Srinagar, Dr Rukhsana discussed the challenges anaesthesiologists face with hypertensive patients during surgery and in critical care units.

Dr Syed Nawaz, HOD Gynecology and Obstetrics, in his talk "Hypertension in Mother and Fetus," highlighted the critical impact of hypertension during pregnancy. He elaborated on the complications it poses for both maternal and fetal health and the importance of vigilant monitoring and manage-

ment during prenatal care. Dr Shaikat Hussain, Senior Cardiologist, in his presentation "Hypertension - Yesterday and Today", traced the historical perspective of hypertension management. He highlighted the latest trends and advancements in treatment, illustrating how contemporary practices have evolved to enhance patient outcomes.

Dr Irfan Gul, Assistant Professor, in his presentation "Hypertension and the Kidney", delved into the relationship between hypertension and renal health. He discussed how chronic high blood pressure can lead to kidney damage and the significance of controlling hypertension to prevent renal complications.

Dr Sheikh Nawaz, Assistant Professor, in his talk "Hypertension and the Brain", explored how hypertension affects cerebrovascular health. He highlighted the risks of stroke and other neurological disorders associated with high blood pressure and the need for effective management strategies to protect brain health.

Dr Mashkoor Ahmad Beg, Associate Professor, in his presentation "Hypertension and the Gastrointestinal Tract", addressed how hypertension impacts digestive health. He explained the gastrointestinal complications arising from prolonged high blood pressure and the importance of holistic management.

Dr Mohd Yousuf Dar, HOD Ophthalmology, in his talk "Hypertension and How I See", focused on the ocular manifestations of hypertension. He discussed how high blood pressure can affect vision and the critical role of regular eye examinations in detecting and managing hypertensive retinopathy.

The session was attended by delegates from across the Kashmir Division, including faculty members, consultants, medical officers, and paramedics. The event provided a platform for knowledge exchange and professional development, reinforcing the commitment to improving hypertension management—(KNO)

## ASSEMBLY POLLS

# Altaf Bukhari urges party leaders to speed up public outreach

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Apni Party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Friday urged party leaders to speed up public outreach program in view of Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

He expressed these remarks while chairing a review meeting in Jammu.

The meeting which was held at party office Gandhi Nagar Jammu, was attended by State General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya; Provincial President, Jammu, S. Manjit Singh; and other senior leaders.

In this meeting, a review of the Apni Party's perfor-



mance in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections of 2024 was also taken.

The party leaders shared assembly-wise details to the Party President and informed him about their working and public contact

program in Jammu region.

Bukhari directed party leaders to speed-up the public outreach program and educate people about the equitable developmental policy, and welfare programs of the party that

would be implemented, if the party forms government in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also reviewed the party's preparedness ahead of the proposed Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

He directed the party leaders to hold continuous meetings with the people in every nook and corner of the region.

The Party leaders were asked to hold regular review meetings and gear up the election campaign.

He directed the leaders to put up a fight in favour of all the sections of society, particularly the economically weaker section.

# Pr Secy Culture inaugurates Border Block Library Sogam



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SOGAM:** J&K's Libraries Department has embarked on a comprehensive action plan to extend and broaden the reach of gainful Public Library facilities across the UT so that the readers, especially in remote areas, have access to quality sources of knowledge not hitherto open to them.

This was stated by Principal Secretary Department of Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, while addressing a gathering after inaugurating the refurbished Border Block Library in Sogam area of district Kupwara last evening.

Member DDC Kupwara, Nasir Nazir Lone; Director, Libraries & Research, J&K, Mohammad Rafi; Additional Deputy Commissioner Handwara, Aziz Ahmad; Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Mohammad Rouf Rehman; SDM Lolab, Javed Naseem Masoodi and other officers of the District Administration and Libraries Department were present on the occasion.

"As a part of the plan to upgrade Public Library facilities across J&K, the Depart-

ment of Libraries has kick-started construction, expansion and renovation of library buildings in various parts of the UT including border areas to make quality learning resources available to people in these remote areas at their doorstep," Suresh Gupta said.

Principal Secretary complimented the Department of Libraries & Research and the District Administrations for working in tandem to ensure best possible infrastructure facilities in Public Libraries.

Suresh Gupta hailed the sustained efforts made by the Department of Libraries & Research during the past 3 years towards repositioning and reinventing the public libraries in J&K through various innovative and technological interventions. "It is heartening to note that the Libraries Department has of late introduced some pioneering measures to give a refreshing look to the libraries in the UT and make them lively literary places for people from different sections of the society," he said and called for extensive technological interventions in libraries including automation, e-cataloguing and e-circulation to make them

more user-friendly.

Principal Secretary commended the efforts of the Department of Libraries & Research in rejuvenating the institution of Public Libraries despite lot of resource constraints.

Speaking on the occasion, Director, Libraries & Research, Mohammad Rafi enumerated various measures taken by the Department during the past 3 years to reinvent the role of public libraries in J&K by offering Career Guidance and Information Services to the youth. "We have embarked on a program to build the requisite infrastructure in the public libraries especially pertaining to youth needs with the focus on e-resources," he said and added that to begin with quality reference material and prestigious journals/magazines have been provided in various public libraries to help students prepare for various competitive examinations. This, he said, has proved to be a value-addition to the already mandated responsibilities of the public libraries as this initiative has resulted in huge increase in the footfall in public libraries.

# Tarun Chugh reappointed BJP Prabhari for J&K, Ladakh

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** In a strategic move to enhance its presence in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has reappointed its national general secretary, Tarun Chugh, as the Prabhari for these regions. The decision was made by the top leadership of the party.

Expressing his gratitude, Chugh thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP national president JP Nadda for reposing faith in him. He pledged to work harder for the party and to promote the policies and vision of the prime minister in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Jammu & Kashmir has embarked on a new path of all-round progress and development. Thanks to various development and welfare schemes launched by the prime minister, the age of terrorism has been replaced by a new age of tourism. People in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh are now seeing new hope in the BJP," Chugh remarked.

Chugh also stated that the BJP is ready for elections, working continuously for 365 days as part of a mission. "The BJP party is organizing working committees across all states. Tomorrow, the national president will come to address all of us," Chugh added, referring to JP Nadda's upcoming visit.

# President JDU calls on Lt Governor



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** GM Shaheen, President, J&K Janta Dal United (JDU) Friday called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

Sh Shaheen discussed with the Lt Governor various issues pertaining

to Muharram arrangements, road connectivity in Kashmir valley and smooth movement of fruit laden vehicles. The Lt Governor assured the senior political leader of appropriate action on all genuine issues put forth by him during the interaction.

GOVERNMENT OF (U.T) JAMMU & KASHMIR

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

### JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPTT.

#### GROUND WATER DIVISION SRINAGAR

BAGHI-ALI-MARDAN, NOWSHARA SRINAGAR.

E-mail: - phegwd@yahoo.com, Tel./ Fax No:- 0194-2411285

### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

GIST of Detailed e- NIT No: - 09/JS-PHE/GWDS/ Mech. of 2024-25.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Firms/Companies/drilling agencies/Joint Ventures etc for "Harnessing of various quality affected productions wells in various districts of kashmir province " as per details given below The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1<sup>st</sup> consisting of Pre Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2<sup>nd</sup> shall consist of Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

(Table - I)								
S. No	Name of work	Est. Cost Rs. in Lacs	Earnest money	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Major Head / Programme	Tender Call
1	Harnessing of Various Quality Affected Production Wells in Various District of Kashmir Province.	Rs.3.36 Lacs per Well	Rs.7,000/-	Rs.1,000/-	30 Days per well	As mentioned Above.	JJM	1 <sup>st</sup>

Position of Funds: - Available  
The Bidding Documents and other details can be downloaded from the website: <https://www.jktenders.gov.in>  
From 04.07.2024 (12:00 p.m.) UPTO 11.07.2024 (03:00 p.m.)

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (if any), Book of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms, conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the website: <https://www.jktenders.gov.in>  
As per Critical Dates/Information scheduled given below

1.	Publishing Date	04-07-2024 (12:00 p.m)
2.	Period of Downloading of Bids	04-07-2024 (12:00 p.m) upto 11-07-2024 (03:00 p.m)
3.	Period of Submission of bids	04-07-2024 (12:00 p.m) upto 11-07-2024 (03:00 p.m)
4.	Date of opening of Tender.	12-07-2024 (11:00 A.M)
5.	Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Ground Water Srinagar Kashmir-190011	
6.	Document Cost: Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Challan/receipt deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar (at Saddar Treasury Srinagar) (The firm shall specify the name of work for which apply)	
7.	Bid Validity Period: 180 Days	
8.	The bids can be downloaded or uploaded on <a href="http://www.jktenders.gov.in">www.jktenders.gov.in</a>	

Bids must be accompanied by bid security viz: Earnest Money in shape of CDR/FDR and (The date of CDR/FDR etc must not be prior to 03 months from the date of issuance of this e-Nit and Treasury Receipt (mentioning therein the NIT No., S.No. of work and Advertised Cost as per the NIT) as cost of Tender Document under Account Head 0215 to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Ground Water Division Srinagar (as specified in the table (I) (Page 1st). Bid security will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the bidding documents and shall be valid for 180 Days after opening of bid. Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Ground Water Division Srinagar (H.Q. Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar) on 12.07.2024 at 11:00 am. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

No: -JS-PHE/GWDS/24-25/Corrs./2204-13  
Dated: 03-07-2024.  
DIPK-2458-24  
DT: 05/07/2024

Sd/= Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt. Ground Water Division Srinagar.

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

## Aishmuqam Horror

**W**e must be thankful to the social activist who bought the horror experienced by a group of minor girls and teachers from over a decade at the hands of the school owner at Aishmuqam area of South Kashmir in the public domain. The details are so filthy that they cannot be allowed to be shared in any gentlemanly conversation or written word. The owner of a private school was harassing, sexually exploiting, and blackmailing girls right on the campus of the school. This has been reportedly going on for years and the residents of the area were aware of his evil deeds and yet because of his status, big money, and wider political connections, nobody ever dared to register a case against this monster.

