

# KASHMIR OBSERVER

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P4 THINK

## RESPECT THE FOREST RIGHTS ACT

Recently, while speaking at a ceremony in Srinagar on the implementation of the 'Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Rights) Act also called as Forest Rights Act (FRA), Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that

P5

## DEMYSTIFYING VACCINE HESITANCY

When I first wrote about the arrival of SARS-CoV-2 in early March 2020, the question was whether or not the new virus would become a pandemic. At the time, most experts believed that we had already reached the point of no return. Today, 18 months later, the answer is clear. You don't need



P8 SPORTS

## MOAZZAM RASHID WINS SRINAGAR OPEN 2021 TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Moazzam Rashid won both singles and doubles titles at Srinagar Open Tennis Championship 2021 which was played at Gundun Tennis Courts here....



## Quote!

If you carry joy in your heart, you can heal any moment  
— Carlos Santana

## NEWS DIGEST

### BMO Attached Over Sexual Assault Charges

**SRINAGAR:** The health department on Monday attached Block Medical Officer (BMO) Nagam in central Kashmir's Budgam district over alleged charges of sexually harassing a lady doctor. The order in this regard was issued by the Director Health Services Kashmir on Monday. "In the [More On P6](#)

### Lightning Strike Kills Youth

**SRINAGAR:** A youth was killed and a woman injured on Monday when lightning struck them in a paddy field in central Kashmir's Budgam district. 30-year-old Gulzar Ahmad Khan and Shakeela Banu were working in a paddy field when the lightning struck the [More On P6](#)

### LG To Flag Off Air Show

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha will flag off an air show over Dal Lake from the SK International Convention Centre (SKICC) here on September 26. The event, being organised by the Air Force Station in collaboration with J&K Government under 'Azadi Ka [More On P6](#)

### 3 JKAS Officers Transferred

**SRINAGAR:** The government on Monday ordered transfer of three JKAS officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect. According to an order, Altaf Ahmad Khan (JKAS), Additional Deputy Commissioner [More On P6](#)

### UEED Employee Falls In ACB Net

**SRINAGAR:** Anti Corruption Bureau on Monday arrested a Works Supervisor of Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) Srinagar for demanding and accepting bribe in connection with issuance of No [More On P6](#)

## ...GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

## Govt Warns Employees Against Bypassing Proper Channels

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Government on Monday warned employees for bypassing proper channels and approaching higher offices like President, Prime Minister' offices Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat or Chief Secretary for redressal of grievances pertaining to service matters.

"It has been observed that some officers/officials working in various Government Departments of the Jammu and Kashmir are bypassing proper channels and approaching higher offices viz. that of President's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat

## Internet Suspended In Uri After Infiltration Bid

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Internet and phone services in Uri sector of north Kashmir were suspended on Monday after army suspected infiltration bid by a heavily armed group of militants during the intervening night of September 19-20.

The General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the Army's Srinagar-based 15 Corps or Chinari Corps, Lt Gen D P Pandey said Monday that the operation has been ongoing for the last 24 hours after "we felt that there is an infiltration attempt which has been made".

"We are looking for them... are they on this side or have gone back after making an attempt, that issue has not yet been clarified or verified on the ground," he said.

Lt Gen Pandey, however,



Representation Photo

said the force was alert to foil any infiltration attempt.

I can assure you that we are quite alert. Our troops on the ground are totally alert and we will ensure that minimal infiltration takes place whenever

they attempt, he said.

According to NDTV, internet services and mobile phones have been suspended in the Uri sector of north Kashmir since Monday morning. Quoting government sources [More On P6](#)



## 'Not Worried Over Taliban Spillover Into J&K'

There is no need to worry about the possibility of a spillover of Taliban militants into Jammu and Kashmir as people will be kept safe, a top Army official here said on Monday. "This question has been asked to me a number of times on events which are unrelated. Right? So, I will again answer your question: why are you worried? You are safe and you will be kept safe. There is enough effort," General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the Army's Srinagar-based 15 Corps or Chinari Corps, [More On P6](#)

## Turning PM's Vision Of J&K Into Reality: MoS Home

Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nishit Pramanik said on Monday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a vision for Jammu and Kashmir and concerted efforts are being made to turn his vision into reality.

