

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

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Office of LG J&K
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Inaugurated Musical Harmony event organised by Koshur Raag, which is promoting Kashmiri cultural heritage through music and other art forms. Called upon people to celebrate diversity in art, culture and literary field, which is source of India's greatness.

FM Sitharaman To Present Union Budget On July 23



NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present the Union Budget 2024-25 on July 23, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju announced on Saturday.

The Budget Session of Parliament will start on July 22 and extend till August 12.

"Hon'ble President of India, on the recommendation of the Government of India, has approved the proposal for summoning of both the Houses of Parliament for the Budget Session, 2024 from 22nd July 2024 to 12 August 2024 (Subject to exigencies of Parliamentary Business). Union Budget, 2024-25 will be presented in Lok Sabha on 23 July 2024," the Parliamentary Affairs Minister said on X.

After having presented an interim budget ahead of the

Lok Sabha polls, the Finance Minister will now present the full budget for 2024-25 that ensures the economy continues on the high growth trajectory and creates more jobs during the Modi 3.0 government.

Given the low fiscal deficit, the hefty Rs 2.11 lakh crore dividend from the RBI

THE NEXT 5 years will be a decisive fight against poverty.

and the buoyancy in taxes, the Finance Minister has a lot of headroom for pushing ahead with policies aimed at accelerating growth and implementing social welfare schemes aimed at uplifting the poor.

Prime Minister Modi has already declared that "the next 5 years will be a

Four Terrorists, Two Soldiers Killed in Kulgam Gunfights



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: At least four terrorists were killed and two soldiers laid down their lives in twin encounters in Kulgam district on Saturday, officials said.

The encounters took place in Frisal Chinnigam and Modergam areas of the south Kashmir district.

The officials said two soldiers lost their lives while battling the terrorists.

They said contact with terrorists was established during a cordon and search operation in the Frisal Chinnigam area. In the exchange of fire there so far, four terrorists have been killed, the officials said, adding their bodies have been sighted.

Drone footage of the encounter site has shown four bodies lying there, but they could not be retrieved yet as firing was still going on, the officials said.

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, V K Birdhi, who visited the encounter site, said the operation will continue.

Some bodies (of terrorists) have been sighted, but the encounter has not concluded yet, he told reporters.

The site of the encounter is in the interior areas of the district and not near the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, the IGP said.

He said the J-K Police and security forces continue to keep track of the movement of terrorists and the killing of these terrorists is a significant achievement for the security forces.

Earlier, a gunfight broke out in Modergam village after security forces launched a cordon and search operation there following specific

Wiping Out Terrorists In Jammu A Matter Of Time: DGP RR Swain

AMIR TANTRAY

DODA: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) RR Swain Saturday said that with the determination and interoperability of the security forces it is only a matter of time when the terrorists will be killed.

He said that with the support of people, J&K police will not allow terrorists to create an atmosphere of fear, and will defeat them.

Talking to media person here at district police lines on the sidelines of a function to felicitate Special Police Officers (SPOs) and other officials of J&K police who eliminated three hardcore foreign terrorists during an operation in Gundoh area of district Doda, the DGP said that it is a matter of time when the terrorists will be eliminated.

"An adversary has given us a challenge and they think that through borders they can send foreign terrorists to make the situation volatile again like what was in the past. They are not much in numbers and we are determined to defeat them with the help of the people," he said.

"It has been observed recently that terrorists

Gear Up For Assembly Polls: Nadda To Party Workers



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: BJP national president J P Nadda on Saturday asked party workers to be ready for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, saying the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a vision to make the country a third economic power in the world in near future.

He lashed out at the Congress and said the party which has failed to win 100 seats for the third time in general elections in a row is raising questions on the winners of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls despite the fact that it is standing only with the help of others.

Addressing hundreds of party delegates at the concluding session of two-day 'Vistarit Karyasamiti Baithak' here, Nadda said BJP is the only party in the country which has a vision, leadership, intention, workers and people's trust.

"Be prepared

Enhanced Facilities Improve Amarnath Yatra Experience In J&K



RAJA SYED RATHER

GANDERBAL: The Jammu and Kashmir government has implemented comprehensive facilities for pilgrims in the ongoing annual Amarnath Yatra. Both the Baltal and Nunwan routes are equipped with extensive support services to facilitate the journey to the Amarnath Cave.

As per the details, in Baltal, various departments are providing advanced health facilities and essential services like 24*7 electricity.

The Power Development Department (PDD) has played a pivotal role in enhancing the

Need To Affirm, Promote Our Cultural Heritage: LG To Artists

Inaugurates Koshur Raag's Musical Harmony Event In Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Saturday impressed upon the artists to affirm and promote the cultural heritage of Jammu Kashmir.

"Art and culture connect and inspire the society. It should be seen as a thread connecting the past with the future," the Lt Governor said while inaugurating Musical Harmony event organised by Koshur Raag, in association with J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages in Srinagar.

"It should be our resolve to make the priceless artistic heritage of J&K prosperous and elevate it to the global stage," he said.

Sinha inaugurated Musical Harmony event organised by Koshur Raag, in association with J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages in Srinagar.



CS Assesses Progress On Smart City Works



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Saturday held a meeting to review status of different ongoing projects of Smart City Mission (SCM) here in twin cities of Srinagar and Jammu besides assessing other schemes of Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) under implementation in J&K.

Present in the meeting were Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, VC, LCMA, CEO, JSCL, HoDs besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary had a detailed project-wise assessment of smart city works currently under progress in twin cities of Srinagar and Jammu.

Regarding the

J&K Thrives In A New Sports Era

Inspiring Youth, Making Mark On National Stage



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The All India Football Federation has once again chosen Kashmir as the venue for the U-17 National team camp prior to their participation in the SAFF and AFC Qualifiers.

For the second consecutive year, 35 players from across the country, along with 7 staff members led by local star and head coach Ishfaq Ahmed, will begin their three-month camp starting from 8th July.

In addition, the J&K Sports Council is organizing summer coaching camps in Archery, Rugby, Gymnastics, and Hockey from 8th to 17th July. Interested candidates are encouraged to contact the relevant officials at the JKSC office to join these exciting camps.

In other news, the Kashmir Open Hockey Tournament 2024 is in full swing. Organized by the Kashmir Veterans Hockey Society in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council under the 'My Youth My Pride' initiative, 16 teams from different districts are competing at the J&K Sports Council's Hockey Turf at Polo Ground Srinagar. The competition is heating up, and tomorrow, the finalists will face off for the ultimate triumph.

Football enthusiasts are also eagerly following the Spring Legacy Knockout Football Tournament at Polo Ground, organized in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council. Since 31st May 2024, 24 teams have been fiercely competing.

Rs. 2,118 Cr RDSS Works Set To Transform LT Network: KPDCL



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) Saturday sought public support in execution and time-bound completion of ongoing works under the premier loss reduction scheme of RDSS in the power sector.

All 13 packages in 10 districts of Kashmir Division stand awarded with 05 KPDCL packages registering close to 40% achievement.

In a press statement issued here today, a KPDCL spokesperson stated that the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) of the Union Ministry of Power aims to improve the quality, reliability, and

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Movie Watchlist Sunday 07 July

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

ILLUMINATION'S DESPICABLE ME 4
Only in Theaters July 3
DESPICABLE ME 4 (3D ENG WITH SUB) 04:45PM HINDI 3D 11:10AM (U)

Dr Karwani reviews construction of transit accommodation in South Kashmir



GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), Dr Arvind Karwani, Saturday inspected transit accommodations for PM package employees under construction in South Kashmir.

Dr Karwani, while interacting with the site engineers, exhorted upon them to ensure timely completion of the buildings so that the quarters can be allotted to the eligible employees at the earliest. He also enjoined

upon them to ensure that all quality parameters are maintained while executing these vital works.

He also interacted with the PM package employees, listening to their demands, particularly related to the allotment of quarters. They were assured that all their genuine issues will be redressed.

Later, Dr Karwani visited the Swami Vivekananda Nagdandi Ashram, Achabal, Anantnag. He had an exclusive round of the Ashram, enquiring about functioning of the utility

from BL Bhat, Chairman, Administrative Committee and other members.

He was apprised of the Yoga activities being held on national level besides spiritual retreats, group meets and symposia organised at the Ashram, as part of the annual calendar.

Dr Karwani highly appreciated the social and spiritual work being done by the Ashram. He specially admired the role of the Nagdandi Ashram in successful conduct of Mata Kheerbhawani Yatra this year.

World Zoonoses Day observed in Doda

GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: To observe World Zoonoses Day 2024, the District Surveillance Unit IDSP, under the aegis of District Health Society Doda, organized a debate cum awareness program on the transmission, control, and prevention of zoonosis – the vector borne diseases here at the Make Shift Campus of Government Medical College.

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the program in the presence of Chief Medical Officer Dr Om Kumar; Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Dr Mayenud Din; EO MC Amit Sharma; Chief Accounts Officer GMC, Mohd Iqbal Ganai; BMO Ghat, Dr Ab Gaffoor; BMO Assar, Dr Shabir Dar; Dr Waliud Khawar Balwan, Ranger Wildlife Kishitwar; Bansi Lal Bhandari, Mohd Shafi Attu, Principal ANMT Doda, Anusuya Bhan, Sr Journalist Naseer Khora, and Adv Sanjeev Rana.

The program was attended by Medical Officers from across all health blocks, paramedical nursing students institutions across the district. District Epidemiologist, Umar Anayat, welcomed the



guests and informed participants that World Zoonoses Day, observed on July 6th each year, aims to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases and their impact on human and animal health. He emphasized the importance of educating people about the risks associated with zoonotic diseases and promoting preventive measures.

Guest speakers, including Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Dr Mayenud Din, Executive Officer Municipal Council, Amit Sharma, and Dr Waliud Khawar from Community Medicine GMC, highlighted the significant public health implications of zoonotic diseases. They explained how these diseases, originating in animals, can be transmitted to humans through various means such as direct contact, consumption of contaminated food or water,

or exposure to vectors like mosquitoes and ticks. CMO Dr Om Kumar underscored the importance of this day in promoting a One Health approach, recognizing the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health.

The event also featured a debate competition attended by eight paramedical students from different nursing colleges, who were awarded certificates of participation and mementos. Judges for the competition included Dr Ab Gaffoor, Dr Sarwar Khan, and Anusuya Bhan, with Mashhood Latief compiling the result score sheet. World Zoonoses Day honours French scientist Louis Pasteur, who invented the first vaccine, with this year's theme being 'Preventing the Spread of Zoonotic Diseases.'

Dir SHD reviews implementation of Sheep Husbandry sector schemes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: A meeting of all District Sheep Husbandry Officers, Assistant Project Officers, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors of the department was convened by Director Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu, Dr. Syed Moin-Ul-Haq to review the achievements of Government farms and implementation of the departmental schemes in the financial year 2024-25 with special focus on Holistic Agriculture Development Programme, credit linked schemes of the department like KcC, AHIDF, NLM status of Artificial Insemination Programme, Status of construction and non-construction activities under UT Capex, Status of ISDS and government livestock.

The newly appointed Director, in his madain meeting, asked the officers to inform the people about

employment generating schemes launched by the Sheep Husbandry Department. He exhorted them to conduct regular meetings with the breeders of the area to update them on government schemes offering support for promotion of modern farming techniques.

"The department has a major role in development of the small ruminants sector to upgrade the socio-economic status of rural masses of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir," he added. He directed all the officers to work with zeal and enthusiasm for the welfare of the sector.

Dr Tara Chand, Joint Director, Extension, Dr Surinder Gupta, Deputy Director Central, Dr Anil Koul, APo Jammu/ Wardwan, Shivali Sethi, Deputy Director Planning and Anita Jamwal, Account Officer amongst others attended the meeting.

DC Kathua flags off Blood Donors Team to Sub Division Bani

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KATHUA: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr Rakesh Minhas flagged off a team of JK Blood Donors and Welfare Society to Sub Division Bani here Saturday from DC Office Complex.

DDC Nagri, Sandeep Majotra besides a large number of volunteers were also present on the occasion. This initiative is part of the District Administration Kathua's ongoing efforts to collaborate with organizations that voluntarily promote and encourage blood donation.

The team heading to Bani is traveling in a vehicle specially equipped with

blood storage facilities. Their mission is to conduct a Blood Donation Camp at the Sub District Hospital (SDH) in Bani. The collected blood donations will then be transported to the Government Medical College (GMC) in Kathua, ensuring that this precious resource is available to patients in need.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that this joint effort aims to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation. He highlighted that donating blood is both safe and beneficial for the human body and described it as a civic responsibility to assist those in medical distress.

DLIC approves 85 fresh cases under Mission Youth Schemes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

RAMBAN: District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) meeting under the aegis of Mission Youth, J&K was convened Saturday, in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex, under the Chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Ramban Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary.

General Manager DIC, Ramban, Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Ramban, Assistant Director Employment, Ramban, District Social Welfare Officer, Ramban, Lead District Manager, Ramban, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Ramban, Career Counselling Offi-

cer & Young Professional DE&CC Ramban attended the meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, a comprehensive review of the progress under Mission Youth Schemes was conducted. The meeting was informed that till date 177 cases under Mumkin, 90 cases under Tejaswini and 02 cases under Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative stand disbursed, till now.

The Nodal Officer (Mission Youth), Ramban presented 72 fresh cases under the Mumkin Scheme, 10 cases under Tejaswini Scheme and 03 cases under Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative. The

committee members scrutinized all the cases and interviews were conducted under Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative as per the standing norms of the Scheme.

The Committee approved all 72 cases under the Mumkin scheme, 10 cases under the Tejaswini Scheme and 03 cases under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative. Additionally, activity change in favour of 03 beneficiaries was also approved under Mumkin & Tejaswini schemes. Further Interest subsidy in favour of 04 beneficiaries under Tejaswini scheme was also approved who have submitted the required documents.

DC Kathua approves 56 mission youth scheme cases

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KATHUA: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr Rakesh Minhas on Saturday chaired a meeting of the District Implementation Committee (DLIC) to review and approve new applications under the Mumkin, Tejaswini, and Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI) schemes under the Mission

Youth program.