The details are so gross and dirty as per the initial reports that it looks like an unscripted horror movie. The owner of the school has kept one room on the second floor of the school where he would ask girls and vulnerable teachers for favors like head massage and body massage. This room had no CCTV camera on purpose. It is being reported that a close family member of this monster had committed suicide because of his wrongdoings. Till date, no case has been registered against this monster despite the evidence out in the public domain. People on social media networks are shouting their lungs out to give the strictest possible punishment to this sexual predator. Such sexual predators deserve a place behind bars and not in a civilized society. The new penal code has the strictest provisions against the exploitation of vulnerable minors and sexually harassing them. All those strictest provisions must be implemented in this case. We request LG Manoj Sinha to personally intervene in this case and get a thorough investigation conducted. The big money and political connections of the accused should in no way serve as a barrier for the serving of justice in this case. We want a quick full-fledged investigation and the perpetrator behind the bars. This is an issue related to the safety of our daughters. The LG administration should leave no stone unturned to get to the bottom of the issue.

# Relationship: Prospects And Dimensions



DR RAJ KUMAR SINGH

**S**ex in a relationship is an important aspect of intimacy and connection between partners whose considerable points include: a. Communication: Open and honest communication about sexual needs, desires, and boundaries is crucial. It helps partners understand each other better and ensures both are comfortable and satisfied. b. Consent: Consent is a fundamental aspect of a healthy sexual relationship. It should be enthusiastic, informed, and ongoing. Both partners should feel free to express their comfort levels and stop at any point. c. Mutual Satisfaction: Sex should be enjoyable for both partners. Taking the time to understand what pleases each other and being attentive to each other's needs can enhance the sexual experience. d. Emotional Connection: For many people, sex is not just a physical act but also an emotional one. Building a strong emotional connection can lead to a more fulfilling sexual relationship.

**Frequency:** The frequency of sex in a relationship varies widely among couples. What's important is that both partners feel satisfied with their sex life. Regular check-ins can help ensure that both partners' needs are being met. f. Intimacy Beyond Sex: Physical intimacy can take many forms besides sex, such as cuddling, kissing, and holding hands. These acts of affection can help maintain closeness and strengthen the bond between partners. g. Addressing Issues: If there are sexual issues or mismatched libidos, addressing them openly and seeking professional help if needed (such as from a therapist or sexologist) can be beneficial. h. Health and Safety: Practicing safe sex, including the use of protection and regular sexual health check-ups, is important for the well-being of both partners. h. Respect and Support: Respecting each other's boundaries and supporting each other's needs and preferences is vital. This creates a safe space where both partners can express themselves freely. Sex in a relationship is highly personal, and what works for one couple may not work for another.

### Background of the concept



The origins and background of sex in relationships can be traced through various lenses, including biological, anthropological, historical, and cultural perspectives: a. Biological Perspective: Reproduction: From a biological standpoint, sex is primarily a means of reproduction. The need to pass on genes to the next generation is a fundamental drive in all living organisms, including humans. Bonding: Sex also plays a significant role in bonding between partners. The release of oxytocin and other hormones during sexual activity can create a sense of closeness and attachment, which is beneficial for the stability of long-term relationships. b. Social Structures: Different cultures have developed varied social structures around sex and relationships. In some societies, polygamy is practiced, while in others, monogamy is the norm. These structures often reflect the needs and values of the society. c. Historical Perspective: Ancient Civilizations: In ancient civilizations like Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, sex played an important role in both private and public life. It was linked to fertility, power, and social status. Marriages were often arranged for political or economic reasons rather than romantic love. Religious Influence: Many religions have shaped attitudes toward sex and relationships. For example, Christianity, Islam, and Judaism have specific teachings about sex within marriage, often emphasizing procreation and fidelity.

**Cultural Perspective: Romantic Love:** The concept of romantic love as a basis for marriage and sexual relationships is a relatively recent devel-

opment in human history. This idea gained prominence in the Middle Ages and was further popularized during the Renaissance and Enlightenment periods. Modern Views: Today, attitudes toward sex and relationships continue to evolve. There is greater acceptance of diverse sexual orientations and relationship structures, such as LGBTQ+ relationships, polyamory, and open relationships. The emphasis on mutual consent, respect, and communication is also more pronounced. E. Psychological Perspective: Human Needs: Psychologically, sex fulfills various human needs beyond reproduction. It can be an expression of love, a means of seeking pleasure, and a way to experience intimacy and connection. Mental Health: Healthy sexual relationships can contribute positively to mental health and overall well-being, reducing stress and increasing happiness.

### Future of Sex

The future of sex in relationships is likely to be influenced by a variety of factors, including technological advancements, societal changes, and evolving cultural norms: a. Technological Advancements: Sex Robots and Artificial Intelligence: The development of sex robots and AI-driven companions could transform intimate relationships. These technologies may provide companionship and sexual satisfaction, potentially reducing loneliness for some individuals. However, they could also raise ethical and social concerns about human connection and emotional fulfillment. Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR): VR and AR technologies are creating new possibilities for sexual experiences. Virtual environ-

ments can allow individuals to explore fantasies in safe and controlled settings, which may impact how people view and engage in real-world sexual relationships. Wearable Technology and Health Monitoring: Advances in wearable technology and health monitoring devices could provide new ways to enhance sexual health and performance. These tools might offer insights into physical and emotional states, helping couples improve their sexual experiences.

**Societal Changes: Changing Attitudes Towards Sexuality:** Societal attitudes towards sexuality are becoming more open and accepting. This trend is likely to continue, with increasing recognition and support for diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and relationship structures. Focus on Consent and Communication: The emphasis on consent and healthy communication in relationships is expected to grow. Education about sexual consent and mutual respect is likely to become more widespread, fostering healthier and more equitable relationships. Impact of Social Media and Online Dating: Social media and online dating platforms will continue to influence how people meet and form relationships. These platforms may evolve to offer more personalized and meaningful connections, but they could also pose challenges related to privacy and authenticity. c. Health and Well-being Sexual Health and Education: Improved access to sexual health services and education will likely continue to play a crucial role in the future of sex in relationships. Comprehensive sex education can empower individuals to make informed choices and maintain healthy sexual relationships.

**Ethical and Legal Considerations:** Privacy and Data Security: As technology becomes more integrated into intimate aspects of life, concerns about privacy and data security will be paramount. Ensuring that personal information is protected will be essential in maintaining trust and safety in relationships. Ethical Use of Technology: The ethical implications of using advanced technologies in sexual relationships will need careful consideration. Issues such as consent, autonomy, and the potential for exploitation will be critical in shaping the responsible use of these technologies. The future of sex in relationships will likely be shaped by a complex interplay of technological, societal, cultural, and health-related factors.

*Dr. Rajkumar Singh is a youth motivator and former Head of the University Department of Political Science, B.N. Mandal University, Madhepura, Bihar, India.*

## ECHOES OF WISDOM

# Sheikh Ul Aalam's Environmental Message

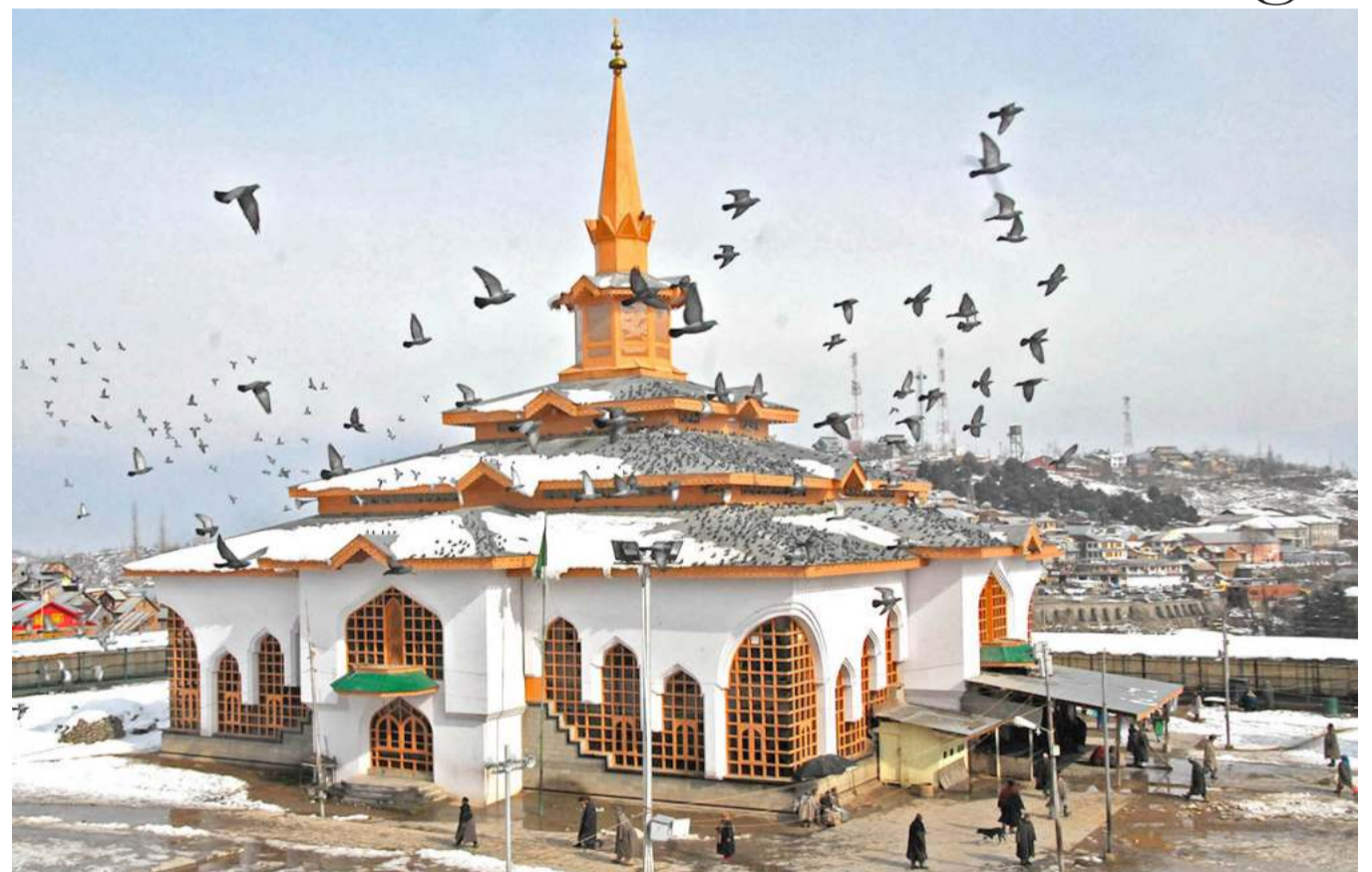
MADIHA

**S**heikh ul Aalam, also known as Nund Rishi, profoundly encapsulated the symbiotic relationship between nature and human sustenance with his saying, "Ann poshi teli yeli wan poshi," which translates to "Food will thrive only when the forests thrive." This ancient wisdom underscores the deep connection between the environment and human sustenance. As Kashmir grapples with an intense heatwave, this saying holds profound relevance, highlighting the urgent need to understand and address the region's current atmospheric conditions. This timeless wisdom speaks volumes about the importance of environmental conservation for sustaining human life. Examining Kashmir's past and present atmosphere through this lens reveals stark contrasts and pressing concerns.

