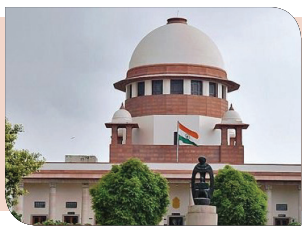


Kashmir Convener



3-Judge SC Bench Likely To Hear On Dec 2 Pleas Challenging Places Of Worship Act 1991

P:02



CM Fadnavis, his deputies take oath as MLAs; Oppn MVA boycotts ceremony to protest EVM 'misuse'

P:07



BSP Cadre May Marry Anyone Cutting Across Party Lines: Mayawati

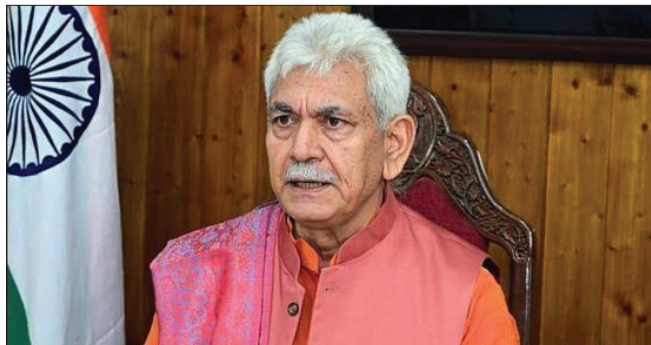
P:02



LG Sinha lauds role of Army in combating terrorism in J&K

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Armed Forces Flag Day was observed today in UT of J&K. To mark the occasion, Armed Forces flag was pinned on the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha in Raj Bhavan. The Lieutenant Governor expressed his gratitude and appreciation by contributing to the "Armed Forces Flag Day Fund" to honour the bravery and supreme sacrifice of valiant soldiers, sailors and airmen. He said our Armed Forces have always remained in the forefront, ever ready to serve the Nation with commitment,



dedication and ready to render valuable service during natural calamities.

"In Jammu Kashmir, the Army

has been playing a crucial role in combating terrorism and providing a secure environment for people, particularly those who live along

the borders and in the remote and far-flung areas of the Union Territory.

With the immense contribution of our armed forces, we have entered a historic fast-track path of socio-economic growth and working with dedication to ensure that the fruit of development reach every corner of the Union Territory," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor appealed to the people of the UT of J&K, particularly the privileged sections of society, to donate liberally to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, as a token of remembrance

>>SEE ON P-7

"Govt committed to citizen-centric governance": CM Omar

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a significant step toward enhancing direct communication with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today conducted his inaugural public interaction at the Chief Minister's Public Services and Outreach Office—christened as Raabita.

He at the occasion said that this office has been established to provide a dedicated platform for addressing public grievances and for building a healthy relationship between the government and citizens.

As many as 15 delegations met the Chief Minister, each representing various social, cultural



and professional groups.

Issues discussed and brought to the notice of the CM centered around economic challenges, cultural preservation, employment concerns and sectoral development.

Unique cultural heritage preservation also featured prominently in the discussions, with delegations advocating for initiatives to

>>SEE ON P-7

NC govt will eliminate injustice inflicted upon people of Jammu: Dr. Farooq

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah Saturday said that under the leadership of Omar Abdullah, the government will rectify the injustices inflicted upon the people of Jammu by the BJP by focusing on promoting equitable



development in all three distinct areas of the region.

He made these comments while meeting with several delegations from Jammu province at his residence in Bhatindi, Jammu. Provincial President Jammu Rattan Lal Gupta, party leaders including Sheikh Bashir, Qazi Jalaludin, Dr. Chaman Lal, Akhter Hussain Malik, Abid Magray, Abdul Gani Teli, Jagdish Verma, DD Mehra, Kuldeep Raj, Joginder, Madan Lal, Ashok Verma, Tejinder Singh were present on the occasion. During interactions with the party's office bearers and visiting delegations, Dr. Farooq emphasized that the government led by Omar Abdullah is actively working to eliminate years of unaccountability that have plagued Jammu. He said that the days of empty promises to the people of Jammu are over and "elected government, which has ensured equitable representation for Jammu in the council of ministers, is dedicated to promoting balanced development across all regions of Jammu." Dr. Farooq highlighted that the regions of Pirpanjal and Chenab, which have been neglected by the government for a decade, will now be prioritized for development.

>>SEE ON P-7



MeT Predicts Light Rains, Snow For Next 2 Days Across J&K

Owais Gul

SRINAGAR: After recording the coldest night of season, the minimum temperature has improved across the Valley while as the weatherman here has predicted light rains and snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir for the next two days.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Shopian in South Kashmir was the coldest place where the mercury settled at minus 4.5 degree Celsius.

In Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, the night temperature has improved as against previous night's minus 4.1 degree Celsius, it has settled at minus 2.0 degree Celsius,

which is the third lowest of the season so far.

As per the details, Pahalgam, a famous tourist destination and Bandipora were the second coldest places at minus 4.3 degree Celsius while in Gulmarg, a ski-resort, the mercury settled at minus 3.6 degree Celsius. Similar night temperature was recorded at Kupwara in north Kashmir as well.

Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir recorded a low of minus 2.4 degree Celsius while Kokernag in South Kashmir recorded a minimum temperature of minus 2.2 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, Director Meteorological department (MeT) has predicted generally cloudy weather

>>SEE ON P-7

"Hold Peace Like Your Children: Former GoC 15 Corps Pandey

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lt Gen D P Pandey (Retd), former General Officer Commanding (GoC) of 15 Corps, urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to cherish the hard-earned peace and nurture it like their own children.

"Stability and peace have come here after great sacrifices," said Lt Gen Pandey on the sidelines of the Kashmir Literature Festival, "I would like to hope that you hold it like your children, nurture it, and help it mature so that future generations can grow in a conflict-free environment."

The retired officer noted the transformation in the region, emphasizing the newfound hope and smiles among the people. "A few years ago, I said Kashmiris don't smile. Today, I see people smiling everywhere, recording videos, and embracing positivity. This is a major change that symbolizes the progress we've made," he said.

Addressing the youth, Lt Gen Pandey stressed their role in shaping Kashmir's future, urging them to steer away from drugs, radicalization, and negativity. "You are the future of this region. If you want a brighter tomorrow, you must take responsibility, walk on the path of modernity, and embrace a pluralistic society," he advised.

He also highlighted the importance of intellectual and cultural platforms like the literature festival in fostering maturity and awareness. "The arena of sports, politics, and debates are different, but a literature festival shows that the youth and senior citizens are

becoming aware of books. This is a significant step towards normalcy," he added according to KNS correspondent.

He called on both the ruling government



and the opposition to ensure that Kashmir's hard-earned peace is preserved.

"I hope that the present government and the opposition, together, will not let anything disturb the peace we have regained with so much sacrifice," said Lt Gen Pandey. "It is vital for all sides to act responsibly so that the progress we see today is not undone."

Reflecting on the hardships of the past, he acknowledged the pain endured by the common people during prolonged unrest. "During the disturbances, it was the common man – the farmer, the

>>SEE ON P-7

Union Cabinet Approves 13 New Kendriya Vidyalayas for J&K

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of 13 new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) in Jammu and Kashmir, aiming to enhance access to quality education in the region.

In Jammu, the new KV's will be set up in Gool (Ramban), Bani and Ramkote (Kathua), Reasi and Kakriyal Katra, Mughal Maidan (Kishtwar), Gulpur (Poonch), Vijaypur (Samba),

and Panchari (Udhampur).

In the Kashmir Valley, KV's are approved for Drugmulla (Kupwara), Ratnipora, and Galander Chandhara (Pulwama).

Jammu and Kashmir has received the highest allocation of KV's among all states and union territories in this announcement.

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh expressed

gratitude to the Prime Minister for the initiative, stating:

"Thanks PM Sh @narendramodi ji for giving special consideration to Jammu and Kashmir."

Union Cabinet approves 13 new Kendriya Vidyalayas for different locations across J&K, out of which over 50% fall in Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency."

Statehood Restoration Must Happen Without Delay: Minister Satish Sharma

Rehan Qayoom Mir

SRINAGAR: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs in Jammu and Kashmir, Satish Sharma on Saturday called



for the restoration of the region's statehood and the rights, stating that the need for the central government is to prioritize the well-

being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir by providing the facilities and opportunities they rightfully deserve.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) speaking on the sidelines of a function, Sharma appealed for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. "We need to regain the rights taken from us and restore our statehood as soon as possible. Over the past 30 years, particularly in the last six, we have witnessed immense challenges. Instead of being supported, we have often been hindered."

He called on the central government to prioritize the region's welfare. "The Central Government must ensure

>>SEE ON P-7

Chief Secretary Visits Jagti To Listen To Grievances Of Migrants



KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Saturday conducted a visit of Jagti Migrant Camp housing Kashmiri Pandits, to take stock of the amenities available there besides listening to the issues raised by the camp inmates there.

Besides the Principal Secretary, Home and DMRR&R Departments the Chief Secretary was accompanied

by Deputy Commissioner, Jammu; Commissioner, JMC; SSP, Jammu; Relief Commissioner; Director, School Education Jammu; Director, Health Services, Jammu; Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti and other concerned officers.

During this visit the Chief Secretary went around the Sub-District Hospital and the Higher Secondary School established there. He took first hand appraisal of the facilities being extended to

the citizens in these institutions.

On this occasion he directed the hospital authorities to start performing general anaesthesia (GA) based surgeries in the hospital forthwith. He also enjoined upon them to take measures to upgrade the public services in the hospital for the benefit of all the locals living in and around the camp besides lessening the referrals from this hospital.

While inspecting the Government Higher Secondary School he took note of the staff and subjects taught in this educational institutions. He asked for proper maintenance of the school premises and provisioning of sufficient number of teachers in each subject taught here.

While speaking in the public grievances camp held here he maintained that the government is committed to

>>SEE ON P-7

Army Chief Chairs Tri-Services Meeting In Udhampur, Reviews Operational Preparedness

Yogesh

JAMMU: Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi Saturday chaired Tri-services meeting of the Army, Air Force and Navy in the Northern Command headquarters in Udhampur to review the operational preparedness.

A defense spokesperson told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Army Chief was briefed about the operational preparedness under the area of responsibility, particularly in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

He said that the meeting was attended by senior officers of the Army, Air Force, Navy and also the Indo Tibet Border Police (ITBP).

The Indian Army, in a post

on X, said that the Army Chief also chaired discussions aimed at further enhancing joint capability.