The meeting was held in the Conference Hall of DC Office complex where all committee members of the DLIC and applicants were also present.

After thorough scrutiny, the Committee approved 30 applications under the Mumkin scheme, 13 applications under the Tejaswini scheme, and 13 applica-

tions under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI).

The DC emphasized the significance of these self-employment initiatives in promoting youth empowerment within the district. He encouraged the committee to identify and resolve any potential obstacles that could impede the effective implementation of these schemes.

Dir Horticulture takes stock of departmental activities in Kishtwar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Director Horticulture Jammu, Chaman Lal Sharma conducted an extensive tour of twin districts of Kishtwar & Doda to have a complete review of achievements of all the schemes viz: Capex as well as Centrally Sponsored Schemes especially Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) besides other developmental activities being carried out in both the districts.

The Director chaired the meeting of the District Officers, Horticulture Development Officers, officials & field staff of district Kishtwar and Doda in their respective districts.

At the outset, Chief Horticulture Officer, Kishtwar, Sajid Mustafa briefed the chair about the achievements made under all the schemes being implemented in the district.

While taking a review of the ongoing schemes, Director Horticulture impressed upon the officers and offi-

cials to expedite the works undertaken for the development of the departmental nurseries and organize awareness camps, Kisan goshtis, etc. to ensure effective implementation of government schemes for the ultimate benefit of the fruit growers. He also had an interaction with the farmers at Panchayat Pochal and listened to their problems patiently.

The Holistic Agriculture Development Plan, in particular, emerged as a focal point of discussion, showcasing the department's commitment to holistic development and innovation in horticulture.

Further, in district Doda, Chief Horticulture Officer, Raghunath Upadhaya appraised the chair about the status of progress made under different departmental Schemes. The director stressed upon all the officers and officials to put their efforts with zeal and dedication to disseminate the developmental schemes of the depart-

ment to the last possible farmer of the district for better utilization of funds in time. He also inspected the Olive Oil Extraction Plant and Soil Testing Laboratory set up at the District Horticulture complex Doda.

The Director stressed upon officers/officials of twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar to identify walnut clusters which can be supplemented with High density varieties of walnut to raise economic standards of rural populace.

Later, the Director visited Government Fruit Plant Nursery, Khellani and took stock of the ongoing developmental activities and gave on spot instructions to the nursery staff regarding the production of quantity and quality of grafted planting material in the nursery.

At last, all the officers of both the districts assured the chair to extend full cooperation and vowed to work hard for the betterment of the farming community.

ADC Poonch visits Imambara to assess Muharram arrangements

GMK NEWS NETWORK

POONCH: A meeting to assess the requirement and arrangements with regard to observance of Muharram was held here in the Imambara complex under the Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tahir Mustafa

Malik. The representatives of the Shia Muslim organisations and the officers of the line departments participated in the meeting.

The meeting discussed and finalized the arrangements for power supply, water supply, provision of ration, firewood, sani-

tation, street lighting and medicare facilities etc.

The ADC issued on the spot instructions to the concerned to ensure that all necessary arrangements are put in place in and around the Imambara and adjacent places so that the Muharram processions and Majalis were held smoothly.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER KUPWARA

Subject: Tentative Seniority list of Jr. Pharmacists / Health & Family Welfare Assistants (Combined Seniority) (District Cadre)

NOTIFICATION

On the basis of information received from concerned DDO, the Tentative seniority list of Jr. Pharmacists / Health & Family Welfare Assistants (Combined Seniority) (District Cadre) Kupwara Health department is hereby prepared / Circulated amongst all concerned through controlling Officers for information and Objections if any with regard to service particulars shown against each, should reach to this office along with documentary evidence duly authenticated by their controlling Officers within five days from the date of issuance of this circular/ Notification.

| S.No | District | Name of the Pharmacist | Designation | D.OB | Date of 1 st appointment | Initial Place of Posting | Present Place of posting | Category if any. |
|------|----------|------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Kupwara | Nazir Ahmad Shah | Jr. Pharmacist | 12-12-1964 | 20-11-1988 | Sc Shumnag | S/C Kachama | |
| 2 | Kupwara | Mohd Shafi Sheikh | Jr. Pharmacist | 19.04.1966 | 03.12.1988 | AD Awoora Block Kralpora | SC Heri payen | |
| 3 | Kupwara | Sheikh Khursheed Ah | Jr. Pharmacist | 01.03.1970 | 16.08.1993 | Block Kupwara | SC Arampora | |
| 4 | Kupwara | Hafeez Ahmed | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-06-1969 | 18-08-1993 | S.C. Seemari | S.C. Chamkote | |
| 5 | Kupwara | Altaf Hussain Dar | Jr. Pharmacist | 28.07.1969 | 08.12.1993 | Leh Ladakh | SC Kawari | |
| 6 | Kupwara | Akhter Hussain Shah | Jr. Pharmacist | 15.02.1968 | 20.10.1994 | ML Kargil | SC Gujjerpati Keegam | |
| 7 | Kupwara | Mushtaq Ahmad wani | Jr. Pharmacist | 04.03.1968 | 19.11.1994 | Mobile unit CMO Kupwara | SDH Kupwara | |
| 8 | Kupwara | Mushtaq Ahmad Shah | Jr. Pharmacist | 19.10.1967 | 22.06.1995 | Leh Ladakh | SC Shahal | |
| 9 | Kupwara | Manzoor Ahmad Bhat | Jr. Pharmacist | 04.04.1968 | 18.12.1997 | Block Zachaldara | SC Trumnard | |
| 10 | Kupwara | Bashir Ahmad Sheikh | Jr. Pharmacist | 10-02-1967 | 19-12-1997 | SC Khumhora | S/C Pathroo Kralpora | |
| 11 | Kupwara | Ab.Quyoom Bhat | Jr. Pharmacist | 18.06.1969 | 05.10.1998 | Block Vilgam | DH Handwara | |
| 12 | Kupwara | Gh. Sarwar | Jr. Pharmacist | 29-11-1966 | 15-10-1998 | SDH Tangdar | S.C. Seemari | ST (certificate not available) |
| 13 | Kupwara | Gh Hassan Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 15.01.1967 | 26.10.1998 | Block Kupwara | NTPHC Pabalpora | |
| 14 | Kupwara | Showket-ul-Islam | Jr. Pharmacist | 26.06.1971 | 31.10.1998 | Block Sogam | SDH Kupwara | |
| 15 | Kupwara | Nazir Ahmad Lone | Jr. Pharmacist | 06.03.1968 | 25.06.1999 | Block Sogam | SC Moori | |
| 16 | Kupwara | Mohammad Maqbool | Jr. Pharmacist | 24.12.1966 | 03.05.2000 | Block Sogam | SC Nowbough | |
| 17 | Kupwara | Mohd Aslam Khan | Jr. Pharmacist | 11.10.1968 | 30-08-2000 | SC Sohiora Kupwara | S/C Kunchiban Jungund | |
| 18 | Kupwara | Mukhtar Ahmad | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-05-1967 | 06-01-2002 | S.C. Bhaderkote | S.C Hajinar | ST |
| 19 | Kupwara | Pupender Singh | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-01-1968 | 01.12.2005 | Block Zachaldara | S/C Kultoor | |
| 20 | Kupwara | Ajaz Ahmad Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 04-04-1965 | 16-05-2006 | Block Langate | S/C Ganapora | |
| 21 | Kupwara | Ab Hamid Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 01.06.1965 | 16-05-2006 | S/C Budnamal | S/C Budnamal | |
| 22 | Kupwara | Ab Majeed Payer | Jr. Pharmacist | 07.09.1965 | 16.05.2006 | Sc Alachizab Trehgam | Sc Manwan | |
| 23 | Kupwara | Noor-ullah Bhat | Jr. Pharmacist | 05-09-1966 | 16-05-2006 | Block Sogam | S/C Duniwari | |
| 24 | Kupwara | Gh Nabi Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 01.03.1967 | 16.05.2006 | Block Langate | SC Braripora | |
| 25 | Kupwara | Ab Qayoom Khan | Jr. Pharmacist | 15.03.1967 | 16.05.2006 | Block Vilgam | SC Hutchmarg | |
| 26 | Kupwara | Manzoor Ahmad Khan | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-04-1968 | 16-05-2006 | Block Kupwara | S/C Sohiora | |
| 27 | Kupwara | Parviyaz Ahmad Shah | Jr. Pharmacist | 25-04-1969 | 16-05-2006 | Bl.Langate | S/C Mankil | |
| 28 | Kupwara | Ab Razak Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 10.07.1964 | 02.05.2011 | Block Langate | SC Palpora | |
| 29 | Kupwara | Nazir Ahmad Dar | Jr. Pharmacist | 08-08-1966 | 03-05-2011 | Block Kupwara | S/C Rangpath | |
| 30 | Kupwara | Ashiq Hussain Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 14.03.1974 | 24.01.2012 | Block Kupwara | SC Bubernag | |
| 31 | Kupwara | Amberjeet singh | Jr. Pharmacist | 15-04-1968 | 20-09-2012 | Block Langate | S/C Jahama | |
| 32 | Kupwara | Manzoor Ah. Qureshi | Jr. Pharmacist | 28-11-1969 | 20-09-2012 | Block Langate | S/C Haril | |
| 33 | Kupwara | Nazir Ahmad Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 05.07.1968 | 04.10.2012 | SC Kunan Block Trehgam | SC Mir Muqam | |
| 34 | Kupwara | Khazir Mohd Wani | Jr. Pharmacist | 04.02.1965 | 11.01.2013 | Bl. Kupwara | SC Gund Chogul | |
| 35 | Kupwara | Nisar Ahmad Dar | Jr. Pharmacist | 30.05.1968 | 11.01.2013 | Bl. Kupwara | SC Manigah | |
| 36 | Kupwara | Saif u din Quarshi | Jr. Pharmacist | 02.02.1967 | 14.01.2013 | Bl. Vilgam | HWC Punzwa | RBA |
| 37 | Kupwara | Mushtaq Ahmad Tantray | Jr. Pharmacist | 15.01.1965 | 15.01.2013 | Bl Zachaldara | SC Dapal | |
| 38 | Kupwara | Ab. Rashid Wani | Jr. Pharmacist | 05-03-1965 | 19/03/2013 | Bl. Sogam | S/C Walkul | |
| 39 | Kupwara | Mohd Yousf Dar | Jr. Pharmacist | 20-03-1966 | 19-03-2013 | Bl. Handwara | S/C Batagund | |
| 40 | Kupwara | Reyaz Ahmad Sheikh | Jr. Pharmacist | 06.02.1969 | 23-03-2013 | SC Marsary | S/C Marsary | |
| 41 | Kupwara | Mushtaq Ahmad Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-04-1970 | 23-03-2013 | Block Kralpora | S/c Hangha | |
| 42 | Kupwara | Naseer Ahmad Khan | Jr. Pharmacist | 01-01-1966 | 27/03/2013 | Bl. Sogam | S/C Batnar | |
| 43 | Kupwara | M. Iqbal Tantary | H & FW Assistant | 01.09.1988 | 09.05.2013 | SC Kuchiban Jungund | SC Jaggerpora | |
| 44 | Kupwara | Farooq Ahmad Mir | H & FW Assistant | 04.01.1977 | 09.05.2013 | SC Trumnard | SC Waterkhani | |
| 45 | Kupwara | Shafiq Ahmad Khan | Jr. Pharmacist | 06-06-1967 | 30-10-2014 | S.C. Teetwal | S.C. Teetwal | |
| 46 | Kupwara | M. Sayeed Qurashi | Jr. Pharmacist | 06.08.1969 | 30.10.2014 | S.C Kona Gabra | SC Bhaderkote | |
| 47 | Kupwara | Gh Mohd Mir | Jr. Pharmacist | 19.05.1965 | 27.07.2015 | Block Kupwara | SC Pushuri | |
| 48 | Kupwara | Sheikh Arshad Shaheen | Jr. Pharmacist | 20.02.1981 | 09.03.2016 | Block Sogam | S/C Gundmancher | |
| 49 | Kupwara | Pirzada Mohd Zubair | Jr. Pharmacist | 11.02.1986 | 09.03.2016 | SC Jaggerpora Block Kupwara | Sc Alachizab | |
| 50 | Kupwara | Pirzada Javaid Ahamd | Jr. Pharmacist | 01.03.1986 | 16.04.2016 | SC Farkin | SC Farkin Kralpora | |
| 51 | Kupwara | Jag Mohan | Jr. Pharmacist | 24.11.1987 | 20.7.2016 | SC Keegam | Sc Keegam | |

BABAR QADRI MURDER CASE

Mian Qayoom sent to 14-day judicial custody

AGENCIES

JAMMU: A NIA court here on Saturday sent former president of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association's Srinagar wing Mian Abdul Qayoom to 14-day judicial custody for his alleged involvement in the murder conspiracy of a fellow advocate in 2020.

Advocate Babar Qadri, a human rights expert who frequently appeared on television debates, was fatally shot by terrorists at his residence in the Hawal area of Srinagar in September 2020. He had narrowly survived an assassination attempt in 2018.

Qayoom, arrested by the State Investigation Agency (SIA) in Srinagar on June 25, was produced before the court of special judge Jatinder Singh Jamwal on the expiry of his second remand. The court has sent him to judicial custody till July 20, officials said.

Courts designated to hear cases of anti-terror agency NIA also takes up



cases of the SIA, a wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police that enforces counter-terrorism laws in the Union Territory.

Police had claimed that a Lashkar-e-Taiba commander, Saqib Manzoor, was involved in Qadri's killing. Manzoor and another militant commander were killed in a gunfight with police in Srinagar in 2022.

Qayoom, 76, a prominent figure in Kashmir associated with the All Party Hurriyat Conference, was

arrested by the SIA after it took over the case in July last year.

He was brought to Jammu by the SIA immediately after his arrest on June 25 and was produced before the presiding officer of the fast track court the next day. It sent him to five-day police remand which was subsequently extended by six days by the special court.

In January, the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court transferred

the case to a Jammu court from Srinagar, saying, "for a fair and impartial trial of a criminal case, it is imperative that the witnesses are in a position to depose in an atmosphere, which is free and not hostile".

