

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication



On the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay my humble tributes to brave armed forces personnel, who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the motherland during India's victory in 'Operation Vijay'.

Srinagar • Saturday 27, July 2024 • Vol: 15 • Issue No: 173 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paise) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

J&K Govt Amends Industrial Land Allotment Policy 2021-30



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Council (AC) on Friday approved amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Industrial Land Allotment Policy 2021-30. An official said that the Industries and Commerce Department has included views and comments from stakeholders for effectiveness in update of existing policy. He said that amendments have been incorporated to elucidate different clauses of the existing policy with a view to provide simplification of processes and efficiency in land allotments. "While firming up the changes, the Industries and Commerce Department has included views and comments from stakeholders for effectiveness in update of existing policy."

effectiveness in update of existing policy. Based upon feedbacks, amendments have been incorporated to elucidate different clauses of the existing policy with a view to provide simplification of processes and efficiency in land allotments. Periodic revision of lease premium, wide publicity for inviting applications, allotment of land on competitive merit basis, analysis of applicant/promoter/companies background including qualification and experience, sector specific evaluation criteria for sector specific allotments, functions and jurisdiction of land allotment committees, timelines for restoration of cancelled allotments etc have been provided in the amendments to the policy. ●P-06

Approves Transfer Of 3188 Kanals For Industrial Estates

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council which met here under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha,

approved proposals for transfer of different categories of land for development of Industrial Estates in various districts of Jammu and Kashmir. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief ●P-06

Kargil Vijay Diwas

Pakistan Failed To Learn Lessons From Past Debacles: PM Modi



RAJA SYED RATHER

KARGIL: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday said that the Indian forces will never allow resurgence of terrorism in Jammu-Kashmir and crush it with full might. He said forces will give a befitting reply to the enemy's design of destabilising peace in J&K. "My voice may be going across the mountains in the ears of mentors of terrorism. Their nefarious designs to destabilise peace here will never succeed. Our forces will crush the terrorism with full might and give a befitting reply to enemy designs," the Prime Minister said after paying homage to the martyrs of 1999 Kargil war at War Memorial Drass on the occasion of 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas.

PM Modi also carried out the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel that will give all-weather connectivity to Ladakh with the rest of the country. "Today, I am in the land of Kargil which has become witness to the supreme sacrifices offered by the bravehearts 25 years ago. Days, months and years pass, weather changes too, but the names of those who offered their lives for this land will remain alive forever," he said. "Today, the entire nation is highly indebted to the martyrs of Kargil war." He said the Indian forces carried out anti-enemy operations on high altitude peaks. "We were trying for peace then but the enemy ●P-06

“WE WERE TRYING FOR PEACE THEN BUT THE ENEMY showed its dual face and finally falsehood got defeated,” he said. “We didn't win the Kargil war but showed our commitment towards our nation and the valour of our brave forces.”

Kargil War Proved India's Readiness To Defeat Enemies: Jitendra Singh



GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Union minister Jitendra Singh on Friday said that the Kargil War reaffirmed India's constant preparedness to defeat enemy designs and highlighted India's capacity to confront surprises. Addressing the Vijay Diwas celebrations here, he said, "Kargil War victory sent out a powerful message: whenever the integrity and boundaries of India are challenged, the entire nation rises unitedly to face and defeat its adversaries, regardless of the circumstances," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the successful culmination of "Operation Vijay", declaring victory after a nearly three-month-long battle on the icy heights of Kargil in Ladakh. The day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the war. He said the ●P-06

Indian Soldiers Displayed Ultimate Valour During Kargil War: Amit Shah



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said Indian soldiers displayed the ultimate valour in the inaccessible hills of the Himalayas ●P-06

LG Sinha Pays Tributes to Kargil War Martyrs



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday paid tributes to ●P-06

No Plans Of Extending Summer Vacations In Kashmir: Govt

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The divisional administration Kashmir Friday said that there was not any possibility of re-announcing the summer vacations for the schools of the region. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri told reporters that there were no possible plans for the government to re-announce the summer vacations for schools of the Kashmir region. "We have already changed the school timing in schools of Kashmir region. Re-

announcing the summer vacation is not possible for now," he said. Bidhuri further said that the administration will have to take care of minimum working academic days too. "We have to complete the syllabus of the students within the timeframe and by announcing extra vacations, we won't be able to complete it," he said. The Divisional Commissioner further said that the government was monitoring the weather situations and if required the administration will take a call accordingly—(KNO)

“WE HAVE TO COMPLETE THE syllabus of the students within the timeframe and by announcing extra vacations, we won't be able to complete it,”

Security Forces Increase Vigil In Terror-Hit Areas Of Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Since the terror activities are on the rise and many foreign terrorists are active in several districts of Jammu region, security forces have increased the surveillance by raising check points in different pockets of terror hit areas of Jammu region.

The Kathua and Doda districts are the most affected due to recent terror activities and all major points from where militants can enter into these districts or can move around have been sealed and every vehicle is being checked. Security forces are not letting



any opportunity to go waste to get any lead about the militants active in these areas. Sources said that besides raising checkpoints, security forces

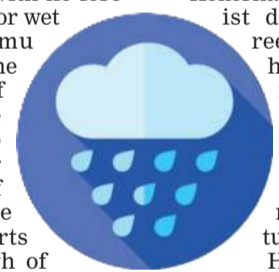
have started meeting heads of villages and other people who have stay in their areas so that militants are not able to get any public support. ●P-06

From June 01 To July 24

Sgr Among 10 Stations Record Large Deficient Rainfall

OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: With no forecast of any major wet spell in Jammu and Kashmir, the twin places of Kashmir have continued to remain under the tight grip of heat wave while some other parts breathed a sigh of relief today with a dip in the mercury by some degrees on Friday. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has continued to witness heat wave as the mercury settled at 35.2 degree Celsius today, which was 5.3 degree



Celsius above normal temperature. Kokernag, a famous tourist destination also reeled under the heat wave as the mercury settled at 33.1 degree Celsius, which was 5.7 degrees above than the normal temperature. However, some parts recorded a dip in the mercury today, ending the heat wave in the areas like Pahalgam, Qazigund, Kupwara and Gulmarg. In Qazigund, the mercury settled at 32.2 degree Celsius while in Pahalgam, it settled at 29.7 degree ●P-06

Rooftop Solar Plants

J&K To Generate Over 300 MW Solar Power By Dec 2025: Officials

MANZOOR-UL-HASSAN:

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has initiated multiple projects to install rooftop solar power plants in over 40,000 buildings in the union territory, both government and residential, by the end of 2025, officials said.

The new initiative has the potential to generate an additional 270 MW of solar energy in the union territory by December 2025. It would cover 20,000 households and at least 22,494 government structures. Currently, 3,800 residential and 3,825 government buildings in J&K have been solarised, with a total capacity of 60 MW. The Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) is the primary executing department.

Notably, as part of the clean energy goal, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set a



target for the J&K government to generate 500 MW of solar energy in the area by 2030. Furthermore, the UT must generate 1500 MW of solar energy by 2047.

In the budget released earlier this week, the Centre proposed Rs. 150 crore for the installation of solar rooftops and solar pumps in union territory.

It also proposed to replace 4,000 AC agriculture

pumps with Solar Pumps under the PM-KUSUM scheme.

"Around 4 MW rooftop solar power plants to be installed on the government buildings. Nearly 22,494 government buildings will be 100% solarised in a phased manner," per the budget.

In addition to the solar power plants, 5,000 improved ●P-06

2 GOCs Take Charge Of Army Divisions In Kashmir



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Two General Officers Commanding (GOCs) have been appointed to two army divisions in Kashmir.

The Indian Army's two divisions have new commanders, including Major General K. Mohan Nair, who took over as General Officer Commanding of the Vajr Division from Major General Girish Kalia, and Major General Vivek Narang, who took over the command of the Army's counter-insurgency division, Kilo Force, from Major General Mohit Seth. "Major General K. Mohan Nair, YSM, SM, took over as General Officer Commanding of the strategic and prestigious Vajr Division from Major General Girish Kalia, AVSM, VSM. On assuming command, he paid homage to the #Bravehearts and exhorted all ranks to continue soldiering with commitment and dedication," the Army's Chinar Corps said in a post on X. "Major General Vivek Narang, an alumnus of the ●P-06

INOX SRINAGAR

Movies Watch-List

Saturday 27 July

KALKI 2898 AD (HINDI) (U/A) 02:20PM

DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (3D ATMOS ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE) (A) 1:45PM, 4:30PM, 7:15PM, 3D HINDI 11:00AM, ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE 12:15PM, 3:00PM, 5:45PM

BAD NEWS (HINDI) (U/A) 11:30AM, 6:00PM

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW

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

Call 95416 13868
For assistance with tickets

DC Sgr inaugurates Season-2 of Tezmaal T20 Cricket Tournament

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Season-2 of Tezmaal T20 Cricket Tournament for Boys Under-19 age group was Friday inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at TRC Ground Srinagar.

The tournament sponsored by Landmark Crafts and organized by Orzu Sports and Cultural Trust with the support of local youths of Srinagar is aimed at to promote brotherhood and unity.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that there is no alternative to sports, it teaches us a lot many things subconsciously be it group dynamism, communication skills, passion, empathy, etc. In short, it teaches us the value system.



A total of 16 teams are participating in the tournament with the final match to be played on 4th of August, 2024.

Divisional Sports Officer, many dignitaries and

social activists besides a large number of locals attended the inauguration ceremony.

It was given out that the winners of the tournament will be given 01lakh as cash

prize, while the runner-up team will be given a cash prize of Rs. 50,000. Further, Man of the Match will be given Trophies, and Certificates will be given to all the Team Members.

NHM releases ranking of Public Health facilities on JK e Sahaj

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir National Health Mission Friday released ranking of Public Health facilities on Hospital Management Information System (JK e Sahaj) for the month of June 2024.

In the category of New GMCs of Associated Hospitals of Government Medical Colleges, the first rank has been clinched by Government Medical College, Kathua followed by Government Medical College, Udhampur, GMC Rajouri, Government Medical College Baramulla and GMC Doda.

In the category of District Hospitals, DH Kishtwar has secured the first place followed by ASYM DH Budgam, DH Samba, DH Shopian and DH Reasi. Similarly, in the category

of Community Health Centres (CHCs), the first rank has been bagged by CHC Nagam, Budgam, followed by CHC Pakherpora Budgam, CHC Dooru, Anantnag, CHC Basholi Kathua and CHC Billawar Kathua.

JK e-Sahaj has been integrated with Rapid Assessment System (RAS), 104 Centralised Health Helpline for outboard calling and RCH portal of MoHFW, Government of India.

The ranking has been done on the basis of registration, conversion of EMR (Electronic Medical Record), registration of IPD patients and Patient feedback uploaded on the portal of JK e Sahaj for the month of June 2024, on real time basis. The detailed list of facilities has been shared on NHM website.

Awareness Camp on Mission Youth schemes held in Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: On the direction of the District Development Commissioner Shopian, the District Employment and Counselling Centre (DECC) Shopian in collaboration with the Tehsil Office Barbugh Friday conducted an awareness camp at Barbugh, Shopian.

The primary objective of the camp was to educate the youth about the various opportunities and support available through the Mission Youth schemes.

Officials from DECC Shopian provided detailed information on key initiatives such as the Mumkin, Tejiswani, and Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative Schemes under Mission Youth. They encouraged the youth to take full advantage of the benefits offered by

these government schemes. To further assist interested participants, DECC Shopian had set up a registration desk to facilitate the interested youth in the process of applying for financial assistance.

On the occasion, Tehsildar Barbugh urged the youth to enroll in the government-run self-employment schemes and assured that similar awareness camps will be held regularly in the tehsil. He emphasized the importance of active participation in these programs to help combat unemployment and foster entrepreneurship among the youth.