It said that General Upendra also inspected latest inducted state



of the art weapons, equipment and other logistic assets. "He also commended all ranks of the Northern Command for their professionalism

>>SEE ON P-7

3-Judge SC Bench Likely To Hear On Dec 12

Pleas Challenging Places Of Worship Act 1991

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has constituted a special bench to hear a batch of PILs challenging the validity of certain provisions of a 1991 law that prohibits filing a lawsuit to reclaim a place of worship or seek a change in its character from what prevailed on August 15, 1947.

A three-judge bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K V Viswanathan is likely to hear the matter on December 12 at 3:30 pm.

The top court is seized of the pleas, including one filed by Ashwini Upadhyay who has prayed that sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 be set aside. Among the various reasons submitted was the contention that these provisions take away the right of judicial remedy to reclaim a place of worship of any person or a religious group.

The matter will be heard in the backdrop of several suits filed in various courts, including related to Gyanvapi Mosque in Varanasi, Shahi Idgah Mosque in Mathura and Shahi Jama Masjid in Sambhal, claiming that these were built after destroying ancient temples and seeking permission to offer Hindu certain provisions to enable Hindus to stake claim over the Gyanvapi Mosque

had cited the five-judge Constitution bench judgement in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title case, noting the reference to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, to argue that the law cannot be set aside now.

The top court had on March 12, 2022, sought the Centre's response to the plea filed by Upadhyay challenging the validity of certain provisions of the law.

The petition alleged that the 1991 law creates an "arbitrary and irrational retrospective cut-off date" of August 15, 1947, for maintaining the character of the places of worship or pilgrimage against encroachment done by "fundamentalist-barbaric invaders and law-breakers".

The 1991 law prohibits conversion of any place of worship and provides for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The law had made only one exception — on the dispute pertaining to the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri masjid in Ayodhya.



prayers there. The Muslim side in most of these cases have cited the 1991 law to argue that such suits are not maintainable.

As many as six petitions, including those filed by former Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy, have been filed against the provisions of the 1991 law.

While former Union minister Swamy wanted the apex court to "read down" in Varanasi and Shahi Idgah Mosque in Mathura, Upadhyay claimed the entire statute was unconstitutional and no question of reading down arises.

The doctrine of reading down a law is generally used to save a statute from being struck down on account of its unconstitutionality.

On the other hand, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind

CM Fadnavis, his deputies take oath as MLAs; Oppn MVA boycotts ceremony to protest EVM ‘misuse’

MUMBAI: Two days after being sworn in as Maharashtra Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday took oath as an MLA along with deputy CMs Eknath

tem assembly speaker Kalidas Kolambkar soon after the proceedings began at 11 am.

Before them, Chainsukh Sancheti, Jaykumar Rawal (both

members of the treasury benches by thumping their desks. Some members raised slogans of 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Jai Bhavani, Jai Shivaji'.

Deputy CM Eknath Shinde was also greeted with similar slogans with BJP's Ashish Shelar, Girish Mahajan and Ravindra Chavan, thumping their desks before he took oath.

Deputy CM Ajit Pawar sported a traditional red 'pheta' (head gear) with golden border. His party members raised 'Ekach (only one) Dada, Ajit Dada'. Pawar, who represents the Baramati assembly seat, was first elected as an MLA in 1991. Talking to reporters on the premises of the Vidhan Bhavan about the opposition's boycott, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray said, "The MVA has decided not to take oath as members of the house on day one." "When a government comes to power with such a thumping majority, there are celebrations. But a question arises whether the mandate it received was given by the people or (got with the help of) the EVMs and the Election Commission of India," he said.

BJP, Manikrao Kokate (NCP) and Ashish Jaiswal (Shiv Sena) took oath as they have been appointed as members of the pro-tem speaker's panel by Governor C P Radhakrishnan. They were the first to take oath as members of the House on Saturday.

CM Fadnavis, who represents the Nagpur South-West assembly constituency, took oath as a member of the state legislature's Lower House for the sixth time, having been first elected as an MLA in 1999. As Fadnavis' name was called out by the pro-tem speaker, he was greeted by

Shinde and Ajit Pawar, while the opposition MVA boycotted the ceremony alleging EVM misuse.

The opposition members refused to take oath as members of the of the newly-constituted legislative assembly on the first day of the three-day special session of the House, as they raised question marks over the ruling Mahayuti alliance's massive mandate and the trustworthiness of the electronic voting machines (EVMs).

Fadnavis, Shinde and Pawar were administered the oath of office as MLAs by pro-



BSP Cadre May Marry Anyone Cutting Across Party Lines: Mayawati

LUCKNOW: BSP chief Mayawati has refuted reports that a leader was expelled from the party for getting his son married to the daughter of an SP legislator. She asserted that the BSP cadre was free to marry anyone cutting across party lines.

Bahujan Samaj Party's (BSP) Rampur district unit president Surendra Sagar's son recently tied the knot with the daughter of Samajwadi Party (SP) MLA from Alapur in Ambedkar Nagar district Tribhuvan Dutt. Earlier, Dutt was associated with the BSP but joined the SP before the 2022 UP Assembly elections.

In a series of posts on X in Hindi on Friday night, Mayawati said

Sagar and the current district president of BSP in Rampur, Pramod Kumar, were expelled from the party due to a simmering dispute between them and had nothing to do with the marriage.

"The quarrel between former party president of Rampur district Surendra Sagar and current party president Pramod Kumar was at its peak due to which the party's work was suffering. Both of them were expelled and it has got nothing to do with the marriage," Mayawati said.

"The party (BSP) is not concerned with the personal relationships of its cadre. People are free to marry anyone they want. It all depends on their thinking. But be cautious of those who spread false propaganda about this," Mayawati said.

In another tweet, Mayawati said party members were barred from attending the wedding of former BSP MP Munqad Ali's son because his daughter contested the state Assembly by-election from Meerapur on an SP ticket. SP candidate from Meerapur Assembly constituency Sumbul Rana is married to former MP Qadir Rana's son Shah Mohammad.



CISF Sets Up Quality Control Unit To Ensure World-Class Aviation Security At Indian Airports

NEW DELHI: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has taken a significant step towards enhancing aviation security by establishing an Internal Quality Control Unit (IQCU) for the Aviation Security Group (ASG) deployed at 68 airports across India, an official said on Saturday.

The IQCU will play a crucial role in establishing world-class security procedures and technology. This initiative is in compliance with the

National Civil Aviation Security Quality Control Programme-2024 (NCASQCP) issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Aircraft (Security) Rules-2023.

As per the CISF, the IQCU shall be part of the Aviation Security Control Center (ASCC) which was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on July 22, 2023.

"The ASCC, with its advanced components like Incident Management Centre, Aviation Research and Data Centre, Centralized Communication Control Centre will work in tandem with the IQCU to meet the current security challenges and enhance the overall security posture of Indian airports. This system will also cover the airports under Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAAN)," said the CISF in a statement.

The IQCU will be led by a senior CISF officer and a team of certified Aviation Security (AVSEC) instructors, national auditors and experienced personnel who will be instrumental in ensuring uniformity in security procedures across all airports through standardized training and evaluation methods.

Other key functions include recommending the adoption of new technologies based on field trials and international best practices, conducting internal inspections and audits based on International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and Bureau of Civil Aviation (BCAS) guidelines to evaluate security operations and implement corrective measures.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MACHINERY DIVISION SRINAGAR

Mechanical & Hospital Engineering Department, Kashmir

Fax No: 0194-2497093 email: xenmds@gmail.com

website: www.medkashmir.org

GIST of e-Tender

e-NIT No:		MDSK/TS/2024-25/76			
Date		06.12.2024			

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railway/State/central Government organization for the below mentioned work: -

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rupees)	E/Cost (In Rupees)	Bid Security/ EMD in (In Rs)	Position of Funds
1	2	3	4	5
SITC/ITC of Sprinkler Irrigation System including HDPE Pipe/LDPE pipeline including allied fittings for Bore Well No. 116 (26.88 Hac) under Implementation of National Mission on Saffron. Site: Gundbal Pampore District: Pulwama	100.00	1607796.00	32155.00	Approved under NMS
SITC/ITC of Sprinkler Irrigation System including HDPE Pipe/LDPE pipeline including allied fittings for Bore Well No. 123 (23.52 Hac) under Implementation of National Mission on Saffron. Site: Parigam District: Pulwama	100.00	1497807.00	29956.00	Approved under NMS

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below :-

01	Publish date	06.12.2024 (18:00 Hrs)
02	Period of downloading of bidding document	06.12.2024 (18:30 Hrs)
03	Bid submission start date	06.12.2024 (18:55 Hrs)
04	Bid submission end date	17.12.2024 (18:55 Hrs)
05	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	18.12.2024 (14:00 Hrs)

No: MDSK/ TS/4793-96

Date: 07.12 .2024

Sd/

Executive Engineer,

Machinery Division,

Srinagar

DIPK-9176/24

73 complaints against vulgar ads on TV channels: Govt tells Parliament

NEW DELHI: Seventy-three complaints have been received against obscene and vulgar advertisements on private television channels by the regulatory bodies over the past three years, the Government has told parliament.

In a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan said the complaints were "suitably" addressed by a three-level grievance redress system.

Murugan said the mechanism, established under the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, includes self-regulation by broadcasters, self-regulation by self-regulating bodies of the broadcasters, and an oversight mechanism of the Central Government.

The Minister said appropriate action is taken wherever violation of the Advertising Code is found by issuance of "Advisories, Warnings, 'Apology Scroll' Orders and Off-air orders."

In reply to a separate question, Murugan said OTT platforms are required to adhere to the Code of Ethics under Part-III of the IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. "These codes are self-regulatory in nature," the Minister said.



Government of (UT) Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

PWD (R&B) DIVISION LANGATE

Office Address: Langate, Near Boys Higher Secondary - 193302

Email id: Exenlangate11@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

e-NIT No: - 33/3157-66/2024-25/RnB/Langate Dated 07/12/2024

Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Langate on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K, e-Tenders are invited (In Single Cover System) on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors Registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments on JKPWDOMS for each of the following works;

S. No	Name of the Work	Est. Cost (in Rs.)	E/Money. (In Rs.)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of Completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
01.	Construction of RCC Culvert at Humpora	Rs. 5.36 Lacs	10720/-	300/-	45 Days	"C & D"	UT Sector

Position of AAA: - Accorded
Position of TS: - Sanctioned

1. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, 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 scheduled date given below.

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	07-12-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 07-12-2024 to 13-12-2024
3	Bid submission Start date	07-12-2024
4	Bid Submission End Date	13-12-2024 (upto 4:00 PM)
5	Date and time of Opening of Bids (Online)	14-12-2024 (10:00 AM) (in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Langate)

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 mentioning there in the name of work/e-NIT No. in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Langate (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Langate. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the value of contract, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. 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 bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site at the Office of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division Langate.

