

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

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Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



Humble tributes to freedom fighters & martyrs of the Quit India Movement on August Kranti Diwas. This historic day, inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, marks the resolute call for independence that united millions against colonial rule. Their courage & sacrifice continue to inspire us.

Kashmiri Youth Pledge Greater Electoral Participation To Foster Democracy



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Hundreds of youngsters of Kashmir came together with unmatched enthusiasm, promoting the importance of voting and expressing their faith in democracy. The students participated in several programs under SVEEP like Run for Democracy, Cycle Rally and Shikara Rally at SKICC.

These SVEEP activities were inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India, Rajiv Kumar along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Dr. SS Sandhu.

The CEC led the cycle rally along with Election Commissioners (ECs) as a part of voter awareness and enrolment. Election Commission is currently undertaking 2nd Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls in J&K.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Chief Electoral Officer J&K PK Pole, DEO Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohuddin

Bhat and other officers also participated in the event.

The youngsters both boys & girls enlightened with the vision of democracy showed overwhelming participation in the three events making the SKICC & Back Waters of Dal Lake abuzz with the vibes and flavour of democracy. With every pedal, they reaffirmed their commitment to participate in democratic process.

On the occasion, the youngsters, chanted 'we are proud voters' and pledged to be the ambassadors of democracy in the valley. This underscored their faith in the democratic process and commitment to strengthen the democracy, educate their friends, colleagues, classmates and general people about the significance of Electoral Participation.

High spirited eligible young boys & girls vouched to register themselves in the voter lists of their respective areas and encourage youth of their peer groups. ●P-06

Terror Attacks Cannot Weaken Our Resolve To Hold Polls In J&K: CEC

Says ECI Committed To Conducting Assembly Polls In J&K At Earliest

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar on Friday said the Election Commission (EC) is committed to conducting Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir UT, and that it will not postpone the elections on account of terror attacks, any kind of violence and nefarious designs of forces that do not want polls to be held in the Union Territory (UT).

Kumar said the EC would conduct polls in the UT at the earliest and not allow any internal or external forces to derail the electoral process. He said the administration was capable of meeting security challenges and added that the time was "ripe" for conducting Assembly elections as the EC was keen to build on the success of holding the Lok Sabha polls, which saw record turnouts in the UT.

"We are committed to conducting elections at the earliest in Jammu and Kashmir.



We are confident that the people will respond robustly to disruptive forces and we will witness increased voter participation whenever elections are held," Kumar said following the conclusion of the two-day visit.

Flanked by Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and S S Sandhu, the CEC said that the EC has completed its state-level review while emphasising that the time is right for holding assembly elections in the region.

"Time is ripe for holding the assembly elections and one will be allowed to disrupt the process. This will be a chicken and egg situation if we succumb to such tactics of the enemies of peace," he said.

"Our security forces are prepared to tackle any such situation," the CEC said.

"We are confident and it is our resolve to hold the assembly elections ●P-06

TIME IS RIPE FOR HOLDING THE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS AND one will be allowed to disrupt the process. This will be a chicken and egg situation if we succumb to such tactics of the enemies of peace,"

Strict Vigil Kept On Heroin Smuggling In J&K: CEC

IAN S

JAMMU: Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar on Friday said that strict vigil on heroin smuggling across border and drone droppings has been undertaken in J&K ahead of the Assembly election.

"A strict vigil on heroin smuggling across the ●P-06

Special Polling Stations Set Up For Kashmiri Migrants

IAN S

JAMMU: Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar on Friday said that the commission has set up special polling stations for Kashmiri migrants ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"At least 26 special polling stations have been set up in Delhi, Jammu and Udhampur for the Kashmir migrants," said CEC Rajiv Kumar ●P-06

GoC 16 Corps Reviews Security Situation Along LoC



AGENCIES

JAMMU: The General-officer-Commanding (GoC), White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, visited forward areas along Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri-Poonch sector and reviewed the security situation of the region.

"GOC White Knight Corps, along with GOC CIP (Romeo) and GOC Ace of Spades Division, visited forward areas along the Line of Control and hinterland to review the current security situation", White Knight Corps said on X on Friday.

The GOC emphasised the importance of Indian Army's operations to ensure peace and stability, working in close coordination and synergy with other security agencies in the region.

Earlier, Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General M V Suchindra Kumar visited forward areas in Ladakh and complimented ●P-06

No Let-Up In Dry Spell In Kashmir, Respite Likely In Two Days



OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: With no let up in dry spell, the hot weather conditions was once again witnessed in Jammu and Kashmir with Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, recording the heat wave with 33.0 degree Celsius.

Twin places including Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir and South Kashmir's Kokernag areas settled close to the heat wave temperatures Friday.

In Srinagar, the mercury settled at 34.2 degree Celsius, which was 4.2 degree above normal while in Kokernag, it settled at 31.9 degree Celsius, which was 4.4 degree above normal temperature.

However, Pahalgam, Kupwara and Gulmarg also recorded above normal temperatures at 28.8 degree Celsius, 34.5 degree Celsius and 23.2 degree Celsius respectively.

The data shared by the local Meteorological ●P-06

J&K Film Screening Series

Inaugural Screening Of 'Bed Number 17' Held At DIPR Srinagar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), in consonance with the announcement of the launch of

J&K Film Series, Friday held the inaugural screening of the film "Bed Number 17" at its auditorium here.

This initiative aims to showcase local cinematic ●P-06

Monthly Film Screenings Will Boost Filmmakers: Mir Sarwar

SRINAGAR: Bollywood actor from Kashmir, Mir Sarwar on Friday said that films by local filmmakers will be shown regularly, with screenings scheduled for the second Friday of every month in Srinagar and the fourth Friday in Jammu.

As a step to ●P-06

CS Takes Stock Of PDS Through FCS&CA



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday held meetings of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department and Legal Metrology Department regarding their performance and functioning here in the UT.

Those present includes Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA; Controller,

Legal Metrology Department; Director, FCS&CA, Jammu/Kashmir and other concerned officers either physically or virtually from Jammu.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary took note of the progress made by the Department in automation of their Fair Price Shops (FPS), Aadhar authentication and addition of eligible families besides ●P-06

Budget Approval Paves Way For Fiscal, Banking Reforms

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Parliament approved the budget of Jammu & Kashmir for 2024-25 with provision of Rs. 1,18,390 crore. While Lok Sabha passed the Appropriation Bill on Tuesday, Rajya Sabha approved it on Wednesday. This budget provides for revenue expenditure of Rs. 81,486 crore and capital expenditure of Rs. 36,904 crore.



This outlay surpasses the pre-actuals of the financial year 2023-24 by Rs. 30,889 crore. This jump has been possible thanks to the special financial support agreed by the Central Government. This package was necessitated due to the persistent under recoveries in power sector due to high ATC losses and low tariff in Jammu and Kashmir. The UT government had incurred off-budget borrowings of about Rs. 28,000 crore to clear the power sector dues which had piled up over the last several years.

To address these off-budget borrowings, Finance Department had started

exercise since the last one year to bring them on the budget books. A detailed analysis of the UT's fiscal situation was carried out to address the legacy challenges which include high staff strength, low revenue base, and high debt load. In this direction, the UT government increased its own revenues to over Rs. 20,362 crore in the year 2023-24 through improved GST return compliance, dealer registration, and transparent excise auctions. The UT government's efforts to undertake metering and improve collection

efficiency enhanced the non-tax revenues from Rs 5,148 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 6,500 crore in 2023-24. Administrative departments also intensified efforts and stepped up receipt of CSS funds from Rs 6,400 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 10,300 crore in 2023-24.

During 2023-24, the UT government also stringently enforced borrowing limits and curtailed the culture of overdraft and Hundis. With close monitoring of public debt, the UT government was successful in tapering down the off-Budget borrowings. The government ●P-06

LG Performs Pujan Of Amarnathji Chhari Mubarak



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: On the auspicious occasion of Shraavan Shukla Panchami, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday performed the Pujan of Shri Amarnathji Chhari Mubarak in presence of Sh Deependra Giri, Mahant Chhari Mubarak Shri Amarnathji, at Mahadev Gir Dashnami Akhada, Srinagar.

The Lt Governor sought the blessings of Lord Shiva and prayed for the peace, progress, and well-being of all.

The Chhari-Pujan is an auspicious ritual prior to the culmination of the annual pilgrimage of Shri Amarnathji Shrine.

The holy Mace will be taken to the Shri Amarnathji cave following the traditional practice of Chhari Mubarak Yatra.

Dr Mandeep Kumar ●P-06

INOX SRINAGAR

Movies Schedule

Sat 10 Aug

 <p>Laila Majnu LAILA MAJNU (RE-RELEASE) (HINDI) (U/A) 11:05AM, 04:40PM</p>	 <p>DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (ATMOS ENG WITH SUBTITLE) (A) 06:00PM (3D ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLE) 12:30PM (3D HINDI) 3:15PM</p>	 <p>KILL KILL (HINDI) (A) 12:05PM</p>
 <p>AURON MEIN KAHAN DUM THA AURON MEIN KAHAN DUM THA (HINDI) 02:20PM (U/A)</p>	 <p>Bad News BAD NEWS (HINDI) (U/A) 05:15PM</p>	 <p>IT ENDS WITH US IT ENDS WITH US (ENG WITH SUBTITLE) (A) 01:55PM, 07:30PM</p>

WWW.INOXMOVIES.COM

SVEEP activities commence in Baramulla

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: In a concerted effort to enhance voter awareness and participation in the elections, a series of activities were on Friday organized under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program at Dak Bungalow, Baramulla.

The program aimed to engage citizens, particularly new voters, in the electoral process and ensure a higher voter turnout.

The event commenced with District Election Officer (DEO) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa flagging-off a spirited New Voter Rally. A large number of first-time voters who participated in the rally, traversed through the main town of Baramulla, promoting an important message to participate in the elections to shape the future of the nation.

On the occasion, various programs were organized to promote voter awareness. These included an election-themed drawing competition, where participants creatively high-



lighted the significance of voting, and a signature campaign, during which individuals pledged their active participation in the elections.

A Plantation drive was also conducted under the initiative 'Ek Ped Shaheedon Ke Naam.' The DEO and other officers planted saplings at Dak Bungalow Baramulla. The drive aimed to honor martyrs and promote environmental sustainability. Additionally, the DEO

flagged-off an E-Rickshaw rally, which traversed through various parts of the town, spreading the message about the importance of voting in an eco-friendly manner. The initiative is part of the district administration's efforts to promote sustainable practices while raising awareness about the electoral process.

Speaking on the occasion, Minga Sherpa emphasized the importance of voter education and active

participation in the democratic process, highlighting the role of SVEEP in ensuring that voters are informed, aware, and motivated to take part in the elections.

The SVEEP program was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Syed Qamar Sajad; Chief Planning Officer, Javid Ahmad; Deputy District Election Officer, Abdul Rehman and various other district officers.

Director Ayush reviews functioning of Ayush sector

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Director Ayush J&K, Dr. Mohan Singh Friday chaired a review meeting in the conference Hall of Mini-secretariat Bandipora regarding the functioning of Ayush sector in District Bandipora.

At the outset, Dr Firdous Ahmad Malik, District Nodal officer Ayush Bandipora gave a detailed presentation on the functioning and issues of the District.

Dr Mohan Singh, Director Ayush J&K reviewed the work-done by Ayush Health and Wellness Centres and Ayush Units of District Bandipora. He emphasized that every AHWC must ensure that the data is uploaded on a daily and monthly basis on the AB-HWC portal of the Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India.

He also reviewed the progress of ongoing infrastructure projects of Ayush Health and Wellness Centres, construction of Ayush Dispensaries and other projects in the District. He advised for effective implementation of various Ayush Public Health programs so that



the strength of Ayush systems of health promotion, prevention and management of diseases can reach the general public.

He directed that every AHWC must ensure standards of Health Care delivery as per NABH standards. He also reviewed the status of Accreditation of 05 AHWCs of District Bandipora with standards of NABH.

During the meeting, the Director highlighted several key achievements and ongoing efforts in the promotion of Traditional Systems of medicine, including Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, and Homeopathy. Emphasizing the importance of holistic health, the Director expressed a strong commitment for integrating Ayush practices into the mainstream

healthcare System.

The Director reviewed the establishment and operational status of Ayush Health and Wellness Centres in Bandipora. Plans to increase the OPD and outreach of these centres, especially in remote and underserved areas, were discussed to ensure broader access to Ayush healthcare services.

The importance of raising public awareness about the benefits of Ayush treatments was emphasized. Strategies for conducting regular health camps, wellness workshops and educational programs were deliberated to involve the community for promoting Ayush practices.

The Director also stressed upon the reorientation training programs

for Medical officers, supportive staff and ASHAs in order to provide better Ayush healthcare facilities to the general masses. Discussions were held on integrating Ayush services with existing healthcare facilities in Bandipora District. Collaborative efforts with local hospitals and health departments were proposed to ensure a holistic approach on Ayush Principles and Practices.

Besides, all Medical Officers of District Bandipora, the meeting was also attended by Dr Nuzhat Bashir, Deputy Director Ayush Kashmir; Dr Sujud Hussain Shuja, Assistant Director, Directorate of Ayush, J&K; Section officer Directorate of Ayush and State Program Manager National Ayush Mission.

Deegam, Nagbal braces up for Annual Hawan Shrawan Bah festival

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Hawan Shrawan Bah, is an annual festival, being organised at Kapal Mochan Temple Deegam, Nagbal, attended and celebrated by thousands of devotees from across India, with much fanfare and religious fervour adding diversity to the multiculturalism of the district.

The festival shall be held from August 14 with the arrival of devotees from across the nation through Yatras and shall culminate on August 17.

Throughout the celebrations, the devotees shall be engaged in Shradh ceremonies, holy bath in Sapth Rishi Kund and other rituals.

The ancient religious temple stands out as the only site in North India where special prayers are offered for those people who died prematurely. 'Shradh' ceremonies for (Akal mrityu), are performed here only, said a member of the management committee.

This sacred pilgrimage site is one of only three places in the country, where rituals are conducted for the salvation of souls of unnatural deaths.

The significance of the

site and its unique rituals, such as Pind Dan and Shradh ceremonies, traditionally performed on the occasion of Shrawan every year, make Kapal Mochan a key destination for spiritual seekers.

The local management committee and district administration has chalked out strategy for the blissful celebrations of the festival with department wise responsibilities fixed.

Advisor and President, Management Committee, expressed hope that a high influx of devotees is expected and are ready to provide all facilities to the visitors.

In anticipation of the festival, a sanitation drive was today conducted by the Department of Information where employees, Media persons and locals participated, underscoring the importance of cleanliness.