The camp witnessed enthusiastic participation, reflecting the community's eagerness to leverage the support systems provided by the government for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

DC G'bl interacts with J&K Football Team

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir Friday held an interactive session with the inspiring football team from Jammu and Kashmir, who achieved remarkable success in the HCL Foundation's 'Sports for Change' program held in Chennai.

The session held in the V.C Room of DC Office was a celebration of the team's commendable efforts and achievements in the tournament.

During interaction, the DC praised the team for their dedication and hard work, encouraging them to continue making a positive impact in society through sports.

The DC commended the athletes for their perseverance and commitment, which led them to emerge as runners-up in the football finals, narrowly losing



to Uttar Pradesh.

The interactive session provided a platform for the team to share their experiences of playing in different conditions and the challenges they faced

during the tournament.

The DC expressed his intention to improve the facilities for athletes in the district and sought suggestions from the team to achieve this goal.

He emphasized the district administration's commitment to supporting and nurturing local talent.

It is worth mentioning that the "Sports for Change" program initiated by the HCL Foundation, aims to provide school students with opportunities to engage in sports at an advanced level.

Exceptional students can avail 100% scholarships for their further training and education, enabling them to pursue their sporting dreams without financial constraints.

The DC congratulated the team on their achievements and distributed certificates and medals that they won in Chennai. He assured the athletes of all necessary support for their progress and development.

The District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Ganderbal, Sheikh Shafiq Iqbal, was also present at the meeting.

Commissioner SMC reviews progress on State-of-the-Art Modern Abattoir

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Commissioner SMC, Dr. Owais Ahmed Friday convened a review meeting to evaluate the construction of the state-of-the-art modern abattoir currently under construction in Srinagar City.

The meeting, held at the SMC Central Office, was attended by the Joint Commissioner, Joint Commissioner (W), Municipal Veterinary Officer, Ex. Engineers, Law Officer, Officers from R&B, and SSSL.

Dr. Owais underscored the role of the new abattoir in enhancing the city's infrastructure and aligning with contemporary standards for sheep and goat slaughter. The upcoming Abattoir is poised to revolutionize modern slaughter practices by emphasizing efficiency and upholding



the highest levels of quality and safety standards.

The Commissioner issued clear directives to the officials, stressing the importance of completing the state-of-the-art abattoir within the specified timeframe.

AGHAZ INITIATIVE IIT Kanpur organizes Night Session for students at GGHS Shallabugh

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: IIT Kanpur, in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha, successfully organized a night session program at Shallabugh Ganderbal. The session, aimed at fostering scientific temperament among students, was held under the guidance of Aamir Sultan, Assistant Project Engineer, IIT Kanpur.

The initiative is part of IIT Kanpur's AAGHAZ Initiative to enhance scientific understanding and curiosity in students from selected schools across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Students eagerly awaited the moonrise, which occurred at approximately 11:15 PM. Following this, they had the opportunity to observe the moon through a telescope, an experience many described as mesmerizing. For many students, it was their first close-up view of the moon, leaving them in awe and sparking a deeper interest in astronomy.

DC B'pora reviews functioning of Cooperative Deptt

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman Friday reviewed the overall functioning of the Cooperative Department and the achievements realized by the Cooperative Sector in a meeting held at the VC room of Mini Secretariat Bandipora.

During the meeting, Deputy Registrar Cooperative Department Bandipora, Amreena Shaheen, while giving the overview of the present status of the cooperative sector in the district, informed that the department has taken several initiatives to strengthen the cooperative movement in the district.

It was given out in the meeting that there are a total of 121 Functional Cooperatives and 29 Functional Cooperative Societies in the district which include 14 PACS (Primary Agriculture Credit Societies), 03 Cooperative Mar-



keting Societies, 04 Poultry Co-operative Societies, 4 Dairy Co-operative Societies and 04 other FPOs.

During the comprehensive review, the DC instructed the Deputy Registrar to increase the number of Food Processing Units in consultation with the other allied departments and convergence of different schemes for effective delivery of quality food

items to the public.

While emphasizing the need for organic farming, he directed for an increase in the number and membership of Cooperative Societies promoting organic farming.

He also directed the Deputy Registrar to find out the provisions of interim arrangement of shops for starting the "Cooperative Super Bazar" in Ban-

dipora. Assistant Registrars were directed for the identification of locations for PACS and CSCs in each block for making them eligible for the provision of Aadhar services.

He asked the officers of the departments to organize regular workshops and awareness camps about the schemes and initiatives of the departments promoting the cooperative sector.

Shakeel-ul Rehman directed for identification of sites for establishing Jan Aushadi Kendras at Gurez.

He urged the officer to ensure LPG distribution in the far flung areas through cooperatives and the establishment of Cooperative Dairy Societies in milk surplus areas.

The review meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Assistant Drug Controller, Assistant Register Headquarter, besides the block officers of the cooperative department.

Awareness program on Women-Centric Legislations held in Tulamulla

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The District Legal Services Authority, (DLSA) Ganderbal in collaboration with District Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Ganderbal and Women Special Cell Ganderbal, Friday organized an awareness program on women-centric legislations at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Tulamulla.

The program aimed to educate and empower women about their rights and the legal protections available to them. The pro-

gram was attended by teachers & students of Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Tulamulla.

During the event, Tanveer Ashraf, Assistant Legal Aid Counsel, Ganderbal, imparted awareness among the participants about various women-centric legislations, including, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, Laws related to Child Marriage and Dowry, Eve-teasing and other relevant laws.

He highlighted the importance of these legislations in protecting women's rights and promoting gender justice. He also emphasized the role of DLSA Ganderbal in providing free legal aid and assistance to women in need.

Rukaya Showkat, Gender specialist, enlightened the participants about various women-centric schemes available in different government departments, aimed at empowering women and promoting gender equality. She emphasized the importance of awareness and accessibility of these schemes, ensur-

ing that women in the district can benefit from them.

Sobiya Malik, Social Worker, Special Cell for women, imparted awareness among the participants about critical issues affecting women, including, Women harassment, Cyber crime, Domestic violence etc.

She also highlighted the role and working of the Special Cell for Women in District Ganderbal, which provides support and assistance to women in distress. She emphasized the importance of reporting incidents and seeking help from the Special Cell.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION KUPWARA.

e-NIT NO: - 04 OF 2024-25 DATED:- 25 - 07 -2024

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works: -

| S.No | Name of Work / Particulars of Work | Name of Nursery with location | Adv. Cost (in Lac.) | Bid Security (in Rs.) | Class of contractor | Cost of Tender Document (in Rs.) | Time of completion |
|------|---|---|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 | 1.Maintenance operations of Polybag raised seedlings 1 st year= 20200 & 2 nd year=32100 Total=52300 (Under CAMPAA) Note: Operations include weeding hoeing,, Irrigation, application of fertilizer , pesticides ,segregation and shifting of Poly pots etc. | Co.70 /Mag. (Tulwari) SF Range Handwara | 1.391 | 4173 | D Class PWD / Forest Contractors | 200 | Six Calendar Months |
| 02 | Maintenance operations of Necked Root/Fruit One year Saplings Total=19900 (Under CAMPAA) Note: Operations include weeding hoeing,, Irrigation, application of fertilizer , pesticides ,segregation etc | Chougul SF Range Handwara | 0.677 | 2031 | D Class PWD / Forest Contractors | 100 | Six Calendar Months |

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- www.jktenders.gov.in.

Position of AA:- Received

Position of T/S:- Received

Position of Funds:- Released

| | |
|--|---|
| Publishing Date: - | 25 - 07 -- 2024 |
| Download Start Date: | 25 - 07 -- 2024 from 06:00 PM |
| Bid submission Start Date: | 26 - 07 -2024 from 10:00 AM |
| Bid submission End Date: | 05 - 08 -2024 Upto 4.00 PM |
| Date of Opening of Technical Bid Online. | 06 - 08 -2024 at 11:00-AM in the Office of Regional Director Deptt. of Social Forestry Raj bagh near Silk Factory |
| Date of Opening of Financial Bid Online: | 06 - 08 -2024 at 12:00-PM in the Office of Regional Director Deptt. of Social Forestry Raj bagh near Silk Factory |

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and Bid Security in the shape of EMD for requisite amount and pledged to Divisional Forest Officer.
- In case the cost of the lowest bidder is found below the advertised amount, the bidder has to deposit an additional security performance in the shape of CDR/FDR before issuance of award of contract to the tune as per below detail:
 - Up to 10% below rate over advertised cost- Nil
 - 10% to 15% below rate over advertised cost- 5% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR
 - 15% to 20% below rate over advertised cost- 10% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR
 - 20% to 25% below rate over advertised cost- 15% of advertised cost in the CDR/FDR
 - In case the offered bid is 25% below rate over the advertised cost the bid/offer should be outrightly rejected.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e BSD in shape of CDR/FDR, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2024-25, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Last (5) Five years turnover above (2.5 Crore) , Last (5) Five year Experience Certificate of Nursery Skills, Last (3) Three year ITR Certificate , Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document) & Annexure.
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
- As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- The quality and quantity of planting stock/prickings/s/ cuttings/seed will be certified by the concerned Range officer after observing all standard operating procedure in vogue, this includes all the operations.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.

No.: - Actt./SF/ 208 -13

Dated: - 24 - 07 -2024

DIPK-3604-24

DT: 26/07/2024

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
Social Forestry Division,
Kupwara

Justice Tashi exhorts citizens to perform their duties as enshrined in Constitution

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority, Jammu and Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu, Friday organized an awareness programme on "Duties of a Citizen Under the Constitution of India" at IIM Jammu.

Acting Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Justice Tashi Rabstan, was the chief guest on the occasion who was accompanied by M. K. Sharma, Principal Secretary and Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Professor B. S. Sahai, Director, IIM Jammu, Dean Academic, Cmdr Kesavan Baskaran, Chief Administrative Officer, IIM Jammu and Smriti Sharma, Secretary, DLSA Jammu, as well as other faculty members of the Institute were present.

The visit commenced with a comprehensive tour of the IIM Jammu, inspecting the institute's state-of-art facilities and infrastructure that included a world-class library, e-enabled lecture rooms and well maintained administrative block.

Following the campus tour, Justice Tashi Rabstan participated in a sapling plantation

ceremony, symbolizing growth and a commitment towards environmental sustainability.

On the occasion, the NALSA (National Legal Services Authority) Theme Song was presented/showcased.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, expressed gratitude to IIM Jammu for organizing the program, emphasizing its importance, particularly for the students. He highlighted the significance of the constitution of India, noting that it is one of the best in the world and addresses every aspect concerning Indian citizens. He urged upon the students to spend five minutes reading the preamble, which can easily be found on Google. He read the preamble, pointing out that it starts with "We, the people," and beautifully frames the objectives of political unity and integrity of the nation. He requested everyone to take two minutes to go through it to understand their duties.

Justice Tashi Rabstan also mentioned Article 51A, which details the duties of citizens and was subsequently amended. He emphasized the relevance of the topic, stating that people often forget their duties toward the nation. These duties are shared in equality, and respecting and protecting India, safeguarding its stability, and reading the



Constitution are indispensable. He mentioned that understanding and performing these duties promote appreciation for adversity, critical thinking, and meaningful contribution to society. He pointed out that it is especially important for the younger generation to understand their duty toward the nation, which includes protecting national property like gardens and monuments. He reminded everyone that damaging national property results in a loss for everyone. Justice Tashi Rabstan encouraged everyone to read Article 51A of the Constitution. He was impressed by the state-of-art library, Nalanda, which is unique and first of its kind, and the smart classrooms, which are equipped with the latest technology. He urged the students to take advantage of these facilities and congratulated Prof. B.S. Sahay, Direc-

tor, IIM Jammu, and his team for establishing such a state-of-art facility in the city of Jammu.