Kashmir was formerly well-known for its pristine landscape, verdant forests, and bountiful valleys. The area's natural resources were closely linked to the everyday economy and way of life. Kashmir's forests were vast and dense, offering wood, medicinal plants, and other necessities for daily life. Additionally, the vast variety of these forests maintained ecological balance.

Agriculture in Kashmir was largely sustainable, with traditional farming practices that were in harmony with nature. The soil was fertile, and water from the mountains and rivers ensured bountiful harvests. The natural ecosystem was well-balanced, with forests playing a crucial role in maintaining soil health, regulating water cycles, and providing habitat for wildlife. This balance was vital for sustaining agriculture and, by extension, the food supply.

The cultural ethos of Kashmir, influenced by saints like Sheikh



ul Aalam, promoted respect and reverence for nature. This was reflected in sustainable living practices and the responsible use of natural resources.

Over the years, extensive deforestation has occurred due to logging, urbanization, and agricultural expansion. This has led to the loss of crucial forest cover, threatening biodiversity and disrupting the ecological balance. The reduction in forest cover has resulted in soil erosion, reduced water retention, and increased vulnerability to natural disasters such as floods and landslides. The degradation of natural resources has directly impacted agricultural productivity.

Kashmir, like many other regions, is experiencing the effects of climate change. Erratic weather patterns, reduced

snowfall, and changing precipitation levels are affecting crop yields and water availability, posing a threat to food security.

Air and water pollution levels have increased as a result of rapid industrialization and urbanization. The once-clean waters of Dal Lake and other water sources are now contaminated, which has an impact on agricultural and public health. Traditional customs that were closer to nature have been abandoned as a result of technology and shifting lifestyles. Unsustainable behaviors and environmental neglect have been exacerbated by this cultural shift.

Sheikh ul Aalam's adage, "Ann poshi teli yeli wan poshi," is more relevant today than ever. It serves as a powerful reminder of the need to restore and preserve Kashmir's

natural environment. Efforts to combat deforestation, promote sustainable agriculture, and address climate change are crucial for ensuring that future generations can enjoy the bounty of the land.

As Kashmir endures a severe heatwave, this wisdom serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving and protecting our natural surroundings. Addressing the current atmospheric challenges requires a collective effort to implement sustainable practices and combat climate change, ensuring a harmonious coexistence with nature for future generations.

The current heatwave in Kashmir is not just a meteorological event but a call to action. It highlights the need for robust climate policies, increased public awareness,

and a commitment to sustainable living. The wisdom of "Ann poshi teli yeli wan poshi" must guide our efforts to safeguard the environment, ensuring that both food and forests thrive for the well-being of all.

By embracing sustainable practices and taking decisive action against climate change, we can create a future where the natural environment and human societies can thrive together. The heatwave is a reminder of the challenges ahead, but also an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to environmental stewardship and the preservation of our planet for future generations.

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

# Smartphones In Class Rooms

DR TRISHNA SARKAR

The well-known saying "The show must go on" is frequently used to uplift the players in the entertainment industry. Similarly, the market needs to continue uplifting the confidence of the economic agents. Without supply and demand, markets collapse, which is why constant attempts are undertaken to reach the theoretical equilibrium that is frequently discussed in market economies. The market continuously modifies itself to maintain its hegemony and enormous profits in order to allow the show to continue.

As educators, we have all gone through the trying times during pandemics when the only resources accessible for instruction were smartphones and internet access. Smartphones have become standard equipment in every home. Market responded quickly and was eager to help.

Pent-up demand following a pandemic-ravaged 2020 led Indians to purchase more cellphones over the period, resulting in phone shipments up 23% year-over-year to more than 38 million devices, the greatest sales for any first quarter, according to data firm Counterpoint.

According to Counterpoint, South Korea's Samsung and China's Xiaomi Corp continue to be the top brands preferred by Indian consumers, with a combined 26% of the market.

The study revealed that 75% of the Indian smartphone market was dominated by Chinese companies. Due to high demand for the iPhone 11 and deals on the iPhone SE, Apple tripled its sales in India in the first quarter of 2021 and continued to hold the top



spot in the premium smartphone market. In 2021, the income generated by smartphones worldwide surpassed \$448 billion, as per the most recent analysis provided by Counterpoint's Market Monitor Service.

Profits did not slow down despite the slow down of the pandemic. By the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, parents and students alike had become dependent on their smartphones for personal reasons and for convenient access to study resources.

Research has shown that pupils who use smartphones have lower levels of concentration. Additionally, it disrupts learning in the classroom, lowers students' capacity for analytical thought, and exposes them to cyberbullying. In addition to the previously mentioned detrimental effects, an addiction to Smartphones can cause sleep disruption, blurred vision, and an abundance of opportunities for exposure to unwanted content.

Taking into account everything said

above, New York recently became the second state, after Florida, to pass laws outlawing the use of smartphones by kids in the classroom. Protecting the children and students from mental health issues was the aim.

The market performed as expected, met demand affected by the pandemic, and made the anticipated profit. Furthermore, if students are suffering after using these smartphones for more than a year, it is not the market's responsibility. The

market was there, fulfilling the needs as best it could. Now, nevertheless, the market is once again prepared to help us by providing us with preventive measures in the event of a student mental and health crisis. It makes apps to remind us to exercise and monitor our screen usage, for instance, and provides us anti-glare screens to safeguard our eyes. It also offers paid mental health indicators, diet plans, BP monitors and other services. It can help us (read: encash our needs) at all times. We also owe it to the market to return the favor, given how concerned it is now about our physical and emotional well-being. This prize comes with a hefty price tag in the shape of smartphone costs. The market will ensure that a higher price satisfies the requirements for a better and higher status and ensure that this concept is truly beneficial for the expansion of the economy.

Although the decision to forbid smartphones in schools is a positive step, these efforts will be undermined by the status identity that the market continues to promote. Since kids always follow their parents and teachers, it is the parents' and teachers' duty to help them overcome their own smartphone addiction. However, this is difficult for them too, because they are also agents and players in the market and the market in turn influences these agents in the name of advancement and status. The question is who is smarter, the human brains/conscience or the smartphones/markets. (C-Counter Currents)

Dr Trishna Sarkar, Asst Prof, Dept of Economics, Dr BhimRao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi.

## Nuclear War As A Global Catastrophic Risk



BHARAT DOGRA

In the middle of several very serious questions haunting humanity today, the one that looms over all others is this terrible one—how high is the possibility of World War 3/ nuclear war and how destructive this will be?

Even those who take an optimistic view of the existing situation do not deny the obvious fact that weapons of mass destruction that exist with just the two biggest nuclear weapon powers (over 10,000 nuclear weapons plus other weapons) have the capacity to destroy most life on earth several times over. They base their optimism mainly on their view that just because the risks of a large-scale nuclear war are so unacceptably high, this will never be allowed to actually happen by the world leadership and no matter how serious the hostilities become, some solution will always be found to avoid a war that has the capacity to destroy all sides.

Can this optimism be accepted? Is this optimism justified? Is this optimism good for reducing worries and tensions of people, or is it likely to prove extremely harmful by creating a false assurance of safety and thereby avoiding much-needed safety steps? Do the actual risks remain unacceptably high?

What is at stake here is so huge—the very survival of life on planet—that even a low probability of an all-out nuclear war should be seen as extremely dangerous. If for example a 5% probability of this existed till about a few years ago, then this was a very serious matter and if this has now increased to about 10% then this is a much more serious matter. If this probability now appears to show a further increasing trend then this makes the situation even more alarming.

On the whole we can say definitely that the probability of a life-destroying nuclear war today is unacceptably high and it shows all the signs of worsening further.

There are two aspects that need to be considered here, firstly the state of world leadership and governance and secondly certain technological factors.

It is extremely unfortunate that when international peace and cooperation are needed more than ever



before to avoid the most catastrophic situations, the world leadership has been increasingly exposed in recent times for its glaring failures to achieve such peace and cooperation. In fact it is no exaggeration to say that at a time when the need for moving fast on the path of peace, disarmament and cooperation is the highest, world leadership has been instead moving in the reverse direction, as evident from increasing superpower rivalries and tensions as well as breakdown and non-renewal of important disarmament treaties or agreements.

In addition there are several serious environmental problems which together threaten to disrupt life-nurturing conditions of earth if not checked in time. To resolve these in time, apart from strong community actions, close international cooperation is also needed but this too is denied by increasing big power disputes and rivalries, as well as inability of the most of the rich countries to adopt a caring attitude towards the needs of poorer and most vulnerable countries. This is mentioned here as another example of the failure of world leadership to get its priorities right and resolve the most urgent problems before it is too late.

The most dangerous aspect of increasing irresponsibility shown by

the leadership of big powers is their apparent willingness to pursue their rivalries and hostilities in ways that bring them closer to the possibilities of direct war (in addition to the several proxy wars they have fought and are fighting). Despite warnings by some of their most senior statesmen and diplomats, the USA and its close allies persisted with the relentless eastward expansion of NATO, thereby increasing tensions with Russia. This worsened with a coup in Ukraine assisted by them, followed by pushing Ukraine relentlessly towards increasing hostility with Russia. In the course of the Ukraine-Russia conflict, USA and close allies have increasingly taken decisions that can lead to direct confrontation of Russia with USA and its close allies/NATO. New red lines have been drawn and crossed several times in the recent past.

The spread of dangerous ideas among elites and the absence of adequate training in commitment to peace makes them more susceptible to pursue irrational hostility rather than peace, and it is from these elites that the most decisive posts are filled and it is these elites that comprise the deep establishment.