5. The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill requirements as laid down in NIT.

6. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No: - EE/RnB/L/3157-66

Dated: - 07/12/2024

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

R&B Division Langate

DIPK-9219/24

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

WATER WORKS DIVISION SRINAGAR

Exchange Road near BSNL Office

Telephone No: 0194-2452047 email: xenwwd@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 62/WWD/Sgr/Civil of 2024-25; Dated 05.12.2024

For and on behalf of the 'Lt. Governor, UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Water Works Division Srinagar invites e-tenders on percentage rate basis from reputed and resourceful A-Class Contractors/Firms/Companies/ Joint Ventures registered with JKPWD/JS/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for "Construction of OHT at tail end distribution system with complete Electro Mechanical system having 70000 G OHT capacity at Khadimil Aluchi Bagh. (including Operation and Maintenance)", approved under AMRUT-2.0. The bidding process shall be completed online in two cover system with Cover 1st consisting of Qualification Criteria, Tender fee, Bid Security, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications etc. Cover '2nd' shall consist of Financial Bid (BOQ) in the prescribed format.

S: No	Particulars of the work	E/Cost (Lacs)	Cost of Bid document (Rs)	E/Money (Lacs)	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Construction of OHT at tail end distribution system with complete Electro Mechanical system having 70000 G OHT capacity at Khadimil Aluchi Bagh (including Operation and Maintenance)	252.78	1000/- (Exemption Not Allowed)	02% of the estimated cost (Exemption Not Allowed)	180 days	210

Position of funds: Approved Under Amrut 2.0

Key/Critical Dates:

• Publish Date	05.12.2024
• Document Download/Sale Start Date	06.12.2024 at 10:00 AM
• Clarification Start Date	06.12.2024 at 10:00 AM
• Clarification End date	12.12.2024 at 01.00 PM
• Pre-Bid Meeting date	12.12.2024 at 2:00 PM in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Hyd. Circle Srinagar/Ganderbal HQ: Srinagar
• Bid Submission Start Date	06.12.2024 at 10:00 AM
• Document Download/Sale End Date and Bid submission End Date	27.12.2024 at 04:00 PM
• Date and time of Bid opening	28.12.2024 at 2.00 PM in the Office of Tender Opening Authority (TOA)

No: WWD/Sgr/CC/6277-90

Dated:- 07.12.2024

Sd/-

Executive Engineer,

Water Works Division

Srinagar.

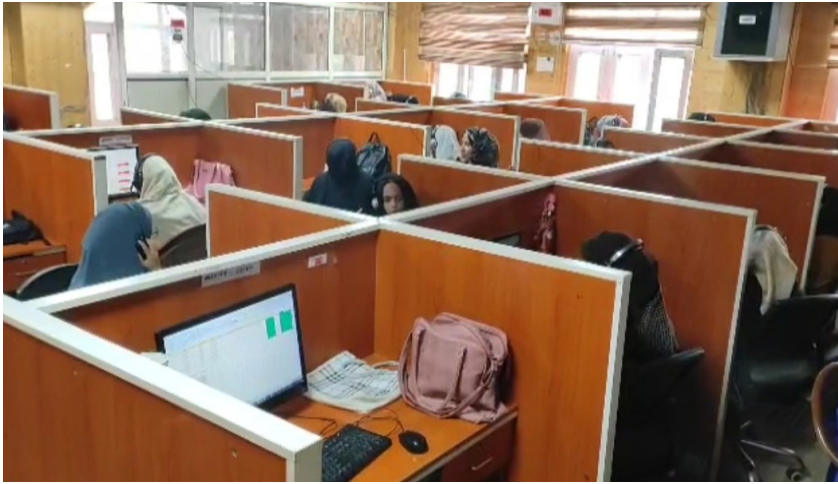
DIPK-9159/24

PM-Inaugurated Rural BPO in Bandipora at Risk of Closure, 200 Jobs in Jeopardy

"Admin Issues Verbal 'Eviction Notice';Contradicts Initial Agreements, Promises from Govt"

Suhail Rather

BANDIPORA: The Rural Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) in Bandipora, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019 under the India BPO Promotion Scheme is facing an alleged "eviction



notice" by the district administration.

This move threatens to leave over 200 young employees jobless, raising concerns about the future of the initiative aimed at providing local employment opportunities.

The Rural BPO has been operating from Mini-Secretariat Bandipora since its inauguration. The Special Space was provided for the establishment by the district administration as per the contract and was prepared in a record weeks' time by converting the then conference Hall into Rural BPO. Bharti Airtel is currently operating the Rural BPO providing

employment to about 200 educated youth of the district.

Centre Head Rural BPO Airtel Suhail Khan told Kashmir Convener that they have not been provided any written notice but they are being forced to relocate to some other location. "District admin-

istration had promised to incentivise the establishment of Rural BPO by providing a completely furnished office space as per the industry standards.

"...Provide capital goods (computer/printers etc.) as per the specification of the entrepreneur. The amount will not exceed Rs. 10,000/-per seat at any given point of time. For special equipment a committee will be placed to find out the need of the project and best cost," Bandipore Admin promises in the EoI.

Besides this, administration was also duty bound to provide Bandwidth/ internet connectivity- Provide Industry standard fiber optic connectivity from 2 ISP's. Skill development/ Employee training incentive

"...Boarding will be provided to employees working with the organization on a first come first serve basis until the available space is occupied at a price determined by the committee with a periodical price revision. Employees will be free to opt for PG accommodation /any private accommodation in Bandipora Backup power- Provide 100% backup power," reads the EoI notified by the district administration in 2019.

However Khan said that Bharti Airtel was motivated to come to Bandipora with these incentives and now the administration is backing off from all its promises made in the EoI that may lead to the closure of Rural BPO leaving 200 youngsters jobless.

For Many years after inauguration, Rural BPO was a point of attraction for all the visiting officers including Advisors and Lieutenant Governor.

The BPO, which has provided employment and training opportunities to hundreds of local youth, is a key initiative aimed at empowering rural areas

through the IT sector.

In Several Review Meetings about functioning of Rural BPO in the past, District Administration is on record acknowledging the Rural BPO being its baby and has bragged about its success for a long time.

District Administration in a review meeting in 2021 informed the then Principal Secretary Industry and Commerce Ranjan Prakash Thakur that the Rural BPO was the first initiative of its kind taken by the District Administration Of Bandipora aimed to create business opportunities for educated youth in the private sector especially in Bandipora where there are less opportunities for educated youth in Government sector.

Officers have time and again reiterated that its establishment has aimed to attract entrepreneurs, investors and MNCs in IT to establish their business units with the ultimate objective of enhancing employment opportunities for the youth in JK.

Meanwhile J&K People's Conference Chairman and Handwara lawmaker Sajad Lone alleged the Rural BPO is being closed-an allegation contested by DC Bandipora.

"The one and only Rural BPO call centre, located in Bandipore was closed down on the verbal directions of DC Bandipora. It is reliably learnt that he termed the BPO illegal and operating without written orders. Ironically Rural BPO scheme was launched by PM and this particular," Lone Wrote on Microblogging website X

DC Bandipora Manzoor Qadri clarified that the BPO had not been shut down but was asked to relocate to a private building, as it is a business entity and cannot operate from government premises.

Training Programme on Childhood Pneumonia Under SAANS Campaign Held at Bandipora

Bandipora: Director Health Services Kashmir in collaboration with Bal Raksha Bharat (Save the Children) under SAANS campaign 2024-25 today organised a one day training programme at mini Secretariat Bandipora.



The programme was a part of project "Breathe of Life" aimed to strengthen the healthcare delivery system and to combat childhood pneumonia in the target group of 0-5 years.

The programme focussed on the training on childhood pneumonia for District level cadre of trainers, medical officers, MLHPs,

JSNs, BPMUs and other concerned from Health Department.

The session was led by District Resource Persons of the SAANS Campaign, Dr. Tafazul Ahmad Mir, Pediatric Consultant at District Hospital Bandipora, and Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Qureshi, Pediatric Consultant at Community Health Centre (CHC) Hajin. The training covered key aspects of pneumonia prevention, diagnosis, and treatment protocols, empowering the local healthcare workforce with critical skills to effectively manage childhood pneumonia cases.

The resource persons highlighted various measures for assessment and management of childhood pneumonia.

They said that through training programmes, the campaign seeks to improve the capacity of healthcare workers in early diagnosis and intervention, ultimately saving lives and ensuring better health outcomes for children.

Among others the training programme was attended by BMO Bandipora Dr.Tahir Ahmad Malik, BMO Hajin Dr. Syed Idress, District Epidemiologist Dr.Nabeel, District Programme management unit, Block Programme management unit and other concerned.

DC Bandipora Convenes Meeting to discuss District Survey Report

Bandipora: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, convened a meeting on Saturday to deliberate on the Comprehensive District Survey Report (DSR) prepared by the Department of Geology and Mining, Bandipora.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl, District Mineral Officer (DMO), Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, AD Fisheries, Tehsildars, and Executive Engineers from the Irrigation & Flood Control and Roads & Buildings (R&B) Departments.



The meeting analyzed the findings of the DSR and discussed its implications for the development of the district. On the occasion, the DC urged the concerned officers to provide inputs and suggestions on leveraging the DSR findings to address local challenges and opportunities effectively.

The DC remarked that the DSR offers valuable insights into the geology, mining potential, and natural resources of the district. He emphasized that the findings of the report would play a pivotal role in informing future planning and decision-making processes for development of the district.

Furthermore, the DC directed the District Mineral Officer to take stringent measures to curb illegal mineral extraction across the district. He instructed all concerned officers to maintain close coordination and promptly address bottlenecks to ensure that the general public does not face any inconvenience.

Indian Army Organizes Lecture on Holistic Security in Surankote

Poonch | In a bid to enhance community awareness and preparedness, the Indian Army conducted a comprehensive lecture on holistic security at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Surankote, Poonch. The initiative aimed to educate participants on various aspects of security, including physical safety, emotional and mental well-being, digital and cyber security, and financial security.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and local residents. Representatives from the Indian Army, along with subject matter experts, led the sessions, providing practical insights and strategies to address modern security challenges.

The lecture commenced with a focus on physical security, where attendees were taught self-defense techniques, situational awareness, and measures to enhance personal safety in public spaces. This was followed by a session on emotional and mental well-being, emphasizing the importance of mental resilience, stress management, and building supportive social networks.

In the digital and cyber security segment, experts educated participants about the rising threats of cybercrimes, phishing, and online fraud. Demonstrations on safeguarding personal data, recognizing scams, and securing devices were particularly well-received.