In his welcome address, Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, remarked that IIM Jammu, despite being a new campus, is quickly making its mark. Though considered one of the newer IIMs, it has grown rapidly since its inception by the Ministry of Education. From just 47 students, it has expanded to a community of 1,000 students, and its efforts have been recognized with a ranking of 15th among all IIMs in India in NIRF Rankings, he added.

He emphasized the importance of remembering both rights and duties as citizens of the largest democracy in the world. Often, people tend to forget their responsibilities as citizens, but contributing to nation-building is a duty shared by all. He affirmed that IIM Jammu is committed towards upholding the Constitution, adhering to the laws and policies of the country, and striving for excellence in all endeavours. He called for respect for the national flag and awareness of rights and duties as responsible citizens. He encouraged everyone to continue working together for the betterment

of the nation and to strive for excellence in every pursuit.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, in his address, briefed the audience about IIM Jammu, its activities, and its mission of making responsible citizens of the country. He spoke about IIM Jammu's academic activities, its fast-paced growth in a short span of time, and the centers of excellence at the institute. He highlighted IIM Jammu's commitment towards socio-economic development, knowledge dissemination, entrepreneurship, and holistic development, thereby contributing to the growth and development of the U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir and to nation-building.

He elaborated on the institute's focus on research publications, executive education and consultancy, and outreach programs. He emphasized IIM Jammu's commitment to quality publications in A class journals. He noted that today, IIM Jammu has 1034 students, reflecting the institute's rapid growth and increasing popularity. He assured that the focus remains on maintaining high-quality education and research, ensuring that IIM Jammu continues to thrive and contribute to the nation's development.

This was followed by an insightful presentation by Mandeep Reen, Advocate (Panel Lawyers), HCLSC, Jammu, who addressed the audience on the duty of every human being to safeguard public property and avoid resorting to violence under any circumstances. She emphasized that when individuals and societies uphold these principles, both the nation and the entire society rise towards excellence.

The visit concluded with an engaging interaction session, where students and faculty had the opportunity to interact with Justice Tashi Rabstan, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the judicial system.

Smriti Sharma, Secretary, DLSA Jammu, delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all the dignitaries and participants.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Assistant Professor, IIM Jammu.

The event underscores IIM Jammu's commitment towards creating a dynamic and engaging learning environment, bridging the gap between academia and the judiciary, and nurturing future leaders who are well-versed in legal and ethical standards.

AC gives nod to construction of facilities for staff, students of IGGDH

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council which met here under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved taking up construction of Hostel for PG Boys, Hostel for PG Girls, Bedroom Apartment for married PG Students, Hostel for UG Boys, Hostel for UG Girls, Teaching Staff Quarters, Guest House, Parking, indoor Sports Hall, Non-teaching Staff Quarters, Development of Land, Paver Block, Demolishing and E&M Works at Indira Gandhi Govt. Dental Hospital at Amphala Jammu.

The Council accorded approval for taking up the project at an estimated cost of Rs. 42.50 crores. These assets shall enable efficient functioning of the Dental institute with adequate facilities to the faculty and stu-



Approves construction of GMCs at Kathua, Doda, Anantnag, B'la

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council, which met here under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, accorded sanction for construction works of Government Medical Colleges in Kathua, Doda, Anantnag and Baramulla.

The proposals were revised keeping in view the constraints

like distance, location specific designs, development of land etc. The revised approvals shall enable expeditious funding for development of site and logistic services as well as essential components such as road connectivity, water supply, power, construction of protection walls, development of HVAC, accommoda-

tion requirements for construction of male/female hostels for residents, interns etc.

The decision shall ensure smooth functioning of the Medical Colleges and provide tertiary healthcare to the public living in peripheral areas of Kathua, Doda, Anantnag and Baramulla districts in the coming days.

to bring the Institute at par in ranking with the colleges of national repute.

KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS 'Wife of late soldier says 'immensely proud of my husband'

RAJA SYED RATHER

KARGIL: Waves of sorrow surrounded the whole of Kargil on Friday as the war heroes, the brave hearts who fought for the nation during the Kargil War in the late 1990s, were honoured at Drass on the occasion of the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas.

Among others present at the Drass War Memorial, the wife of late soldier Ganesh Prasad Yadav became emotional as her late husband was honoured with India's highest military decoration—the Param Vir Chakra.

Yadav was awarded for exceptional bravery. His wife said, "I am immensely proud of my husband's sacrifice for our country. At that time, our children were very young, and managing life was incredibly tough. Yet, I took care of them and myself."

Amid moist eyes, she recalled the harrowing period following her husband's death: "His body arrived after forty days, and we were in a very difficult situation. Despite this, we remain immensely proud of him and his contribution to our nation."

Kargil Vijay Diwas ceremony, held at the Drass War Memorial on Thursday, was marked by deeply emotional tributes to the brave hearts—(KNO)

BJP's Tarun Chugh salutes Kargil war heroes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh Friday paid a rich tribute to the Army jawans who sacrificed their life during the Kargil operation and said that the nation would always remain indebted to them for protecting their motherland.

Addressing a gathering in Ramban district, Chugh said the Kargil operation

has completed 25 years but the nefarious designs of Pakistan are still fresh in the minds of the people.

Paying a glorious tribute to the then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, Chugh said the BJP has always stood to protect the national interest whereas other parties led by the Abdullahs and Muftis have been compromising the national interest in favour of Pakistan.

He said the Yuva Morcha of the BJP would carry the "Vijay Jyoti" to all parts of the J&K to observe the Vijay Diwas and serve a warning to Pakistan against plotting subversive designs on the Indian soil.

Chugh said under the Modi government adequate infrastructure has been built for the Army and the security forces so that they can take on the inimical forces head-on.

CBC organizes two-day photo exhibition on Kargil Vijay Diwas in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Field Office Srinagar, Friday organized an Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme cum Photo Exhibition to mark the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas. The two day exhibition, inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, is being held at Kendriya Vidyalaya Batwara in Srinagar. The exhibition aims to highlight the valour and patriotism of soldiers during the Kargil war in 1999.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat emphasized that Kargil Vijay Diwas is a testament to the bravery of Indian soldiers and the nation's unity in ensuring victory during the war. He noted the importance of such exhibitions in fostering patriotism and unity among the younger generation and urged the



audience to remember the sacrifices of soldiers and commit to the nation's progress. The Deputy Commissioner, along with Field Publicity Officers Naseer Ahmad Rather and Shahid

cer, CBC Srinagar Naseer Ahmad Rather highlighted that this exhibition is part of nationwide exhibitions being held by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to honor the bravery and sacrifices of soldiers who fought valiantly and reclaimed all locations occupied by the Pakistani Army and intruders during the Kargil war in 1999.

A large number of students and other visitors participated in the programme. Resource persons from various agencies and schools delivered lectures on the Kargil War during the exhibition. An open quiz competition was also held for the participants, who were awarded mementoes and certificates. The cultural artists empaneled with CBC Srinagar presented colorful performances on patriotism and unity. The exhibition will continue on Saturday, providing an opportunity for more visitors to engage with this significant historical event.

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEV. PROJECT OFFICER LARKIPORA

Subject: Recruitment of AWWs (sanganis) and deficiency of documents thereof

NOTICE

Whereas advertisement for engagement of AWWs on honorary basis was issued vide notification no. 01 of 2024 dated 24.02.2024; and Whereas on scrutinizing of the application forms, various applications are with deficient documents; and Therefore following candidates of various AWCs of designated wards of notified panchayat halqas are deficient of documents. As such they are given three days time from date of publishing of this notification to fulfill the deficiency failing which their candidature is rejected without any further notice

| S.No. | Panchayat Halqa | Name of ward | Name of AWC | Name of Candidate | Parentage/ W/o | Address | deficiency of documents |
|-------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|--|
| 1 | Batagund A | 1 | BATAGUND-B | Ruby Jan | W/o Abdul Qayoom Shah | Batagund | panchayat voter list of Batgund-A OF WARD 01 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |
| 2 | Batagund A | 1 | BATAGUND-B | Aasia Nabi | W/o Inayat Ahmad Malik | Batagund | panchayat voter list of Batgund-A OF WARD 01 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |
| 3 | Batagund A | 1 | BATAGUND-B | Sobia Jan | D/o Ali Mohammad Khanday | Batagund | panchayat voter list of Batgund-A OF WARD 01 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |
| 4 | Kreeri | 7 | KREERI B | SAYIMA JAN | W/o Aaqib Bashir Dar | Kreeri | panchayat voter list of KREERI OF WARD 07 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |
| 5 | Bragam | 4 | BRAGAM-C | TazkJan | W/o Zakir Ahmad Malik | Bragam | panchayat voter list of BRAGAM OF WARD 04 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |
| 6 | Bragam | 4 | BRAGAM-C | Rasee Jan | W/o Zahoar Ahmad Malik | Bragam | panchayat voter list of BRAGAM OF WARD 04 DEPICTING NAME OF CANDIDATE |

NO.CDPOO/POSHAN/LP/24-25 / 308-11 DATED 26.07.2024

DIPK-3637-24 DT: 26/07/2024

Child dev. Project Officer Larkipora

Office Address: Chittemar Forest Campus
Email: dfobandipora123@gmail.com
Phone No: 0195/225860

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER BANDIPORA FOREST DIVISION CHITTARNAR

e-NIT NO: 06 of 2024-25 DATED: - 22/07/2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, c-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed, and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following work:

| Name of Work | Location | Adv. Cost (Rs in Lac) | Bid Security (EMD) Rs in Lacs | Class of Contractor | Cost of Tender Document | Time of Completion |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Raising of Plants and formation of new nursery at Kanzalwan in Gurez Range under Scheme CAM-PA-NPV | Kanzalwan Nursery | 12.36 | Rs 24720/- | D, C & B Class PWD/ Forest | Rs 600 | 120 Calendar Days |
| BUC planting in various compartments of Khuihama, Ajas and Gurez Range under the scheme CAM-PA-NPV and CAMPA-CA | Khuihama, Ajas and Gurez | 16.11 | Rs 32226/- | C&B Class PWD/ Forest | Rs 800 | 90 Calendar Days |

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website: - www.jktenders.gov.in
The position of Codal formalities in respect of above work(s) is as under:

Position of Funds: Accorded
Position of AA: Accorded
Position of TS: Accorded

| | |
|--|---|
| Publishing Date: | 25-07-2024 |
| Download Start Date: | 25-07-2024 from 11:00 AM |
| Bid submission Start Date: | 25-07-2024 from 11:00 AM |
| Bid submission End Date: | 12-08-2024 Up to 06:00 PM |
| Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online: | 13-08-2024 at 02:00 PM in the office of the office of Conservator of Forests Srinagar Circle, Srinagar. |
| Date of Opening of Financial Bid through online: | To be opened (Online) after technical evaluation is completed. Date will be notified separately. |

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: https://jktenders.gov.in.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and Bid Security in the shape of EMD for requisite amount and pledged to Divisional Forest Officer, Bandipora Forest Division.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e. EMD (CDR/FDR), Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2023-24, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Affidavit cum Undertaking (Notarized), Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document).
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labor Registration Certificate issued by Labor Department after issuance of award of contract.
- As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.