The focus of Sanitation Drive and Outreach interaction with the management committee was to draw attention to the significance of the place, and also amplifying its recognition as a significant tourist and pilgrimage destination.

This initiative was a part of a broader effort to promote the district's lesser-known religious and cultural sites.

H&H Deptt distributes Tool Kits, Equipment to Namdha Artisans

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: The Handicrafts & Handloom Department Kulgam organized a distribution camp at DIC Complex Kulgam here during which Tool kits and equipment to Namdha Artisans of the District were distributed.

It was informed that 30 tool kits were received from the Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir for the revival of the wool based cottage industry in the District.

Each artisan received 02 numbers of canvas tarpaulin, 01 number of

Gumboots, 01 number of aluminum Pot, 01 number of Table & 01 number of Sprinklers.

These Tool kits have been distributed among 30 Namdha Artisans in presence of Assistant Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kulgam, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Kulgam and Departmental Officers at District Handicraft Office Kulgam.

On the occasion, AD Handicrafts Kulgam, Sheikh Hemayun briefed the artisans to work with great enthusiasm for the revival of the wool based cottage industry and earn livelihood.

SWACHHATA PAKHWADA H&H Pulwama organizes Plantation drive at Town Hall

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: The Handicrafts & Handloom Department Pulwama Friday organized a plantation drive at Town Hall Pulwama as part of the Swachhata Pakhwada campaign of the government.

Joint Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir, Parvaiz Sajad, AGM SIDBI, Director SPVLG Artisan

Foundation and other Officers and officials of Handicrafts and Handloom besides other departments were present at the event. Speaking on the occasion, the Jt. Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir advised everyone to take this initiative seriously and contribute towards a neat and clean India. He appealed to all to plant trees and be a part of this campaign.

DC B'pora visits Fire Victim family of Mantrigram; assures Support

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman on Friday visited the fire victim family of Mantrigram Bandipora. During his visit, the DC expressed deep concern over the unfortunate incident. He met with the affected family, expressed sympathies, and assured all possible support from the District Administration.

The fire, which broke out in the intervening night of 7th and 8th August, caused significant damage to the residential property of Mushtaq Ahmad Lone of Mantrigram, leaving the family in distress. To address the immediate needs of the family, the District Administration had already provided essential relief kits, including blankets, utensils for daily use, and tarpaulins to offer temporary shelter. The swift response from the administration aims to alleviate some of the hardships faced by the family in wake of the fire incident.

04 Unregistered clinical establishments sealed in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: In a routine inspection aimed at strict adherence to medical regulations in the region, a team from the CMO office Anantnag Friday identified four unregistered clinical establishments and sealed them.

This significant action was taken during an inspection conducted under the guidance of Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Anantnag. The sealed medical establishments include two dental clinics and two diagnostic centers that were operating without the necessary licenses and approvals.

The CMO's office remains committed to upholding the highest standards of medical practice and ensuring that all healthcare providers comply with established regulations. This action is part of ongoing efforts to safeguard public health and maintain the quality of medical services in Anantnag District.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR
(Phone No: 0194-2496089, www.medkmr.org, e-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in)

Subject: - Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of HVAC System at Multiple Facility Centre (MFC) for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) including CMC for 02 years Post Normal Warranty Period at Govt. Medical College, Srinagar.

Ref:- 1. This office e-NIT no: M&HDS/TS/2024-25/24/e-tendering, Dated:-03.07.2024
2. T.O.C. No.-: 02 of 2024-25, Dated:-08.08.2024.

CANCELLATION

In view of minimum number of bidders not qualifying for opening of Cover IInd (Price Bid) the above subject work floated vide e-NIT No. M&HDS/TS/2024-25/24/e-tendering, Dated 03.07.2024 is hereby cancelled and shall be floated afresh shortly.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical & Hospital Division,
Srinagar

No: M&HDS/TS/2971-74
Dated:08.08.2024
DIPK-4473-24
DT: 09/08/2024

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF HORTICULTURE OFFICER KUPWARA
H.Q. (HANDWARA).
Tele/fax No: 01955-262665 - email:kupwaracho@gmail.com

ABBREVIATED TENDER NOTICE

For and on Behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union territory, Sealed tenders affixed with Rs 2/- revenue stamp, are invited as per approval conveyed by the Director Horticulture Kashmir Srinagar vide No: DHK/Prod/2023/6-III/E-7285994/1159-62 Dated: 24-01-2024 for auction of 17 No's of standing poplar trees existing at periphery of Base Station Chogal of District Kupwara.

The detailed tender notice and prescribed tender form, will be made available to the interested persons upto 17-08-2024 on all working days (upto 3:00 pm) against proper application with photocopy of the identity card of the applicant and on payment of Rs 100/= each which is non-refundable. No proxy application will be entertained (Non-Refundable). Tenders, sealed properly in envelopes after fixing gum and tape on all sides are to be deposited in the tender box available in this office by or before 17-08-2024 (upto 4:00 pm). The quotations will be opened by the constituted committee on 19-08-2024 at 11:30 am at CHO Office Kupwara in presence of quotationers who wish to be present. In case of holiday or due to unavoidable circumstances on the fixed date or due to unavoidable official engagements of the Chairman, the tenders will be opened on next working day on same time and venue. The bids must be accompanied with Rs. 50000/- in the form of CDR pledged in favor of the Chief Horticulture Officer Kupwara.

Terms and conditions:-

- The minimum reserve bid for auction of 17 No. of standing poplar trees of the department is Rs.492000/-
- The Auction committee shall have the discretion of re-auctioning if it feels necessary to do so to safeguard the interest of the Government.
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit 50% of the auctioned amount at the time of the opening of the bid and the remaining 50% within 07 days.
- The CDR deposited with the tenders should bear the name of the tenderer/agency.
- Payment of auction in the form of a cheque will not be accepted.
- In case the committee is not convinced that the highest bid offered is a genuine offer for the auctioned trees, the committee reserves the right to cancel the offer. As such, the highest bid alone shall not necessarily make the bidder eligible for the contract or be considered as a successful bidder.
- On communicating the approval of the bid/offer, if the successful offer/bidder fails to deposit the auction amount and execute the agreement within the specified time limit, it shall be considered as backing out from the contract by the concerned. The department in that case shall be within its rights to decide the matter on its merits or allot the contract to 2nd highest bidder or may re-auction the trees. Loss, if any, sustained by the Government on this account shall have to be recovered from the defaulting contractor through the concerned Tehsildar Recoveries and the CDR will be forfeited to departmental revenue, besides initiating action against the defaulter.
- A successful bidder who fails to execute the contract shall be deemed to have been "Black Listed" for future auction process.
- The auction committee reserves the right to reject any offer in full or part thereof, without assigning any reason thereof.
- The successful bidder shall have to lift the material within 15 days of the auction.
- The successful bidder shall have to fully uproot the stubs of the auctioned trees within 20 days and no stubs shall remain on the spot. If the bidder could not uproot the stubs, in that case the department will get these stubs uprooted on its own and the entire cost will be recovered from his CDR.
- Interested parties/ persons can visit the orchard during office hours up to 17-08-2024 with the permission of Horticulture Development Officer Base Station Chogal.
- For smooth implementation of contract, instructions as may be deemed necessary and issued by the Department from time to time will be binding on the successful bidder and deemed to be part of the contract/agreement.

Sd/-
Chief Horticulture Officer
Kupwara (Handwara)

No: CHO/Kup/Prod/3037-57
Dated: 08-08-2024

DIPK-4449-24
DT: 09/08/2024

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN STATE LEVEL PURCHASE COMMITTEE
SHEEP HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT J&K KASHMIR
Emailid: kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

e-NITNo:DSHK/Acctts/2024-25/4625-34 Dated: 07-08-2024

Subject: E-Procurement Notice for the supply of Fodder Seeds(Oats Kent)

For & on behalf of Lt. Governor of union territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Union of India, e-tenders are invited from firms/companies dealing in fodder seeds in two bid system (Technical 1 & Financial 2) through Chairman Divisional Level Purchase Committee for fixing the rate contract for Supply of fodder seeds FOR central store lal mandi The detailed variety wise requirement to be supplied in reference to this e-NITs:

S.No	Name of Fodder Grass Seed	Variety	Class	Specifications	Unit Pack
1.	Oats Seed	Kent	Certified	Germination	85% minimum
				Gen. Purity	98% minimum
				Physical Purity	98% minimum
				Weed Seed	NIL
				Moisture	12% maximum
Preferably 20Kg pack					

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria, specifications, bill of quantities(B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of supply/contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the e-procurement website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

S.No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08-08-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	09-08-2024 to 29-08-2024 (2:00pm).
3	Bid submission start date	09-08-2024
4	Bid submission end date	29-08-2024(2:00pm)
5	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	30-08-2024(2:00pm)

- Instructions for bidders regarding e-tendering process:
 - Bidders are advised to download bids submission manual from the "Downloads option as well as from Bidders Manual kit" on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint themselves with bid submission process.
 - To participate in bidding process bidder has to get a Digital Signature Certificate(DSC), as per Information Technology ACT-2000. Bidder scan get Digital Certificate from an approved vendor. The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with the Digital Signature. No bidding will be accepted in physical form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per the schedule mentioned at Para-1.
 - Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.

(Note: Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with Black and White option.)

Sd/-
Chairman
Divisional Level Purchase Committee Sheep Husbandry Department
Jammu & Kashmir

DIPK-4465-24
DT: 09/08/2024

J&K BJP Manifesto Committee reaches out to people to shape party's vision

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana Friday said the party's Manifesto Committee engaged with a cross-section of people in a bid to seek their suggestions and valuable inputs in shaping the vision for upcoming elections to the Legislative Assembly.

The reach-out programme reflects the BJP's deep commitment to engage with citizens and have their views of the party's vision document. The Committee will reach out to all segments of society including youth groups, farmers, women's organizations, members of civil society, representatives of weaker sections especially Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Displaced Persons of West Pakistan



and Displaced Persons of 1965, socio-religious organizations, Kashmiri Migrants with an avowed objective of seeking their views on formulating policies and programmes for inclusive development and

public participation in the implementation of various schemes. The Committee will also hold group discussions and Nukad meetings to seek the views of the general public.

Believing in formulat-

ing a cohesive vision document, the BJP Manifesto Committee will also seek suggestions from the general public through online platforms, social media, and dedicated helplines to be set up for the purpose.

KPDCL reaches out to domestic consumers with solar roof subsidy, power amnesty

With UT share sanctioned, PM Surya Ghar now subsidized up to 60%

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) Friday described heavily-subsidized PM Surya Ghar Scheme and late payment surcharge waiver under Power Amnesty Scheme as major steps to reduce financial burden on the domestic consumers.

Beneficiaries of solar rooftops up to 3 kwp shall now be eligible for subsidy of Rs.94,800/- thereby making the PM Surya Ghar Scheme subsidized up to 60% of the project cost of Rs.1.59 lakh. Similarly, under the Power Amnesty Scheme, domestic consumers are already getting interest waiver if they pay their principal amount due in one go or instalments, till March 31, 2025.

In a press release issued here today, a KPDCL spokesperson said PM Surya Ghar Scheme has



become more attractive after UT Government provided additional subsidy of Rs. 3,000 for 1 kwp, 6,000 for 2 kwp & Rs.9,000 for 3 kwp plant, which takes the maximum ceiling of subsidy from Rs.85,800/- earlier to Rs.94,800/- for a plant up to 3 kwp under the Scheme. "UT Government shall reimburse its share along with MN&RE subsidy directly into the account of the beneficiary consumer, after successful commissioning of the plant is uploaded on the National Portal," he said, adding that Government

has sanctioned Rs.27.07 crore for 44,000 beneficiaries of Kashmir Division as UT share of subsidy, which shall be spread over till 31.03.2027.

Time-bound release of subsidy, empanelled vendors and online tracking of SRT on National Portal are the major highlights of the PM Surya Ghar Scheme for residential households. "Government has fixed a target of 1,000 solar rooftops per month for Kashmir DISCOM for which KPDCL has nominated engineers to facilitate the process of installation of SRT panels

and submission of commissioning reports," he added.

The spokesman further urged the domestic consumers to avail the late payment surcharge waiver under the ongoing Power Amnesty Scheme, which is set to close on March 31, 2025. "So far, 1.05 lakh beneficiaries have settled their claims by paying the principal amount to KPDCL to the tune of Rs.150 crore," he added.

KPDCL spokesman further called upon the remaining 45,000 domestic consumers with huge electricity arrears to approach their Electric Subdivisions to avail the Amnesty Scheme at an earliest. "As per the terms of reference of the orders issued, there shall be no further extension of the Amnesty Scheme beyond March 31, 2025," he said, adding that KPDCL has been organising Amnesty Camps across all Electric Divisions to facilitate the domestic consumers.

Rs 33 Cr worth Heroine recovered at Jammu bus stand: ADGP Jammu



NASIR AZAM

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Anand Jain Friday said that police have recovered Rs 33 Crore worth Heroine at Jammu bus stand and one Punjab resident has been arrested. "We received specific information about two persons carrying a big bag. Jammu police acted swiftly and arrested the person and seized the bag. After initial investigations, we found that bag contained high quality Heroine worth Rs 33 Crore. The arrested

person has been identified as a Punjab resident. Further investigations are on," the ADGP said addressing a press conference in Jammu.

Asked whether the arrested Punjab person was a minor as per media reports, he said that investigations are on to find out the actual age of the arrested person. "It has come to fore that the consignment this person was carrying was coming from the border area. Nothing more can be stated on where he was going and who had given him this consignment," the ADGP said, adding that more links are

being looked into.

He said that it is not for the first time that a Punjab resident has been arrested in Jammu. "We can't say whether the consignment was air-dropped by drones. This is all a matter of investigation. Seizure of Rs 33 Crore worth Heroine is a big success," the ADGP said.

Asked how many people have been booked under PSA for their involvement in drug racket, he said so far 23 people have been booked under the act and property of drug dealers worth Rs 14 Crore (have been attached so far—(KNO)

Pr. Secy Home presides over Public Darbar in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Principal Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti Friday presided over a Public Darbar at Banquet Hall here to listen to the issues and grievances of people of Srinagar District.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, Commissioner SMC, Dr. Owais Ahmad, VC LCMA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad, SSP Srinagar, Ashish Mishra, SSP Traffic City, Muzaffar Shah, RTO Kashmir, Shah Nawaz Bukhari were present on the occasion.

While members of District Development Council, Officers of all line Departments, other concerned officials and large number of locals attended the Public Darbar.

Addressing the Darbar, the Principal Secretary remarked that this initiative of Government has generated positive response from the citizens who find



it very easy to interact with the highest officers of the Administration.