The session on financial security provided valuable guidance on managing personal finances, identifying fraudulent schemes, and conducting secure digital transactions. Tips on financial planning and preventing economic exploitation were also shared.

This initiative underscores the Indian Army's commitment to not just national defense but also fostering an informed and vigilant society. The interactive program was widely appreciated by the attendees, who commended the Army's efforts to empower local communities with critical knowledge and skills.

GST Enforcement Team South Kashmir realizes Rs.2.62 crore penalty for GST violations

SRINAGAR: In a record achievement vis-a-vis tax violations, the GST Enforcement Team South Kashmir has imposed penalties worth Rs. 2.62 crore



against tax violators during the ongoing financial year 2024-2025.

It is important to mention that the penalties have been realized from erring traders transporting goods in contravention of GST Act and Rules.

The tax impositions have witnessed 26% increase, compared to previous financial year till date.

Significant increase has been witnessed with 46%, 18% and 25% growth during 1st, 2nd and 3rd Quarter as compared to the previous financial year. April, July and October 2024 witnessed growth of 182%, 113% and 28% respectively.

The enforcement drives held under the supervision of Commissioner State Taxes, P K Bhat were led by Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Enforcement South Kashmir, Waseem Raja.

The Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Enforcement South Kashmir revealed that in future the drive against tax violations will be intensified to achieve further deterrence

It was given out that high-risk commodities such as Metal Scrap, Cement, Marble, Plywood, Timber, TMT bars, Hardware Items, Motor Parts, Electrical Goods, and Readymade Garments were targeted during the drives.

In round the clock enforcement activities conducted across the four districts of South Kashmir over two lakh e-way bills were verified which shows an increase of 45% compared to previous financial year 2023-2024 from April to November.

SKUAST-K Launches Second Training on Wicker Willow Cultivation and Entrepreneurship

SRINAGAR: The Division of Silviculture & Agroforestry (SAF), Faculty of Forestry, SKUAST-Kashmir, Benhama Ganderbal, inaugurated its second one-week training programme on "Entrepreneurship Development through Scientific Cultivation and Value Addition of Wicker Willows" on December 6, 2024.

The programme, funded by MSME, was held at the Mission N Coaching Centre, Kangan Ganderbal, and the Faculty of Forestry, Benhama Ganderbal.

The event saw active participation from over 30 attendees, including unemployed youth, farmers, students, and NEET aspirants from the coaching centre. Dr. Nazir A. Pala, Associate Professor and Programme Coordinator, opened the session with an in-

troductory address, emphasizing the economic potential of the wicker industry in Ganderbal.



He highlighted that many families in the district earn their livelihood through wicker-based entrepreneurship and value addition.

Dr. G.M. Bhat, Head of the

Division of SAF, discussed nursery development, planting techniques, and the importance of quality planting material. Dr. Tariq Rather, Assistant Professor, provided insights into scientific cultivation and nursery management of wicker willows, while Dr. Megna Rashid, Scientist, highlighted the vital role of women in the wicker industry.

The programme includes practical training sessions, field visits, and demonstrations of wicker-based products. Dr. Pala thanked the MSME, university administration, Nodal Officer, Director Planning and Monitoring Prof. Haroon Naik, and Dean Faculty of Forestry for their support in making this initiative successful.

Three-Day Sports Activities for Children of Palaash and Pareesha Conclude in Bandipora

BANDIPORA: The three-day sports activities for children from Palaash and Pareesha Child Care Institutions (CCIs) concluded today in Bandipora.



The event was organized by the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) under Mission Vatsalya, aimed at promoting the overall well-being and development of children in care institutions.

The children participated enthusiastically in indoor games including chess and carrom, showcasing their skills, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

The event served as a platform for them to engage in healthy competition and build confidence.

To encourage and motivate the young participants, the DCPU distributed trophies, medals, and

certificates.

Gowhar Mehmood, Protection Officer Non-Institutional Care (NIC), informed that these sports activities were part of the DCPU's ongoing efforts to ensure the holistic development of children in care institutions, fostering their physical, mental, and social well-being.

The event concluded with a sense of accomplishment and joy, as the children received recognition for their participation and performance, reinforcing the importance of such initiatives for their overall growth.

REC Limited Sweeps 29th Inter-CPSU Badminton Tournament with Gold in All Categories

NOIDA: REC Limited has achieved a historic feat by sweeping the 29th Inter-CPSU Badminton Tournament organized under the aegis of the Power Sports Control Board (PSCB), Ministry of Power, and hosted by NTPC Ltd from December 4 to December 7, 2024, at Noida Stadium. REC clinched Gold medals in all three categories – Team Event, Singles, and Doubles – marking the third time the organization has accomplished this remarkable achievement.

In a gripping Singles Final, REC's Amit Verma emerged victorious after a thrilling three-set match against fellow REC player Vijay Behra, who secured the Silver Medal. Amit Verma's victory in the Singles was complemented by his performance in the Doubles category, where he teamed up with Vijay Behra to win Gold.

Team Event: Gold Medal – REC Limited, In Singles: Gold by – Amit Verma – Officer (Law), REC Limited, In Silver – Vijay Behra – CM (Engg.), REC Limited, Doubles: Gold – Amit Verma and Vijay



Behra - REC Limited.

Along with Vijay Behra and Amit Verma, Aseem Gupta, Manager (Engg.), Kundan Lal, Manager (Engg.), Trivendra Kumar, Officer (Law), Trivendra Kumar, Officer (Engg.), Shadab Usmani, Officer (Engg.), Ms. Shikha Ujjain, Deputy Manager (F&A) also took part

in this event.

This outstanding performance reinforces REC's legacy of excellence in sports and its commitment to fostering talent and teamwork within the organization. REC Limited continues to set new benchmarks in both professional and extracurricular arenas.

Navodaya Vidyalayas

The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved setting up of 28 Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs) in the uncovered districts of the country under the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme (Central Sector Scheme). With an estimated investment of Rs. 2,359.82 crore over five years, this move will benefit over 15,000 students and create more than 1,300 permanent jobs, along with boosting local economies through construction and vendor opportunities. Navodaya Vidyalayas, which provide free, residential, co-educational education from Class VI to XII, have become symbols of educational excellence. The scheme’s inclusivity has led to rising enrollments among girls and marginalized communities, with 42% of students being female and significant numbers from SC, ST, and OBC backgrounds. This ensures that talented children, regardless of their socio-economic status, have access to opportunities on par with their urban counterparts. These schools consistently outperform in CBSE board exams and produce top talent in fields like engineering, medicine, and civil services. The integration of NVs into the National Education Policy 2020 reinforces their role as model institutions of learning. The expansion of Navodaya Vidyalayas is a critical move toward bridging the rural-urban education divide, but it must be supported by continued investment in infrastructure and teacher training. With effective implementation, this initiative can empower countless children, offering them the opportunity to achieve their dreams and contribute to India’s future success.



TAHIRA NOOR AND DR. NAQEEB RAJA

Ghastly and deplorable incident is not merely a case of sodomy or unnatural sex does not capture the gravity and enormity of the crime. Pedophilia can be defined as a psychiatric disorder where an adult is sexually drawn to young children. There is no known cure for pedophilia except perhaps deterring it through rigorous and strict punishment. Pedophilia besides being an evil and bad act by itself causes incalculable and lifelong psychological harm to the victim. Pedophilia is usually carried out by people who are known to the victim and a relationship of trust exists between the child and the perpetrator. Pedophilia is a serious crime and it should be treated as such. It is not well recognized in our society but, it is about high time that we understand the import and gravity of the crime, deal with it in a way that minimizes if not eliminates its incidence and help victims deal with it. We owe this to us, society and our children.

343 cases of child sexual abuse reported in Jammu and Kashmir between January and November 2020, according to official data from district Child Welfare Committees, accessed by India Spend. The Union Territory has seen a spike in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the two years since Jammu and Kashmir enacted its own Protection of Children from Sexual Violence Act (Jammu and Kashmir POCS Act) in December 2018, after a furore following the gangrape, torture and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua, Jammu, in January 2018. There was a more than five-fold increase in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the Kashmir division in 2019, compared to average cases over the four previous years.

Restricted movement in Kashmir caused by first the security clampdowns after Article 370 was abrogated in August 2019, and then by the countrywide lockdown to control the spread of Covid-19, would likely lead to more cases of sexual abuse of children, child welfare experts. Kashmir has seen a further spike of 52% in reported child sexual abuse cases by November in 2020, compared to 2019. The central government’s Child Protection Services Scheme (formerly the Integrated Child Protection Scheme) was extended to Jammu and Kashmir in January 2018, in the immediate aftermath of the Kathua case. The Child Protection Services Scheme is aimed at providing a secure, protective environment for vulnerable children, including those in situations of abuse. With the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir POCSO Act was repealed and replaced by the POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019. The increased 343 cases of child sexual abuse reported in Jammu and Kashmir between January and November 2020, according to official data from district Child Welfare Committees, accessed by India Spend. The Union Territory has seen a spike in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the two years since Jammu and Kashmir enacted its own Protection of Children from Sexual Violence Act (Jammu and Kashmir POCS Act) in December 2018, after a furore following the gangrape, torture and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua, Jammu, in January 2018. There was a more than five-fold increase in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the Kashmir division in 2019, compared to average cases over the four previous years. reporting of child sexual abuse cases in Kashmir is attributed to both the new Jammu and Kashmir POCS Act, 2018 followed by the POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019, and improved monitoring and tracking systems after implementation of the Child Protection Services Scheme, experts told us. Child welfare experts attribute the increased reporting of child sexual abuse cases to improved monitoring and

PEDOPHILLIA IN KASHMIR

tracking systems, virtually non-existent till the Jammu and Kashmir POCS Act and child sexual abuse scheme were implemented.

The POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019 stipulates that a child sexual abuse case must be disposed of within one year from the date the offence is reported. Two special POCSO courts were accordingly established, one each in the Jammu and Kashmir divisions, which has made it easier to track cases. Between 2015 and 2018, the reported

survey, which pointed to “a conspiracy of silence around the subject”. Among the 12,447 child respondents to the ministry of women and child development survey, 48% of boys and 39% of girls reported having faced sexual abuse. The situation in Kashmir is equally bad for boys as well as for girls. “Our society denies the fact that boys too can face sexual violence.” Even the focus of law and other social organisations is only on the protection of girls. There should be a robust action to stop the crimes

among people be prevented?

THE ANSWER

The sad answer is that total prevention is well impossible but the incidence of these ghastly crimes can be reduced which raises the question how? & the answer is “multipronged.”