DIPK-3597-24 DT: 26/07/2024

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

Reduction In Water Levels Of Jhelum

According to the relevant sources the Jhelum river has had 30 percent reduction in its water volume this summer on account of rainfall deficit. This is immensely worrying. A photograph shared by various media persons showed a house boat stranded on the parched banks of river Jhelum. The owners have to work all day to keep it from rotting away. A houseboat on a dry land cannot survive for too long unless good quantity of water is sprayed on it on a daily basis, sometimes many times during the day. Dozens of houseboats could meet a similar fate if the owners do not shift to some other base and anchor it elsewhere. The reduction in the water volume will have disastrous impact on the agricultural produce as the deficit water volume cannot reach fields on time and a lot of mechanised efforts and capital would go into irrigating this reduced water volume to the paddy fields, kitchen garden and orchards. A few years back our eyes would be glued to river Jhelum to monitor the rising water levels - look at the hand of destiny we now have to look at the levels of reducing volume of our rivers. If the water volume reduces to greater levels it can have a severe impact on the GDP of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. However, the thing most feared by the people of Jammu and Kashmir is that this reduction in water volume can help us move faster to the predicted fate of a Ramban or Reasi like weather. This could very easily be called a milestone in desertification process, drying of rivers for constant years cannot be brushed aside as another temporary weather anomaly. It is a serious situation. The increased air pollution, soil erosion, migration towards cash crops, deforestation are all reasons for this catastrophe.

The rich always have an option. When it is too cold they move to Bengaluru, Delhi, Mumbai and Dubai. When it is too hot in Srinagar they go to Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Shimla and Ooty. Where would the poor go? They have to endure all weather anomalies with open arms. Without the pristine weather Kashmir will lose its charm, its unique selling point, its sublimity and most importantly it's tourists. Imagine the day the weather starts genuinely fiddling with our horticultural produce. That would be the day people will start migrating towards other places on the periphery of valley. We hope the rains bless us soon and the water level is restored to its original levels. We hope this houseboat in the picture floats on the water again and its owner are happy again.

Walls Whisper

The Untold Saga Of Cellular Jail's Brave Souls



DR. SHIBBEN KRISHEN RAINA

When visiting Port Blair, the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, it is imperative to mention the Cellular Jail. This prison was constructed by the British to imprison Indian freedom fighters and inflict cruelty upon them. It is also infamous as "Kala Pani" (Black Water). The walls and every brick of this jail bear silent witness to the atrocities, oppression, and tortures inflicted upon Indian freedom fighters by the British government.

Indian freedom fighters or rebels who opposed the British government were sentenced to life imprisonment in "Kala Pani" or Cellular Jail, ensuring that no one would dare oppose the government again. The first batch of prisoners arrived here on March 10, 1858, under the supervision of military doctor and Agra Jail warden J.P. Walker and jailer David Berry, aboard a small warship.

The foundation of Cellular Jail was laid in 1897, and it was completed in 1906. The jail comprised 698 cells, each measuring 15x8 feet. Windows were placed three meters above the ground in each cell to prevent prisoners from communicating with each other. The vast prison, resembling an octopus with its seven wings, now only retains three segments. The prison walls bear the names of brave martyrs, and there is a museum where one can view the weapons used to torture freedom fighters. The construction cost of the jail is estimated to be around ₹17,000, and materials for its construction were reportedly brought from Burma. Prisoners sentenced to hard labor were forced to work day and night on the construction site.

Historians say that Cellular Jail was a prison with no real boundaries. The surrounding environment consisted



of rocky and lifeless land, dense forests where sunlight barely reached the ground: an open blue sky, a hostile and poisonous climate, severe water shortages, and unfriendly tribes.

Notably, the renowned revolutionary, freedom fighter, social reformer, historian, politician, and thinker Vinayak Damodar Savarkar was sentenced to "Kala Pani" and sent to Cellular Jail on April 7, 1911. He was accused of plotting to overthrow the British government by allegedly masterminding the murders of various officials. According to Savarkar, prisoners in this jail had to endure hard labor. They were made to extract oil from mustard and coconut using a traditional oil press and were also required to clear the surrounding forests and level the marshy and hilly areas. Those who did not comply faced severe punishment, including beatings with sticks and whips, and were not provided adequate food. Savarkar remained in Port Blair Jail from July 4, 1911, to May 21, 1921. He is honored by his sup-

porters as Veer Savarkar, and a beautiful park named after him stands outside the jail complex. Airport of Port Blair, too, has been named as Veer Savarkar International Airport to pay homage to this phenomenal freedom fighter.

The term "Kala Pani" is derived from the Sanskrit word "Kala," which means time or death. Thus, "Kala Pani" signifies a place of death from which no one returns alive. Another belief is that "Kala Pani" refers to the prohibition in Hinduism against crossing the sea, which was believed to result in the loss of one's social status, cultural integrity, and the degradation of future generations.

One of the attractions of Port Blair's Cellular Jail is the "Sound and Light Show" held in the evening within the prison complex. This show is a remarkable blend of information and entertainment, depicting the history of the jail. For those interested in the sacrifices made by India's freedom fighters, this show is a must-see. Through an artistic presentation of sound and light, the

suffering of the prisoners comes alive, creating an emotional experience that immerses the audience in the poignant memories of the past and the heroic sacrifices of the martyrs.

Within the jail premises, certain places have been preserved, such as the spot where prisoners' religious rites were performed before they were put on the gallows, the whipping area, and the area where prisoners toiled to extract oil from coconuts manually.

We need to honor and pay homage to these courageous souls from across our nation who sacrificed their life in the shadowy confines of the Cellular Jail. These freedom fighters of our country endured immense hardships, with many giving their lives so that future generations could breathe free. Their unwavering dedication and sacrifice paved the way for our independence, and we owe them an eternal debt of gratitude.

The author can be mailed at skraina123@gmail.com

Why We're More Exhausted Than Ever



SAIQA JAN

These days when I hear people conversing, they seem to be discussing a lot about not being able to take time for themselves, have a long-overdue get-together with friends, or a trip they need to a place where they could relax and shed away all the baggage and burdens of responsibilities. These days whoever I talk to seems to be caught up in things, some in their 9-5 routine, some in their hustle of growing their enterprise, some in their never-ending pursuit of studies and some in the battles in their heads, so much so that often it feels like we are operating as robots, who are running on a particular command in code to complete a particular form of circle throughout the day.

A never-ending circle where there is no way out and all you do is go round and round only to end up at the same place from where you commenced the journey. For quite some time I thought it was just me, who was feeling overwhelmed with responsibilities, expectations, obligations, commitments and duties but now that I am reflecting on every single conversation I've had for the past few months I realise that all of us are living the same life; A life of exhaustion. We are all exhausted in one way or another and we all have our fair share of issues and matters that need to be tended to and resolved. But I guess we are all too busy, too occupied, too caught up to just stop for a minute and take a breather. All of us are apprehensive of what our future will look like if we stop for a second here.

We are so engrossed in these



lives of exhaustion we are leading, that taking a day, an hour, a minute or even a second for ourselves has somewhat gone out of the question for us. We are running around, pushing through boundaries, striving to be our best selves and achieving some unrealistic and superficial goals, but are we being the best of ourselves? Are we really living lives as we are going through time and space in this world? Are we enjoying the limited time we have here before our journey ends and we are pushed to the other side? Or have we just lost ourselves to the hustles of this life? I do not know how just within the past decade life became so fast-paced, especially here in Kashmir.

Everything seems to be running on autopilot and never halting. Everyone here seems to be in a race against something and it is unfathomable to me to decide what or who everyone including me is running against. This loop just seems to tug people in and never let them out. In the world, we live in today, where technological advancements have crossed the limits of human expectations and have raised both the standards and the ideals of the human lifestyle, we seem to be swimming in a pool of demands

where reaching the final post is almost impossible. We are being bombarded with content online that shapes and defines our lives and the state of our mental health and drags us towards this loop of exhaustion. As much as life was supposed to get easier with modern refinements, it has become rather draining.

We all make sure that we have the luxuries and all the amenities that would make our lives easier but where is the ease? We follow these celebrities, these influencers, these idols that are only human like ourselves but we regard them highly and try and act or lead a life like they do without realising that in doing so we are losing the very essence of our soul. We are losing our identity and trying to be someone who might or might not be portraying the truth online. Our exhaustion comes from within us. We are charring ourselves to achieve a life of fame, power and recognition. This goes for every single one of us because all of us are grilling ourselves at our allotted echelons. You see this exhaustion of fulfilling every criterion for a perfect life has taken us anywhere but perfection. It has flawed our design and those flaws are what surface as mental health issues. With an unending urge

to be the best among our lot, we are dragging ourselves through hellholes mentally and pushing our boundaries with little to no aid to hold and support us from the fall. Let's go back a decade and re-visit the lives that were much simpler and easier than the ones we are leading right now and understand at what point in time we started piling up this load on our backs.

I believe that this piece of advanced technology called Smartphones which we hold in our hands through the night and day from dawn till dusk has a lot to do with the exhaustion we are faced with currently. Then add up the spice of social media and boom! Our exhaustion goes up a hundred notches. The continuous flow of unnecessary information has put our brains in an overdrive of processing, perceiving and absorbing the content. It is a miracle to not go insane with such an ebb and flow of information.

Every day we are hit by a storm of all sorts of content, some of it makes us happy, some makes us sad, some gets us all riled up and some pushes us through the depths of despair. We are but humans with a limited capacity for cognitive and emotional abilities yet we overwork ourselves.

Videos, Reels, Games, Texts, Calls, chats, Posts, Comments, Likes, and shares, it is all like a neatly woven spider web which rarely lets you out once you are caught in it. Even the makers had chosen the name "website" so wisely. They knew what they were getting people into. Now, I am not saying that everything is just bad about it. Most of the time we have the best use for our smartphones. Often they prove to be the best aid when needed desperately. But let's not forget that its pros in no way outweigh its cons.

The rise in mental and emotional health issues, Growing number of suicides, personality issues, crime rates, divorces, familial discords and physical health issues all can be linked in one or the other to the excessive use of these handheld devices. By watching and listening to sensitive content daily, we have become desensitized and used to it, so much so that our basic human skills crucial for coexistence like tolerance, understanding, patience, respect, empathy, and our ability to interact have gone out the window. We have put people and ourselves on a pedestal and we are not ready to accept flaws, imperfections, shortcomings, and limitations of ourselves or others.

This raises our expectations of people and ourselves to unachievable heights, raising our standards and adding more and more to our exhaustion as we see ourselves falling short or failing. This exhaustion is the reason behind our busy lives. We are all busy trying to fill the void whilst life passes us by. So why not just prioritise life over exhaustion and make sure that every day we take some time out for ourselves? Say an hour a day, and in that hour try and interact with our inner selves. Make time to just let ourselves wander in our heads, explore the corners that hold the exhaustion within us and let it go so that we can have some much-needed peace and ease.

The author can be mailed at saiqawrites17@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

A World Without War



BHARAT DOGRA

While wars are becoming more and more destructive and the possibility of an all-destructive nuclear war also very much continues to exist, the urgency of achieving much greater cooperation for resolving serious environmental and other problems continues to increase. Hence from more than one perspectives, it is of the greatest importance to achieve a future without wars and nothing less than the saving of humanity and most other forms of life is involved here.

How can humanity achieve this most important of all aims, that of avoiding wars in future? Many people tend to think of this, when they think of this at all, in terms of agreements involving some of the world's most powerful countries and leaders. Ultimately, of course, some such agreements will have to be reached, but to create the conditions for such possibilities to emerge first a lot has to change at the ground level. Unless ground conditions change in some very important respects, the conditions favorable for international agreements to avoid all wars will never emerge.

While one can think of several reforms, three reforms are most crucial and just cannot be ignored if conditions favorable for agreements to end wars are to be created.

First and foremost, the more powerful nations and their leaders as well as people have to stop thinking in terms of exploiting other countries and people for grabbing their resources in order to gain more benefits for themselves. This colonial tendency has never really gone away and continued in so many different ways. As long as some of the most powerful countries are thinking in terms of living much beyond the means of their own resources and limits by



somehow gaining undue and unjust advantage over other nations and people, the tendency towards war and conflict will remain and the tendency of amassing the most dangerous weapons for defensive as well as offensive reasons will remain.