Principal Secretary assured the participants that all their genuine issues raised in the public Darbar would be redressed in a time bound manner. He said that the District Administration Srinagar is performing well in mitigating local issues besides ensuring growth and development in the District.

Chandraker Bharti urged all the locals to take maximum benefit of these public darbars and bring their developmental issues before the Administration.

During the Darbar,

the public delegations and locals raised various demands of developmental nature before the Principal Secretary and sought timely redressal of the same.

The Principal Secretary listened patiently all the demands and developmental issues raised by the public and issued on spot directions for their redressal on priority basis.

Chandraker Bharti also directed all the officers of line Departments to work in coordination to ensure the smooth execution of the official assignments as well as timely disposal of these grievances and issues.

Chairman JK RERA chairs meeting with top officers



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a significant step towards strengthening the implementation of the Real Estate Regulation and Development Act, 2016, the Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JK RERA), Satish Chandra chaired a high-level meeting with Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, and Heads of Departments under the Housing and Urban Development Department at Civil Secretariat, here today.

Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur was also present in the meeting.

The meeting commenced with a brief introductory address by the Chairman, who emphasized the critical role of JK RERA in ensuring transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the real estate sector.

He highlighted the Authority's commitment to safeguarding the interests of homebuyers and pro-

moting the orderly growth of the real estate market in Jammu and Kashmir.

A presentation was delivered during the meeting, outlining the mandate and functions of JK RERA. The presentation provided an in-depth overview of the regulatory framework, compliance requirements, and the Authority's approach to resolving grievances and disputes in the sector.

The Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners sought clarifications on various aspects of the Act. The Chairman, along with other senior officials, addressed these queries, ensuring that all concerns were effectively clarified.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development, Mandeep Kaur reaffirmed the Department's commitment to working closely with JK RERA to achieve the shared goals of fostering a transparent and well-regulated real estate environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dry spell delays high density apple picking in Kashmir

Lack of sufficient rainfall slows growth, ripening process, say growers

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: The persistent dry spell has delayed the apple picking process and the insufficient rainfall has slowed the ripening process of the apple in the Valley.

Growers from different areas of Kashmir said that high-density apple orchards have been gaining popularity in Kashmir due to

their higher yield potential and shorter gestation period.

However, despite having drip irrigation facilities, they too have been affected by the current weather conditions, the growers said, adding that the lack of sufficient rainfall has slowed the growth and ripening process of the apples, pushing the picking season back by weeks.

Farooq Ahmad, a high density apple grower from Shopian said that despite having drip irrigation facilities, high density apples have also got affected by the current weather as the rains are pivotal for growth of any plant. He said that some growers have quality fruit but there are some who have fruit that is smaller in size and less shiny.

"The dry spell has indeed

made things difficult, but we are adapting as best as we can," said Abdul Rahim, a high-density apple grower in Pulwama district.

"We are hopeful that the weather will improve soon, allowing us to pick the apples at the right time and get good returns."

While the persistent dry spell presents significant challenges, the hope for good returns keeps

the growers optimistic.

Growers said that there will be good demand for high density apples like the last few years. Bashir Ahmad Basheer, Chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union told KNO that persistent dry spell has delayed the apple picking as apple takes time in dry weather to get full colour.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC DIVISION (KPDCL) GANDERBAL

Phone/Fax no: 0194-2416236

E-mail: edgb123@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITINGS E-TENDER

e-NIT No: 44 of 2024-25 dated 08/08/2024

For and on Behalf of Managing Director KPDCL Kashmir, Tenders are hereby invited from resourceful/reputed Class A Electrical Contractors Registered with competent Authority / PDD/PDC /MES for following work for the following job:-

Name of the work	Advt Cost (Rs in Lakhs)	CDR Amount (In Lakhs)	Cost of tender document (Treasury Challan)	Position of funds
Annual Rate Contract for Supply of Line Material for the Year 2024-25	50.00	1.00	Rs 1000/-	Demanded

The tender document consisting of terms & conditions, Bill of Quantities and other details can be seen/downloaded from official web site of JKPDCL or <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per following schedule:

S#	Description	Date	Time
1.	Publish/uploading of e NIT Date	08/08/2024	18.00 hrs
2	Documents Download/Sale start date	08/08/2024	18.00 hrs
3	Clarification Date Start	08/08/2024	18.00 hrs
4	Clarifications Date End	09/08/2024	14.00 hrs
5	Bid submission Start date	08/08/2024	18.00 hrs
6	Bid submission end date	21/08/2024	16.00 hrs
7	Opening date for E-tender	22/08/2024	14:00 hrs
8	Venue of opening e bids	Office of the Executive Engineer ED Ganderbal	

No: EDG / V/ 2855-61
Date: 08/08/2024

DIPK-NB-1260-24
DT: 09/08/2024

Sd/
Executive Engineer
ED Ganderbal



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION- 1ST, SRINAGAR.

Email: xen.ed1st@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2452079 Fax No.0194-2452079

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE

e-NIT No. 032/EDI, dt:08.08.2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-1st, Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Electrical Contractors/firms for as under:

S.No	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)
1	Installation of LED Street Lights on existing Poles at Soiteng & Gandabal area Srinagar.	5.10

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	08.08.2024; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	08.08.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date and time of bidding queries/clarifications	08.08.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 09.08.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	08.08.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 19.08.2024; 10:00 Hrs
v)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	19.08.2024 at 13:00 Hrs
vi)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vii)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System website http://jktenders.gov.in
viii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Only) (Non-refundable) [Treasury Receipt Only]
ix)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.10,200/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Two Hundred Only)

DIPK-NB-1263-24
DT: 09/08/2024

Sd/
Executive Engineer
Electric Division 1st, Srinagar

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Massive Plantation Exercises

The district police administration Ganderbal recently launched a massive plantation campaign named, 'Ek Paed Shaheeduon ke Naam' loosely translated as, 'Plant one tree for the martyrs'. At the very outset this is a great program and the valley of Kashmir needs it now more than ever. The scorching heat and humidity has once again made it clear to us that no amount of development can suffice for the massive cutting of trees. For the ring road itself thousands of trees had to be cut. A lawyer from Handwara filed a please in National Green Tribunal (NGT) stating that for the road construction upto Bangus thousands of trees were cut, top layers of soil removed from many square kilometres area and it seemed like an unbridled license was provided to the road makers to do whatever they wanted to do. A full three storey guest house surprisingly come up in the main Bangus meadow - One wonders as to how the authorities allowed that! A concrete guest house right in the middle of an ecologically sensitive zone. Then we all complain of heat and humidity. This is our own creation. We are felling trees as if there is no tomorrow. Increased population with everyone feeling it a birth right to have his/her standalone house with a considerable courtyard and kitchen garden is leading us to dangerous ravines. Our Karewas are over-populated already and one wonders with the population doubling in the next twenty five years how can these ecologically fragile Karewas withstand such massive concrete constructions? How are constructions being allowed in such highlands? Who will compensate for the losses incurred by the environment? We must thank these social activists who purely out of concern for society fight these tireless battles whenever they feel that the environment is getting affected. Everyone should take inspiration from these social activists. The district police administration Ganderbal has done a remarkable work in the plantation campaign. The district administration in other districts need to emulate this feat and ensure regular plantation exercises on a massive scale. In the urban areas we can think of Miyawaki forestry technique which helps provide pockets of much needed greenery in concrete urban jungles. **Well done Ganderbal Police!**

Good Morning Kashmir

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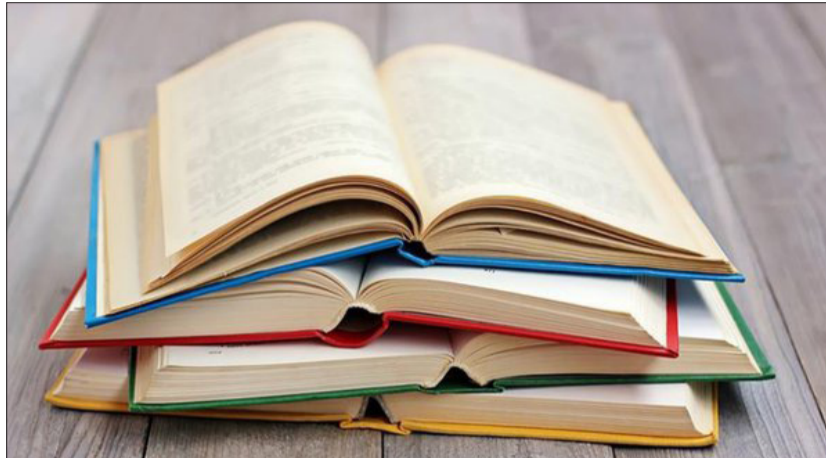
>>> Book Review

Aadmi Musafir Hai By Prof Dr. Faiz Qaziabadi



RAYEES AHMAD KUMAR

North Kashmir's Baramulla district, no doubt is popular for its enchanting landscape, crystal clear water bodies, and Mugal Era's Gateway of Kashmir. Besides this, it has given birth to several literary giants whose literary prowess is continuously inspiring aspiring young writers. Among these literary geniuses, Dr Faiz Qaziabadi is a prominent name who isn't just an academician but also a distinguished litterateur. There are many works to his credit viz Tafhimi Iqbal, Lafz Lafz Khushbu, Ahisahar Gahi, Madaris aur Urdu, Prof Bashir Ahmad Nehvi Qadam ba Qadam, Admi Musafir hai, and also a few others are under compilation. Currently under review is Aadmi Musafir hai a collection of 93 Micro-fictions spanning 144 pages Published by Brar Sons Malerkotla, the book features a meticulously crafted cover and premium paper quality. While penning his comments on the art and skill of Dr Faiz, Prof Aslam Jamshedpuri says that he has mirrored the routine day-to-day life of Kashmir in his stories through local characters and also highlighted accidental events and tragedies happening there. He has widely hailed his literary prowess. He has also written a brief account of several Microfictions of the book in his Write-up. Dr Salik Jamil while writing about the book and author has summarized the historical background of the Micro-fiction genre of Urdu literature. He has commended the writing style of Dr Faiz and also reviewed a number of the stories forming content lot of the book. Azra Azim has thoroughly drawn a sketch of the fictional genre of Urdu literature and also written about Dr. Faiz's Odyssey from schooling to becoming an apt fiction writer. According to Dr Riyaz



Tawhidi a renowned critic and fiction writer of the valley, Kashmir has witnessed three decades of chaos and confusion due to political instability and turmoil as a result the inhabitants of the region had to endure pain and suffering. Almost all litterateurs including Dr Faiz Qaziabadi have reflected these agonies in their writings which recall us the era of predicament and melancholy. While giving details of the book and his journey of composing Nano-fiction, Dr. Faiz Qaziabadi says that he has been writing for the last twenty-five years. His literary pieces and stories are provided space by high-impact dailies and magazines in their literature pages. A big chunk of readers are regularly awarding him good comments. Kahani Bani Kahani is the opening Nano-fiction of the book depicting the professional jealousy of the writers who only crave to be numbered second after Minto the creator of this genre of Urdu literature. Umed Ka Khoon - this one reflects the enduring pain of the people during hartal and curfew when people alongside their little kids die of starvation. Tadabeer - highlighting the artificially created impoverished conditions by Carona lockdown and has been meticulously crafted by Dr Faiz. Imdad- portrays the ugly picture of NGOs which collect huge amounts as alms and donations from well-off people and when it comes to helping the

needy they help them meagerly. Poutli- this one is a clear reflection of the writer's ambition of gaining popularity but oblivious to the distressed condition of their immediate residents living a poverty-stricken life. Du Paap - artistically woven by Dr Faiz revealing the bad intentions and psychological weaknesses of present-day doctors considered next to God, who not only commit the crime of killing a baby before their birth but even destroy the chastity of women patients. Chup ki Dad - the virtuous and humble attitude of Tabligi Jamaat people has been nicely depicted in this story. Ikhlaq- through this short story, Dr Faiz has intelligently manifested the nobility and goodness of people belonging to a lower caste. Maan(mother) - while reading this one, tears roll down and eyes get moistened as this tragedy of abandoning old age parents by their sons who prefer to enjoy their luxurious life abroad and leaving their parents at the mercy of God is becoming a norm now. Mushairah - explicitly shows how even poets attend only paid poetic symposiums and neglect the ones where no pavements are made. Khushksali - corruptive practices adopted by university professors in evaluating students are marring the education system. This has been well crafted by the author. Robert - an important issue which the urban people mostly are facing about the funeral and shrouding of the dead bodies, in previ-

ous times people from far away areas would be drawn to perform the last rites but presently the designated committees are only entrusted with the job and it is anticipated that in future, Roberts would be given the command. Darindon ki Basti - drawing a sketch of the dwindling human values among people and it is cumbersome to distinguish between men and beasts. Sahibi Nazar - people who are indulging in corruption can be corrected and transformed only through pious and reverent persons. Setting - The setting of the beard and wearing of a court pant would indeed have helped him in becoming a professor but paying no heed to his teacher's advice has truly managed him to be a big businessman of the city. Mobile Number - beautifully crafted one depicting a serious issue faced by the families. Our sons can have the contact number of any far-related person but are unmindful of their parents. Andar ki Baat - our Urdu litterateurs are making powerful speeches during seminars about protecting and preserving this global language but at the same time restricting their children from making a career in Urdu. The same has been detected by the author. Sapoot - though the majority of our sons are neglecting the duties and obedience to parents still there is a good lot who prioritize their aspirations over their own basic needs. This has been nicely portrayed in this story. It had- those who are responsible for fragmenting an association are later preaching lessons of unity. This is commonly seen among contemporary Muslims and the same has been briefly sketched by the author in this one. While going through these meticulously crafted stories, a reader makes a sincere claim that Dr Faiz Qaziabadi is bestowed with exceptional writing prowess as a result, with each passing day his popularity is gaining momentum among the fiction writers of the subcontinent. I recommend every fiction lover to go through this book and comment on merit. It will be evident after reading this book that Dr Faiz Qaziabadi is enriching the fecundity of the literary landscape of the valley. *The author can be mailed at rayeeskumar31@gmail.com*