First, society must admit that there are perverts and psychopaths out there who can adopt respectable avatars and under the guise of this commit



numbers of child sexual abuse cases in the Kashmir division were 30, 25, 30 and 35, respectively, data shared by district Child Welfare Committees with India Spend have shown. In 2019, 162 cases were reported – over 350% increase from 2018.

From January to November 2020, another 246 child sexual abuse cases have been reported in the Kashmir division, an increase of 52% from 2019. Another 97 cases have been reported in the Jammu division in the same period.

Apart from the new laws, restricted movement in Kashmir before and during the nationwide Covid-19 lockdown would also have led to increased child sexual abuse cases, experts told India Spend. “Back to back lockdowns and restricted personal spaces of children within the social ecology of Kashmir [have led to increased cases],” said Rashid. “[Child sexual abuse] is the least reported crime in the world but due to the clampdowns in Jammu and Kashmir, the abuse must have increased.

Reporting just a fraction of actual cases

In Kashmir, there has long been a culture of silence around child sexual abuse, especially when family members are involved, say child welfare experts, while pointing to increased reporting of child sexual abuse cases as a sign of change. There is a tendency to either disbelieve or disregard children who complain against teachers, neighbours and family members, and inadequate reporting mechanisms. If the reported cases are high, in a situation of clampdown and then lockdown, then the actual situation on ground is worrying. Rashid said, “Kashmiri families are not ready to reconcile with the fact that anyone close to the family can do this.” Our community is still well-knit and there is a neighbourhood concept where we trust neighbours and community members with full faith. This influence enhances perceptions that neighbours or community members cannot do something like this that makes children more vulnerable. This silence is not unique to Kashmir and more than one in two of 12,447 children surveyed in 13 other Indian states in 2007 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development reported having faced one or more forms of sexual abuse, and half of all cases of abuse were by persons “known to the child or in a position of trust and responsibility”. Most children did not report the abuse to anyone, said the

343 cases of child sexual abuse reported in Jammu and Kashmir between January and **November 2020**, according to official data from district Child Welfare Committees, accessed by India Spend. The Union Territory has seen a spike in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the two years since Jammu and Kashmir enacted its own Protection of Children from Sexual Violence Act (Jammu and Kashmir POCS Act) in **December 2018**, after a furore following the gangrape, torture and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua, Jammu, in **January 2018**. There was a more than five-fold increase in reporting of child sexual abuse cases in the Kashmir division in **2019**, compared to average cases over the four previous years.

against both boys and girls & strong campaigning is needed so that families and survivors report such cases.”

THE QUESTION

How can these crimes which scar individual victims for life and which reflect ungainly psychiatrist disorders

atrocious crimes like pedophilia. This collective admission needs to be followed by measures that can limit the crimes. One obvious step or measure here would be to make young children aware of the potential of abuse; they need to be educated about perverts and perversion and how to protect themselves. Third, is the issue of Imams. While not all Imams should be tarred with the same brush, but prudence suggests vigorous screening tests and methods be employed that allows to identify people with bad behavioral traits and even criminal records. It may be stated here that perverts and people with psychopathological traits are, sometimes, intelligent people who can obscure and hide their disorders quite well. But, in the least, a screening mechanism can help weed out these people to a large extent. This screening becomes all the more important given that we have now even started importing Imams. This practice, ideally, should stop, but in instances where there is no choice, imported imams should be subjected to even more stringent screening mechanisms.

Last, stringent punishment should be devised by the state and then implemented with vigor or even zeal to deal with Pedophilia crimes and criminals. This could be followed by total ostracism and exclusion by society if the perpetrator is at all released at some point in time. The pedophilic criminal must find no place to hide under the sun, so to speak. Both the state and the society have to be on the same page regarding this. Another key and important facet of the this crime is that victims of pedophilia need counseling, , familial and societal care and assistance. They should be made to feel normal and helped to live their lives normally.

It is unfortunate that a wider section of the media here is more or less preoccupied only with the politics but is not as involved with social, moral and ethical issues. In terms of pedophilia and its occurrence and incidence in our society, the media downplays it especially when supposedly holy men are involved. Given the reach of the media, alerting and educating people about pedophilia and other related crimes and pathologies, the media’s role becomes critical.

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Enigma of Life: A Journey Through Uncertainty

DR. RIZWAN RUMI

Life is a strange and unpredictable journey. It refuses to follow our plans or adhere to our expectations. No matter how meticulously we plan, the outcomes often defy our choices. This unpredictability, though challenging, defines the essence of life and teaches us the art of resilience.

One of the greatest dilemmas we face is the conflict between our inner realities and the perceptions of those around us. People judge us based on their limited understanding, forming opinions that may have little to do with who we truly are. They see fragments of our lives, interpret them through their biases and pass judgment without knowing the battles we fight within.

This disconnect often leaves us disheartened, but the wisdom lies in understanding that we cannot control others' perceptions. True freedom comes from embracing ourselves and letting go of the need for external validation.

As Rumi wisely said: “Don't be satisfied with stories, how things have gone with others. Unfold your own myth.” By focusing on our journey and staying true to ourselves, we find a peace that no external approval can match.

The Unspoken Weight of the Past

Mistakes and regrets are part of every life. They leave scars that we often hide behind a smile. These silent struggles can weigh us down, consuming us with guilt and self-reproach. But mistakes are not failures; they are lessons, stepping stones toward growth.

Instead of allowing the past to imprison us, we must use it to propel us forward. The poet Kahlil Gibran beautifully encapsulates this idea:

“Your living is determined not so much by what life brings to you as by the attitude you bring to life.”

Our past does not define us; how we rise above it does.

The Duality of Life



Life is a mixture of light and shadow, joy and sorrow, success and failure. The good times bring celebration, while the difficult times shape our character. This balance is essential; without adversity, we cannot appreciate the moments of happiness.

As we face challenges, it's important to remember that even the darkest night is followed by the dawn. Every difficulty carries within it the seeds of growth and opportunity. It is during these times that we must hold on to hope and

trust in the journey ahead.

Silence: A Powerful Ally

Not every question needs an answer and not every accusation deserves a defense. Sometimes, silence is the most powerful response. It allows us to conserve our energy for the battles that truly matter.

When people misunderstand or misjudge us, it is tempt-

ing to explain ourselves. But explanations often fall on deaf ears. The best course of action is to keep moving forward, letting our actions speak for us.

As the poet Rumi said: “Raise your words, not your voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder.” Silence, coupled with perseverance, has the power to transform perceptions over time.

Embracing Life's Uncertainty

Uncertainty is an inevitable part of life. It challenges our need for control and teaches us the art of adaptability. While we cannot predict what lies ahead, we can choose how to respond. By accepting life's unpredictability, we free ourselves from the anxiety of unfulfilled expectations.

American writer William Arthur Ward once wrote: “The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.”

Adjusting our sails to the winds of change allows us to navigate through life with grace and strength.

Moving Forward Without Explanations

Life is too short to waste on explaining ourselves to those who are unwilling to understand. Instead of dwelling on judgment or regret, we must focus on growth and self-improvement. Each day is an opportunity to write a new chapter, to build a life that aligns with our values and aspirations.

The passage of time has a way of revealing truths and healing wounds. As we move forward, we must trust that life's answers will come when the time is right. Until then, our only responsibility is to keep walking, learning, and growing.

Finding Strength in the Journey

Life's uncertainty is both its challenge and its beauty. It teaches us resilience, patience and the importance of self-belief. While the world may judge us, our inner peace comes from knowing who we are and staying true to our path.

In this ever-changing journey, let us focus not on controlling outcomes but on embracing experiences. Let us find joy in the simple act of moving forward, knowing that every step—no matter how uncertain—takes us closer to understanding ourselves and the world around us.

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Dy. CM holds Public Darbar at Narian Rajouri

NARIAN (RAJOURI): Deputy Chief Minister, Surindar Kumar Choudhary today presided over a public Darbar at Narian to address the grievances and developmental concerns of the local population.

The event witnessed a warm reception from the general public, who welcomed the Deputy CM with enthusiasm and expressed their gratitude for the government's commitment to addressing grassroots-level issues. The residents of Narian and surrounding panchayats raised various issues related to infrastructure, public services, and welfare schemes.

During the Darbar, the locals brought several issues and demands before the Deputy CM like construction and upgradation of Dagani road, Sankat road, Narian to Dagani road, motorable bridge in Sangpur panchayat, as well as the Zinda Peer bridge, concerns over



mining-related issues, demarcation of mining blocks, repairs to irrigation canals and crates near riversides, requests for improved water supply, replacement of wooden electric poles

in Dagani, Sangpur, and nearby panchayats. They also demanded enhanced ambulance services, bank branch in the area, inclusion of left-out beneficiaries under PMAY.

Javid Dar conducts extensive tour of Rafiabad constituency

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today conducted an extensive tour of Rafiabad constituency.

The tour was mainly held with an aim to review progress of works on developmental projects, engage with local delegations and address public issues.

During his tour, the Minister laid foundation stone for construction of the Ladwa-Siterwan road in Rohama, a key project that will significantly improve connectivity in the region.

Speaking at the foundation stone ceremony, the Minister said, "The Ladwa-Siterwan road will not only improve access to essential services like healthcare, education and markets but will also boost tourism in the region by providing easier access to the scenic spots in the area, thus contributing to the overall development of Rafiabad."

Following the foundation stone ceremony, the Minister held a public



meeting and took stock of their grievances and issues.

During the interaction, he outlined the government's vision for the constituency. He emphasized the government's commitment to equitable development and assured the public that ongoing projects would be completed in a timely manner.

The Minister urged the community to actively engage with government schemes and work together to achieve

sustainable development in Rafiabad. Javid Dar also visited High School (HS) Balhama, where he interacted with the school management and students. During the visit, the school management raised several key demands, including the provision of computer systems to enhance digital learning for students. The minister assured the school management and students that their request would be given immediate attention.

Food Safety Deptt organises Awareness program at Shopian

SHOPIAN: An Awareness programme on safe food & healthy diets, fortified food, repurpose used cooking oil, personal hygiene was today held for the Food Business Operators of the Shopian Town, here by Food Safety Department Shopian.

The Food Business Operators including from Hotels and Restaurants, Dhabas, Bakery Manufacturers and retailers attended the awareness programme.

The awareness on misuse and ill effects of repurpose used cooking (RUCO) was given to the Food Business Operators.

RUCO oil aggregator also attended the awareness programme and shared his contacts with the Food Business Operators so that repurposed used cooking oil is collected and converted into bio diesel as mandated by FSSAI to save the environment and the negative impact of its use.

DC Gbl reviews Aadhaar saturation in DLAMC meeting

GANDERBAL: To review the status of Aadhaar enrolment and Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today chaired a meeting of the District Level Aadhaar Monitoring Committee.