The high court order came on an application moved by the SIA, saying no lawyer from Srinagar was willing to render legal assistance due to the involvement of some "influential" lawyers based in the city.

The Srinagar Police first filed a charge-sheet in the case against six accused in the special UAPA court in Srinagar in 2021.

In August 2022, police, as part of its probe, conducted searches at Qayoom's residences and those of two other lawyers in Srinagar, seizing digital devices, bank statements and documents.

Last September, the SIA announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for any information leading to solving Qadri's killing.

Rise in drowning incidents in Kashmir; 35 cases, 72 rescue ops this year so far

MUBASHIR ALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: Kashmir is witnessing a disturbing rise in drowning incidents this year, with 35 cases reported from January to July 2024. This marks a huge increase compared to the same period last year, which saw 22 drowning incidents.

According to data obtained, the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) has launched 73 rescue operations so far this year. The highest number of incidents occurred in June 2024, with 11 drownings reported in that month alone. This is in stark contrast to the entire year of 2023, which recorded a total of 48 drowning incidents and 92 rescue operations.

Many observers believe that the recent rise in drowning cases is attributed to the increasing frequency of hot weather, driven by climatic changes. The scorching temperatures have led many people to seek relief by bathing in local water bodies, a trend that has proven fatal on



several occasions.

According to officials, there are ongoing rescue operations to retrieve bodies from water bodies where people drowned while bathing. A recent tragic incident occurred in Srinagar, where an 11-year-old boy drowned in the Jhelum River at Habba Kadal while attempting to cool off. His body is yet to be retrieved. Deep diving experts from SDRF have been roped in to recover

the body of the boy, and the assistance of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has also been sought for the extended rescue operation.

In north Kashmir, two youths lost their lives in separate drowning incidents on Thursday. Concerned citizens have called for the need for heightened vigilance and preventive measures along the banks of water bodies, especially the Jhelum River. They

have urged parents to supervise their children and prevent them from swimming in water bodies.

Public awareness campaigns and increased safety measures are needed to prevent further tragedies, they said.

Notably, most of the time, the SDRF ropes in the NDRF and other concerned agencies to aid them in extended rescue operations—(KNO)

DAY 07

Search continues as body of Habba Kadal minor remains untraced

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: The search operation to retrieve the body of a minor boy, Numan Gowhar, who drowned in river Jhelum near Habba Kadal, entered 7th day on Saturday, while no traces of the body have been found so far, officials said.

An official said that the search operation, led by SDRF, NDRF, and River police, continued for the 7th straight day, while no traces of the body have been found yet.

Moreover, ASI SDRF Abdul Rashid told KNO that their teams have been scanning the water for the last seven days.

"Today on seven days, we are continuously searching for the body of little Gowhar. About two to three boats are searching regularly and multiple teams are scanning the water, and we are hopeful the body will be retrieved soon. The search operation is on until the body is taken up from the water," he added—(KNO)

Cyber Cell Sopore solves online financial fraud, saved Rs 1,26,400

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The Cyber Unit of J&K Police in Sopore have solved online financial fraud and saved Rs 1,26,400 of two victims.

As per a statement issued, Cyber Cell Sopore received complaints from Muzaffar Ahmad Sheikh son of Abdul Rashid Sheikh resident of Tujjer Shareef Sopore and Manzoor Ahmad Lara son of Ghulam Nabi Lara resident of Model Town Sopore about online money scams.

"Accordingly, on the directions of SP Sopore, a Special Police Team of Cyber Cell Sopore dealing with cyber-crimes comprehensively, so far recovered Rs 1,26,400/- and refunded the same to the victims account."

Cyber Cell of J&K Police deals with various financial frauds such as KYC update fraud, OLX fraud, other banking/ investment-related fraud, fake loan app fraud, social media blackmailing, etc.

Meanwhile, J&K Police requested general public not to share the bank details, account details, OTP etc. & be alert and keep vigilant in sharing any kind of personal details to anyone—(KNO)

'Web-3 technologies can provide employment to youth'

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: A young Kashmiri youth believes that Web 3 technologies can address unemployment and empower the youth in Kashmir.

Mutahir Showkat, a Kashmir-based entrepreneur from South Kashmir, who is founder of Clout Scoop, passionately advocated for a blockchain revolution to address unemployment issues and empower the youth of Kashmir.

Clout Scoop is an independent web-3 based education and News Company. Mutahir believes that embracing blockchain and related technologies could transform the region and provide much-needed opportunities.

Kashmir has faced significant challenges in recent years, including prolonged phone shutdowns and an unstable education system. Jobs are scarce, and the youth have limited opportunities.

Mutahir emphasised the need for better technologies, with web-3 being a potential game-changer. He stated that while people in Kashmir often use social media, games, and banking apps, there is much more to explore in the technological world. The global shift towards the metaverse highlights the importance of decentralised technologies.

Mutahir acknowledged that some people doubt the environmental impact of decentralisation, but he believes independence in technology is crucial for the current situation.

He stressed the importance of embracing web-3 technologies, including cryptocurrencies, NFTs, DeFi, DAOs, and more. He expressed concern that only a small percentage of Kashmir's population is aware of these developments. Social issues, he noted, stem from the scarcity of jobs and



opportunities.

Despite the prevalence of advanced technology, traditional career choices still dominate. Mutahir urged a shift towards nurturing entrepreneurship and industry game-changers.

He emphasised that blockchain is not just about making money; it is a way of life. He called for collective responsibility in shaping a brighter future for Kashmir's youth.

Mutahir expressed disappointment that local talent in various fields is not adequately supported. He envisions blockchain as the key to reshaping Kashmir's future. He urged the youth to embrace the web-3 culture and catch up with the global blockchain industry.

The current scenario in Kashmir is concerning with youth facing depression and a surge in drug abuse. The cause, according to Mutahir, is simple: the lack of employment. Predicting the future dominance of technologies like cryptos, NFTs, and DeFi, he believes that the web-3 culture could eradicate issues like drug abuse and unemployment in Kashmir.

He called for a collective awakening and saw blockchain as a catalyst for positive change.

Mutahir pointed out that blockchain is not just about trading crypto coins or investing in cryptocurrencies. The technology has a lot to offer, whether in jobs, employment, or the future. Many innovative things are

being built on the blockchain, such as smart contracts, decentralised finance (DeFi), supply chain management, voting systems, healthcare, real estate, intellectual property protection, the Internet of Things (IoT), and gaming and digital collectibles (NFTs).

He noted that few people are currently involved in these fields, making it an excellent opportunity for the youth of Kashmir to get into such technologies. Mutahir emphasized that the security of blockchain technology is growing rapidly. Big companies like BlackRock, Vanguard, and countries like Russia, the US, the UK, and El Salvador have already started adopting it completely.

Mutahir firmly believes that blockchain is the only way to get the youth into more innovative fields. It is a field that does not require a degree; it only asks for talent, hard work, communication, and effort. He believes that Kashmir is a very talented place, and developing decentralised technology within the region will change the scenario for the youth.

Mutahir's vision is clear: blockchain can be a powerful tool for the empowerment and growth of Kashmir's youth. By embracing these technologies, the youth can break free from traditional constraints and explore new opportunities. This could lead to a brighter and more prosperous future for the region—(KNO)

Kin to get compensation for unnatural death of prisoners in Ladakh

MUBASHIR ALAM

SRINAGAR: The administration of Ladakh Union Territory has come up with a policy to provide compensation to the legal heirs of prisoners who die in jails.

As per the policy, Rs seven lakh and 50 thousand would be paid to the kin of deceased in case of death due to quarrel amongst prisoners or due to torture/ beating by prison staff.

The policy provides that Rs five lakh would be paid to the legal heirs of the deceased in case of death due to negligence in duty by prison staff, medical and paramedical staff.

It further provides that family of the prisoner would be entitled to compensation of Rs five lakh in case he/ she commits suicide in prison.

The policy has become applicable to the Union Territory from July 05, the day when it was notified. "This policy shall be

applicable, as admissible, in respect of prisoners who suffer unnatural deaths in the jails of Union territory of Ladakh on or after the date of notification of this policy," reads the policy document.

As per the policy, the UT's Home Secretary has been authorized to sanction compensation in such cases.

"The superintendent of the concerned jail shall send a detailed report along with a copy of the magisterial inquiry report, post-mortem report, final cause of death, medical history at the time of admission in jail and details of medical treatment, if any, given to the prisoner prior to his custodial death, to the head of prisons, Union territory, of Ladakh, for onward submission to the administration of Union territory of Ladakh for grant of appropriate compensation," the policy states—(KNO)

Industrial waste overflows into Pulwama Rivulet as SIDCO lacks dumping site

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: The Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO) industrial area at Lassipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district is functioning without a waste disposal facility and dumping site, resulting in all waste being dumped into the Ranbiara rivulet.

The unit holders said the garbage generated in the industrial area is being dumped on the bank of the Ranbiara rivulet, thereby posing a threat to the water body on which thousands of people depend for drinking and irrigation purposes.

Official sources in the industrial area said that every day, heaps of garbage are being thrown into the rivulet, which poses health hazards to thousands of people. "Despite repeated communications to the unit holders to use dustbins, which are to be collected by municipal authorities daily, most unit holders continue to dump all waste in the main water body, which is the primary source of drinking water for people in dozens of villages," they said.

Locals from Heff, Shirmal, Sugan, Achan, Petipora, Panjran and adjacent areas said that garbage has been thrown into the water body for years, posing a threat to the environment, lives, farmland, and orchards of the area.

The unit holders said that authorities have been collecting fees and generating revenue but have failed to provide the necessary facilities. They said they have brought this issue to the attention of concerned authorities several times, but no action has been taken. "There is no other option for them as there is no waste management plant in such a vast industrial estate, which is spread over around six thousand kanals," they said.

"Until the government provides such facilities, there is no other option for us than to dump the waste in the open," the unit holders added.

Meanwhile, officials said that a common effluent treatment plant is functional in the industrial area and facilities for solid waste management are being created.

Strict action will be taken against anyone found throwing waste in the Ranbiara rivulet, the officials warned—(KNO)

OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER SHOPIAN

Subject:- Extension of last date for final submission of application forms regarding engagement of Seasonal Education Volunteers (SEVs) in respect of Zone shopian.

In continuation to this office notification issued vide No. Zeo/Spn/2981/24dated: -28-06-2024 and Zeo/spn/2982 Dated: - 29/06/2024 it is hereby notified for information of desirous candidates that the last date for submission of application forms for Engagement of Seasonal Education Volunteers (SEVs) for the year 2024-25 is hereby extended upto 11thof July 2024. Furthermore, all terms and conditions laid down in earlier notification shall remain the same.

No. ZEO/SPN/2024/3003 Date: 05/07/2024

Sd/= DIPK-2518-24 Zonal Educational Officer, Shopian DT: 06/07/2024

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) ELECTRIC DIVISION KASHMIR, ENGINEERING COMPLEX SRINAGAR RAJBAGH.

NEAR SILK FACTORY SRINAGAR- 190008. NOTICE INVITING TENDER E-NIT No. 15/R&B/Electric Division Kashmir of 2024-25 issued under Endorsement No: ERB/806-15 DATED: 05-07-2024. For and on behalf of the LT. Governor, J&K (U/T) e-tenders (in Double cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/ UT/ Central Government Departments for the following works:-

| Sl. No. | Name of Work | Estimated Cost (In Rs.) | Cost of Tender/ Doc. (In Rs.) | 2% Earnest Money (In Rs.) | Time of Completion (Calendar Days) | Class of Contract | Major Head of Account | Remarks |
|---------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------|
| 01 | Development of Health (PHC) at Khimber B.W.O electrical work. | Rs. 5,476/= Lacs | Rs. 300/= | Rs. 10,954 /= | 20 Days | "AAY" Class Electrical | Administrative Approval accorded by Chief District Development Commissioner Srinagar vide Order no. 105-DDCS of 2023 Dt-23-08-2023. | |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Date of Issue of Tender Notice | 05-07-2024 |
| 2 | Period of downloading of bidding documents | 05-07-2024 from 06:00 PM |
| 3 | Bid submission Start Date | 05-07-2024 from 06:00 PM |
| 4 | Bid Submission End Date | 20-07-2024 upto 04.00 PM |
| 5 | Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) | 22-07-2024 at 2.00 PM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Kashmir, Engineering Complex Srinagar Rajbagh. |
| 6 | Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) | To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed. |

Position of AAA= Accorded
Position of T/S= Accorded
Position of funds= Available/ Committed.
The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings, bill of quantities (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen /downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-
Note:- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the E-NIT carefully before uploading soft's copy.
As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat Finance department vide No. OM No. A/24(2017)-651 dtd.07-06-2018 which reads as under:-
No.ERB/ 806-15 DATED:- 05-07-2024.
DIPK-2546-24 DT: 06/07/2024

SD/= Executive Engineer, (R&B) Electric Division Kashmir Engineering Complex Srinagar Rajbagh

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Urban Forests

The towns in South Asia are fast turning into cities and cities into metropolitan cities. Fast urbanisation is losing huge challenges to the skeletal infrastructure of towns which were never meant for a sea of population. Bengaluru is a typical example. Day in and day out the administration is forced to cut hundreds of trees to make way for newer infrastructure projects. The newer infrastructure projects are also needed for the rapidly increasing population but when it comes at the cost of greenery it leaves a bad taste in the mouth. Bengaluru which was known as a city of lakes is now not having enough water to quench the thirst of its citizens. The city is fast willing to compromise on its greenery to make way for infra projects turning it into an ugly concrete jungle. As the water seepage gets lesser and lesser imported digging machines from Germany and US have to be bought every year to dig deeper and deeper for water. In our Srinagar even though the rate of urbanisation is not up to the level of other big Indian cities but the status may change in a decade or two. In Kashmir the tendency to have an independent standalone house is leading to encroachment of paddy fields. The paddy fields are fast shrinking in the valley districts and people are more than willing to turn them into orchards or built huge houses with even bigger courtyards. This horizontal expansion will leave us nowhere to go. In another three decades, it would not be surprising if there is no paddy field left in Kashmir. People are even more than willing to encroach upon the forest land. Remotely the forest trees are cut, land levelled and in a year or two weeks see residential houses being built there. Miyawaki forest technique is one technique through which cities can maintain the greenery levels despite expansion. Besides, vertical expansion is the need of the hour. A city like Srinagar cannot sustain horizontal expansion for long.