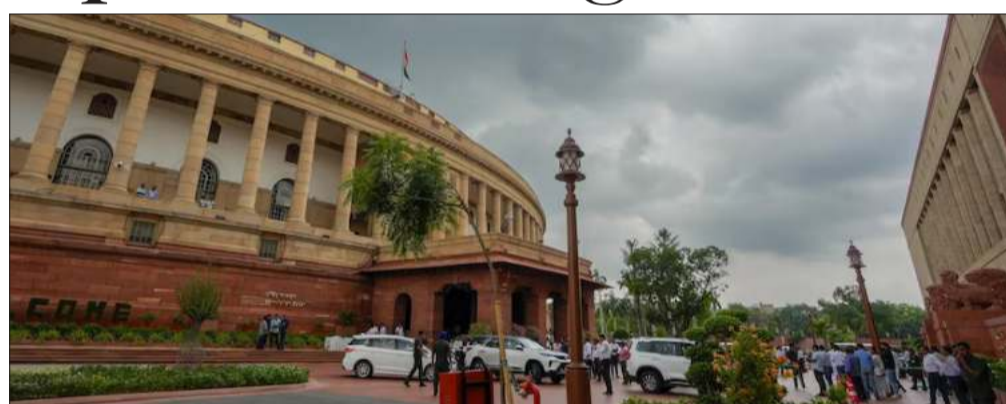
EXPLAINED

The Proposed Changes To Waqf Law



PROF. JASIM MOHAMMAD

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024 proposes changes to the existing Waqf Act of 1995. The primary goal is to update the regulations overseeing Waqf boards and enhance their functionality. The Bill introduces several amendments aimed at improving the management and transparency of Waqf boards. The goal is to address concerns related to the misuse of Waqf properties and to ensure better governance. Some people may attempt to mislead the Muslim community regarding the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024, suggesting that the amendments could be detrimental. However, it's important to understand that these reforms are fundamentally aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability in the management of Waqf properties. Waqf properties have historically faced challenges related to mismanagement and encroachments. By implementing new rules for registration, financial reporting, and governance, the bill aims to tackle these issues head-on. The introduction of a central portal for property registration and detailed financial disclosures will help safeguard these assets from unauthorized use and ensure that they are managed in accordance with their intended purposes. These changes are designed to prevent the misappropriation and mismanagement of Waqf properties, which have been a concern for many years. The reforms introduced in the bill are a necessary response to the problems that have plagued Waqf management in the past. The increased transparency and accountability measures will help protect Waqf properties from encroachments and misuse. Far from being a threat, these amendments are a commitment to better managing and safeguarding Waqf assets, and it is much important for the community to support these changes for their long-term benefit. There have been concerns and misinformation surrounding the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024, particularly from those who might



have vested interests in maintaining the status quo. Some may argue that the bill is detrimental, but it is essential to view these amendments through the lens of transparency and accountability. The proposed changes are fundamentally about reforming the Waqf system to ensure that properties are managed more effectively and ethically. The amendments in the bill include the establishment of a central database and portal for Waqf properties, which will provide a comprehensive record of all assets. This move is developmental toward reducing the chances of mismanagement and unauthorized use of Waqf lands. In the past, there have been numerous instances where Waqf properties were either encroached upon or misused due to the lack of a unified and transparent system. The new regulations seek to prevent such abuses by ensuring that all properties are properly documented and monitored. Furthermore, the bill enhances the role of various stakeholders in the management of Waqf properties, including the introduction of non-Muslim members in the Central Waqf Council. This inclusive approach is designed to bring diverse perspectives and expertise into the decision-making process. The increased representation and accountability mechanisms will help prevent conflicts of interest and ensure that Waqf properties are used for their intended purposes, benefiting the community as a whole. The bill's clarification that government properties will not be considered Waqf properties is a rational and necessary adjustment. If Waqf properties have occupied government land, it is important to address this situation transparently and systematically. There is nothing inherently wrong with reviewing such cases to ensure proper management and

rightful use of land. The primary goal of this review is to ensure that all land, whether classified as Waqf or government, is used in a manner that aligns with legal and ethical standards. This process of verification is important to maintain the integrity of both Waqf properties and government land. Reviewing cases where Waqf properties might have occupied government land helps in clarifying ownership and usage rights. It does not suggest any wrongdoing but rather aims to ensure that all properties are managed correctly and legally. Furthermore, this review process provides an opportunity to correct any discrepancies and strengthen the management of Waqf properties. By ensuring that all properties are correctly documented and utilized, the system promotes better oversight and reduces the risk of disputes. One of the key amendments in the act is the increased representation of Muslim women and non-Muslims in Waqf boards. The inclusion of Muslim women and non-Muslims in Waqf boards is a progressive step towards inclusivity. This representation will likely lead to more balanced and equitable management will address the needs of all stakeholders and develop a sense of unity and understanding among different groups. The history of Waqf properties is marred by instances of corruption and exploitation, where those entrusted with their management have, at times, misused their authority for personal gain. This has resulted in the loss of valuable assets that were meant to support educational, social, and religious causes within the Muslim community. Introducing new regulations and oversight mechanisms would protect Waqf properties from further exploitation and ensure that they are used in a manner that benefits the broader community. Introducing new definitions and clarifications for terms such

as "Aghakhani waqf" and "Bohra waqf" is a positive move towards greater clarity and precision in Waqf management. This effort to clearly define different types of Waqf properties will help avoid misunderstandings and disputes. This would help in better understanding and managing various types of Waqf properties. Establishing separate Auqaf Boards for Aghakhani and Bohras is a commendable decision that recognizes the unique needs and concerns of these communities. The expansion of the Central Waqf Council to include non-Muslim members is a forward-thinking move that promotes inclusivity and balanced governance. This change allows for a more diverse range of perspectives in the decision-making process, which can lead to more equitable and well-rounded management of Waqf properties. The requirement for detailed financial reporting to the central government is a great step towards ensuring proper oversight and accountability. Regular and thorough financial reports will help in monitoring the use of Waqf funds and identifying any irregularities. It is a positive development that will contribute to more effective and responsible management of Waqf resources. Specifying qualifications and disqualification criteria for mutawallis (custodians or managers of Waqf properties) is a rational and necessary measure to ensure the effective management of these important assets. The role of a mutawalli is important in overseeing the maintenance and proper use of Waqf properties, which are meant to serve the religious, educational, and charitable needs of the Muslim community. However, there have been instances in the past where individuals with inadequate qualifications or even questionable intentions have been appointed to this role, leading to mismanagement and

misuse of these valuable resources. The Waqf Boards, which are responsible for the supervision of Waqf properties, have often been plagued by issues related to the appointment of mutawallis. Without clear guidelines on the qualifications required for this position, appointments have sometimes been made based on personal connections or political considerations rather than merit. This has resulted in the erosion of trust in the Waqf system, as properties intended for the public good have not always been managed in the best interests of the community. Furthermore, the introduction of disqualification criteria is equally important, as it ensures that those who have been found guilty of corruption, mismanagement, or other forms of misconduct are not allowed to continue in roles where they could cause further harm. These amendments to the Waqf Act represent a significant and positive step forward, and the government should be appreciated for taking measures that will enhance transparency, accountability, and the proper management of Waqf properties. For too long, the administration of Waqf assets has been plagued by issues of corruption, mismanagement, and misuse, which has deprived the Muslim community of the full benefits that these properties are intended to provide. By introducing clearer regulations, stricter auditing procedures, and qualifications for those in charge of managing Waqf properties, the government is ensuring that these assets are safeguarded and used for their rightful purposes. These amendments would stop the exploitation and mismanagement that have occurred in the past and to restore the integrity of the Waqf system. At the same time, Muslims should remain vigilant and aware that some politicians, who may not have strong or legitimate arguments against these reforms, might try to sway the community by spreading misinformation or by playing on emotions. Instead of being swayed by such influences, it is vital for the community to focus on the long-term benefits of these amendments and to support measures that will lead to more transparent and accountable management of Waqf properties. *Author is Professor in Comparative Literature and Donor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU). He can be mailed at prof.jasimmd@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

Natural Farming Cannot Co-Exist With GM Crops



BHARAT DOGRA

Some countries are taking up the promotion of natural farming crops which is very welcome. However a big problem and constraint arises when they say at the same time that they will spread GM crops, forgetting that natural farming cannot co-exist with GM crops. Apart from the high risk of contamination, there is the wider reality that GM crops involve very high environment, safety and health risks.

We should look carefully at what the most senior scientists known also for their commitment to the public interest have been saying. Surely the opinion of such scientists should get preference over those who have been working with multinational corporations known to be very exploitative towards farmers and known also for their attempts of trying to dominate the farm and food systems of developing countries. If according to reviews by very reputed scientists it can be shown that GM crops have been a disaster, then this view should get adequate importance.

Here we may note that GM crops and the herbicides accompanying them have been in court cases in some countries generally courts have been sympathetic to the victims of these crops and the agro-chemicals accompanying them. A case which attracted worldwide attention relates to the award of huge compensation to Johnson, a school groundskeeper, by a California jury on account of his health being damaged severely by a herbicide glyphosate which this groundskeeper had to use regularly, resulting in very painful and life-threatening blood-cancer. There was widespread sympathy for this victim and Edward Kennedy, nephew of former President John Kennedy, (he is now a Presidential candidate in the USA) was among the team of lawyers who argued this case.

For people involved in food safety issues this case had an additional significance. The herbicide in question is produced most prominently by a multinational company which is also in the forefront of the spread of GM crops. It has been involved in providing packages in which the company's GM seeds are closely tied to the marketing of the disputed herbicide whose serious health hazards had been the subject of much debate earlier also. In the course of the hearings of this case, however, it became increasingly clear that the so-called scientific evidence of safety of its products by which the giant multinational company had been swearing had many holes in it and at times its own findings were being passed off as the opinion of reputed scientists.

All the time some of the most eminent scientists have been warning against GM crops. The most eminent scientist of India on this subject Dr. Pushpa M. Bhargava was in the forefront of voicing these warnings. He was the founder of the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology and in addition he was also the Vice Chairperson of the National Knowledge Commission. Many people's science movements looked upon him as their mentor. He had been appointed by the Supreme Court of India as an observer in the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee as he was widely perceived to be not only a very accomplished expert on this issue and that too of the highest integrity but in addition he was also seen on the basis of his past record as a very strong and persistent defender of public interest.

Therefore it is very useful and interesting to see what this very senior scientist with a comprehensive understanding of this issue had to say about GM crops. First of all he made a strong and clear effort to break the myth which had been created by relentless manipulation by the very powerful forces trying to spread GM crops in India. According to this myth most scientific research supports GM crops. While demolishing this myth Dr. Bhargava wrote, "There are over 500 research publications by scientists of indisputable integrity, who have no conflict of interest, that establish harmful effects of GM crops on human, animal and plant health, and on the environment and biodiversity. For example, a recent paper by Indian scientists showed that the Bt gene in both cotton and brinjal leads to inhibition of growth and development of the plant. On the other hand, virtually every paper supporting GM crops is by scientists who have a declared conflict of interest or whose credibility and integrity can be doubted."

In another review of recent trends titled 'Food Without Choice' (published in the Tribune) Prof. Pushpa M. Bhargava, who was an internationally acclaimed authority on this subject, drew pointed attention to the "attempt by a small but powerful minority to propagate genetically modified crops to serve their interests and those of multinational corporations (read the US), the bureaucracy, the political setup and a few unprincipled and unethical scientists and technologists who can be used as tools." Further he warned, "The ultimate goal of this attempt in India of which the leader is Monsanto, is to obtain control over Indian agriculture and thus food production. With 60 per cent of our population engaged in agriculture and living in villages, this would essentially mean not only a control over our food security but also over our farmer security, agricultural security and security of the rural sector."

The strong stand of Dr. Bhargava against GM crops is supported by other eminent sci-



entists in various parts of world. A group of eminent scientists organized under the Independent Science Panel have stated in very clear terms, "GM crops have failed to deliver the promised benefits and are posing escalating problems on the farm. Transgenic contamination is now widely acknowledged to be unavoidable, and hence there can be no co-existence of GM and non-GM agriculture. Most important of all, GM crops have not been proven safe. On the contrary, sufficient evidence has emerged to raise serious safety concerns, that if ignored could result in irreversible damage to health and the environment. GM crops should be firmly rejected now."

The Independent Science Panel (ISP) is a panel of scientists from many disciplines and countries, committed to the promotion of science for the public good. In a document titled 'The case for a GMO-free Sustainable World' the ISP has stated further, "By far the most insidious dangers of genetic engineering are inherent to the process itself, which greatly enhances the scope and probability of horizontal gene transfer and recombination, the main route to creating viruses and bacteria that cause disease epidemics. This was highlighted, in 2001, by the 'accidental' creation of a killer mouse virus in the course of an apparently innocent genetic engineering experiment. Newer techniques, such as DNA shuffling, are allowing geneticists to create in a matter of minutes in the laboratory millions of recombinant viruses that have never existed in billions of years of evolution. Disease-causing viruses and bacteria and their genetic material are the predominant materials and tools for genetic engineering, as much as for the intentional creation of bio-weapons."

Several scientists involved in studying the implications and impacts of genetic engineering got together at the International Conference on 'Redefining of Life Sciences' organized at Penang, Malaysia, by the Third World Network. They issued a statement (the Penang Statement, or PS) which questioned the scientific basis of genetic engineering. This statement said: "The new biotechnology based upon genetic engineering makes the assumption that each specific feature of an organism is encoded in one or a few specific, stable genes, so that the transfer of these genes results in the transfer of a discrete feature. This extreme form of genetic reductionism has already been rejected by the majority of biologists and many other members of the intellectual community because it fails to take into account the complex interactions between genes and their cellular, extracellular and external environments that are involved in the development of all traits.

"It has thus been impossible to predict the consequences of transferring a gene from one type of organism to another in a significant number of cases. The limited ability to transfer identifiable molecular characteristics between organisms through genetic engineering does not constitute the demonstration of any comprehensive or reliable system for predicting all the significant effects of transposing genes."

Hence it is clear that to promote GM crops as a means of increasing crop productivity has no basis in scientific reality and is merely a manipulation tactic of the powerful GM lobby which uses highly selective data to somehow promote its case in the wake of ever-increasing evidence against GM crops. The powerful GM lobby uses many kinds of front-men but behind the scenes it is essentially controlled by the most powerful, resourceful and biggest multinational companies in the food, farming, agro-chemical and related sectors.

One factor that has not received adequate attention is that due to the threat of contamination, it is difficult for normal crops and crops of natural farming and organic crops to remain free from the impact of GM crops once these have been released. As worldwide concern for food safety grows, it is likely that there will be increasing demand for organically grown crops and crops which are not contaminated by GM crops. Therefore we will be surrendering premium world markets if we allow our crops to be contaminated. Star Link (corn engineered to contain a Bt toxin pesticide) was planted on less than 0.5% of US corn acreage, but its recall cost hundreds of millions of dollars, and even then the recall was not entirely successful.