During the meeting, the DC reviewed the functioning of Aadhaar Centers across the district, and was informed that 24 centers are currently operational out of 55.

He directed all concerned departments to ensure the activation of all Aadhaar centers under their control and emphasized achieving 100% Aadhaar coverage by mobilizing enrollment staff effectively.

The meeting also discussed the focus areas like document update in Aadhaar, promotion of mAadhaar app, mandatory biometric updates and state portal verification. The DC instructed stakeholders to actively encourage parents to enroll children below five years for Aadhaar and to ensure timely biometric updates after the age milestones of 5 and 15 years.

The Programme Officer (Poshan Abhiyan) and Chief Education Officer were tasked to submit a detailed list of pending enrollments and develop an action plan to address the gaps.

The DC also urged existing Aadhaar holders to update their details, such as identity and address proof, by visiting the nearest Aadhaar centers.

Furthermore, stakeholder departments were asked to initiate a mission-mode enrollment drive to achieve complete Aadhaar coverage in the district.

The health department was specifically directed to prioritize Aadhaar-linked birth registration at the time of birth to ensure universal coverage from the earliest stage. The Project Manager, UIDAI, highlighted the benefits of the mAadhaar app, which offers a range of Aadhaar-related services online. He noted that Aadhaar has enhanced transparency, accountability and faster delivery of government benefits, along with ensuring substantial monetary savings for residents.

The DC reiterated the importance of Aadhaar in streamlining public welfare schemes and encouraged all departments to work in coordination for achieving Aadhaar saturation in the district.

DC Shopian reviews arrangements for roll out of coaching for Civil Services

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar today visited Boys Higher Secondary School Shopian to review arrangements being made for the roll out of civil services coaching.

District Administration Shopian has already initiated the process for registration of aspirants and put in place required logistics as part of its continuous endeavours to support youth in preparing for the competitive exams.

At the place, the library and reading rooms equipped with modern IT infrastructure and study materials shall be in place for the aspirants.

This initiative aims to provide quality guidance and resources to deserving candidates, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds, who may not have access to



such facilities otherwise. The coaching typically includes

online and in person lectures by experienced faculty and officers and mock tests to help students build confidence and prepare effectively. Such programmes align with District Administration's efforts to boost education and employment opportunities in the region.

During the visit, DC reviewed the facilities, ensuring compliance with welfare standards, addressing issues to enhance the care provided to the aspirants and assessing the resources.

The DC said that the students would be provided a comfortable learning environment with modern classrooms, access to online resources to address individual challenges and to assign mentors to students for one-on-one guidance, motivation and progress tracking.

Zilla Sainik Welfare Board Srinagar celebrates Armed Forces Flag Day



SRINAGAR: In connection with the celebrations of Armed Forces Flag Day, a programme was held today at Zilla Sainik Bhawan, Srinagar to honour the war martyrs and men in uniform who fought to safeguard the country's integrity and sovereignty.

Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also President Zilla Sainik Board, Srinagar was the chief guest on the occasion.

Addressing the occasion, the DC highlighted the role of Sainiks and called them guardians of the Nation who

protect its citizens. He said Flag Day brings to the forefront our commitment of looking after our veer naris, disabled soldiers and families of martyrs. During the interaction with the veterans, Dr Bilal assured all support from the Civil Administration towards the welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families. Later, the DC felicitated the Veer Ex-Servicemen and families of martyrs.

Meanwhile, Ex-Servicemen community thanked Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar for the initiatives taken by District Administration Srinagar for the welfare of the ex-servicemen community.

Armed Forces Flag Day observed at Baramulla

BARAMULLA: The District Administration Baramulla commemorated Armed Forces Flag Day with a meaningful ceremony at the district headquarter, honoring the sacrifices made by the Indian Armed Forces.

The event was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, who was joined by senior district officers and other staff members.

The ceremony featured a flag-badging event, during which the Zila Sainik Welfare Officer pinned flags on attendees as a mark of respect and gratitude for the armed forces.

The DC led the occasion by making the first donation to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, encouraging others to contribute.

In his address, Minga Sherpa underscored the importance of the Armed Forces Flag Day, urging the public to contribute to the welfare fund, which plays a vital role in assisting and rehabilitating veterans and their dependents. The Zila Sainik Welfare Officer expressed gratitude to the attendees for their contributions



and outlined the various welfare initiatives supported by the fund. Similarly, Armed Forces Flag Day functions were held at the Sub-Divisional and Tehsil-levels in Sopore, Uri, Pattan and Gulmarg, where flag-badging ceremonies were conducted and generous contributions were made to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. These functions highlighted a strong commitment to supporting the welfare of ex-servicemen, war widows and their families.

Labour Department, J&K concludes 2-Day Capacity Building Programme on Labour Reforms

SHOPIAN: The two-day Capacity-Building Programme on Labour Reforms, organized by the Labour Department, J&K successfully concluded today at Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir.

The program aimed to enhance the understanding and implementation of Labour Laws, with a special focus on familiarizing officers and officials with the new Labour Codes.

During the concluding session, Labour Commissioner J&K, S. Charandeep Singh emphasized that such initiatives are vital for ensuring that Labour Department officials are well-equipped to efficiently enforce, monitor, and implement labour laws and reforms, making them more responsive and labour-friendly.

He also highlighted the importance



of continuous capacity-building efforts to ensure better delivery of services to workers across Jammu and Kashmir.

The two-day event featured experts in the field, including Dr. Onkar Sharma, former Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) and Advisor to the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, who led sessions on key Labour Codes, such

as the Code on Wages, Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, and the Social Security Code. Dr. Sanjay Upadhyaya, Senior Fellow at the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, presented on 'Human Rights and Constitutional Perspectives on Labour' and the 'Industrial Relations Code'.

DDMA Pulwama organizes Mock Drills & Awareness program on Disaster Preparedness

PULWAMA: The District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Pulwama, in collaboration with the 13th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), organized a Mock Drill, Exercise and Awareness Program today at Government Degree College and Sports Stadium, Rajpora.

The event focused on disaster preparedness, particularly for earthquakes, landslides and fire emergencies.

Students and various stakeholders actively participated in the program, availing the opportunity to learn essential disaster response techniques and safety protocols.

Deputy Commandant of NDRF presented a comprehensive overview of the program highlighting the importance of promotion, prevention and mitigation measures aimed at Disaster risk reduction.

The event saw wide participation including officers, officials, students and other stakeholders.

Distt Admin Srinagar reaches out to fire victims of Brari Nambal Babademb

SRINAGAR: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, a team of District Administration, Srinagar Saturday morning visited Tabadar Mohalla in Brari Nambal Babademb area of the District to provide immediate assistance to the fire affected families whose houses were gutted in a fire incidents here on Friday evening.

The immediate relief was sanctioned by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and was provided to the affected families through the team



of District Administration in the form of blankets, besides Rs 20 thousand to each affected families as an interim relief out of the District

Red Cross Fund.

The Team of District Administration Srinagar also expressed sympathy with the affected families on loss of property.

Further, the Deputy Commissioner has also directed the concerned authorities to assess the losses and make a comprehensive report for providing structure-wise financial assistance under SDRF to the fire affected families separately.

Director Animal Husbandry conducts comprehensive review of sector in Anantnag

ANANTNAG: Director of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir Saturday conducted a comprehensive review of the Animal Husbandry sector in Anantnag district, focusing on the progress under the CAPEX and HADP schemes.

During the meeting, the Director appreciated the efforts of the concerned for achieving key targets set for the district so far.

He emphasized the need to further expand the reach of Animal

Husbandry services to every corner of Anantnag to boost livestock development and improve farmers' livelihoods.

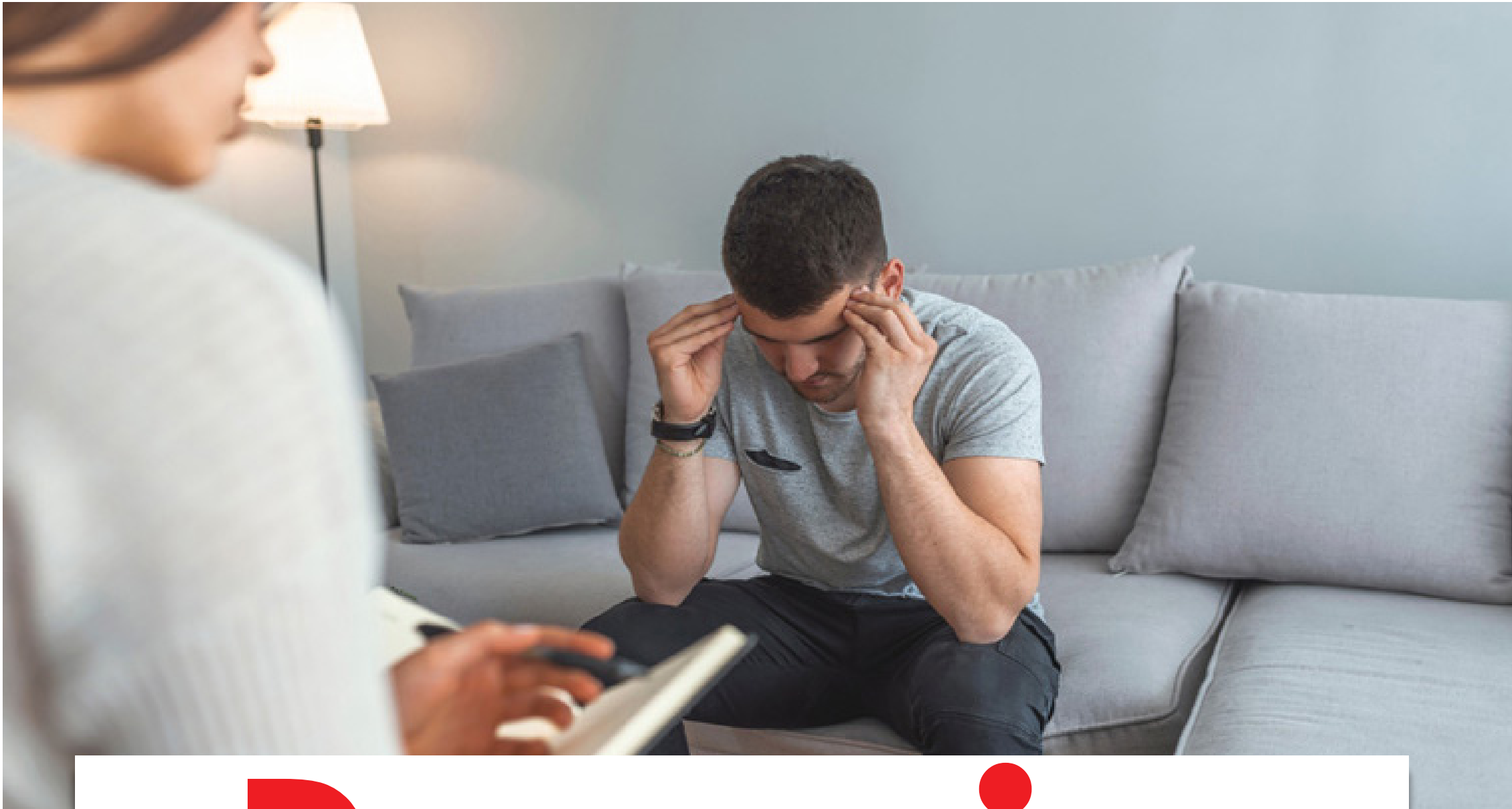
The Chief Husbandry Officer (CHO) briefed the Director on the district's achievements and future targets, expressing confidence that Anantnag would soon become a leading district in various aspects of the Animal Husbandry sector.