Secondly, regarding the technological aspects, the extremely high speed at which nuclear weapons can

be made to reach their targets makes it difficult to correct serious mistakes. It is possible in times of high tensions to mistake normal weapon delivery as nuclear weapon delivery and take retaliatory actions. There are possibilities of accidents and misunderstandings that can start a nuclear war.

There is huge irrationality and recklessness involved in perpetually living in a state of being just minutes away from doomsday.

The fact that world leadership sees nothing wrong in living this way year after year, endangering the life of billions of people and other life forms, is further evidence of its glaring failure to protect the most crucial interests of the planet and its life.

The previous two world wars were fought over several years and involved prolonged battles in many countries. World War 3 can take a very different shape as so much harm is caused within just a few days that it cannot continue beyond this. However it will be worse than the previous two world wars taken together as within a few days of nuclear warfare and the resulting nuclear winter most people and other life-forms will die or will be left to die. The actual use of just 10% of the existing stock of nuclear weapons will be enough to achieve such a

hugely destructive result.

It is not just a question of whether the probability of this ever happening is 5% or 10%, more or less. The fact is that by any rational reckoning any probability of this happening even at minimum levels is unacceptable. This is a betrayal by world leadership of their most essential responsibility towards people, towards this generation and the next, towards completely innocent children, towards all forms of life.

Hence it is time for the people of the world to rise, led by women and youth, to create an entirely different world where the probability of such huge destruction by weapons and wars is zero, and where all people can live in peace and cooperate to resolve the most important environmental problems in time and ensure that all people can have creative, satisfactory livelihoods to meet their basic needs on a sustainable basis. In short, the world should be firmly on a path based on peace, safety, environmental protection, and justice. (C-Counter Currents)

Bharat Dogra is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include Planet in Peril, Protecting Earth for Children, Earth without Borders, Man over Machine and A Day in 2071.

# Chief Justice Visits Kulgam; Inaugurates Lawyers Chambers

Library-Cum-Reading Room At Munsiff Court Complex, D H Pora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**KULGAM:** Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N Kotiswar Singh and Administrative Judge for district Kulgam, Justice Sanjay Dhar, specially invited to the Law-

yers Chambers and Library-cum-Reading room, at Munsiff Court Complex, D.H.Pora.

During the event, the Chief Justice interacted with the lawyers and expressed deep satisfaction over the work done by the executing agency. He emphasized upon the lawyers to make best use of the infrastructural facilities which are being provided to them from time to time so that the benefit of these milestones should reach to the seekers of Justice especially marginalised people.

The Chief Justice emphasized the importance of upholding justice, promoting legal literacy and empowering the legal fraternity to serve society effectively.

During the insightful interaction, Justice Sanjay Dhar, Administrative Judge of District Kulgam, provided guidance on effective case management, stating "Efficiency is vital in expediting justice". As judicial officers and public prosecutors, we must strive for excellence in our responsibilities, while maintaining the

highest standards of integrity and impartiality."

The visit of the Chief Justice and Justice Sanjay Dhar underscores judiciary's commitment towards engaging with local communities, promoting legal awareness, and supporting educational initiatives. It is a testament to their dedication towards upholding the principles of justice and strengthening the legal and educational infrastructure in the region.

Meanwhile, the Chief Justice and the Administrative Judge

also attended a cultural event hosted by the Eklavya Model Residential School Tangmarg Aharbal.

Justice Kotiswar Singh highlighted the importance of education and law for the students while recommending them to read Constitution of India which is a vital document to know the rights and duties. The students had a chance to display their abilities and ingenuity on a stage that highlighted the region's rich cultural legacy. The event concluded with the distribu-

tion of wheelchairs and sports kits among the specially abled and players respectively.

Earlier in his welcome address, Principal District and Sessions Judge Kulgam, Parvaiz Iqbal, stated that the inauguration ceremony of Lawyers Chambers and Library cum reading room symbolizes a milestone in the endeavour of Judiciary for providing comprehensive facilities for legal professionals in Kulgam. The establishment of these facilities will go a long way in improving the work culture at D.H

Pora which historically is a crucible of civilizations and cultures which has lent their myriad hues to this Tehsil and overall to the fabric of Kulgam, he added.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Amir and SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal, CJM Kulgam, Abdul Qayoom Mir, Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Kulgam, Muneer Ahmad Bhat, Munsiff D.H Pora /Kulgam, Mudasir Bashir besides President and office bearers of Bar Association DH Pora.

## CS Lays Out Steps To Create Enabling Ecosystem For Promotion Of Skill Development

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Friday held a meeting with Vice Chancellor Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU), Haryana, Dr Raj Nehru, specially invited to share his knowledge and expertise regarding establishment of SVSU besides discussing the ways and means of nurturing skill environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Present in the meeting were Secretary, Skill Development Department (SDD), MD, Skill Development Mission, Director, SDD, Labour Commissioner, Secretary, Technical Board and other concerned officers while Jammu based officers participated virtually.

Chief Secretary laid stress on vigorous promotion of skill development in the UT by creating an enabling ecosystem. He elucidated the broad steps to be taken in anticipation of making the environment feasible for flourishing skill development in the region. In order to make any such academic or vocational pursuit successful it is imperative for the administration to first create genuine platform for it in the shape of necessary policies and regulations governing it, he added.

Atal Dulloo said that the same should be followed by establishment of model institutions imparting training or education in this trade or vocation. He added that it is the outcome of these institutions that prepare

ground for other private players to make inroads and take this field to new heights.

Chief Secretary cited the examples of Medical, Engineering and Agricultural fields to buttress his reflections made during this meeting. He advocated framing of a similar strategy as that of above professions and called SVSU an earnest step in this direction.

Atal Dulloo encouraged the stakeholders including the Secretary, SDD to pay a visit to this Skill University to have a fair idea about the future course of action. He also beckoned the University authorities to handhold the J&K administration in making better plans and points of action to promote holistic skilling of the youth of J&K.

VC, SVSU, Raj Nehru, presented a broad historical background of the University providing detailed insights into its working.

It was informed that the University aims at nurturing skill development in candidates right from KG to PG level. Besides, the curriculum for each course had been designed and developed in consultation with the concerned Industrial set-up itself.

It was added that the courses are outcome driven with focus on mapping all its programs as per industry needs to ensure that students are equipped with competencies required for employment, self employment and career advancement with horizontal and vertical mobility options aligned to NSQF and NCrF framework.

## Srinagar Conclave On Urban Planning Concludes On High Note

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** The two day Srinagar Conclave on urban planning, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Center (SKICC), concluded successfully here Friday.

The high level Committee, headed by Chairman Keshav Varma, focused on advancing urban planning reforms across India.

On second day of the Conclave, extensive discussions and deliberations were held among the representatives from various states, urban planners and other stakeholders. These sessions yielded many recom-

mendations for the Committee's final report, focusing on future urbanization strategies that integrate cultural heritage preservation and state-specific development models.

Keshav Varma led the sessions, emphasizing the need for future urbanization strategies that integrate asset management systems, including cultural and heritage assets of smaller cities. He also stressed the importance of identifying strengths, adopting state-specific models and focusing on natural conservation while tailoring development regulations for different zones. He added that the outcomes of Srinagar Conclave are expected to play a crucial role in shaping sus-

tainable and resilient urban development strategies for the future.

Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, addressed the concluding session, expressing optimism that the discussions and recommendations from the Conclave will significantly incorporate the final report. She also highlighted the potential for cooperative efforts to address urban issues effectively.

Sanjeev Kumar, former CEO IRSDC (WB), Satish Chandra, Chairman RERA, members of High Level Committee as well as urban and town planning experts and senior officials also attended the sessions.

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE .....

## J&K Breathes Sigh

of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places, he said, adding that from July 08-July 10, hot and humid weather with possibility of brief spell of rain and thundershower is expected at scattered places of Jammu division towards late night and early morning and spell of rain and thundershower at few places of Kashmir.

On July 11 & 12, he said a spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at scattered places.

Moreover, the local Meteorological department in its advisory has mentioned that flash floods, landslides, mudslides & shooting stones are possible at few vulnerable places till tomorrow.

Few low lying areas may experience temporary water logging conditions, it reads, adding that a few places may experience moderate thunderstorm and lightning—(KNO)

## J&K Witnessing

as the preferred destination for the investors across the globe.

"Jammu Kashmir is set on a path of growth that will bring about momentous and historic changes. The government has taken decisive and bold measures to remove barriers obstructing development, propelling J&K towards becoming a resilient and self-reliant Union Territory," the Lt Governor said.

H.E Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India reiterated the commitment of Czech Republic to deepen the partnership with India, with a dedicated focus on nurturing mutual growth and collaboration.

Guneet Chaudhary, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Chandigarh for UT of J&K; Sh Adam Podhola, Third Secretary in the Embassy of Czech Republic; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Ms Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Department and Sh Khalid Jahangir, Managing Director, JKTPD were present during the meeting.

## BJP Ready For

Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh and J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina at the state office bearers meeting, Reddy said, "In this direction, (BJP) National President J P Nadda ji will provide guidance to workers and leaders here tomorrow. He will review the party's work during the Parliamentary elections."

The minister further stated that he would also guide the party regarding the forthcoming assembly elections.

In his address, Reddy highlighted that the Modi government has driven unprecedented development visible in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir as well.

"The Modi government has addressed the aspirations of every Indian emotionally connected to J&K and its residents. BJP has worked on its core issue of Article 370 and fulfilled the promises made to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the entire nation," he affirmed.

He asserted the Modi government will accelerate development in Jammu and Kashmir in its third term.

Welcoming the party leaders and activists, Raina congratulated them for achieving a comprehensive victory in the Lok Sabha elections, as committed in the last office bearers' meeting.

"The BJP has won both seats contested in J&K, reflecting Modi ji's commitment to

'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'," Raina noted.

Chugh praised the BJP cadre for securing a hundred per cent victory in the Parliamentary elections and commended the end of family-based politics in the region. He also highlighted that the Congress failed to win a single seat in Jammu & Kashmir.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh highlighted that the Modi government is the first in India to secure a comprehensive victory for the third consecutive term despite active political opposition. He contrasted this with Congress' repeated failures to achieve even a 100 seats.

The BJP presented a political resolution shedding light on the political events and current socio-political situation in Jammu & Kashmir, reaffirming the party's commitment to addressing these issues.