Several eminent scientists representing the Independent Science Panel have also warned against the serious threat of contamination by GM crops - "Extensive transgenic contamination has occurred in maize landraces growing in remote regions in Mexico despite an official moratorium that has been in place since 1998. High levels of contamination have since been found in Canada. In a test of 33 samples of certified canola (oilseed rape) seed stocks, 32 were found contaminated. New research shows that transgenic pollen, wind-blown and deposited elsewhere, or fallen directly to the ground, is a major source of transgenic contamination. Contamination is generally acknowledged to be unavoidable, hence there can be no co-existence of transgenic and non-transgenic crops."

"Crops engineered with 'suicide' genes for

male sterility have been promoted as a means of 'containing', i.e., preventing, the spread of transgenes. In reality, the hybrid crops sold to farmers spread both male sterile suicide genes as well as herbicide tolerance genes via pollen."

It is due to the serious threat of contamination that even trials of GM crops are considered unacceptably risky.

As prominent environmentalist Sailendra Nath Ghosh has written, - "According to independent geneticists, the isolation distance needed to be both in time and space. The land on which the GM crop is to be grown should not sow a crop in the previous or the succeeding year. Cross-pollinating crops, unlike the self-pollinating ones, require isolation distance of three to four kms. The implementation of these requirements is impossible under Indian conditions. Farmers would not keep their lands fallow. Crops in adjoining fields are almost always planted up to the boundaries."

Several of these threats were examined at an international conference of scientists involved in studying the implication and impacts of genetic engineering. This conference on 'Redefining the Life Sciences' was organised at Penang, Malaysia, by the Third World Network. These scientists and experts issued a statement called the Penang Statement (PS).

This statement listed a wide range of potential adverse effects of genetic engineering. Of particular concern is the difficulty or impossibility of recalling GEOs which have been released into the environment, or which have escaped from containment and later found to have adverse effects.

The potential ecological risks of applying genetic engineering to agriculture include the possibility that some transgenic crops could become noxious weeds, and others could become a conduit through which new genes may move to wild plants which themselves could then become weeds. The new weeds could adversely affect farm crops as well as wild ecosystems. Similarly, genetically engineered fish, shellfish and insects could become pests under certain conditions.

Plants are presently being engineered to contain parts of a virus in order to become virus-resistant. Some scientists have raised the possibility that widespread use of transgenic virus-resistant plants in agriculture may lead to new strains of viruses or allow a virus to infect a new host. There are concerns that the creation of new viral strains and the broadening of the virus's host may increase the risks of new viral diseases that adversely affect crops and other plants. Mechanisms have been described whereby genetically engineered plants could plausibly give rise to new plant diseases.

In addition this statement warns that the rapid spread of transgenic crops poses a threat to traditional crop varieties and wild plants that are the major sources of crop genetic diversity.

Some traits of organisms may take decades or even longer to manifest themselves. An organism declared 'safe' in the short term could eventually prove to be dangerous.

Another ecological risk is the possibility that field or forestry plants engineered to express toxic substances like pesticides and pharmaceutical drugs may poison certain non-target organisms. Transgenes for insecticidal or fungicidal compounds that are introduced into crops to inhibit pests may unintentionally kill non-target and beneficial insects and fungi. Transgenic crops used to manufacture drugs or industrial oils and chemicals could potentially harm animals, insects and soil microorganisms.

The possible chemical contamination of surface-water and ground-water by microorganisms or plants with unusual or accelerated metabolic processes is a special concern because of the crucial importance of water for all life. It may be impossible to recall and difficult to control harmful GEOs, especially those that may contaminate ground-water.

This statement adds that developing countries in particular face special risks, "Third World countries face even greater environmental risks than countries of the North because, in contrast, they have many wild relatives of many crops and thus there are more opportunities for various kinds of rogue species to be created."

Moreover, most Third World countries currently have less scientific expertise and legal or regulatory capacity to monitor, assess and control activities involving genetically engineered organisms, and are thus even more vulnerable to adverse impacts.

In a letter written to the Prime Minister of India in 2009 as many as 17 distinguished scientists from the USA, Canada, Europe and New Zealand have pointed out that the claims relating to higher yield and protection of environment made for GM crops are absolutely false. Due to various problems of GM crops, their spread has been highly limited. This letter says, "More than 95 percent of all GM crops are engineered to either synthesise an insecticide (Bt toxin) or to tolerate a broad spectrum herbicide (e.g. Roundup, Liberty) or both.

- "To date there are only four major commercialised GM crops (soya, maize/corn, cotton, canola/oilseed rape) most of which (soya, corn, canola) are used primarily as animal feed. All were commercialised in the late 90s. Since then, no other commercially viable GM crop application has made it to market, especially due to farmers not accepting other GM crops (such as wheat, potatoes, and rice) for negative economic reasons (lack of buyers, loss of export markets).
- "GM crops have not been widely accepted around the world. 95 percent of all GM food crops are grown in only five countries: the US, Canada, Australia, Argentina, and Brazil. If you include fibre crops (cotton), India and China would be included. Only one GM crop is approved for cultivation within the European Union, MON810 corn, which has been banned by several member states invoking documented health and especially environmental risks.
- "...The basic problem is that GM as employed in agriculture is conceptually flawed, crude, imprecise and poorly controlled technology, that is incapable of generating plants that contain the required multiple, co-ordinately regulated genes that work in an integrated way to respond to environmental challenges.
- "...GM has not increased yield potential. Yields from GM crops to date have been no better and in the case of GM soya have been consistently lower. A 2009 report reviewing more than 20 academic studies clearly shows that the cultivation of GM herbicide-tolerant soybeans has not increased yields. Insect-resistant corn, meanwhile, has at best only improved yields marginally. This report found that increase in yields for both crops over the last 13 years was due to traditional breeding or improvements in agricultural practices.
- "...GM crops have led to vast increases in pesticide use, not decreases and therefore reduction of agricultural pollution cannot be claimed
- "...Climate change brings sudden, extreme, and unpredictable changes in weather, which requires that a cropping system be flexible, resilient and as genetically diverse as possible. GM technology offers just the opposite.
- "...Stability of productivity and production is much lower with many of the GM crops commercialised today. Herbicide tolerant GM soya is far more sensitive to heat or drought stress than conventional soya.
- "...GM crops are designed to be used in conjunction with synthetic pesticides and fertilisers, which are manufactured from oil and natural gas.
- "GM crops do not reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- "Recent data from the US department of agriculture has shown a vast increase in herbicide use since the introduction of GM crops tolerant to the application of these agrochemicals.
- "Therefore, the introduction of GM crops has exacerbated rather than reduced agriculture's carbon footprint and is clearly unsustainable.
- "Alternative proven technologies that can reduce the amount of fossil fuel used in farming already exist. This includes methods for reducing fertiliser applications, selecting farm machinery appropriate for each task, managing soil for conservation, limiting irrigation and (using) agro-ecological farming techniques."

All over the world the controversy over GM crops, also called genetically modified organisms (GMOs) is heating up as more and more evidence becomes available on their extremely serious hazards and threats. What needs to be emphasised is that these warnings have the support of some of the world's most eminent and well-qualified independent scientists and experts in the field.

As eminent scientists from several countries wrote in a letter to the Prime Minister of India in 2009, "GM transformation can produce novel biochemical processes that are unpredictable and for which there is no natural history to assume are safe.

"The GM transformation process is highly mutagenic leading to disruptions to host plant genetic structure and function, which in turn leads to disturbances in the biochemistry of the plant. This can lead to novel toxin and allergen production as well as reduced/ altered nutritional quality.

"It is not a question of if there are disturbances to gene function and biochemis-

try but to what degree they will be present within any given GM plant. For example, the levels of more than 40 proteins are altered significantly in the commercialised GM MON810 corn compared to equivalent non-GM corn, which included production of a new allergenic protein.

"Numerous animal feeding studies demonstrate negative health impacts of GM feed on kidney, liver, gut, blood cells, blood biochemistry and the immune system.

"Of greatest concern is that studies show negative health effects with GM crops that have already been approved and which have been grown commercially for 10-13 years. This highlights the inadequacy of the original criteria and set of data on the basis of which marketing approval was and is still being granted."

In the more specific context of Bt brinjal this letter says, "Bt toxin is a proven potent immunogen raising justifiable concerns that it can give rise to allergic reactions.

"The Mahyco-Monsanto dossier of the raw experimental data of animal feeding studies with Bt brinjal shows highly statistically significant negative signs of toxicity on the functioning of multiple organ systems such as liver, kidney, blood and pancreas in all animals tested (especially rats, rabbits and goats). It is very important to note that these adverse effects were observed after only at most, a 90-day feeding time, which raises serious concerns about the safety of consuming this product over an entire lifetime. Long-term (at least 2-year) animal feeding studies were not done and are stated as not required by the apex regulator, contrary to the science, which requires these studies to detect chronic slow-onset toxicity and cancer.

"There is therefore, no scientific justification for the safety claim of Bt brinjal by India's regulators, which are based on an uncritical acceptance of the interpretation of the data submitted by Mahyco-Monsanto. This has been heavily criticised by eminent scientists of international standing."

In 2003 the Independent Science Panel, which consists of eminent scientists from many countries covering a wide range of relevant disciplines reviewed the evidence on the hazards of GMOs. This review concluded that many GM crops contain gene products known to be harmful. For example, the Bt proteins that kill pests include potent immunogens and allergens. Food crops are increasingly being engineered to produce pharmaceuticals, drugs and vaccines in the open environment, exposing people to the danger of inappropriate medication and their harmful side effects. GM varieties are unstable, with the potential to create new viruses and bacteria that cause diseases, and to disrupt gene function in animal and human cells.

This report also said that there have been very few credible studies on GM food safety. Nevertheless, the available findings already give cause for concern. In the still only systematic investigation on GM food ever carried out in the world, 'growth factor-like' effects were found in the stomach and small intestine of young rats that were not fully accounted for by the transgene product, and were hence attributable to the transgenic process or the transgenic construct, and may hence be general to all GM food. There have been at least two other, more limited, studies that also raised serious safety concerns.

A four-part series of experiments conducted over 3 years by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Lancaster (United Kingdom) (see The Independent dated March 22, 2005 reporting the findings of this study) concluded that GM crops could be more harmful to many groups of wild life than their conventional equivalents. According to these studies, Bt proteins, incorporated into a significant part of all GM crops, have been found to be harmful to many non-target insects, worms and amphibians.

The Penang Statement (PS) on GM crops stated: "Some GEOs (Genetically Engineered Organisms) have been made with virus or transposon vectors that have been artificially enhanced to become less species-specific. Since viruses and transposons can cause or induce mutations, there is the concern that enhanced vectors could be carcinogenic to humans, domestic animals and wild animals.

"Persons with allergies may have legitimate concerns that with genetic engineering, once-familiar foods may be made allergenic. Furthermore, they will not be able to protect themselves if the foods are not labelled to state that they have been produced from genetically engineered organisms. Allergic effects could be carried by the transgene or be stimulated by imbalances in the chemistry of the host plant or organism.

"Another problem is that field workers or neighbours may develop allergies to insecticidal transgenic crops. For example, a spider venom expressed in sugarcane might block a metabolic pathway only in insects and not in humans, but humans can nevertheless develop serious allergies to some venoms.

"With genetic engineering, familiar foods could become dangerous or even toxic. Even if the transgene itself is not dangerous or toxic, it could upset complex biochemical network and create new bioactive compounds or change the concentrations of those normally present. In addition, the properties in proteins may change in a new chemical environment because they may fold in new ways." (C-Counter Currents)

Bharat Dogra is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include India's Quest for Sustainable Farming and Healthy Food, Protecting Earth for Children, Man over Machine (Gandhian Ideas for Our Times)

These Foods May Be Disturbing Your Gut Microbiome

The gut microbiome refers to the diverse community of trillions of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and other microbes, residing in the digestive tract. These microorganisms play a crucial role in various bodily functions such as digestion, immune system regulation, and even mental health. A balanced and diverse gut microbiome is essential for overall health. However, certain foods can negatively impact the gut microbiome. In this article, we discuss a list of foods that

are notorious for worsening your gut microbiome and overall gut health.

10 foods that can negatively impact your gut microbiome:

1. Processed foods
Processed foods are high in additives, preservatives, and artificial sweeteners, processed foods can disrupt the balance of gut bacteria, leading to inflammation and reduced microbial diversity. Opt for whole, unprocessed foods. Read labels and avoid products with long lists of ingredients.
2. Artificial sweeteners
Substances like aspartame

and sucralose can alter gut bacteria, potentially leading to glucose intolerance and metabolic issues. Use natural sweeteners like honey or maple syrup in moderation. Limit the intake of diet sodas and sugar-free products.

3. Red meat
High consumption of red meat is associated with increased levels of harmful bacteria and inflammation in the gut. Limit red meat intake to occasional consumption. Incorporate more plant-based proteins like beans, lentils, and tofu into your diet.

4. Fried foods
Fried foods are high in unhealthy fats, fried foods can promote the growth of harmful bacteria and increase inflammation. Choose healthier cooking methods like baking, grilling, or steaming. Use healthy oils like olive oil for cooking.

5. Refined sugars
Excessive sugar consumption can feed harmful bacteria and yeast in the gut, leading to dysbiosis and inflammation. Reduce the intake of sugary snacks, desserts, and beverages. Opt for fruits and natural sweeteners instead.

6. Alcohol
Alcohol can disrupt the balance of gut bacteria, increase gut permeability (leaky gut), and contribute to inflammation. Limit alcohol consumption and opt for moderate drinking. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated.

7. Dairy products
For some individuals, especially those with lactose intolerance, dairy can cause gut irritation and an imbalance of gut bacteria. Choose lactose-free dairy products or dairy alternatives like almond milk or soy milk if you have lactose

intolerance.
8. Gluten
Gluten can cause inflammation and gut barrier dysfunction in individuals with celiac disease or gluten sensitivity. Avoid gluten-containing foods if you are sensitive. Choose gluten-free grains like quinoa, rice, and millet.

9. Antibiotics
While not a food, the frequent use of antibiotics can significantly disrupt the gut microbiome by killing beneficial bacteria. Use antibiotics only when prescribed by a healthcare professional. Take

probiotics during and after antibiotic treatment to help restore gut balance.

10. High-fat diets
Diets high in unhealthy fats, particularly saturated and trans fats, can reduce microbial diversity and increase harmful bacteria. Choose healthy fats like those from avocados, nuts, seeds, and olive oil. Limit the intake of trans fats found in processed foods.

By being mindful of these foods and incorporating healthy habits, you can help maintain a balanced and thriving gut microbiome.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Kashmiri Youth Pledge

The CEC and ECs appreciated participants for spreading the message of democracy and importance of exercising valuable Right to franchise.