While this tendency of grabbing the just share of others is sometimes reflected in the actual grab of resources like precious or rare minerals or oil and gas, this need not always be so obvious and complex financial manipulations and debt-based exploitation may be used to achieve the same objective of longer-term exploitation of others to live beyond one's own means at their cost.

Secondly, and related to the first, the threat of war, including all-destructive war, will always remain as long as there is the concept of any one country with a few subordinate allies trying to dominate the world. Either this concept should end, or else the

world will end. It is as basic as that.

Thirdly, on the more positive side of the crucial changes needed, there must be continuing worldwide efforts for learning to live a life of peace and non-violence at various levels—at the level of a person, at the level of a family, then at community level, in schools/colleges and at workplace level and so on all the way to higher levels.

This most important of all tasks has been neglected to such an extent that while wars are becoming more and more destructive, still violence in daily life causes more deaths, injuries and distress than what is caused by wars, and this statistical reality will probably continue with us till an all-destructive nuclear takes place.

Living with peace and non-violence does not come naturally to human beings. At the same time it is not at all true to say that human

beings are condemned inevitably to live with a lot of violence. The reality is that whether human beings live peacefully or violently in daily life depends to a large extent on whether conscious, deliberate, continuing efforts are made to motivate, inspire, train and educate people to live with peace and non-violence, and this is the sort of education which should start at a very early age in family and play school and continues throughout life. This can be the most creative and interesting education, and its beneficial impacts on improving life can be seen very soon.

Here it should be added that genuine and durable peace is possible only if it is based on justice. Hence when we say that worldwide continuing efforts should be made for justice, then what we really mean is peace based on justice or peace within a framework of justice.

If worldwide, continuing such efforts for peace and non-violence at the ground level are continued for about a decade (encouraging results will start becoming evident much earlier), then the conditions even at the top will start changing in very significant ways and such leaders will start emerging who are truly committed to peace and they will also get more support of people. In addition all the time pressure will be exerted by people, and not just at the time of elections, for avoiding and ending wars. It is in such conditions that what appears impossible will become possible and the world will be able to achieve a future without wars. (C-Counter Currents)

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

July Sees Multiple Global Temperature Records Broken

BRYAN DYNE

Satellite data from the European climate monitoring service Copernicus confirms that Monday and Tuesday were the hottest days on Earth so far recorded by the program. Temperatures Wednesday will likely also be added to the record once the preliminary data are finalized.

The last such record was on July 6, 2023, when the global mean temperature (the temperature measured over the entire surface of the planet over the span of 24 hours) reached 17.08 degrees Celsius (just under 64 degrees Fahrenheit). On Monday, the temperature rose to 17.09 degrees Celsius before spiking to 17.16 degrees Celsius on Tuesday.

Preliminary data, which will be confirmed in the coming days, show that temperatures hit 17.15 degrees Celsius on Wednesday.

The regions experiencing the highest anomalous temperatures, contributing to the new record, are Antarctica, the western and northern parts of North America, and parts of Siberia.

Data from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) concurs with the trends represented in the Copernicus data. In the past seven days, 1,769 locations monitored by NOAA around the world have tied or broken heat records.

Such record-breaking temperatures have become a regular occurrence in the past two decades. The past 10 years are among the hottest 11 years recorded by Copernicus, with the one outlier being 2010, which was slightly hotter than 2014.

Moreover, there are indications that 2023 was something of a tipping point for global warming. In the 67 years in which Copernicus has collected such data, Earth's temperatures have climbed about 0.02 degrees Celsius each year. In contrast, the average worldwide temperature from January to December last year was



14.98 degrees Celsius, a jump of 0.17 degrees Celsius from the previous hottest years in 2016 and 2020, and a spike of 0.30 degrees Celsius hotter from the average worldwide temperature in 2022.

Data from the first half of this year suggest that 2024 will have a similarly sharp increase in the global temperature.

The direct cause of the record high temperatures is man-made climate change, itself caused by the largely uncontrolled release of greenhouse gases over the past century and a half by capitalist production. In particular, the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere via burning fossil fuels (e.g., coal, oil, natural gas) traps more and more of the heat Earth receives from the Sun, steadily increasing the planet's temperature.

And the problem compounds, since carbon dioxide stays and builds up in the atmosphere. The Scripps Insti-

tution of Oceanography at UC San Diego has measured atmospheric carbon dioxide at Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii since 1958. The first measurements recorded CO2 levels of about 315 parts per million in the atmosphere. Levels now stand at 424 parts per million.

Various atmospheric models suggest that CO2 levels have to be brought sharply down, to as low as 350 parts per million, to reverse global warming.

One of the many complications is the collapse of land "carbon sinks." In the past, carbon dioxide has been removed from the atmosphere by forests and jungles as plants go through their natural growth cycle. From 2010 to 2022, such growth removed about 2 gigatons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year.

A recently published preprint on atmospheric and oceanic physics found that in 2023, these carbon sinks

only removed at most 0.65 gigatons of CO2 from Earth's atmosphere, as a result of extreme heat, drought and wildfire activity last year. If the trend continues, the world's forests will generate a net increase to atmospheric carbon dioxide, yet another tipping point in the climate crisis.

Humanity is already living through the dire consequences of unchecked climate change. This year alone, wildfires and the ongoing global heat wave have killed thousands. At the end of June, Hurricane Beryl developed from a tropical depression to a Category 4 and Category 5 hurricane in the span of a few days, the earliest in a year that such a rapid intensification has happened. Beryl is expected to cost upwards of \$32 billion, once all the damage has been assessed, and caused 52 confirmed deaths.

And the hurricane, heat wave and wildfire season have only barely begun. As Socialist Equality Party presidential

candidate Joseph Kishore recently said in a campaign statement:

According to a report published by the World Meteorological Organization last year, a staggering 489,000 people died from heat-related causes every year between 2000 and 2019—that is, nearly 10 million total.

Kishore continued: Scientists have repeatedly warned that the climate crisis produced by global warming is reaching a tipping point. Steadily increasing temperatures are behind a series of disasters, from deadly hurricanes to wildfires. Warming oceans threaten the entire global food chain, and rising ocean levels from melting ice caps will lead to worldwide and permanent flooding in areas where billions of people live.

And there is growing evidence that climate change is pushing thousands of species out of their native habitats, increasing the likelihood of spillover events and future pandemics even deadlier than Covid-19.

The dangers posed by climate change are a scientific fact. But the response to climate change is fundamentally a class issue. Whatever promises the world's capitalist governments have made, whether they be the 1998 Kyoto Protocols, the 2015 Paris Accords or various other climate agreements, they are primarily designed not to reverse global warming, but to use climate change as yet another lever in the constant struggle by nation-states and corporations for markets and geopolitical power.

In contrast, the international working class is wholly invested in actually fighting the crisis. It is workers who have suffered and the proletariat is the only social force that is capable of a globally coordinated and scientifically guided response to end climate change. Like all social ills plaguing modern civilization—wars, poverty, pandemics, genocide—the solution to climate change is the socialist transformation of society. (Originally published in WWSW.ORG)

Here Are 10 Amazing Benefits Of Quitting Sugar

Sugar is a type of simple carbohydrate found naturally in many foods, including fruits, vegetables, and dairy products, and added to countless processed foods and beverages. Common forms of sugar include sucrose (table sugar), fructose (found in fruits), and lactose (found in dairy). While natural sugars in whole foods come with essential nutrients and fibre, added sugars provide empty calories without nutritional value. Quitting added sugar is generally beneficial for health. In this article, we share a list of health benefits you can achieve from quitting sugar.



Here are ten amazing benefits of quitting sugar

1. Improved energy levels
Eliminating sugar helps stabilise blood sugar levels, preventing the spikes and crashes associated with high sugar intake. Stable energy levels enhance productivity and reduce feelings of fatigue and sluggishness throughout the day.

2. Better weight management
Quitting sugar reduces caloric intake and decreases insulin resistance, which can contribute to weight loss. Maintaining a healthy weight reduces the risk of obesity-related conditions like type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers.

3. Enhanced mental clarity and mood

Stable blood sugar levels prevent mood swings and mental fog, which are often exacerbated by sugar highs and lows. Improved mental clarity and mood can enhance cognitive function, concentration, and overall mental well-being.

4. Reduced risk of heart disease

Lower sugar intake reduces triglycerides, blood pressure, and inflammation, all of which are risk factors for heart disease. Reducing the risk of heart disease promotes cardiovascular health and longevity.

5. Healthier skin

Cutting out sugar reduces inflammation and decreases the production of advanced glycation end-products (AGEs) that damage collagen and elastin. Healthier skin appears more youthful, with fewer wrinkles and acne, improving overall appearance and confidence.

6. Decreased risk of type 2 diabetes

Quitting sugar improves insulin sensitivity and reduces the burden on the pancreas. Lowering the risk of type 2 diabetes helps prevent the associated complications, such as nerve damage, kidney disease, and vision problems.

7. Improved dental health

Sugar is a major contributor to tooth decay and gum disease. Reducing sugar intake minimises the risk of cavities and oral infections. Better dental health prevents tooth decay, gum disease, and the associated pain and costs of dental treatments.

8. Stronger immune system
High sugar intake can suppress the immune system, making it easier for infections to take hold. Reducing sugar strengthens the immune response. A stronger immune system improves the body's ability to fight off infections and recover from illnesses more quickly.

9. Better digestive health
Quitting sugar can improve gut health by reducing the growth of harmful bacteria and yeast, which thrive on sugar. Improved digestive health can reduce symptoms of bloating, gas, and discomfort, and promote a balanced gut microbiome.

10. Lower risk of certain cancers
Sugar consumption has been linked to inflammation and increased insulin levels, both of which can promote cancer cell growth. Reducing sugar intake can lower the risk of developing certain cancers, contributing to overall longevity and health.

By eliminating sugar from your diet, you can experience these benefits, leading to improved physical and mental health, better disease prevention, and enhanced overall quality of life.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

J&K Govt Amends

To encourage large investments having strategic importance to economy of UT, Government may allot land on preferential basis to mega projects viz. industrial/service sector units with minimum capital investment (excluding land and working capital) of at least Rs. 4000 crores.

The amendments shall ensure equity and transparency amongst applicants. The amendments in the Jammu & Kashmir Industrial Land Allotment Policy, 2021-30 shall help in realizing large investments and this will be a fillip to employment generation in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Approves Transfer

Secretary, Shri Mandeep K Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor were present in the meeting. A total of 3188 kanals and 8 marlas of land has been transferred to Industries and Commerce Department for the said purpose.

The transferred land parcel includes 114 kanals and 03 marlas of land in district Kupwara, 1000 kanals of land in district Bandipora, 1094 kanals and 16 marlas of land in district Anantnag, 375 kanals and 06 marlas of land in district Pulwama, 240 kanals of land in district Baramulla and 364 kanals and 03 marlas of land in district Budgam. Development of Industrial infrastructures has been a focus area post-2019 and has been considered as main vehicle for accelerating economic activity besides providing employment.

Industries & Commerce Department has come up with various initiatives for setting up industries in the UT of J&K. In order to carry out activities effectively for attracting investment, the main requirement is to make land available to the Industries & Commerce Department. The land transferred thus, shall enable establishing Industrial Estates for overall development of the area and creation of various employment opportunities.

Pakistan Failed

showed its dual face and finally falsehood got defeated," he said. "We didn't win the Kargil war but showed our commitment towards our nation and the valour of our brave forces."

The Prime Minister said that Pakistan hasn't learnt any lessons from its past mistakes. "It keeps on promoting terrorism to trigger a proxy war," he said. "We will never allow the designs of the enemy to succeed." He said every hurdle that comes in the way of Ladakh or J&K's development will be removed with full might.