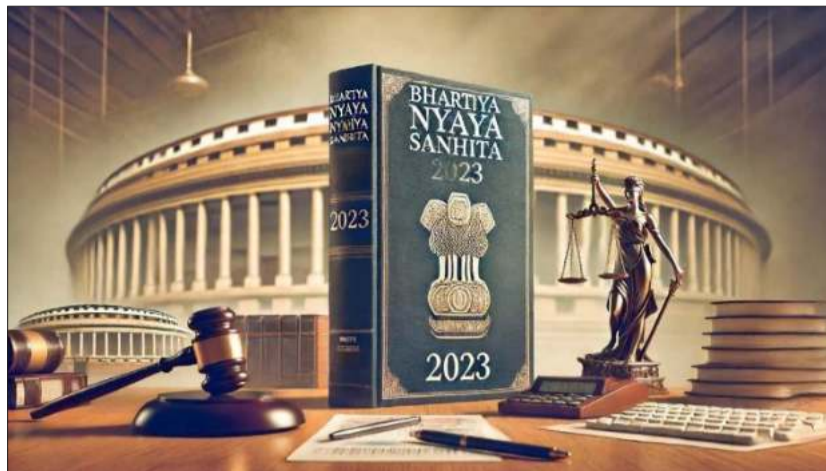
End Of The Colonial Era

India's New Bharatiya Criminal Laws



DR. NOWHERA SHAIK

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) have replaced the colonial-era Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and Indian Evidence Act, becoming effective from July 1, 2024. These new laws introduce offences like terrorism, mob lynching, and organized crime, and impose stricter punishments for crimes against women and children. The three new criminal laws are designed to be justice-oriented and victim-centric, focusing on delivering justice rather than merely administering punishment. They prioritize swift trials and justice, ensuring the protection of victims' rights. Despite some misconceptions being spread to confuse the public, the Government of India has extensively discussed every aspect of these laws with various stakeholders over four years, making it one of the most thoroughly deliberated laws in Independent India. After 77 years of independence, India's criminal justice system is now fully indigenous. On July 1, 2024 these new laws were implemented in every police station across the country, emphasizing justice over punishment, and expediting trials and justice. Unlike previous laws that primarily protected police rights, the new laws include provisions to safeguard the rights of victims and complainants. The three new laws embody the Indian spirit throughout our country's criminal justice system. They include numerous provisions that will benefit the people. Many contentious provisions from the British era that caused problems have been removed, and new, relevant sections have been added. These new criminal laws represent a paradigm shift in how justice is conceptualized and delivered in India. By



prioritizing justice over mere punishment, the laws signal a departure from punitive approaches towards a more rehabilitative and rights-based framework. This approach is essential for developing a society where the rule of law is upheld, and every individual's rights are respected and protected. In these new laws, the prioritization of sections and chapters aligns with the spirit of the Indian Constitution. Crimes against women and children are given top priority, with a new chapter dedicated to these offenses, containing 35 sections and 13 provisions, making the laws more sensitive to these issues. Unlike the previous laws, the new laws include a definition and severe punishment for mob lynching. Additionally, the British-era sedition law has been abolished and replaced with a new section addressing anti-national activities, which imposes strict penalties on those who threaten India's unity and integrity. The full implementation of the three new laws will establish a highly modern judicial system. These laws not only incorporate current technology but also allow for the integration of future technologies over the next 50 years. With 99.9% of police stations nationwide already computerized and e-record generation started in 2019, features like Zero-FIR, e-FIR, and digital charge sheets are included in the new laws. A deadline is set for completing all procedures, aiming to eliminate the prolonged wait for justice. These changes ensure that justice, including appeals up to the Supreme Court, can be achieved within three years from the

filing of an FIR. The new laws mandate forensic investigation for offenses punishable by seven years or more, which will expedite justice and increase the conviction rate to 90%. Anticipating this need, the government established the National Forensic Science Laboratory in 2020. To support this, over 40,000 trained professionals will be available in the country within three years. Additionally, the Union Cabinet has recently decided to establish campuses of the Forensic Science University and set up six Central Forensic Laboratories in nine more states. The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023 has made significant strides in leveraging technology for evidence. Several provisions have been included to enhance the credibility of electronic evidence. Now, server logs, location data, and voice messages are admissible as evidence. These three laws will be available in all the languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, and court proceedings will also be conducted in those languages. The new laws have been updated to include relevant sections for today's context, while many contentious sections that previously caused problems for the people have been removed. In preparation for these changes, the government aimed to train 12,000 Master Trainers to educate approximately 22.5 lakh policemen on the new laws. Remarkably, over 23,000 Master Trainers have been trained with the assistance of authorized institutions. Additionally, 21,000 subordinate judiciary

officials and 20,000 public prosecutors have been trained on the new laws. The legislative process for these laws was thorough and involved significant discussion. In the Lok Sabha, the laws were debated for a total of 9 hours and 29 minutes, with 34 members contributing their views. In the Rajya Sabha, the discussion lasted for 6 hours and 17 minutes, with 40 members participating. Contrary to some claims, the laws were not passed after the expulsion of members of Parliament. The expelled members had the option to return to the House and participate in the discussions to express their views, but none chose to do so. Extensive discussions and consultations with stakeholders, including lawmakers, legal experts, and civil society, ensure that the laws reflect diverse perspectives and address concerns comprehensively. Such inclusivity strengthens the laws' acceptance and implementation across different segments of society. Furthermore, the integration of technology in evidence collection and judicial procedures is a game-changer for the Indian legal system. Digitalization not only enhances efficiency but also promotes transparency and accountability in legal proceedings. It empowers law enforcement agencies and courts to handle cases more effectively, leveraging technological advancements to deliver fair and equitable outcomes. The emphasis on training a skilled workforce, including Master Trainers, police officers, judicial officials, and public prosecutors, is pivotal for the successful implementation of these reforms. Proper training ensures that stakeholders are well-equipped to understand and apply the new laws effectively, thereby minimizing potential implementation challenges and ensuring uniformity in enforcement. The introduction of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) represents a watershed moment in India's legal history. These laws modernize the criminal justice system and also uphold the principles of justice, fairness, and accountability.

Author is Founder Chairperson & Custodian of Heera Law Associates (HLA), Hyderabad. She can be mailed at drnowheraoffice@gmail.com

Labour Victory Or The Consolidation Of Conservative Oligarchy?

BHABANI SHANKAR NAYAK

The crushing defeat of the Conservative Party and their local version called the Scottish National Party in the UK general election today is a cause for celebration. The Labour Party has returned to power after fourteen years of Tory rule. It is a clear electoral victory for the Labour Party under the leadership of Sir Keir Starmer, who is now the new Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. The Labour Party's victory marks a pivotal moment in British politics, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with the Conservative Party's handling of key issues over the past decade. The new government faces the formidable task of uniting a divided nation and delivering on the promises that fuelled their electoral success. However, despite this significant political shift, a wave of disillusionment continues to ripple through the public. In his victory speech, the new Prime Minister pledged to "restore trust in politics" and vowed to rebuild and govern Britain with a vision "unburdened by doctrine." How can anyone trust a word from Keir Starmer, who has a habit of taking opportunistic political positions and changing his views on policies and his commitment to manifestoes? He changes more often in politics than the British weather. His politics of being "unburdened by doctrine" means establishing an ideologically free zone of politics and governance, which aligns with conservative values of capitalism and the interests of British and international elites. Even the Conservative Party leadership and supporters claim that the Labour policy offering is not drastically different from the policy agendas of the Conservative Party. There is no fundamental difference between Mr. Starmer and Mr. Sunak in terms of their approach to welfare policies. Both are committed to the requirements of capital more

than to the everyday needs of people. How can Mr. Starmer promise to rebuild Britain while standing on the foundations and values of Conservative politics and policies? The scepticism surrounding Sir Keir Starmer's leadership stems from his perceived lack of a consistent ideological stance. Critics argue that his flexible approach to policymaking raises questions about his authenticity and reliability as a leader. Many question his commitment to working people and their needs. This concern is further amplified by the notion that his governance style might cater more to the interests of the corporate elite rather than addressing the pressing needs of the general populace. Moreover, the Labour's policy platform mirrors that of the Conservatives suggests a troubling continuity rather than the transformative change many voters desire. If the new Labour government under Starmer's leadership fails to distinguish itself significantly from the previous Conservative administration, it could lead to further disillusionment among the electorate. However, Mr. Starmer's public positions on the privatisation of public services, economic austerity, social welfare, and even on foreign policy issues like Gaza, Ukraine, war, nuclear weapons and NATO are not markedly different from those of Mr. Sunak. Both leaders follow similar policy trajectories in British politics, reflecting a convergence in their approaches on key issues shaped by the Conservative political culture. While Mr. Starmer and Mr. Sunak come from different political parties—Labour and Conservative, respectively—their stances on privatisation show a shared inclination toward involving private sector efficiencies in public services. On the issue of economic austerity, both have advocated for fiscal prudence, albeit with nuanced differences in their approaches to government spending and debt management. In terms of social welfare,



Mr. Starmer's proposals do not deviate significantly from Mr. Sunak's policies, suggesting a consensus on the need to balance welfare provisions with economic sustainability. Foreign policy positions of both leaders also align in many respects, particularly in their support for NATO and a firm stance on international security challenges. This alignment indicates a broader trend in British politics where major parties exhibit similarities on fundamental policy issues, reflecting a right-wing shift in their political positions. Therefore, the landslide victory of the Labour party is not a victory of progressive politics of social democracy. It is the consolidation of victory of extreme right wing politics. The dominance of the Labour and Conservative parties has transformed British politics into a political oligarchy, where a very small number of unmeritorious economic elites shape public policy to uphold their interests with the support of the British state and government. This concentration of power within a limited political framework has led to significant consequences for the broader democratic process. The political influence wielded by these elites often results in policies that favour their economic and social interests, rather than reflecting the diverse needs and aspirations of the working people. This collaboration between the ruling elites and opposition politics undermines the principles of democratic practice in

Westminster where decisions are frequently driven by the priorities of a privileged few. The intertwining of political power and economic clout means that these elites can effectively circumvent mechanisms designed to ensure accountability and transparency. Their deep connections within both the Labour and Conservative parties enable them to exert disproportionate influence over legislative and regulatory frameworks, often to the detriment of wider societal welfare. In essence, the current oligarchal political landscape in Britain is detrimental to the deepening of democracy and public welfare in Britain. This has far-reaching implications for social equity, public trust in government, and the overall health of the democratic system. The rise of far-right political parties like Reform UK, led by Mr. Nigel Paul Farage, in this election reveals disturbing trends of conservative consolidation in British politics. Such a political trend indicates a significant shift towards more extreme conservative ideologies, reflecting growing discontent and polarisation among the electorate. The increasing support for such parties suggests a backlash against traditional political establishments and a demand for more radical solutions to economic, social, and cultural issues. The presence of far-right parties like Reform UK in the political arena also raises concerns about the potential erosion of democratic norms and values.

Their often inflammatory rhetoric and divisive policies can exacerbate social tensions and undermine efforts to foster inclusivity and cohesion within society. It signals a troubling trend towards conservative consolidation, with potential implications for the country's democratic integrity and social harmony. The electoral success of these parties encourages mainstream political entities to adopt more hardline stances to retain their voter base, further shifting the overall political discourse to the right. This conservative consolidation poses a challenge to the principles of pluralism and tolerance that are foundational to a healthy democracy in Britain. For Starmer to truly rebuild Britain, he must go beyond the rhetoric of being "unburdened by doctrine" and present a clear, progressive vision that prioritises social welfare, economic equality, and robust public services focusing on health, education, employment and transportation. Only by doing so can he hope to bridge the gap between his promises and the expectations of a public weary of political platitudes. This requires a commitment to bold, tangible policies that address the root causes of societal issues and a willingness to challenge the status quo entrenched by years of conservative governance. The overwhelming victory of Mr. Jeremy Corbyn, other independent candidates, and the Green Party shows that there is still electoral space for the revival of alternative and progressive politics in Britain. The mass mobilisation of all working people can ensure the defeat of conservative values and halt the forward march of right-wing politics in Britain, establishing a society based on peace and prosperity for all in this small island nation.

The author can be mailed bhbabani79@gmail.com

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

Of Course We Need A Different World But What Exactly Does This Mean?



BHARAT DOGRA

There can be a fair degree of consensus regarding what is most wrong with the present-day world. It is a world where war and conflict cause enormous distress, and in addition preparation of future war causes colossal waste of resources in the form of relentless, never-ending accumulation of weapons with ever-increasing capacity of destruction. Billions of dollars are wasted every year on creating this capacity of destruction which, if used more wisely and safely, can end all hunger, homelessness and deprivation. Already enough weapons of mass destruction exist to destroy almost all life on earth several times over but still the completely irrational destructive pursuit continues to take more and more sinister forms including moving towards preparations for space warfare. About a dozen serious environmental problems seriously endanger life on earth as also the basic life-nurturing conditions. An unacceptably high number of people suffer from hunger, homelessness and extreme forms of deprivation. Prevailing conditions of injustice and inequality also result in very high levels of economic difficulties for a very large number of people. High levels of social disintegration, alienation, depression,



violence and self-violence in daily life every year cause enormous distress to increasing millions of people including children. Human actions lead to the greatest suffering, dangers and survival risks for other forms of life.

These prominent features of the existing world situation can lead to near consensus among all thoughtful and compassionate people of the world regarding the very strong and compelling need for a different world. Can a similar consensus be created around the idea of a different world needed today? At least a broad outline of the different world we need can be suggested.

In the present world situation it is of the greatest importance to end wars and the endless arms race. In particular all weapons of mass destruction should end now and

for all future time. The idea of any single country on its own or with a few allies trying to dominate the world military, politically and economically should end and along with it the future of world being driven by great power rivalries should end. All differences among different countries have to be resolved on the basis of peaceful negotiations only. Along this the need for military expenditures will decrease greatly and about 1500 billion dollars a year may be released for reducing environmental problems and meeting the basic needs of all people worldwide.