Terror Attacks Cannot

in J&K at the earliest," he said. Kumar said the timing of elections in any state depends on the expiry of the assembly's term.

"Elections in four to five states are scheduled for this year, each with separate timelines, and we are prepared for that," he said.

With the Amarnath Yatra concluding on August 19, he said the security situation and force requirements would be assessed in Delhi.

During their visit, the CEC-led team met representatives from nine political parties -- the BJP, Congress, AAP, BSP, CPIM, National Conference, People's Democratic Party, J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim), and J&K Panthers Party (India) -- in Srinagar to gather their viewpoints.

"These are recognised parties in the state. All parties unanimously praised the people and the Election Commission for conducting peaceful and historic parliamentary elections in J-K.

"They acknowledged that the high voter participation was a historic achievement, with no untoward incidents. Public faith in the electoral process has increased," Kumar said.

Kumar noted that all parties agreed that elections should be held as early as possible and also called for a level playing field in the elections.

"They emphasised the need for elected representatives to connect better with the people, ensuring the progress of democracy in the region. They believe that the people should form their own government, and elections should be held soon," he said.

Regarding the recent spurt in terror attacks and violence, especially in the Jammu region,

"Given the overwhelming response during the parliamentary elections, there is a need to build on that momentum. State government officials have also said that they are ready to hold elections, and no concerns about any inconvenience were raised," he said.

Kumar also assured that the enthusiasm and high voter turnout seen in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections would not be diminished by such minor challenges.

"We are fully committed to ensuring that nothing disrupts the election process. Such situations will not arise, and we will not allow any forces to succeed by delaying the polls," he said.

"The forces and administration are more than capable of dealing with any such situation. The flag of democracy will continue to fly high," he added.

He said a "positive challenge" was the anticipated increase in participation from both candidates and voters.

"The challenge lies in making this a reality on the ground," he said.

Kumar stressed that all officials have been directed to be proactive in making the necessary arrangements at polling stations and on the ground.

"There was significant enthusiasm among young voters, and we aim to build on this momentum by providing an appropriate atmosphere, which is also a challenge we are ready to meet," he said.

The CEC outlined various directives regarding security, voter facilities, and providing the best possible environment for the elections.

Strict Vigil Kept On

border has been initiated by the security forces. The issue of drone dropping has also been taken up with the security officials ahead of the Assembly election," said CEC Rajiv Kumar while addressing the media persons along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu.

He said that drug misuse is increasing in J&K and the commission has passed strict instructions that once the model code of conduct (MCC) comes into force, the menace should be effectively checked.

He said that instructions to stop illegal liquor have already been passed while the authorities have been instructed to remain extra vigilant.

He said that illegal liquor kingpins and distributors would also be forcefully dealt with. "Strict enforcement to stop the liquor transportation, especially through Kathua district has also been initiated," the CEC said.

He added that CCTVs have been also installed on the critical border checkpoint to keep a tight vigil on the illicit liquor trade in Jammu and Kashmir.

The CEC also announced that Assembly elections will be held in J&K at the earliest and dates would be announced after an overall review is taken when the election commission returns to back Delhi.

He said that since the Parliament passed the J&K Reorganisation Act in December 2023, there was no possibility of holding the Assembly elections in J&K before that.

"You have done during the Lok Sabha polls what had not happened here in many decades. People have laid the foundation and it is now time for us to build the superstructure on that firm foundation," the CEC said.

He said that no external or internal force can prevent us from holding the Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We are committed to holding the Assembly polls at the earliest," the CEC said.

Special Polling

while addressing the media persons along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu.

He added that there is no need for cumbersome Form-M for Jammu and Udhampur.

"The decision to scrap the requirement of Form M was welcomed by all the stakeholders," the CEC added.

He said that there are 3.71 lakh first-time voters, adding that on August 19, the Amarnath Yatra will conclude and on August 30, the final electoral rolls will be published and free copies will be made available to the political parties.

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GoC 16 Corps

the troops maintaining high morale and professionalism for future challenges.

"Lt Gen M V Sutchindra Kumar, Army Commander visited forward areas and was briefed on the cutting-edge technological integration and operational preparedness," Northern Command said on X.

The Army Commander complimented the troops and exhorted all ranks to maintain high morale and professionalism for future challenges.

No Let-Up In Dry

department (MeT) revealed that Jammu stations also recorded above normal temperature with Jammu recording a maximum temperature of 33.2 degree Celsius.

Banihal stations recorded 29.6 degree Celsius while Batote, Katra and Baderwah recorded 27.0 degree Celsius, 30.6 degree Celsius and 31.6 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, for the next two days, the weatherman here has predicted a brief spell of rain and thundershower at few places during day time with possibility of light to moderate rain and thundershower at scattered places of Kashmir division and many places of Jammu division towards late night and early morning.

Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that from August 12 to 14, a brief spell of rain and thundershower is expected at a few places during day time with a spell of rain and thundershower at scattered places towards late night and early morning.

Meanwhile on August 15, a spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected towards early morning and late night over many places of Jammu division and brief spell of light rain and thundershower at isolated places of Kashmir division during early morning and evening.

He further stated that on August 16 & 17; there is a possibility of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of J&K.

Nonetheless, in its advisory, the MeT has predicted the possibility of flash floods, landslides & heavy rainfall over Jammu division on August 10, 11, 14 and 15th—(KNO)

Inaugural Screening

talent by holding fortnightly film screenings in the DIPR auditorium at Srinagar and Jammu.

Directed by renowned Kashmiri actor Mir Sarwar and produced by Hussain Khan, "Bed Number 17" highlights the sufferings of a family.

Director Information, Jatin Kishore, applauded the creative team behind "Bed Number 17" during the screening ceremony, acknowledging their contribution to Kashmiri cinema.

On the occasion, the Director also facilitated the team of the film.

Deputy Director Information, Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director Information Central Sunil

Kumar; Nodal officer for J&K Film Policy, Maheer Thakur; Accounts Officer, Hitesh Choudhary and other concerned attended the film screening event.

Speaking at the event, Mir Sarwar expressed his appreciation for DIPR's initiative, emphasizing the need for platforms to promote films from the region.

He highlighted the initiative as a significant step towards harnessing the untapped potential of filmmaking in the region.

The screening was also attended by a diverse audience including film enthusiasts, and artists, all of whom appreciated the cinematic narrative portrayed in "Bed Number 17."

Going forward, DIPR plans to continue these screenings as part of its commitment to support local filmmakers and showcase the vibrant cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir through the medium of cinema.

Monthly Film

promote the rich cultural narratives of Jammu and Kashmir, the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) screened the movie 'Bed Number 17' at its auditorium in Srinagar, marking the launch of a new initiative aimed at supporting local filmmakers.

This initiative, is designed to provide a platform for independent filmmakers from the region to showcase their work, with the aim of bringing the stories of Kashmir to a wider audience.

Mir Sarwar highlighted the importance of this new platform for local artists, saying, "This initiative is a much-needed boost for independent filmmakers who often struggle to find audiences for their work. It's an opportunity for them to present their unique challenges and stories, which might otherwise remain unheard."

He spoke about the potential of this initiative to take Kashmiri stories beyond the region. "We are committed to bringing the stories of Kashmir to the world and are particularly focused on promoting films in our native language," he added.

The screening of 'Bed Number 17' marks the beginning of what is expected to be a series of regular film screenings aimed at promoting the region's rich storytelling tradition—(KNO)

CS Takes Stock

implementation of one ration card one nation programme.

He also assessed the performance of the Department regarding updation and digitization of ration cards and timely delivery of ration to the consumers at government-approved rates.

Dulloo took this occasion to impress upon the department to include Kashmiri Pandits in the NFSA database for extending benefits of different schemes to them. He also directed for completing the registration of e-Shram card holders under PDS as per Apex Court directions.

The Chief Secretary further took note of the transportation of ration for door step delivery to consumers in different parts of the UT.

The Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, Zubair Ahmad informed the meeting about the current status of ration distribution and other initiatives taken by the department to make PDS more efficient in the UT.

He said that the Department is providing free and subsidized grains to around 25.11 lakh families comprising of 98.62 lakh beneficiaries. He added that out of these 66.17 lakh beneficiaries covered under NFSA are provided free rations and rest of the 32.44 lakh souls at highly subsidized rates.

It was further revealed that the Department is distributing fortified rice to all the beneficiaries covered under different schemes. The meeting was also apprised that more than a million deletions were made while carrying out the de-duplication exercise and 67000 households added to PDS on shifting to RCMS.

About the digitization of ration cards, Aadhar seeding and automation of FPS, the meeting was apprised that these had already been saturated by the Department. It was further disclosed that 3736 IDs had been created after entering into an MoU with the CSCs for transformation of fair price shops in J&K.

Regarding One Nation One Ration Card policy, the meeting was informed that the facility is available across the UT on 6377 POS devices using which consumers can avail rations from anywhere they prefer. It was given out that 35 lakh portability transactions were made here till now.

While highlighting the future course of action it was disclosed that the Department is envisaging e-KYC of all the beneficiaries under all the schemes which currently stands at 83% for NFSA and 66% for Non-NFSA consumers besides implementing smart PDS and inclusion of PDS left out e-Shram registrants.

The Controller, Legal Metrology, Majid Khalil Drabu while throwing light on the performance of the Department made out that it enforces provisions of the Legal Metrology Act to regulate weights & measures here by way of their verification/ re-verification besides licencing of dealers, manufacturers and importers of

packaged commodities.

Regarding the performance of the Department it was divulged that out of the 75,871 applications the Department has approved 70,158 applications with remaining with the applicants for certain clarifications.

During current financial year, it was given out that 120 verification camps were held across different districts of the UT. It was said that 203 petrol pumps were also verified with calibration of 2407 nozzles during this period.

About generation of revenue from stamping/ verification by the Department it was enunciated that an amount of Rs 299 lakhs were collected besides Rs 12.29 lakh on account of user charges from weighbridge crane.

It was further added that the Department this year conducted about 23,193 inspections registering 1206 cases here in the UT. It was further disclosed that inspections of packaged commodities, weigh bridges, LPG cylinders for ensuring accuracy in their weights besides acting on complaints of the customers regarding violations of rules are some of the regular activities carried out by the Department all across J&K.

LG Performs Pujan

Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Sh Vidhi Kumar Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and other senior officers also participated in the Chhari-Pujan.

Budget Approval

also restrained the non-priority expenditure through austerity measures and biometric verification of beneficiaries. For the first time in 77 years, UT contributed to the contingency funds created by RBI.

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo and Principal Secretary Finance, Santosh Vaidya led the UT's efforts in this direction. Crucial meetings were held in June and July 2024 in Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Finance to review the fiscal performance of the UT Government. Union Home Minister and Union Finance Minister personally reviewed the fiscal management of the UT Government.

Considering the challenges faced as also the reforms undertaken by the UT government, the Central Government has approved the special financial support of Rs.17,000 crore for Jammu and Kashmir. As a result of this Rs. 17,000 crore of special package, the fiscal deficit to GDP ratio of Jammu and Kashmir will reduce to 3.0% in the financial year 2024-25. The Union Government will provide for the salary, pension and other costs of Jammu and Kashmir Police for which an allocation of Rs 12,000 crore has been made in the Union budget. In addition, a special grant of Rs 5,000 crore is being provided to Jammu and Kashmir.

As part of the special package, the UT government has also committed to discharge its dues with J&K Bank in timely fashion. In fact, the UT government has repaid about Rs. 4,600 crore to the Bank to clear the past dues. It will reduce the fiscal stress of the UT government in multiple ways. The package will provide additional fiscal space to the Government to tap towards fulfilling the developmental needs and aspirations of the people. It will also enable J&K police to undertake upscaled investments in modern weapons, police housing, and infrastructure facilities.

The budget of Jammu and Kashmir for 2024-25 makes provisions for the ongoing initiatives for infrastructure development, sustainable agriculture, new industrial estate, PRI level works, employment generation, developing tourism, and social inclusion. The UT's budget for 2024-25 of Rs. 1,18,390 crore provides for the following major outlays -

Major Outlays under Budget 2024-25: Rs. 9400 crore for subsidy and budgetary support for purchase of power from the National grid and the Power purchase agreements with power generation companies, Rs. 3983 crore for Construction of roads & bridges under PMGSY, CRIF, NABARD loan schemes & Bridge scheme, Rs. 1875 crore for rejuvenating school education infrastructure and services through funding of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), career counselling services, and setting up of modern schools for quality education with PM SHRI funding, Rs. 1808 crore for strengthening decentralized governance by providing for local area development works of PRIs, ULBs, BDCs and DDCs, Rs. 1714 crore provisioned for tap-water connectivity for rural areas under Jal Jeevan Mission, Rs. 1484 crore for completion of Smart City projects in Srinagar and Jammu cities, construction of infrastructure projects under Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP), construction of sewerage treatment plants in urban areas, and development of new townships for housing, Rs. 1430 crore for comprehensive social security coverage under assistance schemes for Old Age, Widow, and Disabled, and for the women empowerment interventions of Ladli Beti and Marriage Assistance schemes.

Let's again make Har Ghar Tiranga memorable mass movement: PM Modi

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday urged people to make the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign a memorable mass movement.

"As this year's Independence Day approaches, let's again make #HarGharTiranga a memorable mass movement. I am changing my profile picture and I urge you all to join me in celebrating our Tricolour by doing the same. And yes, do share your selfies on <https://harghartiranga.com>," PM Modi posted on his X handle.

He has replaced his profile picture with the national flag on his X handle.

PM Modi's HarGhar-Tiranga campaign has evolved into a national movement since it was launched two years ago. The PM in his monthly



'Mann Ki Baat' radio broadcast on July 28 talked about the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan and urged people to upload selfies with the national flag on the 'harghartiranga.com' website. He said the campaign has caught on with every section of society.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah has also appealed to the countrymen to hoist the Tricolour at their homes from

in every Indian across the length and breadth of the nation. I appeal to all citizens to bolster this movement further and participate in it with the same enthusiasm again. Hoist our pride, our Tiranga, at your homes, take a selfie with the Tiranga, and upload it on the Har Ghar Tiranga website: <https://harghartiranga.com>."

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will also launch the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to organise the event ahead of Independence Day 2024.

The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was launched by the Union Ministry of Culture in 2022, as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, commemorating the completion of 75 years of India's independence.

August 9 to 15 under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign and upload their selfies.

Earlier, in a post on the X platform, Union Home Minister Amit Shah called it a national movement and also urged people to continue with the enthusiasm.

"PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji's #HarGharTiranga campaign has evolved into a national movement over the last two years, awakening the basic unity

Underground sounds heard in parts of Wayanad, Kozhikode and Palakkad

IAN S

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Even as the people of Wayanad are slowly recovering from the devastating July 30 landslides which left 413 people dead and 152 still missing, there was tension and fear in certain areas of Wayanad, Palakkad, and Kozhikode after locals heard sounds coming from under the ground on Friday, though seismic

experts have ruled out any cause for worry.

The sounds were heard at around 10.30 a.m. on Friday.

At Ambalavayal in Wayanad, villagers and school children felt the sound and tremors and ran out on to the roads.

Similar incidents were reported at Kuderinjil in Kozhikode district. These two places are located in a radius of 50 sq km.

Likewise in Palakkad

district, a tremor was felt around the same time.

With the TV channels taking it up in a big way, the National Center for Seismology after their investigation into what happened ruled that it was not an earthquake and there was nothing to be concerned about.

The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority ruled out an earthquake after their preliminary studies and said they will study

what happened in detail. The Geological Survey of India officials also ruled out an earthquake.

A retired seismic expert pointed out that these could be just natural movements of the earth. There have been instances in the past when such a phenomenon happened in and around the area where a landslide had taken place. Many residents in these areas have said they experienced the windows rattling.

Rajya Sabha showdown Chairman Dhankhar fumes as Jaya Bachchan questions his 'tone'

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Rajya Sabha proceedings on Friday witnessed a heated face-off between the House Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar and Samajwadi Party MP Jaya Bachchan.

The verbal altercation saw Jaya Bachchan taking umbrage at Chairman's 'tone' and the latter clapping back at the Samajwadi Party MP.

During the proceedings, Dhankhar invited her to speak and said: "Jaya Amitabh Bachchan is the last speaker on this point." This apparently left Jaya Bachchan miffed as she questioned the chair's tone and termed it 'unacceptable'.

"I, Jaya Amitabh Bachchan, want to say that I am an artist and I understand body language and expression. I am sorry to say that but your tone ... is not acceptable," she said.

To this, Jagdeep Dhankhar erupted in anger, asked her to take the seat and advised everyone to follow the House decorum irrespective of anyone's stature.

This followed an uproar by the Opposition benches

as they protested against Dhankhar's angry rebuke to Jaya Bachchan.

However, the Rajya Sabha chairman was in no mood to relent and cited instances when he went out of the way to address members' concerns and ensure smooth functioning of the House.

"You may be a celebrity but everyone has to follow the decorum. Never carry an impression that only you have reputation," he angrily told the Samajwadi Party MP.

Dhankhar said that he has 'highest respect' for fellow Parliamentarians but this doesn't give somebody a 'licence' to hurl accusations at the Chair.

As the showdown played out in the Upper House, the Opposition members staged a walkout.

Later, speaking to the press, Jaya Bachchan said that she felt humiliated and upset at the tone used by the Chairperson and demanded an apology for the same.

She also claimed that the mike of the Leader of Opposition was switched off when he stood up to speak.

India to surpass China to become world's largest 2-wheeler market in 2024

IAN S

NEW DELHI: India is projected to surpass China this year to become the world's largest two-wheeler (2W) market, a report said on Friday.

The robust economic growth, consumer preference for 2Ws for short-distance commutes, and increasing 2W demand in the shared mobility space will help India overtake China, according to Counterpoint Research.

The electric E2W market is growing at a rapid clip, with 2024 sales penetration expected to be 1.5 times that of four-wheeler passenger EVs.

The two-wheeler sales grew by less than 1 per cent YoY in 2023. Going forward, it is the electric two-wheeler (E2W) segment of the market that will see more growth, with over a quarter of 2Ws sold in 2024 expected to be battery-powered.

Senior analyst Soumen Mandal said that the 2W market is heading towards maturity, but the adoption of electrification is expected to rise significantly, particularly after 2025. "Especially, Southeast Asian countries and India will witness mainstream adop-

tion of E2Ws with a faster transition to EVs in these markets," he mentioned.

Among the top 10, three E2W brands are from India -- Ola Electric, TVS Motor and Ather Energy reflecting India's emerging presence in the E2W market. Ola and Ather are also greenfield "EV-first" 2W companies challenging the incumbents such as TVS, Hero and Bajaj.

"In the premium 2W segment, we are seeing the entry of newer players such as Ultraviolet, Revolt Motors, Energica Motor, Damon and ARC Vehicle to compete with Harley Davidson, Enfield, Yamaha and others," said the report.

The global E2W share in the electric 2W sales will reach 44 per cent by 2030, while cumulative E2W sales will exceed 150 million units between 2024 and 2030, driving global scale for the emerging E2W value chain.

Research Vice President Neil Shah said that similar to the four-wheeler market, they are seeing the 2W market transforming to embrace connectivity, especially against the backdrop of increasing electrification.

Constitution powerful tool to curb inequalities: CJI Chandrachud

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Constitution is a powerful tool to curb disparities, and it creates institutions and structures which are meant to guard against inequality, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said at the 13th Convocation ceremony of O.P. Jindal Global University.

"The Constitution provides for checks and balances within these institutions and also stipulates institutional priorities and obligations towards citizens of the country. Constitutional longevity speaks of the wisdom of our framers who were prescient enough to incorporate grounding elements into the Constitution without turning it into a rigid normative, and thus a brittle document," he said.

The CJI also said the Constitution, while being a sturdy foundation for our democracy, is also sufficiently flexible, adding that in reality, justice means different things in different contexts and it takes a compassionate eye to spot injustices around them.

The 13th Convocation of O.P. Jindal Global University saw nearly 3,100 of its students graduate from its 10 diverse schools which include Law, Business, Banking and Finance, Behavioural Sciences, Psychology, Public Health Environment, Art and Architecture Journalism, Liberal Arts and Humanities, Gov-

ernment and Public Policy and International Affairs.

The recipients of the academic gold, silver and bronze medals were conferred the award in the presence of the Chief Justice of India, and the Chancellor, and the Vice Chancellor of the university.

During his speech, Justice Chandrachud also implored the students to spend their days and lives not only as ambassadors of their alma mater, but also as the voices of reason in a clutter of noise.

"The danger to our societies today is the clutter of noise and we need the voice of reason among the voices of unbridled passion," he said.

"Take this opportunity of

personal transition to envision your goals not only as individuals, but also as members of the society. We know better than to assume that justice is capable of a single definition or that it is the exclusive concern of courts and legislatures. Far from it being the exclusive domain of lawyers, one does not even need to know the law to spot vacuums in our decisions, policies and institutional choices.

"Economists among you would perhaps similarly spot the cost of low female workforce participation to the country's fiscal progress or the cost of women's unpaid labour as home-makers.

"Similarly, students of archi-

ecture would perhaps have an eye for structural and design choices that are not conducive to the needs of women, or persons with physical disabilities. An investigative journalistic report could bring forth the pervasiveness of all of these problems. And there are no straightjacket or strictly legal solutions to some of these problems. The solutions, like the issues themselves, are nuanced. They require a compassionate, sincere professional solution, which you are all now capable of devising," the CJI concluded.

The Founding Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University, Naveen Jindal, lauded the achievements of the students.

Govt of Jammu and Kashmir
DEPARTMENT OF SHEEP HUSBANDRY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SHEEP HUSBANDRY OFFICER BUDGAM
(Phone No 01951-255229 mail Id:- budgamdsho@gmail.com)

Subject:- Selection of beneficiaries under RKVY Scheme for the year 2024-25

NOTIFICATION NO (08) OF 2024

All the applicants who have applied in response to this office notification no. 03 OF 2024 dated 05-06-2024 are hereby informed that the selection of the beneficiaries for the notified income generating departmental scheme shall be made on 13-August-2024 at 11:30 am (Tuesday) through draw of lots under the chairmanship of undersigned at district sheep husbandry office Budgam along with other members of the designated committee. All the interested applicants are requested to participate on the scheduled date and time.

NO; DSHOB/TECH/UNITS/2024-25/2457-62
Dated: 08-08-2024

District Sheep Husbandry Officer Budgam

DIPK-4476-24
Dt: 09/08/2024

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
(UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CITY ROADS (SMC) DIVISION SRINAGAR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NIT No:- E-NIT/27/CRD/SMC/SGR/2024-25DATED: 08-08-2024.

For and on behalf of the Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders (in Single cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments.

S.No	Name of Work	Advt. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit @2% of Adv. Cost	Completion days	Class of Contractor	M.H of A/C
1	Upgradation and improvement of road surface from Usman Masjid Sharif to community Hall Usman Abad Lal Bazar Umer Colony C.	15.00	600/-	30000/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
2	Construction of lane 08,lane 10,lane 12,lane 13 and lane 16 Gulshanabad Colony at Zakurabwo cement concrete	25.30	1100/-	50600/-	20 Days	AAV/ BEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
3	Repairing of damaged road and construction of concrete cement road after removing asphalt/tar leading to BhagatShoor and other vital areas from BotshahMohallaLal Bazar	20.00	800/-	40000/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
4	Imp/upgradation of balance portion of lane 06,lane 07,lane A at GulshanabadZakurabwo providing lane Nallah Muck/ Khak-Bajri AND WBM Grade 2nd	4.70	200/-	9400/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
5	Improvement and repairing of road from Masjid Taqwa to Masjid Ziaul-Quran	12.76	600/-	25520/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
6	Imp/Upgradation of Noor Shah Colony Lane No.01 Sector B by way of p/I WBM Grade work at Syed PoraEidgahSgr	19.24	800/-	38480/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
7	Reinforcing cement pavement at Sonar Lane near Masjid Taqwa-Firdous Colony EidgahSgr	20.60	800/-	41200/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
8	Imp/Upgradation of link road Gulshanabad New Colony Noor Bagh by way of p/I of WBM Grade work (RathporaEidgah).	13.50	600/-	27000/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
9	Improvement/Upgradation of link road of SazganPoraWani Masjid Hawal by way of p/I of cement concrete	10.72	600/-	21440/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
10	Construction of link road from Alamdar Colony with Danmar	14.50	600/-	29000/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
11	Construction of link road at Sidiq Abad New Colony Iwakadal-Saidapora near Al- Habibi School Brewer	3.00	200/-	6000/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
12	Imp/upgradation of road Shah-i-Villayat Colony at Ali Masjid Hawal road Eidgah by way of p/I of WBM AND Grade 2nd	3.99	200/-	7980/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
13	Link road connected Mirjanpora to TarbalEidgah by way of WBM works	4.55	200/-	9100/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
14	Soiling,metalling& WBC to remaining portion of link road at Syed Kamal-ud-Din Colony Wanganpora,EidgahSgr	6.27	300/-	12540/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
15	Imp/Upgradation of lane from opposite side Masjid Abu Hanfiya R.A Brlwar Aiwa-Kadal by way of providing WBM grade work at Eidgah W-51	5.28	300/-	10560/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
16	Imp/Upgradation of link lane near Youth Rehabilitation Centre grid road by way of providing AND laying WBM AND Grade 2nd at EidgahWanganpora W-50.	1.80	200/-	3600/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
17	Imp/upg of road at KarnabaTakenwari.	7.64	300/-	15280/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
18	Construction of Lane near H/o ZulfikarHyder, Mohammad Siddiq Sheikh and others at Hubi Colony Soura	1.24	200/-	2480/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
19	Upgradation of road at Khushipora HMT	10.00	600/-	20000/-	12 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
20	Upgradation of lane at P.C Depo Bund road near Bhat Masjid Parimpora	4.27	200/-	8540/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
21	Improvement/upgradation of various lanes at MominabadBat-malloo BWO p/I KhakBajri/ Nallah Muck and WBM grade -II	24.00	800/-	48000/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
22	Imp/upg of various inner links from Masjid Irshad on P.C Pepo bund road at Parimpopra by way of p/I Nallah Muck/ KhakBajri and Grade 2nd	31.50	1100/-	63000/-	20 Days	AAV/ BEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
23	Upgradation of lane from H/O Gh. Ahmed Sofi to H/o MrsRehana W/o Noor ud Din WanabalRawalpora	4.00	200/-	8000/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
24	Construction of road by way of Grade 1 & Grade 2 from Farooq Ahmad Malik near land of Kaiser upto lane no. 05 at Alnoor Colony YavelWanabal	8.50	600/-	17000/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
25	Upg/Development of road surface by way of p/I of Nallah Muck and WBM Grade 2nd at Wavosa Lane No. 2,Rangthi	6.48	300/-	12960/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
26	Development/Upgradation of road surface of Hamdaniya Colony Sector-11 by way of p/I of Nallah Muck/ KhakBajri and WBM Grade 2nd	15.60	800/-	31200/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
27	Upgradation/development of link at Haji Abad Hamdaniya colony by way of P/L of GSB and WBM Grade 2 from H/o Parvaiz Ahmad Mir to GhulamYahya	2.01	200/-	4020/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
28	Development/upg of road surface inner lanes of Bemina along Goripora,KooliporaKhumaniChowk by way of p/I of Nallah Muck/ KhakBajri and WBM Grade 2nd	39.06	1100/-	78120/-	20 Days	AAV/ BEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
29	Development/Upgradation of road surface at Hamdaniya Colony BeminaDurbal from H/o Bashir Ahmad Matoo to the H/o Nazir Ahmad and M.ShafiWani by way of p/I of Nallah Muck/ KhaakBajri and WBM Grade 2nd	1.54	200/-	3080/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
30	Development of link road BWO GSB,G-II from main link road H/O M Abdullah Dar via Aijaz Husain Gania and othes at Bi-BiKhateja Lane KooliporaKhumaniChowkBemina	6.62	300/-	13240/-	10 Days	CEE/ DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
31	Imp/upg of bylane No.01 of Lane No. 07 at MominabadBat-malloobwo p/I Nallah Muck filling AND Grade 2nd	3.30	200/-	6600/-	10 Days	DEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25
32	Improvement/upgradation of various lanes at MominabadBat-malloo BWO p/I KhakBajri/ Nallah Muck and WBM grade -II	24.00	800/-	48000/-	20 Days	BEE/ CEE Class	Capex Budget 2024-25

AAA: Accorded.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, Drawings, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule of dates given below:

Scheduled Dates & Time of Online Tenders.			
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice Online	09-08-2024.	
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	FROM 09-08-2024 10:00 A.M	
3.	Bid submission Start Date	09-08-2024	FROM 10:00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	16-08-2024	UPTO 4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	17-08-2024 at 10:00 A.M in the office of the Executive Engineer City Roads SMC Division Srinagar.	