The PM said that five years post Article 370 abrogation, Ladakh, and J&K are prospering. "J&K is talked about for holding a successful G-20 meeting. Cinemas are functional in Kashmir after over three decades. People are chasing new dreams in Kashmir," he said. About the Shinkun La Tunnel, the Prime Minister said that once the tunnel is completed, Ladakh will remain connected with the country throughout the year.

"In Ladakh, people are living a peaceful life. In the last five years, Ladakh's budget has been raised from Rs 1100 Crore to Rs 6000 Crore. This region is chasing new dreams and touching new heights," he said. "Ladakh will soon have 4 G network and the 13 km Zojila tunnel will also be completed with the result National Highway 1 will become an all-weather route."

Taking a jibe at Congress for ignoring the demands of forces including the army and Indian Air Force (IAF). "These demands fell on the deaf ears in the past. There was a huge yearning for reforms. Our government took a step to listen to the forces and today we have a list of 5000 weapons that are no longer being exported from outside," he said.

Lashing out at Congress for playing politics over the Agniveer scheme, Prime Minister Modi said that those opposing and criticising this scheme are the same people who are involved in the thousands

of crores of defence budget scams. "These people never wanted the army and IAF to be self-reliant. They never wanted Tejas to be introduced in IAF," he said.

PM Modi said that the BJP government took a decision to implement a one rank-one pension for the interests of the forces. "As we celebrate Kargil War victory today, it's not the victory of any government but the victory of entire nation and will remain as nation's biggest assets," he said—(KNO)

Indian Soldiers

during the Kargil War and forced the enemy army to kneel.

Kargil Vijay Diwas is a symbol of the unwavering resolve of the valour of the brave soldiers of the Army, he said.

"During the Kargil War, the brave soldiers displayed the ultimate valour in the inaccessible hills of the Himalayas and forced the enemy army to kneel and made the country proud by hoisting the Tricolour again in Kargil," Shah said in a post on X.

The home minister said the grateful nation would never forget the sacrifice and dedication of the Indian soldiers.

"Today, on Kargil Vijay Diwas, I salute the brave soldiers who protected the motherland with their courage in this war," he said in the post in Hindi.

On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the successful culmination of 'Operation Vijay', declaring victory after a nearly three-month-long battle on the icy heights of Kargil in Ladakh.

The day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the war.

LG Sinha Pays Tributes

the martyrs of the 1999 Kargil war.

"On the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay my humble tributes to brave armed forces personnel, who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the motherland during India's victory in 'Operation Vijay'," Sinha posted on X.

On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the successful culmination of "Operation Vijay", declaring victory after a nearly three-month-long battle on the icy heights of Kargil in Ladakh.

The day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the war.

Kargil War Proved

Kargil War also symbolised the highest values of secularism enshrined in the Indian ethos, as soldiers on the front lines transcended considerations of caste, creed, religion and region to fight for the country.

"One of the key points underscored by the Kargil War is Pakistan's enduring reluctance to accept the status of Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) as part of India since 1947. Despite large conventional wars in 1948 and 1965, followed by infiltration bids and a proxy war of a thousand cuts, Pakistan never reconciled with this reality. The Kargil conflict reinforced the necessity for India to adapt its political and military strategies," Singh said.

Post-Kargil, significant shifts occurred in India's approach, particularly after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014, he said.

Under his leadership, the political dispensation granted the Army the autonomy to strike back based on their professional discretion and wisdom, the minister said.

"This change in strategy was evident in the surgical strikes and the response to the Pulwama attack, where Indian forces proactively penetrated enemy territory to dismantle sources of aggression. The defence budget was also substantially increased, with a notable allocation of Rs 6.22 lakh

crore in the interim budget, signalling the government's priority on national security," Singh was quoted as having said in a statement issued by the Personnel Ministry.

India's defence sector, once a major importer, has now transformed into a significant exporter of defence equipment, he said.

The identification of 5,000 defence-related items that will no longer be imported marks a significant shift towards self-reliance, Singh said.

However, the Kargil War also taught India the importance of vigilance due to the unstable and inconsistent policies in Islamabad and the lack of coordination between Pakistan's political leadership and its military, the ministry said.

In Kashmir, post the abrogation of Article 370 and the revised defence approach, there has been a visible restoration of peace, reflected in the heavy turnout of tourists, he said.

The people of Kashmir have realised the tragic loss of three generations over a flawed dream of freedom propagated by vested interests, Singh said.

"Today, the youth of Kashmir are eager to seize the opportunities provided under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, recognising the importance of moving forward," he said.

As for PoJK, the resolution of 1993 and the unanimously adopted resolution of 1980 clearly state that PoJK is an integral part of India, Singh said.

"The only issue outstanding is how to retrieve it back to Kashmir. This enduring commitment underscores India's unwavering stance on the region and its determination to uphold its territorial integrity," he added.

Security Forces

"Recently several meetings were held with former public representatives and religious leaders where they were told to help security forces in maintaining the peace in the region and not allowing militants to intrude in any way into the society and get any kind of support," said a source.

The security forces believe that with the support of the public they will be able to eliminate the militants who are active in the region. "Like in the past, we will be able to defeat the nefarious design of the enemy and these terrorists will meet fate like the past," RR Swain, DGP J&K had said in the past after recent terror activities.

Moving ahead with this formula, security forces have already started re-connecting with the public, which for the past some time was missing since the terror related incidents had gone down drastically.

A highly placed source said that people have been told to inform the nearest security forces establishment if any terrorist visits their homes for food or any other thing. "Security forces understand that general public can't deny terrorists anything but once terrorists leave people can inform security forces so that they are able to get close to eliminating terrorists. But if anyone hides the information, then he or she is not doing any good to him and the society and that point of time, the person will be considered helping the terrorists, which invites action against him," the source added—(KNO)

Sgr Among 10

Celsius. In Kupwara and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, the mercury settled at 94.7 degree Celsius and 25.7 degree Celsius respectively.

However, Jammu's temperature was recorded at par with Srinagar for the second time in this week as the mercury in Jammu City also settled at 35.2 degree Celsius, but it can't be considered as the heat wave.

Banihal in Jammu division recorded a maximum temperature of 31.2 degree Celsius while Batote, Katra and Baderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 29.2 degree Celsius, 33.0 degree Celsius and 32.4 degree Celsius respectively. Pertinently, Jammu and Kashmir has been wit-

nessing a deficient rainfall of 39 per cent so far in the ongoing season from June 01, 2024 to July 24, 2024.

As per the details available, Srinagar, Shopian, Poonch, Kupwara, Kulgam, Kishtwar, Doda, Bandipora, Budgam and Anantnag have been categorised in the list of large deficient rainfall.

However, Poonch and Shopian have topped the list with the deficit of 83 and 81 per cent respectively.

Srinagar has recorded a deficient rainfall of 67 per cent while other areas have recorded a deficient precipitation of nearly 70 per cent during the period.

Jammu and Samba are the only places where normal precipitation has been recorded during the period, the data revealed.

Four the places including Baramulla, Reasi, Rajouri and Ramban have recorded a deficient rainfall up to 52 per cent, it added—(KNO)

2 GOCs Take Charge

NDA and an experienced officer steeped in counter-terrorism operations, took over as the General Officer Commanding of Kilo Force today, relieving Major General Mohit Seth. He exhorted all ranks to continue striving for excellence and to be #combat ready to thwart the nefarious designs of inimical forces," Chinar Corps posted on X—(KNO)

J&K To Generate

biomass cookstoves will be provided in the tribal areas to reduce indoor air pollution and fuel use. Besides, solarization of all routes and camps of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra—(KNO)

RAHI ADVERTISERS



+91-7006034174

SARAI DANGERPORA,
SUMBAL. 193501

KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS

Lessons that PM Modi learnt from war front 25 years ago

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi got some invaluable lessons from his visit to the Kargil War front in 1999.

During the war, Pakistani troops had infiltrated deep into Indian territory prompting the launch of Operation Vijay.

Narendra Modi, then serving as the BJP's National General Secretary, described his visit to the war zone as "a pilgrimage of a lifetime," as noted in a post by Modi Archives on social media platform X on Friday.

In early May 1999, Pakistani forces crossed the Line of Control (LoC) and entered the Drass, Mushkoh, Kaksar, and Batalik sectors, with incursions extending from 4 to 8 kms in each area.

The Indian Army fought valiantly, ultimately reclaiming every inch of land and preserving the nation's sovereignty.

A significant milestone occurred on July 4, 1999, when Indian forces hoisted the Tricolour atop Tiger Hill, a crucial vantage point that had witnessed some of the war's fiercest battles.

This victory paved the way for the complete eviction of Pakistani intruders by July 26, 1999.

At the height of the conflict, Narendra Modi was tasked with overseeing work in Himachal Pradesh. He took a Mi-17 helicopter



loaded with essential supplies for the soldiers and landed in Srinagar.

During this visit, he interacted with the soldiers, expressing his gratitude for their bravery. However, the soldiers themselves attributed their success to then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, surprising him.

Narendra Modi recounted in a video message that a soldier explained the pivotal role the late Prime Minister played.

Despite multiple failed attempts to capture Tiger Hill and numerous casualties, a sense of despondency was averted when, one evening, the soldiers heard on the radio that American President Bill Clinton had invited PM Vajpayee to the US.

PM Vajpayee declined, stating he had no time for such visits while his soldiers were on the battlefield. This act of solidar-

ity from their leader filled the soldiers with renewed vigour, leading to their eventual victory.

From this experience, Narendra Modi learnt the crucial lesson that strong political will and leadership can significantly inspire soldiers, encouraging them to exhibit unparalleled bravery and make significant sacrifices.

This was a powerful demonstration of how leadership can directly impact the morale and effectiveness of the armed forces.

Narendra Modi also made it his mission during this visit to meet the injured soldiers at the Army Hospital in Srinagar. He witnessed scenes of both tragedy and triumph.

One poignant moment involved meeting a soldier who had lost both arms and legs due to a mine explosion. Despite his severe injuries, the soldier expressed happiness after

hearing the news of Tiger Hill's recapture, which filled him with pride and a renewed sense of purpose despite his pain.

This interaction highlighted for Narendra Modi the critical role of morale in warfare. For the soldiers, every victory was a tribute to their fallen comrades and a step towards restoring India's honour and integrity.

Another revealing incident occurred during Narendra Modi's interactions with over 150 soldiers across Kargil, Srinagar, and Udhampur.

When asked about their native places to convey their stories to their families, the soldiers responded not with their village or town names but with the battlefronts — Dras, Batalik, and Kargil. For them, the geographical distinctions were secondary to their shared mission of defending the nation.

This experience underlined to Narendra Modi how the sense of duty and national service transcended regional and personal identities.

Narendra Modi also learnt a vital lesson about the politicisation of national security. He observed that Opposition parties sometimes put "petty politics over national interest."

During the Kargil War, the BJP was in power, and Opposition parties like Congress and the Left criticised the armed forces, even calling for a special Rajya Sabha session while the soldiers were fighting on the war front.

Narendra Modi contrasted this with the support late PM Indira Gandhi received from Opposition leader Vajpayee during the 1971 War, which demonstrated true national unity.

He expressed concern over Sonia Gandhi's silence during the Kargil War, noting that such silence raised doubts and was not in the spirit of national unity.

These reflections and experiences from the Kargil War have deeply influenced Narendra Modi's perspective on leadership, patriotism, and the importance of unwavering support for the armed forces.

The lessons learnt during this pivotal time continue to shape his approach to governance and his commitment to India's national security.

All states have got funds in Union Budget as in the past: FM Sitharaman

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Friday that just like in the past, all states have been allocated funds in the Union Budget 2024-25, and no state has been denied anything.

In an exclusive interview with Sanjay Pughalia, CEO and Editor-in-Chief of NDTV Network, the Finance Minister rejected the opposition's claim that her Budget speech mentioned only two states -- Andhra Pradesh and Bihar, both ruled by the BJP's key allies.