There must be a continuing worldwide campaign centered in all educational institutions and communities regarding rebuilding a world based on peace, environment protection and sustainably meeting the basic needs

of all people. This campaign should prioritize creating the knowledge systems and even more significantly the human values that are needed for a world based on peace, environment protection and justice.

For resolving environmental problems, the widely prevailing acquisitive and consumerist tendencies are a huge obstacle and instead the social values of frugality and voluntary acceptance of a simple life are needed. These social values should emphasize seeking happiness in good social relations and sharing rather than in endless pursuit of greed and luxury.

Resolving of all serious environmental problems and protection of all life forms should get very high priority. There should be special concern for ocean, rivers and all endangered life of ocean and rivers. Special areas of great environmental importance like Antarctica, the Arctic and the Himalayan regions should be very high on the line of priorities for environment protection. Reduction of greenhouse gases and fossil fuels is another top priority.

The objectives of ending hunger, homelessness and other serious forms of deprivation should get equally high priority and must remain on top of the agenda till achieved. Economic and social equality and justice must be advanced in a much bigger way.

There should be compassion towards all forms of life. Human consumption of meat should decline and the rearing (or hunting) of various animals for meat consumption should be reduced and also improved to reduce the suffering to animals and birds as well as health-hazards.

A lot more effort should go into improving social relationships at all levels (family, community, workplace etc.), based on closer and more compassionate relations, while

ending all forms of discrimination. Women should get much higher respect. All discord based on religions should end with leading spiritual leaders from all parts of world contributing to this and emphasizing harmony among people of all religions.

This is a bare outline of the different world we need on which consensus can be created. Of course it is much more difficult to say how the toughest and most elusive decisions like eliminating wars and all weapons of mass destruction can be taken. There can be a big debate on whether such essential tasks can be accomplished on the basis of the existing world governing structures, also keeping in view the fact of the decline in the quality of world leadership and the growing distance of the world's prominent leaders from the most essential tasks.

In my book 'Earth without Borders' I have raised several possibilities of alternative world governance structures that may be needed for some of the most essential tasks like ending all weapons of mass destruction and resolving the most serious environmental problems. However at a broader level it is important to emphasize the need for a big and broad-based, continuing, sustained mobilization of people worldwide on the most important issues of peace, justice and environment protection. In the middle of many worries and disappointments, the possibility and potential of such mobilization still remains a source of hope. (C-Counter Currents)

Bharat Dogra is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include Planet in Peril, Protecting Earth for Children, Man over Machine, A Day in 2071 and India's Quest for Sustainable Farming and Healthy Food.

WILLIAM D HARTUNG

Venture capital and military startup firms in Silicon Valley have begun aggressively selling a version of automated warfare that will deeply incorporate artificial intelligence (AI). Those companies and their CEOs are now pressing full speed ahead with that emerging technology, largely dismissing the risk of malfunctions that could lead to the future slaughter of civilians, not to speak of the possibility of dangerous scenarios of escalation between major military powers. The reasons for this headlong rush include a misplaced faith in "miracle weapons," but above all else, this surge of support for emerging military technologies is driven by the ultimate rationale of the military-industrial complex: vast sums of money to be made.

The New Techno-Enthusiasts
While some in the military and the Pentagon are indeed concerned about the future risk of AI weaponry, the leadership of the Defense Department is on board fully. Its energetic commitment to emerging technology was first broadcast to the world in an August 2023 speech delivered by Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks to the National Defense Industrial Association, the largest arms industry trade group in the country. She used the occasion to announce what she termed "the Replicator Initiative," an umbrella effort to help create "a new state of the art — just as America has before — leveraging attritable, autonomous systems in all domains — which are less expensive, put fewer people in the line of fire, and can be changed, updated, or improved with substantially shorter lead times."

Hicks was anything but shy about pointing to the primary rationale for such a rush toward robotic warfare: outpacing and intimidating China. "We must," she said, "ensure the PRC [People's Republic of China] leadership wakes up every day, considers the risks of aggression, and concludes, 'today is not the day' — and not just today, but every day, between now and 2027, now and 2035, now and 2049, and beyond."

Hick's supreme confidence in the ability of the Pentagon and American arms makers to wage future techno-wars has been reinforced by a group of new-age militarists in Silicon Valley and beyond, spearheaded by corporate leaders like Peter Thiel of Palantir, Palmer Luckey of Anduril, and venture capitalists like Marc Andreessen of Andreessen Horowitz.

Patriots or Profiteers?
These corporate promoters of a new way of war also view themselves as a new breed of patriots, ready and able to successfully confront the military challenges of the future.

A case in point is "Rebooting the Arsenal of Democracy," a lengthy manifesto on Anduril's blog. It touts the superiority of Silicon Valley startups over old-school military-industrial behemoths like Lockheed Martin in supplying the technology needed to win the wars of the future:

"The largest defense contractors are staffed with patriots who, nevertheless, do not have the software expertise or business model to build the technology we need... These companies built the tools that kept us safe in the past, but they are not the future of defense."

In contrast to the industrial-age approach it critiques, Luckey and his compatriots at Anduril seek an entirely new way of developing and selling weapons:

"Software will change how war is waged. The battlefield of the future will team with artificially intelligent, unmanned systems, which fight, gather reconnaissance data, and communicate at breathtaking speeds."

At first glance, Luckey seems a distinctly unlikely candidate to have risen so far in the ranks of arms industry executives. He made his initial fortune by creating the Oculus virtual reality device, a novelty item that users can strap to their heads to experience a variety of 3-D scenes (with the sensation that they're embedded in them). His sartorial tastes run toward sandals and Hawaiian shirts, but he has now fully shifted into military work. In 2017, he founded Anduril, in part with support from Peter Thiel and his investment firm, Founders Fund. Anduril currently makes autonomous drones, automated command and control systems, and other devices meant to accelerate the speed at which military personnel can identify and destroy targets.

Thiel, a mentor to Palmer Luckey, offers an example of how the leaders of the new weapons startup firms differ from the titans of the Cold War era. As a start, he's all in for Donald Trump. Once upon a time, the heads of major weapons makers like Lockheed Martin tried to keep good ties with both Democrats and Republicans, making substantial campaign contributions to both parties and their candidates and hiring lobbyists with connections on both sides of the aisle. The logic for doing so couldn't have seemed clearer then. They wanted to cement a bipartisan consensus for spending ever more on the Pentagon, one of the few things most key members of both parties agreed upon. And they also wanted to have particularly good relations with whichever party controlled the White House and/or the Congress at any moment.

The Silicon Valley upstarts and their representatives are also much more vocal in their criticisms of China. They are the coldest (or do I mean hottest?) of the new cold warriors in Washington, employing harsher rhetoric than either the Pentagon or the big contractors. By contrast, the big contractors generally launder their critiques of China and support for wars around the world that have helped pad their bottom lines through think tanks, which they've funded to the tune of tens of millions of dollars annually.

Thiel's main company, Palantir, has also been criticized for providing systems that have enabled harsh border crackdowns by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as well as "predictive policing." That (you won't be surprised to learn) involves the collection of vast amounts of personal data without a warrant, relying on algorithms with built-in racial biases that lead to the systematic unfair targeting and treatment of people of color.

To fully grasp how the Silicon Valley militarists view next-generation warfare, you need to check out the work of Christian Brose, Palantir's chief strategy officer. He was a long-time military reformer and former aide to the late Senator John McCain. His book Kill Chain serves as a bible of sorts for advocates of automated warfare. Its key observation: that the winner in combat is the side that can most effec-

tively shorten the "kill chain" (the time between when a target is identified and destroyed). His book assumes that the most likely adversary in the next tech war will indeed be China and he proceeds to exaggerate Beijing's military capabilities, while overstating its military ambitions and insisting that outpacing that country in developing emerging military technologies is the only path to future victory.

And mind you, Brose's vision of shortening that kill chain poses immense risks. As the time to decide what actions to take diminishes, the temptation to take humans "out of the loop" will only grow, leaving life-and-death decisions to machines with no moral compass and vulnerable to cata-



strophic malfunctions of a sort inherent in any complex software system.

Much of Brose's critique of the current military-industrial complex rings true. A few big firms are getting rich making ever more vulnerable huge weapons platforms like aircraft carriers and tanks, while the Pentagon spends billions on a vast, costly global basing network that could be replaced with a far smaller, more dispersed military footprint. Sadly, though, his alternative vision poses more problems than it solves.

First, there's no guarantee that the software-driven systems promoted by Silicon Valley will work as advertised. After all, there's a long history of "miracle weapons" that failed, from the electronic battlefield in Vietnam to President Ronald Reagan's disastrous Star Wars missile shield. Even when the ability to find and destroy targets more quickly did indeed improve, wars like those in Iraq and Afghanistan, fought using those very technologies, were dismal failures.

A recent Wall Street Journal investigation suggests that the new generation of military tech is being oversold as well. The Journal found that small top-of-the-line new U.S. drones supplied to Ukraine for its defensive war against Russia have proved far too "glitchy and expensive," so much so that, irony of ironies, the Ukrainians have opted to buy cheaper, more reliable Chinese drones instead.

Finally, the approach advocated by Brose and his acolytes is going to make war more likely as technological hubris instills a belief that the United States can indeed "beat" a rival nuclear-armed power like China in a conflict, if only we invest in a nimble new high-tech force. The result, as my colleague Michael

Brenes and I pointed out recently, is the untold billions of dollars of private money now pouring into firms seeking to expand the frontiers of techno-war. Estimates range from \$6 billion to \$33 billion annually, and, according to the New York Times, \$125 billion over the past four years. Whatever the numbers, the tech sector and its financial backers sense that there are massive amounts of money to be made in next-generation weaponry and aren't about to let anyone stand in their way.

Meanwhile, an investigation by Eric Lipton of the New York Times found that venture capitalists and startup firms already pushing the pace on AI-driven warfare are also busily hiring ex-military and Pentagon officials to do their bid-

ding. High on that list is former Trump Secretary of Defense Mark Esper. Such connections may be driven by patriotic fervor, but a more likely motivation is simply the desire to get rich. As Ellen Lord, former head of acquisition at the Pentagon, noted, "There's panache now with the ties between the defense community and private equity. But they are also hoping they can cash in big-time and make a ton of money."

The Philosopher King
Another central figure in the move toward building a high-tech war machine is former Google CEO Eric Schmidt. His interests go far beyond the military sphere. He's become a virtual philosopher king when it comes to how new technology will reshape society and, indeed, what it means to be human. He's been thinking about such issues for some time and laid out his views in a 2021 book modestly entitled *The Age of AI and Our Human Future*, coauthored with none other than the late Henry Kissinger. Schmidt is aware of the potential perils of AI, but he's also at the center of efforts to promote its military applications. Though he forgoes the messianic approach of some up-and-coming Silicon Valley figures, whether his seemingly more thoughtful approach will contribute to the development of a safer, more sensible world of AI weaponry is open to debate.

Let's start with the most basic thing of all: the degree to which Schmidt thinks that AI will change life as we know it is extraordinary. In that book of his and Kissinger's, they asserted that it would spark "the alteration of human identity and the human experience at levels not seen since the dawn of the modern age," arguing that AI's "functioning portends

progress toward the essence of things, progress that philosophers, theologians and scientists have sought, with partial success, for millennia."

On the other hand, the government panel on artificial intelligence on which Schmidt served fully acknowledged the risks posed by the military uses of AI. The question remains: Will he, at least, support strong safeguards against its misuse? During his tenure as head of the Pentagon's Defense Innovation Board from 2017 to 2020, he did help set the stage for Pentagon guidelines on the use of AI that promised humans would always "be in the loop" in launching next-gen weapons. But as a tech industry critic noted, once the rhetoric is stripped away, the guidelines "don't really prevent you from doing anything."

In fact, Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and other good government advocates questioned whether Schmidt's role as head of the Defense Innovation Unit didn't represent a potential conflict of interest. After all, while he was helping shape its guidelines on the military applications of AI, he was also investing in firms that stood to profit from its development and use. His investment entity, America's Frontier Fund, regularly puts money in military-tech startups, and a nonprofit he founded, the Special Competitive Studies Project, describes its mission as to "strengthen America's long-term competitiveness as artificial intelligence (AI) [reshapes] our national security, economy, and society." The group is connected to a who's who of leaders in the military and the tech industry and is pushing, among other things, for less regulation over military-tech development. In 2023, Schmidt even founded a military drone company, White Stork, which, according to Forbes, has been secretly testing its systems in the Silicon Valley suburb of Menlo Park.

The question now is whether Schmidt can be persuaded to use his considerable influence to rein in the most dangerous uses of AI. Unfortunately, his enthusiasm for using it to enhance warfighting capabilities suggests otherwise:

"Every once in a while, a new weapon, a new technology comes along that changes things. Einstein wrote a letter to Roosevelt in the 1930s saying that there is this new technology — nuclear weapons — that could change war, which it clearly did. I would argue that [AI-powered] autonomy and decentralized, distributed systems are that powerful."

Given the risks already cited, comparing militarized AI to the development of nuclear weapons shouldn't exactly be reassuring. The combination of the two — nuclear weapons controlled by automatic systems with no human intervention — has so far been ruled out, but don't count on that lasting. It's still a possibility, absent strong, enforceable safeguards on when and how AI can be used.

AI is coming, and its impact on our lives, whether in war or peace, is likely to stagger the imagination. In that context, one thing is clear: we can't afford to let the people and companies that will profit most from its unbridled application have the upper hand in making the rules for how it should be used. (Originally published in TomDispatch.com)

William D. Hartung, a TomDispatch regular, is a senior research fellow at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft and the author of Prophets of War: Lockheed Martin and the Making of the Military-Industrial Complex.

Elaborate Arrangements Made To Facilitate People During Muharram: Admin

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR:- In order to ensure smooth observance of Muharram and facilitate the mourner's, the District Administration Srinagar has made elaborate arrangements across the District.

In this regard, the Deputy Commissioner(DC)Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat along with other senior Officers of the District Administration has conducted several visits to different Imambaras including Hasanabad, Shams ud din Iraqi, Zaidal and other areas in Srinagar District.