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of introducing Bank Receipt as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No: 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (With NIT No. and S.No. of work mentioned) by simply uploading a copy of necessary Bank Receipt.
- Bids must be accompanied with Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) @2% of the advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar which shall be uploaded with the tender documents at the time of tendering. The same shall be released after receipt of 5% of performance security which should be valid till completion of DLP from the successful Bidder.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar (Tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain Valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The lowest bidder (L1) also called the successful Bidder has to produce a performance security amount equal to 5% (five percent) of the contract value in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG immediately after the opening of financial bids, but prior to fixation of contract. The validity period of the FDR/ BG for requisite amount shall be upto DLP. Any FDR/ BG having less validity period shall not be entertained. The CDR/ FDR/ BG shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).
- If any bidder / tenderer withdraws/ modified his bid during the period of validity etc, the Department is at liberty to suspend the bidder for one year or as shall be deemed suitable by the tender inviting Authority. Same shall hold good if the bidder fails to produce performance security within the specified time.
- The successful bidder (L1) shall have to furnish hard copy of the uploaded documents viz Registration card duly renewed, Valid GST Registration, PAN Card, GSTR-3B etc. alongwith Treasury Challan Receipt.
- The execution of works falling under the jurisdiction of LAWDA shall be subject to NOC from LCMA (LAWDA) Department.

NIT/27/CRD/SMC/SGR/2024-25/e-tendering/ _____ DATED:- 08-08-2024.

DIPK-4409-24
Dt: 09/08/2024

Executive Engineer,
City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar.

NBCC Bags 15,000 Cr Work Order To Develop Satellite Township In Srinagar

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: State-owned firm NBCC has bagged a big-ticket Rs 15,000 crore contract from the Jammu & Kashmir government to develop a 406-acre satellite township project in Srinagar.

NBCC is into project management consultancy and real estate business.

In a regulatory filing on Friday, the company informed that it has bagged this project from Srinagar Development Authority.

The nature of the work is the development of a satellite township spread over 406-acre at Rakh-e-Gund Akshah, Bemina, Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir.

The value of the contract is Rs 15,000 crore.

Later in a statement, NBCC Ltd said it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) on August 8 for implementing the



development of this satellite township.

The project site is located adjacent to the upcoming Medi City and High Court Complex.

"NBCC will implement the project from 'concept to commissioning' as project management and marketing consultant at an estimated cost of Rs 15,000 crore approximately," the statement said.

The project, scheduled for completion over five years, will be developed in phases and will include a diverse range

villas, commercial spaces and other components of the development," NBCC said.

The project will also aim to achieve GRIHA or IGBC certification, ensuring it meets high standards of sustainability and environmental performance.

Upon completion, the project will serve as the New Town Centre for Srinagar residents and a major attraction for tourists.

The MoU was signed by Owais Ahmed, Vice Chairman, SDA and Sanjay Gupta, Executive Director, NBCC.

It was signed in the presence of Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary of the Housing and Urban Development Department, J&K Government; K P Mahadevaswamy, Chairman and Managing Director, NBCC and Ravi Arora, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Director YSS Participates in 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Plantation Drive

AZHAR HAJINI

JAMMU: The Director Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K Subhash Chander Chibber kicked off a Plantation Drive as part of the 'Swachhta Pakhwada programme. The event took place at Khel Goan Nagrota, where the importance of environmental conservation and community engagement was highlighted.

Accompanying Director YSS were Deputy Director Central Jatiner Mishra, Deputy Director Planning Ravi Kumar, DYSSO Jammu Sunil Kumar and other officers and officials of the Department. A total of 150 students actively participated in this initiative.



The primary objective of this programme was to instill a sense of cleanliness and sanitation among the youth, promote community involvement in Swachhta Pakhwada, and cultivate a culture of responsibility towards maintaining cleanliness

and hygiene. The activities included mass mobilization of youth, sports for cleanliness, and encouraging youth participation in community initiatives.

Director YSS emphasised the importance of environmental conservation and the role of youth

in shaping a sustainable future. "The Plantation Drive serves as a stepping stone towards a cleaner and greener environment, fostering a sense of pride and ownership among the youth for their surroundings" he added.

Later on Director YSS along with other officers of the Department inspected the ongoing construction works of Playfields, athletic track, Hockey turf and indoor complex Hall at Khel Goan Nagrota. He was briefed by Deputy Director planning Ravi Sharma about the pace of work. Director YSS directed the concerned executing agency to complete the work as per the allotment without any delay.

18 years on, vital bridge in Awantipora awaits completion

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: A vital bridge on river Jhelum at Dogripora area in South Kashmir's Awantipora is awaiting completion for the last 18 years.

Locals said that the foundation of the bridge was laid in the year 2006 during the PDP-Congress regime, but only around 70 per cent of the work has been completed.

Mohammad Shaban, a local resident, said that over the years, many people have drowned while crossing Jhelum via boat.

Such accidents wouldn't have taken place had this bridge been completed on time, he said, adding that this bridge would connect dozens of villages with the national highway at Pujteng Sethar and over 50 villages



with the Railway Station Panzgam, Pulwama.

He said the project is under Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation Limited (JKPCC).

"Every year, the work is being executed hardly for a month or two and is being left midway, due

to which we are facing a lot of problems," Zahoor Ahmad another local said.

Locals said that they have knocked on the doors of every authority in this regard but nothing happened on the ground. "We have met Governors and their advisors as well who

assured us that the work will start soon; however, the promises proved a hoax on the ground," they said.

They said currently, the work has been put on halt and there is no word from the administration about the resumption of the work.

The residents urged the administration to look into the matter and complete the bridge.

Er Manzoor Ahmad, Beigh, Executive Engineer R&B division Awantipora told KNO that the tendering process of balance work of the bridge will be done within the next 10 days after which the work will be resumed.

He assured that the bridge will be completed soon so that people could heave a sigh of relief—(KNO)

Congress sounds poll bugle in J&K

Seeks list of potential candidates from district presidents

MANZOOR-UL-HASSAN

SRINAGAR: The Congress Party has begun the process of selecting candidates for all 90 assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Vikar Rasool has asked the presidents of District Congress Committees (DCCs) to send the names of potential candidates within three days. This comes a day after senior party leaders from Jammu and Kashmir held a series of meetings with the party high command in New Delhi, according to reports.

The directive also coincided with the Election Commission of India's visit to the UT in preparation for the upcoming assembly elections.

Rasool said that the DCC presidents had been asked to shortlist three to five names from each assembly segment before sending them to the JKPCC president.

He said that leaders working at the grassroots



and with winning prospects would be given priority.

"The focus is on selecting candidates with popularity, clean backgrounds, and high winning chances," he said, promising to consider every aspect.

The Congress party would contest all 90 seats in J&K, and efforts were made to ensure early candidate selection to avoid any confusion or conflicts at the time of ticket distribution, he added.

The JKPCC chief stated that Congress has done an internal survey of all assembly segments and leaders, which would also be consulted before finalising candidates.

The shortlisted names will be sent to the All India Congress Committee (AICC) for final approval, he added—(KNO)

SWACHHTA PAKHWADA

SMC launches targeted cleanliness drives at key transportation hubs

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has taken proactive measures to elevate cleanliness standards at crucial transportation hubs within the city including Bus Terminals/Stands, Railway Station, and the airport through the implementation of the Swachhta Pakhwada Campaign.

This Campaign is aimed at fostering a culture of cleanliness and environmental responsibility among all stakeholders.

In a concerted effort to achieve this goal, SMC has launched targeted cleanliness drives at these key transportation hubs. These drives involve systematic waste disposal activities and sanitation efforts carried out by dedicated SMC teams to ensure a pristine and hygienic environment for all individuals.

To reinforce the importance of proper waste disposal practices, SMC has installed informative signage at strategic locations within the city. These signs serve as a visual reminder

to travelers and transport staff about the significance of responsible waste management and the pivotal role they play in maintaining cleanliness and sustainability.

These programs aim to educate participants on the importance of upholding cleanliness standards and promoting a sense of collective responsibility towards preserving a clean environment. Through interactive sessions and engaging activities, participants will be encouraged to actively contribute to the cleanliness drives and embrace sustainable practices in their daily routines.

The Swachhta Pakhwada Campaign underscores SMC's commitment in promoting a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable city for all residents and visitors alike. By collaborating with commuters, transport staff, and other stakeholders, SMC aims to create a positive impact on the overall cleanliness and hygiene levels at these transportation hubs.

Dusty road near SMHS hospital causes health concerns

Officials assure start of resurfacing work within 24 hrs



MUBASHIR ALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: The road stretch between SMHS hospital junction point to Darish Kadal has become a nightmare for both commuters as well as the shopkeepers as the road is full of potholes and layers of dust.

Local shopkeepers expressed their distress, highlighting how the dusty conditions have not only affected their health but also disrupted their businesses.

"Look at the road conditions, the dust is inches thick. Whenever a vehicle passes by, the entire area becomes hazy as flying dust engulfs our shops. It's affecting our health and our livelihood," lamented a shopkeeper.

Visitors to SMHS hospital are also facing challenges. Many are seen covering their faces with cloths to protect themselves from the dust.

Mohammad Hanief, a resident of Ganderbal, voiced his concern, saying, "I have come to see

a patient, but the dust near the hospital poses a health threat not only to visitors but also to the patients inside as well."

Notably, the road stretch is under the revamp programme of Srinagar Smart City and the work started on it has not been completed yet, leaving the road stretch in dilapidated condition.

In response to the growing concerns, a top official from the Srinagar Smart City project assured that the road resurfacing would begin within the next 24 hours.

"The resurfacing work on the road stretch from the SMHS junction to Darish Kadal will commence tonight. We will start with one side and then proceed to the other," the official confirmed.

Meanwhile, locals in the area said that they are hopeful of road resurfacing on the road stretch as early as possible, saying that it would bring a major relief for them to carry out their normal daily life routine—(KNO)

ACB conducts special awareness programmes across J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday conducted special awareness programmes across UT of Jammu and Kashmir in connection with Vigilance Awareness Week to make India free from corruption.

Vigilance Awareness Program 2024 is being celebrated across UT of Jammu and Kashmir. During this week Anti-Corruption Bureau J&K has been organizing seminars at different places wherein speakers from the Bureau speak on the topic Day of Resolution for Freedom from Corruption. Besides, hoardings, banners and posters have been installed at different places throughout the UT of J&K, a statement issued reads.

Government College of Education, Jammu organized week long activities to observe Vigilance Awareness Week in the college campus as per the directions of JKHED. The students organized rally against corruption, slogan writing poster making etc.

On the concluding day of the awareness week SSP, ACB Sandeep Wazir, was the Chief Guest.

The program witnessed detailed presentations by Deedar Singh, DySP ACB related to functioning of ACB, process of lodging complaints against corrupt public servants and the practices to curb menace of corruption.

The presentation was followed by interactive ses-



sion in which Mohd Amir-al-Mansoor CPO answered the queries of students and the staff members of GCOE Jammu.

In the presidential address Principal of the college, Dr Jyoti Parihar expressed her gratitude towards the officers from ACB for conducting the program. She assured that the institution will work towards a corruption free India. The college will also collaborate with law enforcement agencies like ACB towards achieving a common goal that is a progressive and corruption free India. She appreciated the dedication and commitment of the visiting team.

Wazir SSP also reiterated during his interaction with the students that corruption is not just a word, it is a deep-rooted malice

that affects every aspect of our society. It erodes trust, weakens institutions and deprives our fellow citizens of their rightful opportunities. From the smallest bribe to the largest scam, corruption perpetuates inequality, fosters injustice and slows down the wheels of progress. But as daunting as this challenge may seem, it is not insurmountable. A corruption-free India is not just a lofty ideal, it is an achievable goal if become aware citizens and work together.

The program was conducted by Dr Shalini Rana while vote of thanks was presented by Prof Sarita Dogra. The students who acted as student organizers were Neha Bhashal and Anjali Sharma.

ACB Anantnag organized seminar at Town Hall, Dooru, Anantnag. The

speakers viz. Dy.SP Narinder Singh, Inspr. Jalal ud Fani and Inspr. Manzoor Ahmad Beigh from ACB spoke on various issues related to corruption, its evil impact on society and how it can be checked and eradicated from the society.

Speakers gave a detailed presentation on overview of corruption and its evil impact on society. They also informed the audience about functioning of ACB and elaborated on the ways and means for the general public to approach ACB for institution or registration of complaints. They stressed upon the role of general public in combating corruption.

The speakers in general stressed upon common masses to be eyes and ears of Anti-Corruption bodies and contribute their bit towards making UT Corruption free. Contact details of Anti-Corruption Bureau were also shared with the audience for registration of complaints of Corruption. The participants at all the places hailed the efforts of Anti-Corruption Bureau in organizing the seminar and hoped that the initiative will go a long way in creating awareness against corruption among people.

On the fourth day of Vigilance Week, ACB Srinagar held seminars on "Freedom from Corruption" at four locations viz, Directorate of Industries Kashmir, Bemina, Engineering Complex, Rajbagh, Srinagar, Municipal Committee, Budgam and Power Development Department Budgam.

DLSA Srinagar commemorates 'World Tribal Day'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar in collaboration with NGO Justice Foundation Observed 'World Tribal Day' on August 9, 2024, at Nowgam Srinagar.

The event was held under the guidance of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman DLSA Srinagar (PDJ, Srinagar) and under the supervision of Jahangir Ahmed Bakshi, Secretary DLSA Srinagar.

Officials, legal aid defense counsels and para-legal volunteers of DLSA Srinagar attended the event.

On the occasion, food items were distributed among the residents of the Tribal areas of Nowgam, highlighting the authorities' commitment to

improving the lives of marginalized communities.

Sunila (JLA) and Tasneem Kausar, Deputy LADC, highlighted the importance of upholding tribal rights. Urba Rashid and Sehar Nazir emphasized the need for greater awareness and action to protect these communities, underscoring the role of free legal aid in ensuring equitable access to justice for marginalized groups.

DLSA Srinagar is committed to working alongside tribal communities to address their concerns and ensure they have access to justice and essential services.

The event served as a platform for raising awareness about the unique challenges faced by tribal communities and promoting understanding and inclusion.

In JK, 86 Naib Tehsildar posts are lying vacant

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, at least 86 'Naib Tehsildar' posts are lying vacant—"taking a toll on functioning of revenue collection, maintaining land records and administrative tasks".

The official figures accessed reveals that the majority of the Naib Tehsildar posts were lying vacant in the Kashmir division.

According to the official figures revealed by

the Public Information Officer (PIO) in a reply to RTI filed by the activists M M Shuja states that 35 such posts were also lying in Jammu region.

The RTI further states that no post of Naib Tehsildar was lying in Samba and Udhampur districts of Jammu division.

Similarly, from Kashmir region, no post of Naib Tehsildar was lying vacant in Ganderbal district—(KNO)