BJP chief spokesman Sunil Sethi presented an empowerment resolution reflecting the party's perspective on current issues and its approach to empowering all sections.

## ECI To Hold

discrepancies in electoral roll and readiness for preparation of integrated draft electoral roll.

The commission will also discuss the issues raised by political parties during their meetings with the district election officers (DEOs).

On June 20, the poll-body had ordered a special summary revision of electoral rolls in the Union Territory.

On December 11 last year, the Supreme Court had directed the Election Commission of India to hold assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir by September 30.

On June 20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that preparations have begun for assembly polls in Jammu & Kashmir. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the local level, through them you find ways to solve problems, what can be better than this? Therefore, now the preparations for the Assembly elections have also 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," he had said—(KNO)

## Five J&K Police Officers

community.

Shaurya Chakra (Non-Posthumous): Sub-Inspector Amit Raina was recognized for his significant contributions to counter-terrorism operations in the region. During an operation in January 2022 in Srinagar, displaying utmost courage in the face of the enemy, he left his cover without caring for his life. He advanced towards the terrorist and in a face-to-face gunfight, neutralized the category 'A' terrorist.

Sub-Inspector Feroz Ahmad Dar was awarded for his courage and effectiveness in handling critical security situations. During an operation in Srinagar in January 2022, he took the lead in eliminating a terrorist while ensuring the safety and security of the civilians in the area.

Constable Varun Singh was honoured for his commitment and bravery in crucial operations. Constable Singh played a key role in counter-terrorism efforts, often putting himself in harm's way to ensure the safety of others. He displayed tremendous grit and determination, an act of gallantry, and a never-say-die spirit under the most challenging circumstances, leading to the elimination of a category 'A' terrorist and the recovery of arms and ammunition from the possession of terrorists.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Mohan Lal was acknowledged for his leadership and gallantry. Superintendent Lal led numerous counter-terrorism initiatives. In June 2022, during an operation in Srinagar, showing exceptional bravery and indomitable will, he neutralised a terrorist. Sensing an imminent threat to his team, he left his cover and advanced bravely to neutralise another terrorist—(KNO)

## 36,000 Solar

shall begin soon," he said, while urging the consumers to submit their formal applications to the designated portal – www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in.

In order to facilitate the beneficiaries, the spokesperson stated that no Technical Feasibility Report (TFR) is required for a solar plant up to 10 kWp. He, however, clarified that solar panels shall be compulsorily installed on rooftops of the beneficiaries.

Calling upon the consumers to avail benefits of PM Surya Ghar Scheme, the spokesman stated that subsidy for residential rooftop solar is 60% of the system cost up to 2 kW & 40% of additional system cost for systems between 2-3 kW capacity. At current benchmark prices, it adds up to Rs.33,000/- subsidy for 1 kWp, Rs.66,000/- for 2 kWp and Rs. 85,800/- for 3 kWp solar rooftop systems or higher for special category UT like Jammu & Kashmir.

The KPDCCL spokesperson further said that households availing the scheme, will be able to save on electricity bills.

In order to facilitate the prospective beneficiaries and popularize the solar rooftop scheme, KPDCCL has created a hyperlink of PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on its designated website – www.kpdcl.jkppdd.net. KPDCCL urged the consumers to click on the hyperlink so that they are navigated to the national portal for registration and submission of formal applications.

The spokesman further added that Kashmir DISCOM is organising awareness camps and IEC campaigns in all Electric Divisions so that maximum publicity is given to the flagship scheme.

## CS Takes Stock Of

physical progress made in each of the project taken in hand and the time by which these works are going to be finished in all respects.

The Chief Secretary emphasised on completing all these blocks as per the deadlines fixed without any fail. He also enjoined upon the Relief Commissioner to allot the furnished flats to the eligible candidates forthwith. He called for taking up other works too for ensuring their early completion.

In a detailed presentation, Secretary, DMRR&R, Anil Koul while giving overview of whole scheme, provided location wise progress registered in creation of additional accommodations for these package employees.

It was given out that out of the total 6000 flats to be made for the same number of employees, around 4800 had already been taken-up for completion at different locations.

It was further revealed that the construction of 2088 flats has been completed till date of which 998 have been allotted to genuine applicants. It was also given out that work on 2712 flats is at advanced stage of completion and these are going to be handed over in next few months for allotment.

Giving further details, it was informed that since the onset of April this year, construction of 536 new flats had been taken in hand and 392 flats had also been completed, resulting in net addition of about 144 flats during this period.

The meeting also deliberated upon the

issue of inclusion of Kashmiri Migrant families into the NFSA database for extending the benefits of different social security benefits to them. It also held discussions over package extend by MHA to the refugees including those belonging to years of 1947/1965/1971 as well as from West Pakistan.

## Amarnath Yatra

cave shrine in the deep Himalayas during the last four days since the yatra started has reached 1,30,260, surpassing all the previous records.

Officials said among the 24,978 pilgrims who performed darshan today at holy cave included 16,667 male, 5367 female, 354 children, 520 Sadhus, two Sadhvis and seven others besides 2061 security personnel and service providers.

According to available data, in 2023, the yatra crossed the one-lakh mark on the 10th day of its commencement, while in 2022 it took nine days.

Meanwhile, the eighth batch of 6919 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas base camp in Jammu for the Kashmir Valley to perform the pilgrimage to the Amarnath Cave Shrine.

Chanting 'Bam Bam Bhole', the pilgrims left the base camp in a cavalcade of 259 early Friday morning. These include 5241 Men, 1435 Women, 16 Children, 214 Sadhus & 13 Sadhvis (female sadhus). Of these, 2542 left for Baltal whereas 4377 departed for Pahalgam base camp from where they will proceed for their further journey to the holy cave. The administration has placed stringent security arrangements for the smooth conduct of the yatra.

Officials said that thousands of security personnel from the police, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, and other paramilitary forces have been deployed along the route, while the army is overseeing the overall security with the air force providing all-round aerial surveillance.

Over 125 free langars have been established by philanthropic organizations at base camps and in the yatra area up to the holy cave to serve the pilgrims.

The 52-day-long Amarnath Ji Yatra will conclude on August 19 this year on the auspicious occasion of Shraavan Poornima, which also coincides with the festival of Raksha Bandhan—(KNO)

## 15.65 Lakh Tourist

have 7,036 bed capacity, 'C' category hotels in Srinagar have 10,500 bed capacity, Guest Houses have 17,114 bed capacity and the registered operational Houseboats have 4,462 bed capacity.

An official from the tourism department said the creation of infrastructure is primarily being focused by the government in Jammu and Kashmir.

From homestays to new hotels, he said the government is encouraging the setting up of such ventures in the valley, which has been a focal point for tourists across the world.

"The valley is witnessing an increase in room strengths as new hotels, guest houses and huts have come up at various destinations. In coming years more facilities will be set up and upgraded to ensure sustained tourism in Jammu and Kashmir," they said.

Pertinently, big hotel chains including Radisson, Lemon Tree have established their high-end hotels in Kashmir recently. The Fern Hotels & Resorts, India's leading environmentally sensitive hotel chain, also announced the signing of 5 new hotels in Kashmir—(KNO)

# PM Modi thanks Rishi Sunak for deepening India-UK ties



IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday lauded Rishi Sunak's contribution to consolidate ties between the two nations during his tenure as the UK Prime Minister.

"Thank you Rishi Sunak for your admirable leadership of the UK, and your active contribution to deepen the ties between India and the UK during your term in office. Best wishes to you and your family for the future," PM Modi posted on X.

Earlier in the day, Conservative Party leader Sunak conceded defeat in the UK general election as the Labour Party secured a resounding victory under the leadership of Keir Starmer.

PM Modi and the outgoing UK Prime Minister had recently met on the sidelines of the 50th G7

Summit in Italy's Apulia last month where they had reiterated their commitment to further strengthen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

During their conversation, the two leaders also reflected on the strength of the India-UK relationship and agreed that this will continue to grow in the future.

Sunak had also congratulated PM Modi on the BJP-led NDA's third straight election victory, insisting that the UK and India share the closest of friendships which would continue to thrive.

In May, the UK Prime Minister hailed India's rise as an 'economic superpower', asserting that new and fast-growing economic superpowers like India, Indonesia, and Nigeria are significantly reshaping the global economy.

## PM Modi congratulates Starmer after Labour Party's triumph in UK polls



IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday congratulated Keir Starmer after the Labour Party secured a resounding win in the UK general election under his leadership.

"Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Keir Starmer on the remarkable victory in the UK general elections. I look forward to our positive and constructive collaboration to further strengthen the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in all areas, fostering mutual growth and prosperity," PM Modi said in his message posted on X.

The 61-year-old leader is set to become Britain's 58th Prime Minister as the Labour Party returns to power after 14 years following a historic triumph.

"The change begins right here because this is your democracy, your community and your future. You have voted and now it

is time for us to deliver," he said after the resounding victory.

Last month, during his meeting with British PM Rishi Sunak on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Italy's Apulia, Prime Minister Modi reiterated his commitment to further strengthen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and the UK during the third term of the NDA government.

"There is great scope to deepen ties in sectors like semiconductors, technology and trade," PM Modi said after meeting Sunak.

The two leaders had extensively discussed the implementation of the Roadmap 2030 and expressed happiness on progress in all areas of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership including regular high-level political consultations, defence and security, trade and economic collaboration, critical and high technology sectors and people-to-people ties.

## Liquor Policy

### Delhi HC issues notice on CM Kejriwal's bail plea in CBI case

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Friday issued a notice to the CBI on a bail plea filed by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the corruption case linked to the alleged liquor policy scam.

A Bench of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna asked the central investigative agency to file its response and posted the matter for hearing on July 17.

During the hearing, the counsel representing CBI objected to filing of the bail plea directly before the High Court, adding that CM Kejriwal should have first approached the trial court for bail.

However, the Bench said that contention will be considered at a later stage and asked the CBI to file its reply in the meantime.

Earlier on Wednesday, CM Kejriwal's bail plea was mentioned before a Bench presided over by Acting Chief Justice (ACJ) Manmohan for urgent listing.

The ACJ assured that his bail petition would be heard on Friday, July 5.

Pertinently, CM Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest by the CBI is also

coming up for hearing on July 17.

The AAP supremo, who presently remains under 14-day judicial custody (till July 12) in the corruption case, had assailed the validity of his arrest by the CBI and subsequent custody of the agency.