The Director also congratulated the district for securing the top rank

in milk production within the region, highlighting the sector's growing potential.

He urged all stakeholders to maintain the momentum and work collectively toward achieving excellence in the sector.

The meeting was attended by Livestock Development Officers (LDOs), Block Cattle Officers (BCOs), and Veterinary Surgeons from across the district, who shared updates on ongoing projects and future plans.



Depression

Treatment Can Rewire Human Brain, Study Shows

Depression treatments have the ability to rewire the human brain, according to a study that calls into question the belief that the structure of the adult brain is generally rigid. Researchers at the University of Muenster in Germany have shown that in-patient treatment for depression can lead to an increase in brain connectivity. Those patients who respond well to this treatment show a greater increase in connectivity than those who do not, they said. The study, presented at the European College for Neuropsychopharmacology Congress in Vienna, Austria, calls into question the belief that the structure of the adult brain is generally rigid and incapable of rapid changes. The researchers found that patients who responded well to anti-depression treatment, showed a greater increase in connectivity than those who did not. “We found that treatment for depression changed the infrastructure of the brain, which goes against previous expectations,” said study lead researcher Professor Jonathan Repple.

“Treated patients showed a greater number of connections than they had shown before treatment,” Repple said. The researchers studied 109 patients with serious depression and compared them with 55 healthy controls. Their brains were scanned using an MRI scanner which had been set up to identify which parts of the brain were communicating with other parts, determining the level of connections within the brain. The patients were then treated for depression, some with electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), some with psychological therapy or medication, some with a combination of all therapies. After treatment they were then rescanned and the number of connections recounted. They were also retested for symptoms of depression. “Moreover, those who showed the most response to treatment had developed a greater the number of new connections than those who showed little response,” Repple said. “A second scan showing that there are no time effects in healthy controls supports our findings that we see something that is related

“Moreover, those who showed the most response to treatment had developed a greater the number of new connections than those who showed little response,” Repple said.

to the disease and more importantly the treatment of this disease,” said Repple. “We don’t have an explanation as to how these changes take place, or why they should happen with such different forms of treatment,” he added. The findings align very much with the current belief that the brain has much more flexibility in adaptation over time than was previously thought. “This means that the brain structure of patients with serious clinical depression is not as fixed as we thought, and we can improve brain structure within a short time frame, around 6 weeks,” said Eric Ruhe, from Rabboud Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. “We found that if this treatment leads to an increase in brain connectivity, it is also effective in tackling depression symptoms,” said Ruhe, who was not involved in the study. This gives hope to patients who believe nothing can change and they have to live with a disease forever, because it is ‘set in stone’ in their brain, Ruhe added.

...COMMON SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION

Depression is more than just feeling sad all the time. Many of the symptoms of depression have nothing to do with sadness. Here are some of the more common signs of depression:

- 1. CONSISTENTLY LOW MOOD**
It's normal to experience changes in our emotions – we are all human, after all. Depression involves a persistently low mood that can feel all-consuming. If your low mood is unchanged by activities you previously enjoyed, or if your low mood extends for over six to eight weeks, this could be a sign of depression.
- 2. DISINTEREST OR AVOIDANCE OF ONCE ENJOYED HOBBIES**
Our favorite activities and experiences are a big part of who we are and how we process our day-to-day life. When we lose interest in the things that used to bring us joy, this can significantly indicate something deeper beyond the surface. With depression, you might find yourself drawn to distraction, prioritizing activities that require way less effort. On the other hand, you may feel better if you completely abandon anything that requires physical or emotional engagement.
- 3. TROUBLE WITH CONCENTRATION OR**

- MEMORY**
Because of its impact on the brain, many people with depression report symptoms of memory loss or difficulty focusing. This could be because depression affects the hippocampus and the brain's hyper-focus on negative thoughts and memories. When your brain is constantly overstimulated with heavy emotions and thoughts, it can become difficult to focus on current tasks or make appropriate emotional connections with everyday experiences.
- 4. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN EATING OR SLEEPING PATTERNS**
Changes in appetite are common for people with depression. Many people will either use food to repress emotions or increase serotonin. Others sometimes feel complete displeasure from food or have little energy to prepare and consume a meal. Similarly, oversleeping or under-sleeping can be a symptom of depression. Oversleeping can be due to increased intrusive emotions causing extreme fatigue, whereas under-sleeping can be caused by hyperarousal and stress leading to disrupted sleep patterns.
- 5. DECREASED SELF-CARE**

- With low feelings of self-worth or increased apathy, it can become harder and harder to take care of yourself. People struggling with depression might forget or avoid basic self-care tasks like eating, sleeping, showering, or brushing their teeth. Over time, these chores can begin to pile up and cause depressive symptoms to worsen, creating a cycle that's difficult to break.
- 6. PHYSICAL PAINS AND ADDITIONAL HEALTH ISSUES**
Many people assume depression only really impacts emotions, however, there are many situations in which your emotional state and physical state can influence one another. According to the NCBI, depression and pain share a common neurochemical pathway. This is why depression is linked to increased joint pain, limb pain, back pain, gastrointestinal problems, fatigue, psychomotor activity changes, and appetite changes³. The link is so strong that individuals who experience a high number of physical symptoms may be more likely to have a mood disorder than patients with only a few physical symptoms³. Over time, a decreased interest in activities and changes in eating patterns can affect physical health, which in turn takes a toll on your mental state.

- 7. FEELING PESSIMISTIC OR HOPELESS**
Depression can make it extremely difficult to have a positive outlook on life and negatively impact personal self-worth. As a result, someone with depression may experience withdrawal from people and activities.
- 8. INCREASED IRRITABILITY OR ANGER**
It can be extremely draining to struggle with heavy emotions day after day, so it makes sense that someone experiencing depression may become irritable and angry over time. Depression can often feel like a cloud that filters everything through a lens of negativity, making it challenging to maintain a positive outlook. As a result, someone with depression may struggle with regulating their own emotions, especially in stressful situations. They may find themselves unintentionally snapping at loved ones or strangers when coping with the psychological and physical weight of the disorder. They may also experience heightened anxiety or recurring traumatic memories.
- 9. CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS**
Sometimes people with depression struggle with other co-occurring mental health disorders such as anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or substance use disorder (SUD).

Indian Army Organizes Lecture on Holistic Security in Surankote

POONCH | In a bid to enhance community awareness and preparedness, the Indian Army conducted a comprehensive lecture on holistic security at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Surankote, Poonch. The initiative aimed to educate participants on various aspects of security, including physical safety, emotional and mental well-being, digital and cyber security, and financial security.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and local residents. Representatives from the Indian Army, along with subject matter experts, led the sessions, providing practical insights and strategies to address modern security challenges.

The lecture commenced with a focus on physical security, where attendees were taught self-defense techniques, situational awareness, and measures to enhance personal safety in public spaces. This was followed

by a session on emotional and mental well-being, emphasizing the importance of mental supportive social networks. In the digital and cyber security segment,



resilience, stress management, and building experts educated participants about the rising

threats of cybercrimes, phishing, and online fraud. Demonstrations on safeguarding personal data, recognizing scams, and securing devices were particularly well-received.

The session on financial security provided valuable guidance on managing personal finances, identifying fraudulent schemes, and conducting secure digital transactions. Tips on financial planning and preventing economic exploitation were also shared.

This initiative underscores the Indian Army's commitment to not just national defense but also fostering an informed and vigilant society. The interactive program was widely appreciated by the attendees, who commended the Army's efforts to empower local communities with critical knowledge and skills. Such initiatives continue to strengthen the bond between the Indian Army and the local population, promoting a culture of preparedness and security awareness.

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) chief, Tariq Karra, has called for clarity on the electricity supply situation in Jammu and Kashmir, highlighting key issues affecting power generation and distribution in the Union Territory (UT).

Speaking to Kashmir News Service, Karra said that the state relies heavily on hydropower, which depends on adequate rainfall. "For months, there has been little to no rain, directly impacting power generation. Most of our electricity is produced through hydropower plants, and the lack of rainfall has significantly reduced generation levels," he explained.

Karra also highlighted the importance of electricity being supplied from the National Grid. He pointed out that during winters, Kashmir depends on the National Grid, while in summers, the supply is crucial for Jammu. "We need to see whether electricity is coming from the National Grid or not. The availability from this source must be ensured to meet the rising demand in both regions," he said.

Highlighting governance issues,

Karra raised concerns about confusion over decision-making powers in the UT's electricity sector. "There is uncertainty about who holds authority over power generation and distribution in the UT—



whether it is the LG administration or the state government. This confusion stems from the business rules not being clearly defined," he added. Karra stressed that resolving these issues is essential to avoid disruptions in electricity supply. "Once the business rules are clarified, this confusion may end, and electricity management can improve," he concluded.

CISF Introduces E-Service Book for Transparent Pension Processing

SRINAGAR: As part of the Government of India's "National Digital India" initiative, CISF has announced the launch of its E-Service Book portal which will be accessible to all Force members.

Officials said the new initiative is designed to streamline and expedite the pension processing system for its retiring personnel to ensure that they get all pensionary benefits on the date of retirement itself. As of now, the physical transfer of Service Book delays the payment of retirement dues by several months. It will also benefit its serving personnel by providing them online access to their service book and ensure its updation.