Pramanik made these remarks on Monday during the inauguration of a 'Youth Conclave' here in which thousands of youth participated, an official spokesperson said. The Minister said that the objective of the conclave is a step towards fulfilling the aspirations of youth of Pulwama.

According to the official spokesperson, Pramanik appealed the youth of



Pulwama to come forward and be the participants in the developmental ladder saying that acquiring of skill relevant with the opportunities available in the market is the need of times.

"Pramanik said that [More On P6](#)

## Soldier Kills Colleague Over Argument

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** An army man on Monday shot dead his colleague in a fit of rage in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

An army patrol was on a tactical break on Monday afternoon in village Lassipura, when two personnel entered into an argument leading to two rounds being fired and injuring one soldier, an army spokesperson said. The injured soldier, he said, was immediately evacuated to the nearest military Hospital, where he was declared brought dead.

"Enquiry as per laid down procedures has been ordered. All necessary assistance is being provided to the local police in the incident," the army spokesperson added. [More On P6](#)

## ...WAZIR MURDER CASE

## Prime Suspect Sent To 6 Day Police Custody

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** A Delhi court on Monday sent the prime suspect in the murder case of former Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council member Trilochan Singh Wazir to six days police remand, an official said.

Harmeet Singh was arrested by the sleuths of the Delhi Police's Special Cell in Jammu on Sunday and was brought to Delhi late at night. The body of Wazir, 67, was found inside a washroom of a flat at Basai Darapur in the national capital on September 9.

Earlier, two other accused, identified as Balbir Singh, 67, hailing from Preet Nagar in Gandhi Nagar, [More On P6](#)

## PM's Mission Is To Turn J&K Into 'Power Surplus' UT: Minister

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Union Minister of State for Power and Heavy Industries Krishan Pal Gurjar on Monday said the Centre and the government of Jammu and Kashmir are working on multiple projects to raise the power generation capacity of the Union Territory by two-folds within the next five years.

"The UT government and the Centre are working on multiple projects to raise the power generation capacity of the region two-folds within the next five years," Gurjar told reporters at Reasi.

The Union minister, who visited Reasi district to take stock of various projects as a part of the government's public outreach programme for J&K, said it is the mission of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to turn J&K into a power-surplus state within this short period.

The minister further said the government is working expeditiously in multiple sectors including roads, railways, and funding numerous developmental projects in J&K.

The minister inspected the Salal power project wherein the officers gave [More On P6](#)

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**Tuesday| 21-09-2021**

# OnePlus Sends Legal Notice to Delhi-Based User Who Alleged Explosion of OnePlus Nord

**NEW DELHI:** OnePlus has issued a legal notice to the Delhi-based advocate who earlier this month alleged that his OnePlus Nord 2 5G handset had exploded in his gown. The notice demanded the user to "cease and desist" from making or publishing "any such defamatory videos or derogatory statements" against the Chinese company and its products and remove his earlier tweets, the company confirmed to Gadgets 360. This is the second case in which the OnePlus Nord 2 5G has been alleged to have exploded and caught fire.

In a tweet posted by his account, advocate Gaurav Gulati informed about the legal notice. OnePlus also on Monday confirmed this to Gadgets 360.

"We confirm that we have issued a cease-and-desist notice to the concerned individual. We will follow the proper legal procedures to resolve this matter,"

the company said in an emailed statement.

Gulati shared a copy of the notice on Twitter, and in the post, you can see that it was sent by a legal partner of Mobictech Creations — the Indian subsidiary of OnePlus. It states that the user had given "self-contradictory and false statements" to the media regarding the explosion of the OnePlus Nord 2 5G, with a "malicious and mala fide intent" to harm the company's reputation.

"The Disparaging Content has and continues to cause unquantifiable damage to Our Client. The general public, including Our Client's potential customers, are very likely to be negatively influenced, deceived, or otherwise misled into believing that the statements made in the said Tweets as being true and conclusive," the notice read.

The notice goes on to add that



Gulati should remove his original tweets referring to the incident and issue a written communication to all media organisations where he had previously given statements on the explosion. It also asked him to offer an "unconditional written apology" on the matter along with an undertaking to not post or disseminate any "disparaging content" about

OnePlus and its products in the future.