During the visits the Deputy Commissioner held interaction sessions with the prominent Shia leaders and religious scholars to discuss the arrangements required regarding holy month of Muharram ul Haram.



The DC has passed directions to the all line Departments for ensuring all required arrangements to facilitate the mourner's. In addition, several meetings were held in the DC Office Complex with concerned Officers

and other stakeholders.

Pertinent to mention that as of now, various immediate interventions have been taken by the Srinagar Administration

During the current financial year 2024-25, around 11 macadamized works have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.21 Crore against which 10 works have been executed.

For better drinking water supply around 23 works are being/have been taken up for execution at an estimated cost of Rs. 34.00 lacs in different Shia dominating area of district Srinagar.

With regard to power supply, the existing curtailment schedule of 4.5 hours to 6 hours has been reduced to 3 hours only. Moreover, no curtailment is being witnessed during sunset to sunrise.

Besides, during the main holy days of Muharram, uninterrupted power supply shall be provided.

With regard to sanitation, all the necessary steps viz full grass cutting/fumigation/desilting of surface drains/have been started and other men and machinery round the clock are working tirelessly to provide better sanitation facility to the mourners during the Muharram.

Similarly, directions have already been passed to the health Department to ensure Health facilities viz adequate availability of medicines, ambulances and other necessary arrangements be made during the month.

In addition to above, around Rs 507.32 lakh have been taken up for execution for 71 works in Shia dominated areas.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

FM Sitharaman

decisive fight against poverty." Sitharaman will be presenting the budget at a time when the Indian economy has clocked a robust 8.2 per cent growth in 2023-24, which is the fastest among the world's major economies, and inflation coming down to below 5 per cent. The RBI has stated that the economy is headed to an over 8 per cent growth trajectory.

The fiscal deficit has also been reduced from more than 9 per cent of GDP in 2020-21 to the targeted level of 5.1 per cent for 2024-25. This has strengthened the macro-economic fundamentals of the economy. S&P Global Rating raised India's sovereign rating outlook to 'positive' from 'stable', citing the country's improving finances and strong economic growth.

Four Terrorists,

inputs about the presence of terrorists, the officials said. Both the operations are on and the security forces have maintained a tight cordon of the respective areas, the officials added

Wiping Out Terrorists

took away sheep of locals without paying them the money and through this they want to terrorize the people like what happened in the past but we will not allow this to happen," the DGP said.

Replying to a question as to what is the way forward for security forces to eliminate the terrorists in Jammu region, the police chief said, "The tactics and the strategy can't be discussed in an open forum like this as how will you go."

The DGP expressed happiness on the announcement of five Shaurya Chakras to J&K Police personnel and said, "When we heard that five Shaurya Chakras have been awarded to J&K police personnel, and that too to one Cargo unit of Kashmir for their independent operations, every officer and everyone else is proud of this honour." "J&K police is such a fighting unit, such an instrument of anti-terror machine, whose story and contribution the country is coming to know slowly for the last four to five years. I hope that the spirit will continue after getting such recognition from the Indian army and it will take our officers and Jawans to work more in the future and will take the anti-terror war to its logical conclusion," he added.

Meanwhile, the DGP accompanied by ADGP Law and Order Vijay Kumar and ADGP Jammu zone Anand Jain, was welcomed by DIG Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban range Shridhar Patil, DC Doda Harvinder Singh, SSP Doda Javed Iqbal and others.

The DIG and SSP Doda appraised the DGP about the overall situation of the district, achievement on militancy front and success story of personnel who have recently achieved a major achievement in neutralizing three terrorists in Gandoh area.

The DGP handed over an absorption letter to seven SPOs as constables in J&K police in front of their families, relatives and others and hoped that this will motivate them to work more—(KNO)

Gear Up For

for the (assembly) elections and ensure the win of the party," the BJP national president, who is also Union health minister, told the gathering which was among others attended by BJP's election incharge in J-K and Union minister G Kishan Reddy, Union minister and Udhampur Lok Sabha MP Jitendra Singh, National General Secretary, incharge J-K, Tarun Chugh and BJP J-K president Ravinder Raina.

Nadda was accorded a warm welcome by his party workers on his arrival in Jammu this afternoon and he was taken in a procession to the venue of the meeting where he paid rich tributes to BJP ideologue Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his 123rd birth anniversary.

Mookerjee was one of the founders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Mookerjee, who strongly opposed to now scrapped Article 370 providing special status to Jammu and Kashmir, died under mysterious circumstances in 1953 shortly after his arrest in Jammu and Kashmir following his agitation for "Ek desh mein do Vidhan, do pradhan aur, do nishan nahi challenge" (A single country cannot have

two constitutions, two prime ministers, and two national emblems).

Describing Jammu and Kashmir as "crown of India", Nadda said before 2014, the people of Jammu and Ladakh were used to talk about "discrimination and injustice" but the Modi-led government provided justice to all sections of the society, especially those who have been left deprived by the previous regimes.

He said the BJP-led government lived true to its slogan of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas and sabka vishwas' and "today Jammu and Kashmir along with Ladakh is marching ahead with the rest of the country without any complaint of discrimination or injustice from anywhere. This happened because of the Modi government."

He said two crore tourists visited Jammu and Kashmir last year, showing the improved situation in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370 of the constitution.

"Unlike in the past when the Indian forces deployed on the borders had to seek permission to retaliate to the firing from across the border, the Modi government gave free hand to the forces and the people are living a peaceful life now. This is the new Bharat under the leadership of Modi," he said, adding any terrorist who manages to sneak into this side is neutralised within one week.

He said BJP is the largest party in the world, having a mass following. "We are the party which has a Modi like leader, vision, intention, programmes, workers and peoples trust. For us, the nation is the first unlike those parties which have all along indulged in politics of appeasement, familism and running a government with a remote control," Nadda said.

Continuing his tirade against the main opposition Congress, he said despite the party's failure to cross 100-seat mark in Lok Sabha elections for the third time since 2014, it is projecting itself as a winner.

"Such an ecosystem has been created where the winner is questioned instead of the loser. Congress has failed to open its account in 13 states where it was wiped out. It is a party which does not win on its own strength but on the votes of other parties," the BJP leader said, adding it got over 50 per cent vote share where it is supported by other parties whereas it got below 28 per cent where it was fighting alone.

The election results of Congress in Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are the glaring example of its performance, he said, adding "this is a party which finishes its ally which links with it."

He referred to Congress leaders as "educated illiterates" and said they have no knowledge of the economy and unnecessarily raising questions and creating doubts in the minds of the people.

"India under the leadership of Modi went past the British which ruled India for 200 years to become fifth largest economy in the world...The day is not far when we will be third economic power in coming years under the leadership of Modi," he said.

He said BJP is the only party in the country which is fighting the elections on its own strength and defeating its rivals.

Enhanced Facilities

pilgrimage experience by installing lights along the Baltal track leading to the Amarnath Cave Shrine. This initiative ensures a safe environment for travelers.

The lights have transformed the route from Baltal to the cave, facilitating smooth and secure movement, particularly during early morning and late evening hours when the track is usually dim.

This measure significantly reduces the risk of accidents and injuries, offering a sense of relief to participants.

Many travelers, including a group from Gujarat, have expressed gratitude for the improved facilities and the efforts of the PDD circle Ganderbal in installing the lights. "The circle PDD team has done an excellent job in installing the lights. Their efforts have made a significant difference in our yatra," said the group from Gujarat.

Pertinently, the initiatives taken by the Jammu and Kashmir Government and the PDD are significantly contributing to a safer and more comfortable pilgrimage experience for all Amarnath Yatra participants—(KNO)

Need To Affirm,

Culture and Languages, at Srinagar

today.

In his address, the Lt Governor called upon the people to celebrate diversity in art, culture and literary field, which is the source of India's greatness.

He commended the Koshur Raag for its endeavours to promote Kashmiri cultural heritage through music and other art forms.

"India's culture is rich and diverse and always guided the society to embrace and celebrate cultural roots to fulfill their dreams and aspirations", the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor felicitated the artists for making significant contribution in their respective fields.

He also highlighted the important role of the artists in spreading the message of unity, harmony and peace in the society.

The musical evening witnessed the soulful performances by maestros like Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori, Sh Munir Ahmad Mir, Ms Sunayana Kachroo and other legendary and young artists from Jammu Kashmir.

Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Sh Arvind Mattoo, Founder, Koshur Raag; senior officials, members of Koshur Raag and eminent artists from Jammu Kashmir were present on the occasion.

Padma Shri Dr SP Varma; Dr Farooq Abdullah, former Member of Parliament and prominent citizens from different walks of life were also present.

CS Assesses Progress

operation of 100 e-buses by the concerned smart city authorities, the Chief Secretary asked for taking a relook into the distance covered by each bus in a day and its occupancy during each trip. He emphasised optimum utilization of capacity of these buses with minimum coverage of about 200 kms a day.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the plan for cleaning and beautification of Dal and Nigeen Lakes. He asked for accelerating the pace of progress on all the works.

Regarding running of water transport, the Chief Secretary asked for choosing routes that are more treaded and economically viable for people.

The Chief Secretary also impressed upon the department to lay added focus on implementation of PMAY-Urban scheme as it provides necessary support to urban poor for constructing their own houses. He asked for making it's traction more amenable for public by making the process attractive for the eligible applicants.

Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur, presented an overview of the works in progress under the Smart City Mission. She detailed out the specific reasons and challenges faced in timely completion of certain works and the renewed deadlines fixed for each project.

She revealed that out of 127 projects, 117 have been completed and 10 are at different stages of completion under Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL). Similarly, for Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), out of 184 projects, 114 have been completed and rest are under progress.

Giving details about the JSCL projects under progress, it was informed that these included Tawi River Front development, Street development from Mubarak Mandi to Raghunath Bazar, street development from Canal road to Talab Tillo, Library cum Cafeteria at Mubarak Mandi, Oceanarium at Bagh-i-Bahu, Heritage conservation works, improvement of 23 road junctions besides newly taken-up 'waste to wonder' projects in Jammu.

The ongoing works of SSCL that came up for discussion included Lakefront development from Nishat to Naseembagh, development & beautification of Shalimar Canal, upgradation of Batamaloo Qamarwari Road, upgradation of Batamaloo-Moominabad Road, Traditional Souq market at Batamaloo, phased upgradation of Downtown/Shehr-i-khaas markets, Jhelum waterfront development besides other projects.

It was revealed that most of these projects are at advanced stages of completion and are expected to be dedicated to public by September this year.

Rs. 2,118 Cr RDSS

affordability of power supply to the consumers through an efficient distribution system. "Loss reduction works include

installation of Steel Tubular Poles, impregnable LT-AB cable and creation of new DT substations," he added.

The spokesman further stated that all 13 packages worth Rs.2,118 crore stand awarded and work commenced on ground. "While 5 packages of three Divisions of Srinagar and one each of Budgam & Baramulla Districts is being executed by KPDCL, 4 packages each of North/Central Kashmir (Bandipora, Kupwara, Ganderbal & ED IV Srinagar) & South Kashmir (Pulwama, Anantnag, Kulgam & Shopian) are being executed by the premier power sector Corporations like NTPC and Powergrid," the spokesman said, adding that timeline for completion of RDSS works has been fixed up to 2025 with sunset date of 2026.

Seeking public support in timely execution of loss reduction works, the KPDCL spokesman identified hassle-free installation of steel poles and DT substations as key elements for turning around the LT distribution network. "KPDCL in close coordination with District Administrations resolve issues which crop up while laying of loss reduction network," he said, while urging civil society members to cooperate with Turnkey Contractors working at sites.

To tide over huge AT&C losses on account of meter bypass by way of hooking on bare conductor and exceeding of sanctioned load, KPDCL has flagged installation of aerial-bunched insulated cable under the flagship scheme. "With installation of LT-AB cable and smart metering under RDSS, KPDCL will be able to reliable and uninterrupted electricity supply to its consumers," the spokesman added.

Highlighting the challenges faced by KPDCL in replacing the existing power infrastructure under the Government's modernization programme, the spokesman stated that close monitoring of its own packages as well as that of NTPC and Powergrid are being monitored on fortnightly basis.

Inspiring Youth,

The finalists, Syed Taj-ud-Din Football Club Natipora and Downtown Heroes Football Club, will vie for the crown on 12th July 2024.

The Secretary of the J&K Sports Council has extended her best wishes to the finalists of the football and hockey tournaments, saying, Sports pave the way for our youth to showcase their talent and earn laurels for the UT and the country at international events.

"Jammu and Kashmir is turning out to be a hotbed for sports culture, and I am glad that AIFF has chosen Srinagar to host the U-17 National team camp with our local hero as head coach. I am sure the climate, high altitude, and full support will once again help the National football team bring back gold like last year," she added.

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Govt tells auto firms to liberalise repair services for consumers' benefit

IANS

NEW DELHI: The Centre's Department of Consumer Affairs has asked automobile manufacturers to enhance efforts towards democratisation of repair manuals and videos accessible to all, fostering a robust ecosystem for third-party repair services and upholding consumer rights.

The issue was taken up by Secretary, Department Consumer Affairs, Nidhi Khare at a meeting with Automobile Associations and their partner companies in the Automobile Sector with the objective of onboarding auto companies onto the Right to Repair Portal India, according to an official statement issued on Saturday.

The meeting was attended by various representatives of Automobile Associations like ACMA, SIAM, ATMA, EPIC Foundation and companies including Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, TVS, Royal Enfield, Renault and Bosch, Yamaha Motors India, Honda Car India were also present.

The Government has launched the Right to Repair Portal India (<https://righttorepairindia.gov.in/>) to provide consumers with easy access to information for repairing their products and enabling them to reuse it, thereby contributing to the circular economy as well



as reduction of e-waste in a hassle-free manner.

In the meeting, it was emphasised that products that cannot be repaired or are subject to planned obsolescence—designed with an artificially limited lifespan—contribute to e-waste and compel consumers to purchase new products due to lack of repair options or extremely expensive repair options for reuse. Therefore, the goal is to eliminate obstacles such as restricted access to tools or repair information, ensuring that consumers have complete ownership of the products they purchase.