She pointed out that the Centre was required by law to support Andhra Pradesh after its bifurcation in 2014.

"States are receiving allocations as they did in the past... no state has been denied anything. The Act (Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act) requires the Centre to support (the state) in building its capital city and developing the backward regions," she explained.

"Several steps have been taken in the last 10 years and many other steps, as per the Act, which had to be taken have been taken. Yes, we will support the building of the new capital at Amaravati and the Polavaram irrigation project... Polavaram should have been completed by now but there were some technical issues. The state government is seized of the matter," Sitharaman said. Responding particu-



larly to the criticism by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, the Finance Minister said, "To the point he raised - that I have not named many states and spoke only about two states... The Congress was in power for a long time. They presented many Budgets and should know that in every Budget, you don't get an opportunity to name every state of the country."

Sitharaman also said the Budget reflected Prime Minister Narendra Modi's wish to keep things simple, so that everyone, and not just subject experts, could understand India's finances.

"We present everything upfront. There is no fine print... We ensure that any changes made are communicated openly, based on feedback and transparent processes," she pointed out. The Finance Minister

also said that borrowing is a must for a growing economy to meet its needs and aspirations, but the focus of the Finance Ministry under her is to ensure that debt is reduced without affecting growth.

She added that fixing a number for the eventual fiscal deficit and working towards it with temporary solutions every year can be one way of going about things, but it is not the right way from a macro-economic perspective.

"We have chosen a healthy option for getting the fiscal deficit closer to the number. Instead of looking at the number alone, it is also about the way you decide to get there. An obvious method for every country is to reduce debt, but borrowing is a must for a growing economy. The question is how much are you borrowing and where it is being used," the Finance Minister said.

Family proud of Kargil hero who hoisted Tricolour on Tiger Hill



IAN S

NEW DELHI: The family of Yogendra Yadav is proud of the fact that the braveheart hoisted the Tricolour on Tiger Hill despite being hit by 17 bullets at the young age of 19.

Captain Yogendra Singh Yadav, Param Vir Chakra (PVC) was born in 1980 in the village of Aurangabad Ahir Masjid 1 in Bulandshahr District.

Yogendra, the son of soldier Karan Singh Yadav, joined the 18 Grenadiers Battalion in 1996. In 1999, just five months after his marriage, he was called to fight Pakistani infiltrators in the Kargil War.

As the commander of a seven-member deadly platoon, Yogendra was assigned the task of capturing Tiger Hill on the night of July 3, 1999.

Tiger Hill was a steep, snow-covered, rocky mountain. Despite the

risks, Yogendra led his team upward.

When the infiltrators saw the Indian soldiers, they began firing, using grenades and rockets.

Six soldiers were martyred, and Yogendra was hit by 17 bullets.

However, understanding the seriousness of the situation, Yogendra launched an attack on the enemy positions.

Despite having a fractured hand, he continued crawling towards Tiger Hill. Seizing the moment, he fired incessantly, causing the enemy to retreat.

Yogendra then killed eight enemy soldiers and, disregarding his own safety, hoisted the Tricolour atop Tiger Hill.

After being treated for months, Yogendra recovered from his bullet wounds and the Indian government honoured him with the Param Vir Chakra for his bravery.

Withholding assent on key bills

SC issues notice on Bengal govt's plea against Governor

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice on the West Bengal government's writ petition filed against withholding of assent by the Governor on eight key bills passed by the state legislature.

A bench presided over by CJI DY Chandrachud sought a response from the Governor's secretariat and Union government (through the Ministry of Home Affairs) in the matter.

The plea, filed through advocate Astha Sharma, said that the conduct of the Governor not only threatens to defeat and subvert the very fundamentals and basic foundation of the Constitution, including the rule of law and democratic good governance, but further proceeds to infringe upon the rights of the people of the state to the welfare measures sought to be implemented through the bills.

"Several crucial Bills have been lying dormant with the Governor of the State since 2022 when His Excellency Jagdeep



Dhankhar (held the post), and no steps have been taken by his successor and the incumbent His Excellency Dr C.V. Ananda Bose," it said.

The eight bills which are awaiting assent from the Governor are the West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the West Bengal Private University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the West Bengal University of Health Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the West Bengal Krishi Viswavidyalaya Laws (Second Amend-

ment) Bill, 2022, the Aliah University (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

Earlier in April, the top court had issued notice on a plea filed against Governor Ananda Bose's decision to not give assent to the West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

In September 2023, the Calcutta High Court had sought an affidavit from the Raj Bhavan on a PIL filed against Governor

Bose's decision to not give assent to the Bill proposing to replace the Governor with the Chief Minister as the Chancellor of all state universities. Later, a division bench of Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharya suspended its earlier direction and decided to first examine the maintainability of the petition.

The Bill was passed by the Assembly in June 2022. Although the bill was forwarded to the Governor's House on June 15 same year, the Governor has not given his assent to it to date.

On the appointment of Vice Chancellors for different state-run universities in West Bengal, the Supreme Court recently directed that the search-cum-selection committee, to be headed by the former Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit, will recommend three names to the Chief Minister, who will select one of the three names and recommend the same to the Chancellor of the university concerned, who is traditionally the Governor of the state.

Maj Gen Vijay Joshi recalls how PM Modi's visit raised injured soldiers' 'josh'



IAN S

NEW DELHI: On the occasion of the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas on Friday, Major General Vijay Joshi (Retd.), who served as the Commandant of the Military Command Hospital in Udhampur, recalls an important visit made by Narendra Modi, then BJP National General Secretary, during the historic Indo-Pak war, to meet injured and war-weary soldiers.

The hospital, the largest in the Northern Command, was at the forefront of providing care to the sick and wounded soldiers during the Kargil War.

"Narendra Modi's visit raised the josh of the soldiers," Maj Gen Joshi recalled.

Stressing the effect that the visit had on the jawans, Maj Gen Joshi said, "Despite the gravity of the situation, Narendra Modi's presence had a profoundly calming effect on the soldiers. He interacted with each one, putting them at ease, significantly raising their spirits. There were many casualties, some were critically injured and others were in a relatively stable condition. He made it a point to focus on each individual. He was calm, composed, and full of energy, or 'josh', at the same time."

Maj Gen Joshi said that Narendra Modi's "ability to relate to the soldiers was remarkable," recalling how they felt at ease as he enquired about their families, homes, and any specific needs they had.

"His approach included a lot of personal touch, which was highly appre-

ciated," the retired officer said.

"What stood out was Narendra Modi's unique ability to put everyone at ease in such difficult circumstances. This included not only the injured soldiers but also the hospital staff. He assured everyone of the support they needed, which went a long way in raising their morale," he further said.

According to the officer, Narendra Modi's presence "exuded true patriotism."

"Anyone, in such a difficult situation, who comes to the battlefield to assure the soldiers of personal empathy and support is a true leader and 'desh bhakt', and a true patriot," he added.

"This sense of national support is crucial for maintaining their (soldiers') morale. Knowing that the government and the people are always with them, even in the toughest times, motivates them to give their best in the line of duty," he said.

Narendra Modi did not hold any administrative post at that time and was accompanying the then Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, to inspect the ground realities.

"His goal was to understand the operational situation as well as the conditions affecting individual soldiers. This included assessing the support system in place, such as the Army hospital's patient care," Maj Gen Joshi said.

July 26 marks a historic occasion for India, the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, as the nation pays tribute to the sacrifice and valour of Indian soldiers.

Oppn playing politics over sensitive issues like Agnipath Scheme: PM Modi

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday attacked the Opposition on the Agnipath Scheme, saying that they are playing politics on a sensitive issue connected to the defence and security system of the country.

Prime Minister Modi said this after visiting the Kargil War Memorial in Dras (Ladakh) where he commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Vijay Diwas and paid homage to the soldiers who were martyred during the 1999 war.

Speaking after the event, he said, "The Agnipath Scheme is an example of the reforms that are necessary for our forces. For decades debates and discussions

have been held on how to ensure that the Armed Forces stay young and always battle-ready. The average age of an Indian soldier is higher than the global average which is a concern. Various committees discussed this but no government expressed the willingness to take the right step."

"Through the Agnipath Scheme, the country addressed the issue. The Scheme aims at keeping the forces young and battle-ready," said the PM.

PM Modi slammed the opposition for playing politics on the Scheme. He said, "Unfortunately, some of their personal gains are playing politics over the issue. They are the same people who were involved in various defence-

related scams and weakened our forces. They are the same people who never wanted the Air Force to get modern fighter jets. They are the same people who were planning to put Tejas fighter plane project in deep freeze."

"Some people are spreading lies about the Agnipath Scheme that the government is doing this to save money. But I want to ask them - the question of pension issue will arise after 30 years. Why would the government take the decision today... could have left it for the future government. But, we respected the decision of the forces because for us it is not politics... for us it is the security of the country comes first," said the PM.

DGFT tweaks Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme to help exporters

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has announced significant enhancements to the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme aimed at simplifying processes, reducing transaction costs, and promoting automation to benefit exporters.

The scheme has been tweaked to provide exporters an extended period to submit Installation Certificates for imported Capital Goods.

This extension reduces pressure on businesses, allowing them to focus more on production and export activities. Further, a simplified and reduced composition fee structure for

extending the Export Obligation (EO) period has been introduced. This change minimises manual intervention, streamlines compliance and speeds up service delivery.

Also, from now all Policy Relaxation Committee (PRC) decisions regarding Export Obligation extensions and regularisation of exports will be implemented with a levy of a uniform composition fee making it easier to implement through the system.

"These updates make it easier for exporters to comply with regulations, reducing the time and effort required to meet DGFT requirements. By expanding automated rule-based processes, DGFT aims to reduce human intervention,

mitigate risks and improve overall efficiency in trade facilitation," the Commerce Ministry said on Friday.

"These changes align with the commitment of the government to create a more business-friendly environment and improve India's manufacturing competitiveness," an official statement said.

Since the announcement of the new Foreign Trade Policy in April 2023, DGFT has been actively modernising its systems to expand automated rule-based processes. These initiatives are crucial steps towards fostering a more business-friendly environment and enhancing India's competitiveness in the global market, the statement added.

Prolonged heat wave Poses Threat To Fruit Crops In Kashmir

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: The ongoing dry spell and heat wave in Kashmir have left fruit growers deeply concerned, who fear severe impacts on the region's horticulture sector. The sector, which is a vital source of income for many in Kashmir, is experiencing stress due to the lack of rainfall and high temperatures.

Growers expressed their worries about the prolonged dry weather's effects.

Mohammad Shaban Dar, an orchardist from Shopian, said the intense sunlight with the absence of rain over the past two months is adversely affecting fruit trees and their produce. He said that the lack of moisture is causing heavy fruit fall and affecting the quality and shine of the fruit. "This hampers its competitiveness in the market against apples from other countries," he said.

Javid Ahmad, a horticulture expert, explained that



the high temperatures and lack of rainfall are stressing the fruit trees, especially apple orchards, which are crucial to the local economy. "This could lead to smaller fruit sizes, sunburnt produce and an overall reduction in yield," Ahmad said, adding that the lack of soil moisture could lower the quality of the fruit, which could lead to a decline in market prices and profitability for growers.

Experts are also concerned about the long-term

health of the orchards if the current weather conditions continue, as most of the orchards in the region are rain-fed and lack proper irrigation facilities.

Bashir Ahmad Basheer, chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union, said the prolonged dry spell is likely to impact the horticulture sector negatively. "This will lead to losses due to reduced fruit quality," he said.

Director Horticulture

Kashmir, Zahoor Ahmad Bhat said that around 60 percent of orchards in Kashmir are rain-fed, and the ongoing dry conditions could result in undersized fruit, heavy fruit fall and a decline in quality.

"Such conditions not only affect the current season's yield but can also reduce the fruit-bearing capacity of trees in future seasons, which damages the apple trees that growers work hard to maintain," he said.