After the issue was reported on Twitter by the user, OnePlus reached out to him. The user did not give the phone for investigation to the team visiting his premises. He had told Gadgets 360 he had refused to give the phone unit as he found the team to be insensitive and had believed

that it could temper the evidence of malfunctioning on the phone.

The user alleged that the explosion took place on September 8. He had claimed that due to the severe heat coming from the phone, he received burn injuries near his stomach.

Last month, a similar issue was reported in Bengaluru where the OnePlus Nord 2 5G had allegedly exploded in the sling bag of a woman. OnePlus had said that the results indicated that the damage to this device was caused by an isolated incident involving external factors and not due to any manufacturing or product issue.

The OnePlus Nord 2 5G was launched in July as the successor to last year's OnePlus Nord. It included features including triple rear cameras and a 4,500mAh battery. The phone is also powered by a custom-designed MediaTek Dimensity 1200-AI SoC.

## Youth creates jobs without investing a single paisa in Bihar

**PATNA:** In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the son of a grocery shop owner from Bihar's Samastipur district has created a chain of digital grocery shops that are providing jobs to the unemployed youth without making any investments.

"People register themselves on the 'ZILA Community Leadership (ZCL)' app. After that, they start running digital grocery shops and start doorstep delivery of the items ordered by customers," Suman Kumar Jha said. The commission earned from running the digital grocery shop is directly credited to the partners of ZCL app. Partners can earn between Rs 5,000 and Rs 15,000 per month without making any investments on setting up a physical shop, Jha said.

"When I graduated from Dr MGR University in Chennai, I thought of working out a digital shop concept, and finally, after a year of research and works, I have developed two apps. The apps not only allow people to buy groceries online, but also provides job opportunities to unemployed

youths, who have smartphones," Jha said.

Jha has successfully delivered more than 10,000 orders, generating a revenue of rs 10 lakh in the last seven months in Patna, Khagual and Bihta. "Our aim is to take this initiative to each of Bihar's 45,103 villages creating about 5 lakh of entrepreneurs utilising the digital accessibility of people even in the remotest parts of state," Jha claimed.

Beyond providing jobs, the initiative has also transformed the grocery-buying experience of people, who can now shop from the comfort of their homes. Buoyed by the positive responses, Jha is consulting with the Bihar government's concerned department for support to take it on wider scale as a means to end unemployment. Jha's apps are available both in Hindi and English with a slew of features like speedy transfer of earning into partner's bank account. Jha is planning to take his initiative to other states, including Tamil Nadu.

## Google Pixel Fold tipped to launch this year

**WASHINGTON:** American tech giant Google's foldable smartphone may come out soon.

As per GSM Arena, it has been long rumoured that Google is eyeing to enter the foldable space with its own Pixel foldable phone.

A fresh new leak from Senior

Director at Display Supply Chain Consultants - David Naranjo reveals a supposed launch date in Q4 2021 for the Google Pixel Fold and suggests the device will use an LTPO OLED display.

Google is expected to launch its Pixel 6 series on October 19 and has already provided an ear-

ly look at the duo's designs and specs but the Pixel Fold was not mentioned to this point.

Q4 takes place between October 1 and December 31 so there is a chance the Pixel Fold could very well be a "one more thing" announcement at the Pixel 6 event or it could launch later this year.

## انتقال پر ملال

یہ خبر نہایت ہی دکھ اور افسوس کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ محترمہ نسیم بانو زوجہ شیر علی حاجی ساکنہ حاجی سعید علیہ کحل اچانک اس دار فانی سے رحلت کر گئی مرحومہ کے جانے سے سوگوار خاندان میں ایک طرح ہو گیا جو بھرلا ناہت ہی مشکل ہے۔ کیونکہ مرحومہ ایک منسارا اور شریف نفس خاتون تھی۔ اللہ پاک مرحومہ کو جوار رحلت میں عطا فرمائیں اور سوگوار خاندان کو یہ صدمہ عظیم برداشت کرنے کی توفیق فرمائیں۔ مرحومہ کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی مورخہ 22 ستمبر 2021 بروز بدھوار سچیتھے بکے لنگہ آئی مقبرہ حسن آباد میں انجام دی جائے گی اور بعد ازاں مرحومہ کے گھر میں دن بھر تقویت پڑی کی مجلس جاری رہے گی۔