"Over time, it has been noted that repair services are increasingly constrained due to significant delays in service and absence of repair documentation for vehicles. Additionally, products are sometimes repaired at excessively high costs, leaving consumers dissatisfied with repair services which often delays repairs, even if necessary, due to

limited repair options," it was pointed out at the meeting.

A major constraint is also the availability of genuine spare parts at affordable prices. Often their unavailability at affordable prices forces consumers towards purchasing counterfeit spare parts from the grey markets. Further, lack of accessible information for minor repairs or do it yourself guides, exacerbates consumer distress, adding to their financial burden and overall dissatisfaction.

Stress was also laid on offering roadside assistance to consumers, especially on highways and introducing a repairability index of the vehicle that provides information on the life of the product, easy repair ecosystem, availability of spare parts, detailed manual on self-repair, warranty on different parts.

These measures aim to empower consumers with informed choices regarding the post-sales service of their products, besides ease in enjoying their products fully. The meeting concluded with the consensus to onboard the Right to Repair Portal and adopt a greater collaborative approach in providing a vibrant post-sale services to the consumers.

The discussions also covered topics such as aligning standardisation of parts along with standardisation of skilled workmanship, companies developing catalogues that should benefit consumers for post-purchase service and longevity of product life, and measures for addressing deceptive practices in repair workshops in the name of motor insurance that contribute to unnecessary generation of plastic waste.

It was stressed that details of Companies Service Centre across India and Recognition third-parties repairers, if any, by the companies and Information on country of origin to be explicitly mentioned.

Some companies like TVS have shared their post-onboarding experiences on the portal. Companies including Tata Motors and TVS discussed how, based on complaints received from the National Consumer Helpline, they identified key repair issues and subsequently created repair videos accessible to consumers via their official YouTube channels.

Austrian Chancellor calls PM Modi's upcoming Vienna visit 'special honour'

IANS

VIENNA: Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer on Saturday labeled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Vienna as a "special honour", stating that he is eagerly looking forward to it.

PM Modi is scheduled to arrive in Austria, the second leg of his two-nation trip, from Moscow on July 9.

This will be the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Austria in 41 years. During his stay in Vienna, PM Modi will call on Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen and hold talks with Chancellor Nehammer. Both leaders will also address business leaders from India and Austria.

"I very much look forward to welcoming Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, the world's largest democracy, next week in Vienna. This visit is a special honour as it marks the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister in over forty years, and a significant milestone as we celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations with India," Chancellor Nehammer said on Saturday afternoon.

"We will have the opportunity to talk about further deepening our bilateral relationship and closer cooperation on the many geopolitical challenges," he added.

In October 2021, on the sidelines of COP26 in Glasgow, Prime Minister Modi had held discussions with then Austrian Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg who is now the Foreign Minister of the country.

PM Modi is also scheduled to interact with members of the Indian community in Vienna during his visit.

On Friday, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra called Austria an "important cen-

tral European country" that offers excellent opportunities for bilateral cooperation in infrastructure, renewable energy, high



technology areas, start-up sectors, media and entertainment.

He also highlighted the growing India-Austria trade and investment linkages, including the recent launch of an India-Austria start-up bridge in February 2024 that has made a "very promising" start.

"The visit we are confident will allow us to discuss various areas of importance in bilateral engagement, as also issues of regional and global importance of mutual interest, and help broaden the scope of our partnership," said Foreign Secretary Kwatra.

India and Austria had also signed a Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Agreement in May last year and continue to work closely to expand and explore new areas of bilateral partnership.

"We're also looking at what we can do in terms of technology. There are over, I think, 30 to 40 large Austrian companies already present in India in a range of areas from infrastructure, tunneling, track laying. We've got a fair amount of investments from India already in Austria. But we want to see how we can take these forward. We want to look at other key areas, clean technologies, renewables. We want to look at different areas where we can try and work together," said Pavan Kapoor, Secretary (West) at the Ministry of External Affairs.

Rise of Bharat unstoppable, to become Viksit ahead of 2047: VP

IANS

NEW DELHI: Bharat is rising as never before, it is unstoppable and is slated to become Viksit even ahead of 2047, said Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Saturday.

He was speaking at the 12th Convocation of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIIST) - Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

"This century belongs to Bharat. We do not doubt it because Bharat is on the rise as never before and the rise is unstoppable. The rise is incremental," VP Dhankhar said.

"Personally for me, I think Bharat will be Viksit Bharat ahead of 2047. I do not doubt it."

He called the students "important stakeholders, the driving force" behind India's successful journey towards 2047.

Lauding the scientific community, the VP said, "There is hardly any technological gap between Bharat and the most developed nations."

Further, he cited technological advancement in the country, like the Lithium-ion battery developed by the Indian Space

Research Organisation (ISRO) which can be useful in the development of the electric vehicle ecosystem in the country.

"The government has taken the initiative with respect to certain minerals to put them in the private sector and that is why we are engaged with Lithium," VP Dhankhar informed.

He also stressed the importance of disruptive technologies like artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), machine learning, and blockchain which "are both opportunities and challenges."

On quantum computing machines, VP Dhankhar said, "India is among the few countries in the world where allocation has been made for 6,000 crore."

"Our green hydrogen mission with a commitment of 80,000 crore and has the potential to generate 6 lakh jobs investment of 8 lakh crores. We have enough," he said.

VP Dhankhar stated that the days of conventional warfare are gone. Instead "intellectual and technological innovations emerging from our laboratories" will determine India's "position and geopolitical strength".

PM Modi congratulates Keir Starmer, discusses India-UK FTA

IANS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday extended an invitation to newly-elected British Prime Minister Keir Starmer for an early visit to India as both leaders agreed to work towards the early conclusion of a mutually beneficial India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

The two leaders spoke over phone as PM Modi congratulated Starmer on his and Labour Party's "remarkable victory" in the general elections.

"Pleased to speak with Keir Starmer. Congratulated him on being elected as the Prime Minister of the UK. We remain committed to deepening Comprehensive Stra-

tegic Partnership and robust India-UK economic ties for the progress and prosperity of our peoples and global good," PM Modi posted on X after the call.

Both leaders recalled the historic relations between the two countries and reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen and advance the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and the UK.

"Appreciating the positive contributions of the Indian community in the social, economic, and political development of the UK. The two sides agreed to continue to promote close people-to-people ties. Both leaders agreed to remain in touch," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement.

Subject: Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Solid Waste Management in Block ACHABAL District Anantnag.

On behalf of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Expressions of Interest (EOI) from the eligible and interested agencies are hereby invited for the execution of a Solid Waste Management Plan in District Anantnag Block Achabal.

1. BACKGROUND:

The Solid Waste Management program aims to implement effective and scientific waste management practices in Block ACHABAL, in line with the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). The program will cover the CD Block ACHABAL comprising of 27 Gram Panchayats mentioned below:

| S. N O | Name of Panchayat | Approximate No. of Households | Other Establish merits | Per Month User charges for HHs | Per Month User Charges for other Establishments |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Akingam A | 374 | 41 | 50 | 100 |
| 2 | Akingam B | 381 | 35 | 50 | 100 |
| 3 | Badoora | 140 | 99 | 50 | 100 |
| 4 | BB Nowgam | 169 | 80 | 50 | 100 |
| 5 | BB Nowgam A | 564 | 25 | 50 | 100 |
| 6 | Brakpora | 490 | 60 | 50 | 100 |
| 7 | Brinty A | 540 | 47 | 50 | 100 |
| 8 | Brinty B | 492 | 49 | 50 | 100 |
| 9 | CS pora | 515 | 36 | 50 | 100 |
| 10 | Damhall | 426 | 68 | 50 | 100 |
| 11 | Gopalpora A | 235 | 45 | 50 | 100 |
| 12 | Gopalpora B | 230 | 16 | 50 | 100 |
| 13 | Hardpora | 297 | 49 | 50 | 100 |
| 14 | H Tooru | 531 | 61 | 50 | 100 |
| 15 | Immoh | 473 | 39 | 50 | 100 |
| 16 | Issoo | 424 | 31 | 50 | 100 |
| 17 | Kadapora | 420 | 38 | 50 | 100 |
| 18 | Kawarigam | 675 | 50 | 50 | 100 |
| 19 | Khundroo | 550 | 51 | 50 | 100 |
| 20 | Magraypora | 537 | 83 | 50 | 100 |
| 21 | Mohripora | 184 | 8 | 50 | 100 |
| 22 | Shellipora | 227 | 24 | 50 | 100 |
| 23 | Sundoo | 253 | 25 | 50 | 100 |
| 24 | Tailwani | 379 | 112 | 50 | 100 |
| 25 | Tailwani A | 379 | 30 | 50 | 100 |
| 26 | Thajiwara | 260 | 92 | 50 | 100 |
| 27 | Trahpoo | 469 | 45 | 50 | 100 |

2. SCOPE OF WORK:

The contracting agency will be responsible for the following processes:

► Solid Waste Collection

- Sanitation and door-to-door collection of both biodegradable and nonbiodegradable waste from all households of one of the three designated clusters covering all households, shops, factories, industrial establishments, etc. at least thrice a week.
- A Panchayat-Halqa-wise schedule of waste collection shall further be notified in consultation with the concerned Block Development Officer and Gram Panchayat.
- The intending agency shall collect all types of waste-door-to-door waste, waste from already installed dustbins, and legacy waste so that the objective of ODF plus is obtained and sustained.
- Ensuring segregation of waste preferably at the house hold level and mandatorily at the already constructed segregation shed sites.
- Effective and scientific management and disposal of collected waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. A weekly review/report shall be submitted by halqa panchayat to ascertain the effectiveness of weekly disposal.

► Revenue realization

- Conducting a fresh survey, in consultation with the field functionaries of the Rural Development Department, to update the household data and include commercial factories, business units, institutions, shops, etc. Collection of monthly Fee/Charges from the households preferably in digital mode in consultation with the officials of this department.
- Revenue generation through sustainable waste management practices, such as selling segregated dry waste to authorized dealers.
- User charges collected shall be deposited in Halqa Panchayat Fund of concerned Gram Panchayat on a monthly basis out of which 10 to 40% (to be decided later) of the Fee/user charges so collected shall form a revenue part and the remaining shall be utilized for incurring the expenditure on account of sanitation workdone.

► Maintenance

- Maintenance and upkeep of departmental garbage collection vehicles, and other amenities used for waste collection and ensuring their dedicated use only for solid waste management purposes.
- The Vehicles used for waste collection shall be departmental and the agency has to use these Vehicles/e-rickshaws etc. by engaging its own staff and ensuring the vehicle's maintenance in all respects, c) The intending agency shall be responsible for the smooth handing over of all assets (Vehicles/machinery/Civil Structures and possession of the sites in good condition to the concerned department after completing the allotment of one year(without any damage)

► Manpower & Machinery

- The contracting agency has to engage sweepers/ waste collectors, Drivers, and Management staff with a unique uniform having a unique logo, the design and details of which shall be conveyed to the contracting agency later.
- The contracting agency has to operate and maintain all three-carts, garbage collection vans, and machinery at its own level and has to bear the electricity, POL, and maintenance /repair charges of the machinery. The contracting agency will be required to obtain necessary permissions/approvals from the BDO concerned for repair, and maintenance of the existing machinery, if required, at anytime.

► Dispute Resolution and Penal provision

- Incase of any dispute, the Block Development Officer concerned shall be the first appellate authority, the 2nd appellate authority shall be the Assistant Commissioner Panchayats Anantnag and the third appellate & final authority shall be the District Level Sanitation Committee for implementation of SBM-G.
- The contracting agency shall have to report to the Block Development Officer concerned in case of any violation by any Household/ establishment for imposing a fine. Further, the agency may be required to paste color-coded notices across the panchayat
- In matters pertaining to any disputes, or repercussions arising, the District level Sanitation committee shall hold exclusive jurisdiction and serve as the ultimate deciding body. 'Repercussions' in this context refer to any adverse consequences, claims, disputes, legal actions, or related incidents that may arise.

► IEC endeavors and inciting behavioral change

- The contracting agency shall chalk out a plan for a sustained IEC campaign for inciting behavioral change among the people through various means. The means could be composing appealing and effective sanitation jingles played through overhead speakers of waste collection vehicles on a regular basis, organizing special sanitation drives by involving local youth clubs, students, and Self Help Groups, organizing monthly felicitation ceremonies for best cooperative and complying Panchayats in consultation with the BDO concerned and the District administration, etc... Monthly IEC plans, 10 days in advance, to be submitted to the concerned BDO for review and approval.
- The contracting agency shall influence the general public through its best possible sanitation services and shall motivate and convince them to segregate the waste at the source besides reducing the use of Single Use Plastics.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

The contracting agency must meet the following criteria:

- The agency can be a sole proprietor, registered contractor, registered partnership firm, limited liability partnership, public limited company, private limited company, society or NGO, etc.
- The agency must have an average annual turnover of more than Rs. 20,00,000 (Rupees twenty Lakh) for the last three years.
- Previous experience in managing public utilities as a PPP/outsourcing and knowledge of waste management, including running decentralized solid waste management processes, will be advantageous.
- Additional experience in community mobilization and IEC activities will be preferred.
- The agency must deposit a Cash Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 30,000 (thirty thousand rupees) pledged to the Block Development Officer ACHABAL.

4. CONTRACTING PROCESS:

- Interested agencies must submit their EOI in sealed envelopes addressed to the Block Development Officer ACHABAL, by 10-07-2024 upto 2PM.
- The envelopes will be opened on the next day 11-07-2024 at 3PM in the presence of the bidder so their authorized representatives.
- The EOI will be followed by Technical Evaluation and Financial Evaluation.

5. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- The selected agency will be awarded a one-year contract, which may be extendable based on its performance and the necessity of the Department.
- The agency shall adhere to all the terms and conditions specified in the EOI document.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI without assigning any reason thereof, in the interest of the government, department, and public funds.

6. SUBMISSION OF EOI AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

- Interested agencies must submit their sealed envelopes containing the EOI to the following address:
Block Development Office Achabal
Email:
- For any inquiries or clarifications regarding the EOI, interested agencies may contact Block Development Officer Achabal at the above-mentioned address

7. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS:

- The results of the EOI evaluation will be communicated to the eligible agencies through official communication channels.