The new digital framework will eliminate the need for physical transfer of the service book. One of the key features of the E-Service Book is its real-time tracking capability. Stakeholders can now monitor the status of pension files in real-time, ensuring transparency

and accountability. This eliminates the need for constant follow-ups and provides timely updates to all concerned parties. This will directly benefit nearly 2400 personnel who retire every year. The current system involves the physical transfer of service books between multiple offices, often leading to delays and errors. This is particularly problematic for units located in remote areas, as the process becomes more time-consuming and prone to mistakes. To address these issues and ensure timely pension disbursement, designing an online portal was conceived after incorporating the inputs from Pr. CCA (Home), MHA, and PAO/RAPOs before giving it a final shape.

Another major benefit of the E-Service Book is that it serves as a collaborative platform. All stakeholders, including the parent unit, higher administrative formations, and RPAO/PAO can now collaborate seamlessly on

a single platform. This fosters efficient communication, prompt resolution of queries, and timely updation of service data. In addition to streamlining the pension process, the E-Service Book empowers in-service personnel by providing them with online access to their service books. This enables them to monitor their service records, identify any discrepancies, and initiate timely corrective action. By ensuring accuracy and completeness of service records, the E-Service Book helps in-service personnel plan their career progression and retirement benefits effectively. It will enhance transparency in the organization.

Overall, the CISF's E-Service Book is a major step towards modernizing the pension processing system and enhancing the service experience for CISF personnel. By providing a more efficient, transparent, and convenient service, CISF aims to set new benchmarks in service delivery.

Conduct Field Visits For Effective Grievance Redressal: Dy. CM

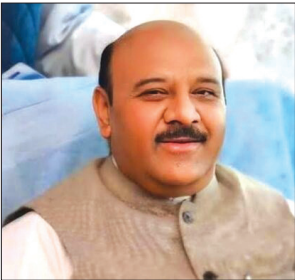
NARIAN (RAJOURI): Deputy Chief Minister, Surindar Kumar Choudhary today presided over a public Darbar at Narian to address the grievances and developmental concerns of the local population.

The event witnessed a warm reception from the general public, who welcomed the Deputy CM with enthusiasm and expressed their gratitude for the government's commitment to addressing grassroots-level issues.

The residents of Narian and surrounding panchayats raised various issues related to infrastructure, public services, and welfare schemes.

During the Darbar, the locals brought several issues and demands before the Deputy CM like construction and upgradation of Dagani road, Sankat road, Narian to Dagani road, motorable bridge in Sangpur panchayat, as well as

the Zinda Peer bridge, concerns over mining-related issues, demarcation of mining blocks, repairs to irrigation canals and



crates near riversides, requests for improved water supply, replacement of wooden electric poles in Dagani, Sangpur, and nearby panchayats. They also demanded enhanced ambulance services, bank branch in the area, inclusion of left-out beneficiaries under PMAY, operationalization of Aanganwadi centres.

Kabra reviews progress on implementation of JJM in Kashmir

SRINAGAR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra today chaired

a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the progress on implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across Kashmir province. The meeting was attended by MD JJM, Dr. G.N Ilttoo; Chief Engineers of PHE and I&FC of Jammu/Kashmir, Director Planning, Superintending Engineers and Executive Engineers of all wings of Kashmir division and other concerned officers. During the meeting, the ACS took detailed

assessment on progress of JJM mission, development of sources, Electro-Mechanical works, Har Ghar Jal Certification, progress on languishing projects under CAPEX and NABARD schemes as well as consultant reports and third party monitoring reports. During the review, the ACS expressed satisfaction with the progress made in the implementation of JJM but emphasized on

the need for faster execution of works and better coordination between various agencies involved. He stressed upon the officers for completion of JJM mission as per the assigned time line. The ACS also called upon the MD JJM and Superintending Engineers for completion of Har Ghar Jal certification process on priority. He also called upon the officers for maintaining quality of works while executing these projects.

Continued From P1...

LG Sinha

and expression of gratitude. "I convey my best wishes to all serving and retired Armed Forces personnel and their families on the occasion of Armed Forces Flag Day," the Lieutenant Governor further added.

Brig. Gurmeet Singh Shan (Retd.), Director, Sainik Welfare Department, J&K briefed the Lieutenant Governor on various schemes and initiatives for the welfare of Veterans, Veer Naris, dependents and serving Armed Forces personnel.

Col BS Sambyal (Retd.); Col SS Assla (Retd.); Col MS Bhau (Retd.); Wg Cdr Tirath Singh (Retd.); Subhash Chander; Suresh Kumar and veterans including Bawa Singh; Ashwani Kumar; Ashok Kumar; Janak Singh and Rajinder Kumar were present.

"Govt committed

promote Jammu and Kashmir's rich heritage, preserve local languages, and implement social welfare programs.

The Chief Minister listened attentively to these concerns and emphasized the need for cohesive approach to protect the region's unique identity.

"Hold Peace

student, and the worker – who suffered the most. When civil society realized that it was their future at stake, they began pushing for peace," he said, crediting the people of Jammu and Kashmir for leading this change.

Lt Gen Pandey concluded with a hopeful vision for the region. "Kashmir is an integral part of our country. Like five fingers forming a fist, unity is our strength. The world is moving forward, and so must Kashmir. I am confident that this spirit of progress and stability will remain," he said.

MeT Predicts

with the possibility of light rain over few areas of plains and hilly areas of Jammu division & light rain and snow in higher reaches over few places of Kashmir division during late evening of 8th to 9th forenoon.

He added that the weather would remain generally dry on December 10 and 11 while there is a possibility of light snow over isolated higher reaches on December 12.

From December 13 to 17, the weather would remain generally dry. Moreover, as per the MeT's forecast, the tourists, travelers and transporters have been advised to follow administration and traffic advisory.

NC govt will

Additionally, the government will strive to strengthen bonds of friendship between different regions and communities, Dr. Farooq emphasised while highlighting the government's commitment to fostering equitable development and unity among the diverse regions of Jammu.

Chief Secretary

provide every amenity to the migrants. He made out that the genuine issues raised here would also be resolved in a time-bound manner.

He further addressed them to register themselves under NFSa s this would enable them to receive many other benefits of social security schemes and CSS implemented here.

He assured them that in order to create the Self Employment opportunities for the youth the government is going to held camps here in association with the banks operating here in the UT.

He further reiterated that with the completion of digitization of the credentials of all the migrants, the doors for enumeration under different schemes of GoI would open for them.

He made out that the government is also going to cover the eligible migrants under PM-KISAN and other schemes as well. He sensitized them that their issues are in the notice of the government and the Relief Commissioner is the dedicated link to raise them at appropriate forums for timely redressal.

In his speech the Principal Secretary, DMRR&R Department, Chandraker Bharti informed the gathering that these people should not feel stigmatized for they are quite like other citizens of the country only tried by circumstances.

He made out that the government departments like Jal Shakti Department has been asked to look after the Water supply and JMC the sanitation process to bring in more efficiency in these services. He stated that it is the continuous endeavour of the Department to bring better and modern services to the migrants residing in J&K.

Earlier the Relief Commissioner, Arvind Karwani gave the background of the establishment of this township here at Jagti besides the facilities being provided to the residents of this camp.

He gave out that there are 4224 flats constructed here for 5131 families with 53 parks and 10 community halls also for the use of residents.

He revealed that the government is going to build a mega 2-story community hall at the cost of around Rs 6.34 Cr. He also took this occasion to bring up the need for renovation and repair work of the flats for which he claimed that the process is going to start shortly.

Statehood Restoration

that the people of Jammu and Kashmir receive the facilities and opportunities they deserve," he concluded.

Sharma claimed that significant efforts are underway to streamline the functioning of key departments, particularly the Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (CAPD) and transport sectors. "We are making progress. Just yesterday, I reviewed the CAPD and transport departments. Although there are challenges, we have only had about 40-50 days. Fixing decades of mismanagement will take time. It may take 11 months to set things right, and we need your support," Sharma said.

He invited public participation in identifying areas of concern. "If there are shortcomings, point them out—we consider you as ministers, too," he said.

Furthermore, Sharma highlighted that a recent review meeting with officials, including directors and assistant directors, had resulted in directives to address critical issues with urgency. "Who knows what might happen tomorrow or when a crisis arises? We must stay prepared. I believe our capable officers will address any shortcomings," he added.

The Minister also claimed that the tourism potential of the erstwhile state is immense to transform Jammu and Kashmir's economy. "Sustainable tourism is a crucial topic. I am optimistic—one day, we'll see such a massive influx of tourists that it will feel like a windfall gain for the region. But we must be prepared—cleanliness, sanitation, and environmental care are essential," he said.

"Tourists are our guests, and to us, they are akin to God. We must provide them with all facilities and protect them from any misguidance by disruptive elements."

The minister added that there is a dire need to preserve nature for future generations. "What kind of legacy are we leaving for our children if we pollute our air and water? Clean air, water, and an unpolluted environment are non-negotiable," he said.

He lauded the efforts of the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, describing him as a "dynamic leader" committed to the state's progress. "With his leadership, we can make tourism a cornerstone of economic prosperity, providing employment opportunities for our youth while improving ourselves as individuals," he said.

Sharma termed peace as the cornerstone of development. "Peace is the foundation of all progress. Unfortunately, our neighbors—near and far—don't want to see us prosper. If we want to give the next generation a better future, we must offer them peace, prosperity, and sustainable development," he said

Army Chief

and the initiatives taken by the Command towards achieving synergy in operations." The meeting holds significance amid ease of tension between India and China after resumption

of weekly joint coordinated patrols along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

Both countries have already completed the first round of joint patrols in early November following the recent disengagement in these areas.

According to the agreement, each side will conduct one patrol per week in both regions. The agreement for disengagement and coordinated patrols came after multiple rounds of negotiations at political, diplomatic, and military levels.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that the DOB of my Daughter has been Wrongly mentioned in her School Records as 20-06-2009, while as her actual and correct DOB is 22-11-2010. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person has any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Headmaster GOVT Boys Middle school Lonepora Mantrigam Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Ab Majeed Wani.
F/O Seerat Majeed.
R/O Kralpora Bandipora.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that the Name of my Son has been Wrongly mentioned in his Birth certificate issued by Municipal council Bandipora as Musadiq Naseer, while as his Actual and correct name is Musadiq Naseer Bhat. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person has any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Municipal council Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Naseer Ahmad Bhat.
F/O Musadiq Naseer Bhat.
R/O Konan Bandipora.

Australia to play three Tests during 2025 tour of West Indies

The boos rang out but Siraj proceeded to dismiss Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland soon after tea to wrap up Australia for 337. Bumrah, who had gone down with some discomfort, which prompted medical attention, four balls into his spell with the second new ball, recovered to knock Cummins over.

He also cleared the longer straight bound-

Peirson, Bartlett put Queensland's first Shield win in sight

And while Peirson was set up by late by Mitch Perry and caught in a stacked legside field, he and Steketee had given Queensland the slight advantage.



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