سوگوار۔ شیر علی حاجی ولد محمد صفدر حاجی

ویلا ت حسین حاجی ولد شیر علی حاجی

### THE JAMtFU AND KASHMIR STATE BOAOD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION BRANCH OFFICE, MAGAM NOTICE

The candidate whose photograph is given to have lost his marks card/s with the following particulars issued by the J&K State Board of School Education:-

Name: Furkan Rashid

S/o Ab Rashid Ahanger

Residence: Batapora Kanihama

Details of Marks Certificate lost

I. Secondary School Examination (Class 10th)

Roll No: 2417250 Year & Session 2019 Annual Regular 2019

The said candidate has applied for issuance of duplicate marks carfficate/s in this office. Before the same is processed and issued to the candidate, any body having any objection in this regard may file the same in the Board Branch office Magain within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the original marks card be treated as cancelled.



Sd/- Asstt. Secretary.  
Br. Office Magam

### OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas, an application for re-registration/transfer of ownership has been received from Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Mir S/o Ghulam Qadir Mir Resident of Saidul Azais South Delhi 110030 in Ecco Sports Bearing Regn No DL10CG-1176 Chassis No 540020 Engine No 549020 Model 2014 in favour of Aijaz Ahmad Dar S/o Mohammad Yousuf Dar R/o Chinkral Mohalla Habba Kadal Srinagar (Transferee)

Now it is therefore, notified for the information of the general public that representation /Objection, if any in connection with proposed Re-Registration/Transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. No representation / objection shall be considered unless it is made in written and shall be submitted within the aforesaid period.

No. JK/ RTOK/6736  
Dated 20-09-2021

Sd/ Regional Transport Officer,  
Kashmir



### THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM NOTICE

The candidate whose photograph is given above is claiming to have lost his/her migration certificate with the following particulars issued by J&K State Board of School Education:

Name: Gowhara Mushtaq

Parentage: Mushtaq Ahmad Tantry

Residence: Mamoosa Tehsil Pattan Distt Baramulla

Roll No. (12th) 2418228; Year/Session: 2015 Annual

The said candidate has applied for issuance of duplicate migration certificate in the office. Before the same is processed and issued to the candidate, anybody having any objection in this regard may file the same in the J&K State Board Branch office Magam within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the original certificate be treated as cancelled.

Sd/-Assistant Secretary,  
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Jammu and Kashmir Helpers to Supervisors Association of ICDS department on Monday staged a protest against the administration's order of their "sudden" disengagement from the service. KO Picture/Abid Bhat

## City Traders can't afford another lockdown: KTA

KO NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** Amid fears of a third wave of Covid 19, Kashmir Trade Alliance (KTA) president Ajaz Shahdhar has expressed concern over the increase of Covid 19 cases in Srinagar.

In a statement issued, Ajaz Shahdhar said that businessmen,

shopkeepers and industrialists have already suffered losses of over Rs 50,000 crore during the last two years and now when it seemed that the Covid situation was improving and business activities would gear up the increase of Covid 19 cases in Srinagar is a matter of concern.

President KTA urged the trans-

porters besides traders to prepare themselves to adopt Covid appropriate behavior, adherence to guidelines and standard operating procedures.

Shahdhar said that traders cannot afford another lockdown, and adopting and implementing precautionary measures is key to avoid lockdown.

# SMC Renames 2 City Roads After Peer Shafi & Aga Mehdi

AQUIB JAVAID

**SRINAGAR:** The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Monday passed a unanimous resolution at its general council meeting to rename Botshah Mohalla Chowk in Lal Bazar area as Peer Shafi Chowk and Road from Chowdhary Bagh to Moti Mohalla as Shaheed Aga Syed Mehdi Road.

The council decided to rename Botshah Mohalla Chowk and Chowdhary Bagh to Moti Mohalla in Srinagar city in memory of these two personalities killed by suspected militants.