On June 26, CM Kejriwal was arrested by the CBI and was produced before the Rouse Avenue Court. Subsequently, he was sent to three-day CBI custody for interrogation.

Permission was granted to the CBI to produce CM Kejriwal in the special court after questioning him in Tihar Jail.

Recently, the Delhi High Court stayed a trial court's order granting bail to CM Kejriwal in a money laundering case, saying that the documents and arguments were not appreciated by the lower court.

The Supreme Court, in May, had reserved its verdict on the petition filed by CM Kejriwal challenging his arrest and subsequent remand by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the excise policy case. He was ordered to be released on 21-day interim bail by the apex court in view of the General Elections.

## 1 in 3 suffer from fatty liver in India, predates diabetes: Dr Jitendra

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** Every third person in India has a fatty liver, which predates Type-2 diabetes and other metabolic disorders, said Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, on Friday.

"Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) -- a common metabolic liver disorder -- can progress to cirrhosis and primary liver cancer eventually. It predates diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and many other diseases. As an endocrinologist myself, I understand the nuances of fatty liver and its relation with diabetes and other metabolic disorders," said Dr Jitendra, a nationally renowned Diabetologist.

He was speaking at the launch of the Indo-French Liver and Metabolic Disease Network (InFLiMeN) -- a virtual node to prevent and cure metabolic liver diseases at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences in the national Capital.

Eleven French and 17 Indian doctors will jointly work in this node.

"Both the Indian subcontinent and Europe are

attributable to changes in lifestyle, diet and importantly metabolic syndromes such as diabetes and obesity which have contributed to a significant rise in NAFLD," the minister said.

He added that in the Indian subcontinent, NAFLD occurs in about 20 per cent of non-obese patients, whereas in the West, most NAFLD is associated with obesity.

He further noted that both India and France have "a considerable burden of alcoholic liver disease (ALD)." The Union Minister explained that both NAFLD and ALD exhibit a very similar progression from steatosis to steatohepatitis, cirrhosis, and HCC.

"India became a global leader not just in curative healthcare but also in preventive healthcare," said Dr. Jitendra, highlighting India's progress in the last decade. He stressed the need for India-specific diagnostics "as our phenotype is different".

"There is an urgent need to develop simple, low-cost diagnostic tests for the detection of different stages of fatty liver and their progression to severe, full-blown diseases," he said.

## Tripura tribal party suprema meets Union Ministers

IAN S

**AGARTALA:** Amid the Tripura Motha Party's (TMP) expressing its strong displeasure over sluggish progress in implementing the tripartite accord signed between the Centre, the Tripura government, and it for "constitutional solution" of problems faced by tribals, party suprema Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma on Thursday met three Union Ministers in Delhi and demanded support for the development of the tribals.

Following his meeting with Scindia, the TMP leader, he, in a post on X, said: "Met DoNER Minister JM Scindia and appraised him of the problems faced by the Indigenous tribes of Tripura, especially in the 6th schedule areas. Social impact assessment and audit of the projects must be done.

of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram and Union Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary.

TMP sources on Thursday said that Debbarma discussed various affairs of tribals' development in Tripura and demanded adequate support from the Union Ministers.

The TMP has been governing, since April 2021, the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC), which has jurisdiction over two-thirds of the state's 10,491 square km area and is home to over 12,16,000 people, of which around 84 per cent are tribals. In

political significance, it is the second most important constitutional body in the state after the Assembly.

The TMP, which won 13 seats - all reserved for tribals - in the 2023 Assembly polls, on March 2, signed the tripartite agreement with the Centre and the Tripura government and on March 7, two MLAs of the party became ministers of the BJP-led government.

The tripartite agreement envisaged the setting up of a Joint Working Group/Committee to work out and implement the mutually agreed issues in a time-bound manner to ensure an "honourable" solution to tribals' demands.

And Informed him about the projects which can be implemented in TTAADC."

After meeting Oram, Debbarma posted: "Tripura used to be an indigenous/tribal state and over the years due to various factors, we, the indigenous, have become a minority in our own land. Requested and him to financially empower the TTAADC."

The TMP has been governing, since April 2021, the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC), which has jurisdiction over two-thirds of the state's 10,491 square km area and is home to over 12,16,000 people, of which around 84 per cent are tribals. In

## DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION OFFICE OF THE WILDLIFE WARDEN WETLAND DIVISION HOKERSAR, SRINAGAR.

### AUCTION NOTICE

(PLEASE READ THE AUCTION DOCUMENT CAREFULLY)

"Restoring Critically Silted Areas & Enhancing Water Holding Capacity for Conservation of Hokersar WLCR by way of De-silting and removal of silt from identified spots and disposal of such material outside periphery of Hokersar WLR and its zone of influence"

**E-NIT No. 01 OF 2024-25** **Dated: 03/07/2024**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K Union Territory, Auction for "Restoring Critically Silted Areas & Enhancing Water Holding Capacity for Conservation of Hokersar WLCR by way of De-silting and removal of silt from identified spots and disposal of such material outside periphery of Hokersar WLR and its zone of influence" as per the approved Integrated Management Action Plan (IMAP) 2022-27 is notified/called through this online medium, in this behalf, the tenders/bids (in two cover system) are invited from the Registered Contractors of trade enlisted on JKPWDOMS, having valid license duly renewed as on date. The minimum Reserve Bid value per CUM (excluding taxes) is as per the rates presently in vogue conveyed by the Executive Engineer, I&FC Department, Flood Spill Channel Division, Narbal, Budgam vide letter No: FSCDN/LS/5770 Dated: 22-09-2022 and aggregates approximately to the amount indicate against each

S No	Range	Name of Work	Geo Location	Unit	Advertised Area in HAC	Estimated Quantity in CUM	Minimum Salvage Value per CUM	Minimum consideration amount to be offered by the contractor in Rupees (INR)	Tender Document Fee in INR	CDR in INR	Time of Completion of work in Days	Class of Contractor
1	Lakes	Left out areas of Hokersar WLCR at Haji Bagh	As per Cross Sections of Survey Report	CUM	60 (Approx)	572585	Rs 44/-	25193740/-	25193/-	2% (two percent) of Advertised Cost at the time of submission of Bid / Tenders online & 3% (three percent) Performance Security of the comparative Cost (H/1) to be submitted within 3 (three) days from the date of opening of Financial Bids by successful bidder only pledged to Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division Srinagar.	18 Month	AAY

**Compulsory Points to Note:**

- All the interested bidders on publication of this auction notice are requested / advised to download and read thoroughly the bidding document attached with this Auction Notice before submission of bids (bid submission shall be deemed as acceptance of all terms and condition in vogue amended till date).
- All the interested bidders on publication of this auction notice must inspect / visit the areas / plots to be auctioned on any working day between office hours (submission of bid shall be deemed as concurrence of physical visit/ inspection of sites).
- The bidder must perform a thorough verification / assessment of the quantities advertised to ensure outturn. The bidder must submit an undertaking on Letter Head certifying / agreeing with the outturn of the quantity advertised.
- The successful bidder shall necessarily have to deposit 75% of the final bid amount (H/1) within seven (07) days and the balance amount within next fifteen (15) days from the date of opening of financial bids, failing which, CDR/Performance Security and any payments made shall be forfeited, the contractors registration card shall be recommended for BLACKLISTING under rule, besides, Re-Auctioning of the spot at risk, cost and responsibility of the bidder.
- All the interested bidders are required to submit an AFFIDAVIT duly certified by First Class Magistrate stating NO DEFAULT of payment in similar nature Auctions during last three years and authorize this Division/Department to check the Bank Account balance and details of the bidder, besides, guarantee the completion of work within eighteen months working time only. No disproportionate excavations shall be allowed in terms of depth and no alternate site shall be allowed for meeting any shortfall what so ever.
- The bidder must provide Completion Certificates or No Objection Certificates (NOC) to substantiate the completion of similar nature of work. These certificates must be issued by a competent authority not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent. The certificates must clearly indicate the scope of work, the quantity executed, and the duration of the project.
- All the Bids must be mandatorily accompanied by BANK SOLVANCE / GUARANTEE CERTIFICATE issued by the Bank in the name of bidder for the minimum reserved auction bid amount as indicated in the Auction/Tender Document / Bidding Document.
- All the Bids must mandatorily be accompanied by a list of successful auctions participated during last three (03) years, wherein, the bidder was declared Highest First (H/1) with the details of auction amount and payments made on Letter Head duly stamped and signed by the bidder. (non submission will result in outright rejection of the bid)
- Submission of bid without the above supporting documents in addition to other required criteria shall be rejected out rightly unless Tender Opening Committee decides to accept any document, wherein, reasons cited are acceptable to the Committee.
- The rates quoted should be covered with transparent tape. Corrections, if any, should be authenticated by signature.
- The successful bidder highest first (H/1) shall have to submit the CDR/PS in original after opening of financial bids (before any consent is issued in his favour) and pay GST/TAX/Royalty if any, applicable and if admissible under rules within due dates.
- The tender opening committee / auction committee of this Department reserves the right to accept / reject the bids without assigning any reason thereof and no communication shall be entertained in this regard.
- The successful bidder shall himself be responsible for watch and ward of the material owned by him. No assistance of any sort shall be offered by Department before, during or after the execution of work. The contractor will not be allowed to sublet work to any other agency.
- The bid shall include complete removal of cut turns and other waste / peats if any, obtained from site, excavation and removal, transportation must be done by skilled / experienced workforce within specified time period under the supervision of Supervising Officer / Range Officer concerned/ Junior Engineer or Consultant Agency engaged by the Department and no relaxation shall be given with regard to time of completion unless there is an extra ordinary reason and same shall be accepted by tender opening committee, due penalty shall be imposed upto 10% of total bid amount, in case of default or non compliance of the Terms and Conditions.
- Other terms and condition, if any, shall be governed by and as envisaged in the similar nature of works advertised by the Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Kashmir or any other relevant Government Department.
- All the Rules, Acts and Notifications of Forest, Environment and Wildlife shall be strictly followed during execution of work and removal of excavated material. Damage caused to any surrounding infrastructure or property shall be sole responsibility of successful bidder (H/1) and the successful bidder (H/1) shall be liable to pay the amount due on account of such damage, if any, caused.
- No unforeseen charges what so ever on account of dewatering, construction of diversion bund, ramps, roads required during execution shall be entertained. The offered rates shall be inclusive of all such unforeseen charges.
- The successful bidder must establish a robust project monitoring and reporting mechanism. regular progress reports must be submitted to the Division attested by the Range Officer concerned detailing work completed, challenges faced, and corrective actions taken to ensure transparency and timely intervention if any, required.
- The Bidding Document enclosed with this Auction Notice is a necessary part of the ENIT.