The horticulture sector is a significant contributor to the State Gross Domestic Product (SGDP) of Jammu and Kashmir, with a share of about 9.5 percent. It also generates approximately 8.50 crore man-days of employment annually. The average apple production in Kashmir ranges from 20 to 25 lakh tonnes per year, with half of Kashmir's population directly or indirectly dependent on the apple industry, according to the 2017 economic survey in J&K—(KNO)

LG inaugurates 2nd edition of 'J&K Sambhaav Utsav' in New Delhi

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday inaugurated the second edition of 'J&K Sambhaav Utsav', organized by Resident Commission Jammu Kashmir at New Delhi.

In his address, the Lt Governor commended the unique initiative of the J&K's Resident Commission office, Delhi and all the associated departments to connect people of the national capital and other parts of the country with UT's ageless cultural and artistic heritage, creative tradition and transformation, taking place in diverse sectors.

"Sambhaav Utsav 2.0, includes 'Sambhaav Manthan Satra' - a series of thematic sessions especially designed to highlight immense potential of J&K in key areas such as tourism, cultural heritage, craftsmanship, entrepreneurship, and the startup ecosystem," the Lt Governor observed.

He said the exchange of ideas and knowledge will also provide a viable roadmap to address the challenges and explore the emerging opportunities in different sectors.

The series of sessions on Jammu Kashmir will also



foster a close collaboration between J&K government and industry leaders, youth, media, J&K diaspora, and other key stakeholders, he added.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to provide opportunity to artisans and entrepreneurs to connect with global buyers and exporters, through endeavours like Sambhaav Utsav.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor highlighted J&K's transformation and historic growth trajectory, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

He said the fast-paced development in the past few years and the extraordinary accomplishments in various sectors is a testimony to our strong resolve towards the holistic development of the Union Territory.

highlighting the rich cultural heritage and development of J&K.

Sambhaav Utsav, through a series of activities, provides a unique opportunity to the people to experience the vibrant culture, cuisine, and craftsmanship of Jammu Kashmir.

The 5-day long celebration will showcase the distinct tradition of Handicraft & Handloom of J&K famous for intricate designs, marvelous embroidery, magical motifs, subtle shades etc.

The initiative is also providing an integrated platform for artists, authors, craftspeople, Women Self Help Groups, entrepreneurs to present the different facets of J&K to the larger audience.

Dr. Karan Singh, former Union Minister & former Member of Parliament; Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dr Rashmi Singh, Principal Resident Commissioner; Sh Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Culture Department and senior officials of J&K Government were present.

Sh Mian Altaf Ahmad, Member of Parliament; representatives of business and trade associations, artisans, entrepreneurs, artists and people from all walks of life were also present on the occasion.

Signia opens 10th Interactive Concept Store for Hearing Loss

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Signia, a premier brand under the WS Audiological group and a global leader in hearing aid technology, today announced the opening of its 10th 'Brilliant Sound Galaxy (BSG)' store, this time in Srinagar, India. This groundbreaking concept store revolutionizes hearing care in India by allowing consumers to self-discover and self-screen their hearing, experience live demonstrations of hearing aids, and make informed decisions to enhance their hearing journey.

The BSG store in Srinagar was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Padmashree Dr. Anuradha Paudwal in the presence of Avinash Pawar, CEO & MD, WS Audiological India, followed by a charitable distribution of hearing aids to underprivileged children.

Globally, hearing loss affects an estimated 1.6 billion people, with approximately 430 million experiencing severe hearing difficulties. The World Health Organization projects these numbers to rise to 2.5 billion by 2050, with 700 million facing significant hearing challenges. As per WHO estimates, in India, approximately 6.3% of the population are suffering from some kind of hearing loss and need intervention to improve their quality of life.

Hearing is one of the



most ignored health issues. "As musicians, our deep association with music and sound drives us to create melodies that not only bring a sense of connectedness but also enrich the lives of our listeners. It's a privilege to be associated with such a noble cause of empowering the hearing impaired to be more connected with society," said playback singer Padmashree Dr. Anuradha Paudwal.

Despite solutions being available, only 20% of those affected have access to hearing aids.

"Hearing loss is the most common sensory deficit in humans today. There is a stigma associated with hearing loss that is well known. Many factors contribute to the stigma, but perhaps the biggest one is that we don't talk about it enough," said Avinash Pawar, CEO & Managing Director, WS Audiological India.

"Untreated hearing loss has social, physical, and psychological consequences. With the launch of BSG, we aim to provide

an inclusive experience that reframes assumptions about hearing aids and empowers the people of Srinagar to take action," Pawar continued.

Brilliant Sound Galaxy in Srinagar will be operated by Hearing Help Pvt Ltd, a trusted name in the hearing aid industry, recognized for innovative solutions, integrity, and unwavering commitment to improving the lives of those with hearing loss.

John Zargar, Managing Director of Hearing Help Pvt Ltd said, "Inaugurating the Brilliant Sound Galaxy center in Srinagar is a significant step in our mission to support the hearing-impaired community. This initiative will not only raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with hearing aids but also provide comprehensive and personalized hearing care solutions for the people in all major districts of J&K and Delhi NCR."

Signia's BSG stores are now available in Delhi, Gurugram, Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Kochi & Jaipur.

Bhupinder, Dr Abid hold joint review on progress of additional block at B&JH



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Secretary Public Works Department (Roads & Building) Bhupinder Kumar and Secretary Health & Medical Education, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah Friday convened a joint meeting to oversee the timelines for the completion of the additional block at Bone & Joint Hospital Srinagar, funded under the World Bank's Jhelum-Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP).

The new unit is a vital component of the JTFRP aimed at bolstering healthcare infrastructure and services in the region. The meeting was attended by Principal & Dean of Government Medical College Srinagar Prof Dr. Iffat Hassan, Managing Director JK Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd. Kapil Sharma, Director Finance H&ME, Director Technical/ Safeguards J&K ERA/JTFRP, Director ERA, Administrator Associated Hospitals GMC Srinagar, Mohamad Ashraf Hakak, Head of Department Orthopedics B&J GMC Srinagar, Medical

Superintendent B&J Hospital Srinagar, NPCC Ltd., among others.

Principal & Dean GMC Srinagar, Dr Iffat Hassan, in her presentation, provided an update on the current status of the project, highlighting that the originally planned 120-bed block has been expanded to accommodate 160 beds, including a 6-bed ICU and two private wards.

The facility will also feature advanced amenities such as 12-bed pre-op and post-op rooms, 3 modular OTs, radiology, physiotherapy, faculty rooms, earthquake protection using dampers, pneumatic tube transfer system, hospital information and management system, and minimum IBGC Gold Certification.

The meeting conducted a comprehensive review of the project's physical and financial statuses, revealing that between 85% to 100% of physical works have been completed. Financially, the revised project cost stands at Rs 116.38 crore, with Rs 75.2 crore already expended and Rs 4.7 crore as mobili-

zation advance. Civil works have achieved 96% completion, with overall project completion nearing 90%.

Secretary PWD, Bhupinder Kumar, emphasized the need for expedited efforts from executive agencies to ensure timely completion of all pending tasks, underscoring the importance of delivering a state-of-the-art medical facility to the public. "We are working diligently to ensure that this facility is completed on time and equipped with the latest technology," he added.

Secretary H&ME, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, urged officers and agencies to adhere strictly to tender specifications in the selection of equipment, emphasizing the integration of the latest technology to enhance healthcare delivery.

He said that the new orthopedic unit must be equipped with state-of-the-art technology to meet the evolving needs of our patients, and added that we are committed to delivering a facility that sets new standards in orthopedic care in Jammu and Kashmir.

Tangmarg school fights official neglect with tin shed classrooms



AAQIB KHAN

SRINAGAR: The government school in Qazipora, Tangmarg, has been neglected by both local and higher administration for the past decade, forcing students to study in a tin shed under extreme weather conditions.

Despite numerous students being enrolled in the school, it has lacked a proper building for over ten years. The state of disrepair has not gone unnoticed by the community, yet no substantial efforts have been made by the administration to address the issue. The dilapidated school building stands as a testament to the sheer negligence of the administration, particularly the education department.

Local parents express constant concern for their

children's well-being, especially during hot temperatures when the tin shed becomes unbearably hot.

The frustration among the locals reached a tipping point, leading them to stage a protest and block the road, demanding the construction of a proper school building. "We worry about our children every day we send them to school," one concerned parent stated.

Attempts to reach the Directorate of School Education have been futile, as calls to the office have gone unanswered despite repeated efforts.

The local's plea for a safe and conducive learning environment for their children remains unaddressed, highlighting the urgent need for intervention from the relevant authorities. (KNS)

PM Modi shares 'Budget 2024 Blueprint' for a skilled, Viksit Bharat

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday shared 'Budget 2024 Blueprint' on NaMo App that aims to explain various government announcements, schemes and new initiatives around job creation and skilling in a simpler way.

PM Modi said in a post on X social media platform that Budget 2024 aims to create jobs with new Employment Linked Incentive schemes, build a stronger workforce, and enable job creators.

"Through skilling initiatives, in-house education promotion, and innovation support, it sets the stage for a thriving, skilled Bharat," PM Modi emphasised.

One can go through the Budget 2024 Blueprint in the 'WhatsApp it' section



on NaMo App. The Budget is a comprehensive blueprint for a prosperous and inclusive India.

The Budget has allocated Rs 1.48 lakh crore specifically for education, employment, and skilling, underscoring the government's commitment to these vital areas.

The Employment-Linked Incentive schemes represent a pivotal move towards fostering collective growth and prosperity, as they are designed to directly link incentives with employment generation.

Div Com, ADGP Jammu review arrangements for Buddha Amarnath Yatra

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, and Additional Director General of Police, Anand Jain Friday chaired a meeting and reviewed arrangements for Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra 2024.

Director Tourism Jammu, Deputy Commissioners and SSPs of Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, SSP Security, SSP Traffic Jammu, SSP Traffic Rural, Director ULB, Director Health Services, Chief Engineer JPDCL, CE Jal Shakti, representatives of Baba Yatri Niwas, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, and other concerned officers were present.

Threadbare discussions were held on timely dispatching of the Yatra Convoy from Jammu, cut off

timings, haltage points, and registration of the Yatris. It was stressed that the Yatris undertake the Yatra as per the guidelines issued by the administration and use only the designated route for the holy Yatra.

It was impressed for the convenience of the Yatris that no Yatri without registration should enter Poonch for taking part in the annual holy pilgrimage to Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner took stock of the necessary arrangements made for the yatris of Shri Buddha Amarnathji in Jammu, Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi. He reviewed various arrangements, including transport facilities for pilgrims, adequate security measures, provision for langers, medi-

cal facilities, sanitation, water and power supply, traffic management, and lodging, boarding facilities for the pilgrims.

The ADGP issued directives to SSPs to implement comprehensive security measures. He instructed the SSPs for deploying an adequate number of police personnel along the route, fortifying security checkpoints, and maintaining strict vigilance at all times.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch shared details about the identified locations for the stay of pilgrims in the district. The Div Com instructed the DC Poonch to ensure that all necessary facilities like accommodation, food, water, Power, medical, sanitation and other necessary arrangements are in place to pro-

vide a safe and comfortable stay for the Yatris.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri was directed to ensure proper arrangements for the Yatra at different haltage points in Rajouri.

Regarding the further journey of Shri Buda Amarnath pilgrims to the revered Shiv Khori Shrine, the Div Com instructed the Deputy Commissioner Reasi to make all necessary arrangements for this segment of the Yatra.

Director Tourism was asked to provide wide publicity to Shri Buddha Amarnathji yatra 2024. Members from Baba Amarnath and Buddha Amarnath Yatri Niwas also shared their inputs for the successful conduct of the holy pilgrimage.