Corporator ward 60, Danish Shafi Bhat submitted the proposal of name change which was passed unanimously in the 14th general council meeting held at SMC hall.

Similarly, General Council of Srinagar Municipal Corporation also unanimously passed a resolution presented by Mayor Srinagar, Junaid Mattu to rename Chowdhury Bagh to Moti Mo-



halla in Rainawari road as "Shaheed Aga Syed Mehdi road" to honour the memory of Anjuman Sharie Shiayan and Congress party leader Aga Syed Mehdi. Peer Mohammad Shafi associated with the National Conference was ex-MLA Zadibal and was later killed by militants at his residence in Lal Bazar in August 1991.

Aga Syed Mehdi, son of late Aga Syed Mustafa of Budgam was killed in a massive IED blast with his three security personnel and two supporters at Kanihama-Magam road in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on 3 November 2000.

## NC demands allowing Friday prayers at Hazratbal, Jamia Masjid

KO NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference has expressed deep concern over the curbs on offering Friday prayers at Hazratbal and Jamia Masjid saying the measure besides causing relentless agony to devotees also affects the livelihood of local vendors.

This was stated by Party's Senior Provincial Vice President, and former MLA Muhammad Syed Akhoo, in a statement while expressing dismay over not allowing Friday prayers in Hazratbal and Jamia Masjid. "Besides not allowing the devotees to offer prayers and obeisance at Hazratbal and Jamia Masjid, the administration is also ensuring strict lock down in the markets on Friday eve. This has had a cascading affect on the local business activities, which are already reeling under worst of economic slump," he said.

While referring to the double standards of the administration he said that on one hand the administration is coming up with govt functions and events marked by heavy public rush and on the

other hand the devotees are not being allowed to fulfill their religious obligations. Why is the excuse of Covid only invoked when it comes to allowing prayers at the shrines? Why these two different yardsticks? Nationally and globally also we see how the doors of religious places have been let open for devotees with proper SOPs in place to ensure safety and wellbeing of devotees. This selective approach smacks of discrimination," he added.

Demanding that devotees must be allowed to offer obeisance and prayers at Hazratbal and Jamia Masjid, Akhoo said the measure will bring respite to thousands of devotees whose religious sentiments are associated with the holy shrines. He also urged the administration to allow the markets around the two shrines to run as per routine. "We are only left with few weeks of warmer days. During the winter months the economic activity takes a back seat due to weather vagaries. Therefore having the shops closed on Fridays is a grave injustice with the marginal traders in these markets," he said.

### Islamia College opens to On-Campus Teaching

KO NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** The Back to College campaign launched by Islamia College of Science and Commerce (ICSC) Srinagar culminated today when students visited the campus for academics and attended classes, labs after a very prolonged recess in college life.

Students of batch 2021 in various Honors, IPG, Professional and Humanities programs who had joined the college through on-line mode of admission attended the college for the first time. They were welcomed at College gates by the Principal and faculty with flowers.

Only such students were allowed to enter college campus who were vaccinated and the students without vaccination were guided to college Covid center for immediate vaccination. Around 20 students were vaccinated at the center during the day.

The College Administration conducted Covid Warrior Contest to give a flip to vaccination drive and ensured Covid Appropriate Behavior in sync with the DDMA guidelines.

## DAK seeks to set up medical university in Kashmir

KO NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Monday has sought setting up of a medical university in Kashmir.

"The medical university would strengthen and expand the health sector and transform the health care scenario in the region," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

"With expanding medical, nursing and other allied health sciences, medical university is the need of the hour," he said.

The DAK President said medical varsity would integrate the health care system and provide effective and efficient patient care.

"The varsity would provide competent caring physicians through quality undergraduate and postgraduate training that would shape the future of the health care in JK," he said.

"The quality of nurses and paramedics would also improve through outstanding education that would produce a paradigm change in patient care," he added.

General Secretary DAK Dr Arshad Ali said the varsity would give new direction to medical curriculum that would raise the

standards of practice of medicine.

"The university would provide an environment that is conducive for research which would bring us on the scientific map of the world," he said.