**NOTE:** Hard copy of all the documents uploaded at the time of submission of tenders should be submitted in the Divisional office within three (03) days from the date of opening of Technical Bids without fail along with the copy of valid GST Registration / Latest Return, PAN Card and other relevant documents duly renewed.

- All bidders intending to participate in this Auction are advised to inspect the location and nature of works or contact the O/o Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division, Srinagar in case of any clarification before participating in the tender.
- Bids must be accompanied by the Tender Documents Fee of necessary Treasury Challan / Receipt in shape of Government Treasury Challan under Account Head : 0406-Forestry and Wildlife in favour of Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division, Srinagar and Earnest Money in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division, Srinagar in accordance with the circular issued by the Finance Department. The date of remittance of tender document fee and the CDR must be between Bid Submission Start Date and Bid Submission End Date, failing which the bid shall be deemed void and rejected out rightly.
- The consent / allotment for excavation / removal of excavated material shall be made strictly & only within or as per the approved bid (H/1), GST if any applicable shall be charged at the time of issuance and shall be valid for the current financial year only.
- Providing of Aadhaar Card and Contact Number is mandatory.

- The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the website <https://jtenders.gov.in> as per the schedule of dates given below:

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	03/07/2024
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	04/07/2024 to 25/07/2024
3.	Pre Bid Meeting	From 10 AM to 4 PM on 09/07/2024
4.	Bid submission start date	04/07/2024 from 06:00 PM
5.	Bid submission End date	25/07/2024 upto 06:00 PM
6.	Date & time of opening of technical bids (online)	26/07/2024 at 03:00 PM
7.	Date & time of opening of financial bids (online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation

- A pre-bid meeting will be held to clarify issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage by the contractors/bidders. Bids must be accompanied by the Tender Documents Fee of necessary Treasury Challan / Receipt in shape of Government Treasury Challan under Account Head : 0406-Forestry and Wildlife in favour of Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division, Srinagar and Earnest Money in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division, Srinagar in accordance with the circular issued by the Finance Department. The date of remittance of tender document fee and the issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded with the bid must be between Bid Submission Start Date and Bid Submission End Date, failing which the bid shall be deemed void and rejected out rightly.

- The date and time of opening of technical bids shall be notified on website <https://jtenders.gov.in> and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail address. The financial bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same website in the office of Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir Region. (Tender receiving authority)

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids (The Bid Validity period is subject to production of documents, Hard Copy within three working days from the date of opening of tenders).

- The earnest money shall be forfeited if:
  - Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid /tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28days after fixation of contract.

- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download / submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.jtenders.gov.in](http://www.jtenders.gov.in) to acquaint bid submission process.

- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per information Technology Act-2000 Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors. The bidder must use his personal 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' for bidding purpose.

- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with personal Digital Signature Certificate. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary/mandatory documents with the bid.
- All the bids online shall be opened in light of finance department communication O.M No: A/24(2017)-651 Dated: 07-06-2018.
- The bidder has to submit the scanned copy of Tender Document Fee, Bid Security Certificate in lieu of EMD, Valid GST Registration/Latest Return, PAN Card, Contractor Registration Card of required Class duly renewed along with Contact Number and hard copy of same within the stipulated timeframe.

- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of challan or simply uploading a copy of necessary treasury challan/receipt under Account Head : 0406-Forestry and Wildlife in favour of Wildlife Warden Wetland Division and Bid Security Certificate in lieu of EMD to be pledged to Wildlife Warden Wetland Division must be uploaded with the bid. The original challan/receipt (cost of tender document) CDR/FDR (earnest money/bid security) and all relevant documents etc. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

- Price escalation and Taxes: The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rate quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on e-Tendering Portal to store such documents as required.
- In case of CRF and any other specified, the relevant guidelines /standard bidding documents shall be followed.

- Instructions to Bidder (ITB) 15.1. All bidders shall include the following information and documents with their bids:-
  - Copies of original documents defining constitutions/legal status, place of registration and Principal place of Business
  - Valid GST No & PAN No.

- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
- Non attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English language.

- The tender opening authority shall be at liberty to open all bids irrespective of the receipt of hard copies.
- If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list /quantity schedule, cost of such item /items shall be deemed to be part of the overall /total contract value and no rate shall be allowed for such item /items in the allotment of contract.

- Insurance cover to labour /Machinery/work/Plant Material /Equipment by the contractor shall be mandatory.
- In case of any disputes /differences between contractor and department the jurisdiction shall be J&K UT.
- Correction (if any) in the uploaded BOQ shall be considered in line with the Technically Vetted Estimate for the work even after opening of tenders.

- Minimum three responsive Bids are required and mandatory for opening financial bids after scrutiny of papers /documents otherwise the works shall be re-tendered.

No. WLW(WL)/Accts/2024-25/89-92 Sd/  
Date: 03/07/2024 Wildlife Warden  
DIPK-2446-24 Wetland Division,  
Dt: 05/07/2024 Srinagar

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

# Retrieving PoK to be part of manifesto: BJP leaders told in Jammu meet

G K Reddy chairs party's office bearers meet in Jammu

ABID BASHIR

JAMMU: Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders from J&K were given a green signal on Assembly polls post Amarnath Yatra on Friday in a high level meeting chaired by the Union Minister and J&K election in-charge G Kishen Reddy in Jammu. The party also evolved a consensus to include retrieval of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) in its election manifesto while it also decided to demand Bharat Ratna for Mahraja Hari Singh for his decision of acceding to India in 1947.

Reddy chaired the meeting of BJP's office bearers at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu where BJP national General Secretary and J&K affairs in-charge Tarun Chug, MPs Dr Jitendra Singh, Jugal Kishore, J&K party chief Ravinder Raina, BJP's Co-in-charge for J&K Ashish Sood, BJP leader and former Assembly speaker Kavinder Gupta besides other leaders were present.

Reddy, who was connected with Jammu and Kashmir, first as the Union Minister of State for Home and then Tourism Minister, was recently appointed as the Election In-charge for the UT. He is presently the Cabinet Minister for Coals and Mines.

A source, privy to the meeting said that Reddy informed the party lead-



ers that Assembly polls in J&K will be held in time (September-October). "The party leaders were clearly conveyed that Assembly polls will be held in J&K post Amarnath Yatra and they must gear up without any further delay. The party men were also told that BJP will contest on all seats and there will be no alliance with any party," the source revealed. The annual pilgrimage of Amarnath started on June 29 and will culminate on August 19.

Today's meeting comes prior to the important session to be held in Kathua district tomorrow (July 6) that will be chaired by party's national president JP Nadda.

The source said that the agenda for tomorrow's meeting was framed that it was stressed that BJP leaders right from top to bottom in J&K must pull up their socks and launch a massive public outreach

prior to elections. "It was also decided that retrieval of PoK will be made part of the BJP's election manifesto," the source said. "It would be one of the poll planks of the party."

The party, as per the source, will also demand Bharat Ratna for Mahraja Hari Singh who acceded to the Union of India in 1947. "Bharat Ratna for the then Mahraja has to be on the grounds that he took a wise decision for Akhand Bharat," he said.

A party leader, who was part of the meeting, told KNO that the party will unanimously convey to the national president in tomorrow's meeting that "we were ready to contest polls on all seats in J&K."

"We will also wait for the message Nadda will convey to party ranks," he said. "One thing is clear that elections will be held in September-October and we have to be ready for a

big fight." He said the plan is to bag at least 40 seats to stake claim on government formation.

Pertinently, the Election Commission of India has already started the preparations for holding Assembly polls in J&K. On May 16, Union Minister Amit Shah arrived in Srinagar and conveyed to BJP leaders that gear up for Assembly polls and that the party would fight on all seats.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of international Yoga day at SKICC Srinagar had stated that the day was not far when J&K people would choose their own government and time wasn't far when J&K would march towards success and progress as a 'State' again.

The Supreme Court of India had directed the Centre to hold Assembly polls in J&K in September and to restore the Statehood as soon as possible—(KNO)

# Sgr best example of urban renewal: Chairman HLC on Urban Planning

OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: Srinagar has been best example of urban renewal, said Keshav Verma, Chairman of High-Level Committee (HLC) on Urban Planning on Friday and added that they are preparing the final recommendation report in unison with Jammu and Kashmir administration with regard to augmentation of developmental scenario in the Union Territory.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the two-day convocation here at SKICC, Keshav Verma said they talk with the States, the challenges they face and the status of urbanization follow-

ing which a final report is being framed in unison with them to come up with their recommendations.

"We are here to finalize the recommendations. We have already forwarded one of the recommendations and this time, we are preparing final recommendations so that the developmental projects will be taken up," he said.

Moreover, he said good work is being done in Srinagar, which is the best example of urban renewal. "Srinagar is the best example of how public friendly urban renewal can be ensured. How pedestrianization and other things can go side by side," he said.

He further added that

it has also led to the economic development here where thousands of people are visiting. "It has turned possible only due to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and hard work by the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The preparations that were done earlier were ensured on the ground only after Manoj Sinha took over as LG here.

"Srinagar is the best model and we talk about it in the rest of the country," Verma said.

Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), Mandeep Kour shared details about the conclave and stated that a lot of good discussion

and very predictive conclave has taken place here. "Since lot of experts from across states have come, whatever issues J&K has facing in terms of urban development, master planning, development authorities, a threadbare discussion was done in this regard. This will help us to prepare the vision document for further development," Kour said.

"We have prepared a roadmap for the future plans of development in the J&K that will be carried out for next few years," she said and added that in terms of blue and green spaces, J&K has done a tremendous work so far while some other states are still struggling for it—(KNO)

# Defying all odds, Pattan lady opens outlet in Sgr to earn livelihood

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: A young woman from Pattan area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district has been visiting Srinagar on a daily basis to run her outlet in Srinagar City so as to earn a livelihood.

Afroza Banoo (34), daughter of Ghulam Rasool Malik, a resident of Nihalpora Pattan is running her outlet at Govt Women's hut in Dalgate so as to manage livelihood for herself and bear the expenses of her children.