8. LEGAL AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- The selected agency must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and ethical standards during the execution of the Solid Waste Management project in Achabal
- The contracting agency has to adhere to a) the Environment protection act 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the bylaws drafted and passed by the Gram Panchayats in letter and spirit.
- Sub-contracting shall not be allowed and shall be considered illegal.
- The contracting agency has to submit an affidavit duly attested by a Judicial Magistrate affirming therein the commitment to bear all costs related to damage, theft, or loss incurred to the vehicles /machinery of the department during the execution of the SWM project.
- In matters pertaining to any disputes, or repercussions arising, the District level Sanitation committee shall hold exclusive jurisdiction and serve as the ultimate deciding body. 'Repercussions' in this context refer to any adverse consequences, claims, disputes, legal actions, or related incidents that may arise.

The process of technical Evaluation will be done by a designated committee based on the score for the solutions & procedures provided by the agencies to transform the entire solid waste management into an efficient, effective, and sustainable one in the Block.

No. BDOA/EOI/
Dated: -07-2024

DIPK-2497-24
DT: 06/07/2024

Block Development Officer
Achabal

10TH UT LEVEL NCORD MEET

CS for exploring Drug De-addiction IPD facilities in remaining hospitals

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, impressed upon the Health Department to explore the possibility of establishing In-Patient Department (IPD) facilities in all the major district hospitals of J&K.



Dulloo, while chairing the 10th UT Level Apex Committee meeting of NCORD, emphasized upon the importance of putting in place a foolproof mechanism to check illegal selling of psychotropic or scheduled drugs over the counters by the pharmacies. He stressed on ensuring installation of CCTV cameras and Computerized Billing Systems (CBS) at remaining Pharmacies forthwith. He said that no pharmacy should be allowed to function without such facilities especially in urban areas.

The Chief Secretary asked for formulating district-wise statistics clearly showing the cases registered and the subsequent actions taken against the convicts. He asked for detailing out actions like detentions, seizures, prop-

erty attachments made, licences of pharmacies suspended/cancelled, repeated offenders arrested under Public Safety Act (PSA), persons bailed out from courts and those successfully convicted in the court of law. He also took note of the properties belonging to drug traffickers seized by the police department and asked for ensuring that relevant entries are too made in the revenue records reflecting these attachments.

He enjoined upon the need for carrying out quality investigations to improve the conviction rates. He stressed on the departments like Police, School Education, RDD, Urban Development, Health and Excise to run regular campaigns creating awareness among the

people especially youth about this menace.

The Chief Secretary emphasized upon the Excise Department to furnish details of Agricultural lands used for diverse crops that were earlier used to grow illicit crops like hemp or poppy. He made out that such claims should be corroborated by the Agriculture Department for its acceptability.

On the occasion, a presentation made by the SDG Crime, provided the overall scenario of drug menace in J&K besides highlighting the success with which it is being tackled by the administration. He also gave brief about the status of actions taken by the concerned over the directives given during previous meeting.

It was revealed that the five newly approved NDPS

courts would be made fully functional within a month's time. Besides, the IPD facilities have been established by the Health Department in all the seven Medical Colleges of the UT besides having De-addiction centres in all the 20 districts. It was added that these centres are manned by trained Psychiatrists with necessary SoPs framed by the Department for both kinds of facilities.

Giving details about the enforcement measures taken by the Police and other departments, the meeting was apprised that 5 licences have been cancelled and 169 suspended by the Drug Controller for violating the norms. It was further informed that the police has arrested 1187 persons, so far, in this year registering 837 cases. It was also given out that during this period 25 kg of Heroin, 24 kg of B.Sugar, 187 kg Charas, 1.5 kg of opium, 106 kg Fukka, 1701 kg poppy straw, 190 kg Bhang, 52 kg Ganja, 59,979 Tablets/capsules, 89 injections and 2830 syrup bottles of psychotropic substances were seized by the department during this year.

DC Pulwama launches Sampoonata Abhiyan in Ichgoza

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: In an effort to enhance the key indicators of development in the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom Saturday launched the Sampoonata Abhiyan at the Aspirational Block Ichgoza.

Speaking at the event, the DC emphasized the significance of saturation of the key indicators under the Sampoonata Abhiyan for the comprehensive development of the district.

He further urged all the officers and officials to work in close coordination over the coming months to achieve and maintain 100% saturation of the program's targets.

Earlier, the DC inspected the stalls set up by various departments, including health, education, RDD, ICDS, and others, which showcased the beneficiary schemes they operate for public welfare and engaged in a friendly tug of war activity. The event



was marked by enthusiasm as the community came together to support the initiative.

Additionally, Dr. Basharat administered a pledge to the participants, emphasizing the commitment to work towards achieving saturation in all indicators of the Sampoonata Abhiyan and leading the block towards becoming a healthy, empowered, and prosperous community. The pledge aimed to transform the block from aspirational to inspirational.

The Sampoonata Abhi-

yan heralds a new chapter in the developmental journey of Aspirational Block Ichgoza, setting the stage for comprehensive progress and prosperity in the district. As the campaign gains momentum, the community's active participation and support will be instrumental in driving positive change and sustainable growth, said DC.

The occasion was enlivened by skits, Nukad Natak, and colorful cultural programs presented by school children. Several speakers also addressed

the gathering, discussing various aspects of the Aspirational Block initiative and raising awareness about its goals.

Additionally, four authorizations and soil cards were distributed among selected farmers. The event featured the Abhiyan Jyoti (Torch) and a selfie point to engage the community and promote the campaign.

Among others the event was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Pulwama, besides district officers and residents of the area.

NABARD conducts Zonal Sensitization/ review meet on RIDF

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: State Projects Department NABARD, J&K regional office Saturday organized one-day zonal level sensitization cum review meeting on Rural Infrastructure Fund (RIDF).

The meeting was chaired by Ashok Khokar, Chief Engineer R&B South Kashmir and Surinder Singh DGM, NABARD Srinagar Cell in the presence of AGM NABARD, Sanjeev Sharma and DDM NABARD, Rouf Zargar. The Superintendent Engineers, Executive Engineers and AEEs from R&B department from Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian attended the meet.

DDM NABARD, Rouf Zargar informed the meeting that there are currently 158 ongoing projects in South Kashmir which have been sanctioned to R&B by NABARD with a total sanctioned amount of Rs.692 Cr. Out of the total sanctioned amount, an amount of Rs.310 Cr has been disbursed till date.

Speaking on the occasion, DGM NABARD indicated that NABARD has been providing financial support to the State Governments and Union Territories for strengthening of rural infrastructure under RIDF. He stated that RIDF which started as a 'last mile approach' to facilitate completion of ongoing irrigation, flood protection & watershed management projects since 1995-96, has become more

broad based over the years and as on date covers as many as 39 eligible activities.

He highlighted that the disbursement against utilization certificates during the current financial year needs to be enhanced.

Chief Engineer advised all the Executive Engineers to expedite submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) for works completed. He emphasized on early grounding of projects, quarterly submission of UCs and submission of PCC/PCR after completion of projects.

Sanjeev Sharma and Shubham Suyal from State Projects Department NABARD answered various queries of the house about the RIDF sanction and disbursement process.

They gave a detailed presentation on the operational issues involving DPR formulation, submission of Utilization Certificates, Projects Yet to be Grounded (PYGs), Slow Moving Projects, submission of Project Completion Reports (PCRs) etc. Thereafter, department wise review of ongoing projects of all the districts of Kashmir division was undertaken. The implementing departments were advised to quicken the pace of implementation of projects.

Chief Engineer in his concluding remarks assured that the implementing department will extend all the possible support to remove the bottlenecks in smooth implementation of NABARD RIDF projects.

DC Budgam chairs DLSC meeting

Reviews cases of Govt Land Encroachment Litigations



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo Saturday chaired the District Level Standing Committee meeting to review the progress on pending litigation related to the encroachment of government departmental land.

The DC issued directions to the concerned district officers to ensure timely, coordinated and collaborative inter-departmental effort on all cases to safeguard state and departmental land from encroachment.

He emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among different

departments to resolve the issues of encroachments efficiently.

Earlier in the meeting, ACR described the role and importance of the District level standing committee for addressing all issues pertaining to encroachment of state/ Departmental land.

Among others, the meeting was attended by SSP Budgam, District Programme Officer, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Assistant Commissioner Development, Chief Education Officer, CMO, District Litigation Officer and district officers of various line departments.

DLC meeting on HADP-Agriculture held in Kupwara



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Saturday chaired the District Level Committee (DLC) meeting of Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) to finalize the selection process of beneficiaries under HADP pertaining to the Agriculture department.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned officers to make concerted efforts in harnessing the Agriculture potential of district Kupwara which shall boost the rural economy.

She directed Area Extension Officers to mobilize the farmers by providing them thorough awareness about various schemes of the Agriculture sector which shall increase their livelihood opportunities.

She emphasized upon the officers to make efforts for establishment of more honey villages like Gulgam and put emphasis on credit linked schemes.

The DC stressed upon all district and sectoral officers of Agriculture and allied departments to

speed up the completion of targets assigned to them under the HADP scheme in the district.

After thorough discussion, the Committee approved 860 cases of the applicants who had applied under various components of the HADP scheme. These include establishment of Nursery for Kashmiri Lal Mirchi, Diversification of Niche Crops (Kashmiri Lal Mirchi), Hi-tech Poly green Houses, Low cost Poly green Houses, Bee Colonies, Beekeeping equipment manufacturing, establishment of facilitation centres for migratory beekeepers, Millet Restaurant, Brush cutter, Battery operated Sprayer, Power Tiller, Maize Sheller, Tractor Mounted sprayer, mushroom sheds, improved crop sheds, vegetable seeds, vermi compost units, Spawn of Mushroom, Beehive with colonies, roof top rain water Harvesting structures, Deep Bore well, Low cost vermicompost units and other components.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara, LDM, CAO, besides other officers of line departments attended the meeting.

DLSA Srinagar organizes series of Awareness programs

Educates general masses about the NALSA Scheme, 2015



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar Saturday organized a series of awareness programs across the district, under the guidance of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman DLSA Srinagar (PDJ, Srinagar).

On the occasion, DLSA Srinagar launched a door-to-door awareness campaign, where para-legal volunteers visited various localities in the district to educate the general masses about the NALSA (Legal Services to the Workers in

the Unorganised Sector) scheme, 2015.

In addition to the door-to-door campaign, the volunteers also engaged with students in different legal literacy clubs and legal aid clinics, sensitizing them about the scheme and its benefits.

The main objective of this awareness program was to inform and educate the people about their rights and entitlements under the NALSA scheme, 2015, and to encourage them to avail legal services and benefits provided under the.

DC Kupwara reviews progress of land acquisition for NH701

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Saturday convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the progress of land acquisition for construction/ improvement of newly declared NH701 Rafiabad-Kupwara-Chowkibal-Tangdar-Chamkote (RKCTC) Road.

Speaking at the occasion, the DC stressed upon the concerned officers to ensure completion of all codal formalities involved under the land acquisition process as early as possible so that the construction of the Nation-

al Highway project is not delayed in the district.

She directed Tehsildars of Langate, Handwara, Drugmulla to submit the details involved in the 3G section of the RKCTC road project in their respective jurisdictions by today evening. Besides, Tehsildars Drugmulla, Kupwara and Trehgam were also asked to submit the details under the 3D section of the road project by today itself.

ACR Kupwara, Executive Engineers of R&B Division Kupwara & Handwara, CHO, Tehsildars, Beacon officer and other concerned attended the meeting.

DC B'pura reviews status of Employment Generating schemes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman Saturday chaired a meeting at Mini Secretariat, here to review the progress/performance of credit-linked/employment generating schemes of various departments operational in the district.

The meeting discussed various measures to evaluate the progress and performance of credit linked schemes, especially in the Agriculture and allied sectors.

It was given out that 33673 beneficiaries are active on PM Kissan portal and land seeding of 29189 beneficiaries has been completed as on 5th of July 2024.



It was revealed that under KCC (crop), 33841 cases are active with 250.50 crore sanctioned loan amount and 4889 cases stand sanctioned under KCC (livestock).

The DC was apprised that 9552 persons have been provided employment under different employment generating schemes of various departments during FY-2023-24.

The meeting was informed that under PMEGP (KVIC), 540 cases amounting to 20.91 crores have been disbursed during FY 2023-24; under PMEGP

(DIO), 252 cases amounting to 11.14 crore and under PMEGP (KVIC) 62 cases amounting to 3.09 crore have been sanctioned during FY-2023-24. The meeting also discussed progress under Mumkin, Tejaswani, Spurring Entrepreneur, REGP (KVIC), PMFME, and other schemes.

Addressing the participants, the DC emphasized extensive awareness regarding credit linked schemes for maximum youth engagement and handholding of youth through different schemes.

He emphasized the importance of these schemes in promoting agricultural development and enhancing financial inclusion among farmers and entrepreneurs.

The DC directed the officers to ensure the effective implementation of Government initiatives and flagship schemes which play a pivotal role in supporting economic growth and enhancement of means of livelihood.

He also directed all concerned departments to conduct panchayat wise awareness camps on monthly basis to maximize the benefits to eligible beneficiaries. Strict instructions were also issued to concerned departments to ensure zero pendency in KCC.

Sampoonata Abhiyan launched in Singhpora



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Pattan, Gulzar Ahmad Saturday inaugurated the Sampoonata Abhiyan programme in Aspirational Block Singhpora, marking a significant milestone in the region's socio-economic development.

The initiative aims to achieve 100% saturation in six key social sector indicators, including healthcare, education, nutrition, and more. The campaign will cover Aspirational Block Singhpora and is part of the larger Sampoonata Abhiyan programme launched by NITI Aayog, spanning 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks nationwide.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development Shabir Ahmad Hakak, Misbah Shah (State Nodal Officer, J&K, NITI Aayog), Chief Education Officer and other senior officers.

SDM Pattan emphasized the importance of collective efforts and community engagement in achieving the objectives of Sampoonata Abhiyan.

The event also featured exhibition stalls showcasing schemes designed to empower local residents, and SDM Pattan distributed soil health cards among farmers, highlighting the campaign's focus on sustainable agricultural practices and soil health management techniques.