Afroza Banoo said that she has been associated with Kashmir art for around the last two decades now and has been knowing needle and Ari work very well.

She said that she joined the NRLM department and is running an outlet where she is selling shawls, suits, curtain covers and many other things.

"I have been going to home in the evening

and returning every morning but I have been earning my livelihood very well and have been bearing expenses of my children, who are around 7 and 9 years old studying in a private school," she said.

Afroza said that she had met tragedies including divorce and accident in her life but she never lost hope and remained steadfast to stand on her own legs.

She said that rural women must associate themselves with Umeed and other government schemes to stand on their own legs.

"Once the women learn to stand on their own legs, they will become financially independent and can create employment opportunities for others as well," she said.

In her message to the rural women, she advised them to leave shyness and take advantage of government schemes so as to stand on their own legs and become financially independent—(KNO)

# F&ES gets over 300 distress calls in 2024

76 houses, 12 commercial houses damaged



MUBASHIR ALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's Fire and Emergency department has received over 300 distressed calls from Srinagar in the ongoing year while 76 residential houses and 12 commercial buildings too got damaged in these incidents.

According to the data, for Srinagar district, the fire and emergency department has logged over 300 fire calls that caused damage to over 115 structures in the district.

Data reveals that of the total damage caused by over 115 fire incidents in Srinagar, 76 residential houses were gutted, while as many as 12 commercial buildings too were damaged.

According to the data, the damage caused by fire also includes five hotels, 15 electric transformers, 14 other structures and 16 shops.

A senior officer from the fire and emergency department told KNO, that the fire incidents compared to the previous years almost stands the same but that they have been repeatedly advising people not to store gas cylinders inside the buildings.

"The natural combustion takes time, but when there are gas cylinders stored inside and when they explode the fire spread at a rapid pace," the official said—(KNO)

LAND SINKING INCIDENT

# Delay in report submission worries Rainawari residents

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: The families who got affected due to the land sinking incident and other adjacent residents are worried with the delay in submitting the report by the committee formed in this regard to ascertain the reasons behind the incident.

The district administration in Srinagar on June 25 formed a nine-member expert committee to ascertain the facts and suggest remedial measures regarding the Rainawari land sinking incident.

However, after 11 days, the report has not been submitted yet.

The locals from Khawajapora Syedpora area in Rainawari Srinagar said that questioned the delay in submission of the report. "We are keenly waiting for the report so that the future courses of action like repairing and renovation would be taken up accordingly," said Irfan Shah, a local from Rainawari Srinagar.

A local from Rainawari said that though his house was safe but since the house nearby his residential place

developed cracks, his house was also sealed for precautionary measure, but now he along with his family is residing at his relative's house, and they could only return their home once the expert committee submits its report.

However, Tehsildar Khanyar despite repeated attempts didn't respond to repeated calls.

Nonetheless, the Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria, when contacted told KNO that they have recently visited the spot, and will be submitting the report in the next few days.

Pertinently, an order was issued by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also the Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority, stating that a nine-member committee headed by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria, has been constituted to ascertain the facts that led to the sinking of several houses in Khawajapora Syedpora in the Rainawari locality of the district—(KNO)

# Alok Kumar chairs Public Darbar in Samba

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SAMBA: Principal Secretary Higher Education, Alok Kumar, Friday chaired a public darbar at Community Hall Municipality here to address public grievances and demands as well as assess ongoing development works in the district.

During the darbar, participants raised several issues, seeking timely intervention for their resolution. The key concerns included improvement of road connectivity from Mohargarh to Mansar, inclusion of crate works in development plans, frequent electricity cuts, manpower deficiencies in PHE, Municipality and Health Departments, installation of CCTV cameras at main chowks, repair of ground water pumps, levelling of ground at HS Gaghwal, renovation and beautification of ponds, filling vacancies for lecturers and construction of lane drains in the municipality area.

Principal Secretary Alok Kumar attentively listened to the grievances and discussed them with

the concerned officers, reviewing written representations from the public. He directed the rationalization of staff in departments with manpower shortages, installation of solar panels to reduce the electricity burden, and advised availing the subsidy facility for solar installations. He reassured that genuine matters would be addressed through the relevant departments, reiterating the government's commitment to the district's development.

Concluding the event, DC Samba, Abhishek Sharma, briefed the Principal Secretary on grievances highlighted in previous darbars, noting that connectivity issues for villages through PMGSY and NABARD have been included in the development plan. He mentioned that out of 130, 63 schemes under JMM have been completed in Samba district.

DDC members, ADDC Samba, ADC Samba, various district officers and large number of locals attended the Public Darbar.

# DDC Pulwama visits CSIR-IIIM, Field Station Pulwama

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom Friday visited the Field Station Bonaera, Pulwama of the CSIR - Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine and conducted a comprehensive review of the various activities and societal outreach programs being implemented at the station.

During his visit, Dr. Basharat interacted with the scientific and technological staff and toured different sectors of the station.

Dr. Shahid Rasool, Senior Scientist and In-charge of the Field Station, informed the DDC that the station, spread

over more than 200 acres, focuses on research, development, and technology development for region-specific medicinal, aromatic, nutraceutical and floricultural crops. These efforts aim at commercial-scale production, processing, post-harvest management, and value addition.

Known for its extensive fields of high-value aromatic crops such as Lavender, Rose, Rosemary, and Rose Scented Geranium, the station actively promotes their expansion across the region through various farmer-oriented and societal outreach initiatives under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Dr. Basharat emphasized the significant role of the Council of Scientific

and Industrial Research (CSIR) in shaping the developmental landscape of the country through its scientific and technological capabilities. He commended the scientists at CSIR-IIIM field station Pulwama for their contributions to regional development and affirmed his support for the successful execution of the station's programs and projects.

During his tour, the DDC visited the apiculture unit and distillation facility, where farmers' Lavender harvests were being processed for Lavender oil extraction. The Lavender production initiative provides employment opportunities for local women.

The station distributes

Lavender to local farmers in the district and across the Union Territory. Currently, it offers training and capacity building to farmers, self-help groups, agri-entrepreneurs, researchers, and students in scientific methodologies through science and technology-led innovative industrial farming and processing practices.

Efforts also include the propagation of Tulip bulbs, aiming to achieve indigenous Tulip bulb availability and reduce dependence on imports.

The station focuses on training farmers and developing unique products like Lavender Honey, with efforts to secure a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the honey.

# J&K Leading the Charge in Electricity Sector Reforms

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has emerged as a trailblazer in reforming its electricity sector, addressing long-standing legacy issues to a large extent to ensure enhanced service delivery to consumers. A significant milestone has been achieved through the modernization initiative, replacing obsolete meters with state-of-the-art smart meters.

These advanced technologies promise error-free billing, eliminating human errors and outdated manual systems. They also empower consumers by providing better control over electricity usage and budget management, alongside other benefits like streamlined billing and payment processes.

According to the latest data from the National Power Portal

(NPP) managed by the Government of India, J&K has secured a place among the top seven states/UTs with over 500,000 smart meters successfully installed in consumer residences. Other states leading in smart meter installations according to the NPP include Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Assam. J&K has set a definitive plan to achieve 100% smart metering by 2026, with contracts already awarded. The UT has also excelled in deploying technologies such as AB cabling and HVDS systems, enhancing system reliability and ensuring public safety.

In the initial phase of reforms, 4,500 circuit kilometers (Ckm) of old wires in congested urban areas have been replaced with modern, fully insulated cables.

Additionally, under the ongoing RDSS scheme, approximately 30,000 Ckm of AB cable is being provided. Further, about 10,000 small HVDS transformers close to consumer installations have been installed in planned colonies, ensuring better voltage regulation and reducing the risk of electricity theft. An additional 20,000 HVDS transformers are scheduled to be added under the RDSS scheme in next fifteen months as per the feasibility. These initiatives have collectively improved system reliability and significantly enhanced consumer satisfaction.

Efforts to ensure affordable electricity tariffs for consumers have been equally prioritized, with substantial subsidies being provided by the government on the full cost tariff evaluated based on the current price

of power procurement and other actual discom expenses approved by the JERC. Notably, J&K refrained from increasing electricity tariffs during the current financial year (2024-25). In the previous year (2023-24), while metered consumers faced a 15% tariff hike, the government offset this increase by withdrawing the 15% Electricity Duty on energy charges, resulting in no net rise in consumer bills.

However, with these initiatives government bears a huge burden in maintaining the financial stability of the sector, which is crucial for securing grants from the central government to upgrade power infrastructure. In monetary terms, it is estimated that for every unit sold to metered residential consumers, the government bears a loss of approximately Rs. 3.75, by providing subsidy.

At the same time, there is grave concern over the high number of unmetered areas still prevalent in Kashmir. These areas contribute to substantial energy losses, exacerbated by the fact that only 32% (318605 no.) of residential consumers are metered and are being billed as per actual metered consumption against the total residential consumer base of 982125. The remaining 68% of residential consumers (663520 no.) are charged on a flat-rate (fixed charges) basis.

The flat-rate bills have not accurately reflected actual usage, even during the era of electro-mechanical meters. In today's digital age, where energy measurements are precise from generation to consumption, ensuring accurate metering at the consumer end is paramount. It's noteworthy that

Jammu and Kashmir remains the only Union Territory where consumers still receive electricity without meters.

DISCOMs in J&K are actively participating in the Government of India's RDSS scheme to improve power supply quality and reliability by strengthening supply infrastructure. Conditional financial assistance is provided under this scheme based on achieving specific targets to reduce Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses and bridge the gap between Average Cost of Supply (ACS) and Average Revenue Realized (ARR).

In addition to technological interventions, Distribution Companies (Discoms) have intensified enforcement activities to curb electricity theft and enforce regulations under the Electricity Act-2003. These efforts have

significantly reduced Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses from 63% in 2021-22 to 41% in 2023-24. Progress has also been made in narrowing the gap between Aggregate Cost of Supply (ACS) and Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR).

To enhance efficiency and reduce losses in unmetered (Flat Rate) areas, several measures have been implemented. Distribution Companies (Discoms) are conducting calibrated load rationalization based on actual electricity usage and connected loads, ensuring compliance with Electricity Supply Code regulations to prevent inflated bills. Additionally, the Jammu and Kashmir Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) has introduced flat-rate tariffs to encourage consumers to transition to metered billing.