Vice-President DAK Dr Mir Mohd Iqbal said the separate medical university would end the shortage of doctors, nurses and paramedics that is taking a heavy toll on the patients.

"It would serve as an international magnet and will attract high quality professionals across the globe to practice, teach and research in an academic medical environment," he said.

"Due to the lack of medical university, medical students suffer immensely as examinations, results and awarding of degrees often get delayed," said Javid Qanango senior executive member DAK.

"Jammu and Kashmir has dozens of medical institutions, including medical, dental and paramedical colleges, which are currently affiliated to Kashmir and Jammu universities. The two universities are already overburdened with the affairs of their own academic institutions and find it hard to cater to the needs of thousands of medical and paramedical students," he said.

## Air Force to hold Air Show at Dal Lake

KO NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** As part of ongoing celebration commemorating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', Air Force Station Srinagar will conduct an air show at Dal lake in Srinagar on 26th of September 2021.

The event, being organised in collaboration with J&K Government will be flagged off by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre.

The display will include flypast by various aircrafts of the IAF. The spectators would also witness para-motor flying and IAF's sky diving team 'Akash Ganga' in action. Besides, symphony orchestra of the IAF would be adding glitter to the event.

"Ambassadors of IAF, Suryakiran Aerobatic Display Team, will be performing in the valley after a gap of 14 years. The event, titled "Give Wings to Your Dreams" would also consist of a photo exhibition at the venue to highlight the history of IAF.

## Yuvraj Singh's foundation sets up 50 CCU beds at govt hospital


Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A foundation run by former Indian cricketer Yuvraj Singh has set up 50 critical care unit (CCU) beds at the Government Medical College & Hospital here to tackle a possible third wave of the coronavirus.


In a press statement on Monday, a foundation spokesperson said the CCU beds have been set up under its 'Mission1000Beds initiative', in collaboration with Accenture.

"Funds contributed by Accenture have also been used by YouWeCan Foundation to provide a range of medical equipment including ICU ventilators, BiPAP machines, patient monitors, ECG machines, defibrillators and oxygen cylinders to the hospital," the spokesperson said.

She said the facility was inaugurated virtually by Yuvraj Singh in the presence of Dr Yashpal Sharma, Director (Coordination), New Government Medical Colleges, Jammu and Kashmir, and representatives from Accenture.



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE, KASHMIR  
Rajbagh, Srinagar, opposite Presentation Convent School -190008  
TELEFAX: 01942311287/2311484 Email: Kashmirhorticulture@gmail.com  
website: http://hortikashmir.gov.in



## Implementation of "PARVAZ" scheme

Government of Jammu and Kashmir has announced market linkage support scheme for the shipment of perishable items of Agriculture and Horticulture products of J&K.

### SALIENT FEATURES:-


A market linkage support scheme for the shipment of Agriculture and Horticulture perishable harvested in J&K through Air Cargo.

There is provision of 25% subsidy on perishable fruits harvested in J&K through Air Cargo on notified rates.

Subsidy shall be provided on the Air Cargo Charges inclusive of Airport handling charges for shipment through one or more empanelled Airlines by the Government from time to time.

Subsidy shall be provided in the DBT mode to the farmers/FPOs/SHGs and registered intermediaries.

Subsidy shall be paid through online medium in DBT mode by creating a Platform between Directorate of Horticulture Kashmir/Jammu and the Concerned Airlines.



Issued in Public Interest by:-  
**Directorate of Horticulture Kashmir**

DIPK-WB-3646/21

#### DIAL-EMMA



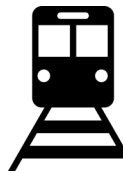
- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

#### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



#### RAILWAYS



- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJHHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### HIGHWAY STATUS

- Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)
- Mughal Road - (Open)
- Srinagar- Leh- (Open)

## This Day in History

- 1913 - Turkey and Bulgaria sign peace treaty in Constantinople
- 1922 - US President Warren G. Harding signs a joint resolution of approval to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine
- 1938 - Winston Churchill condemns Hitler's annexation of Czechoslovakia
- 1943 - -Soviet 13th/61st Army reconquer Chyernigov
- 1955 - Last allied occupying troops leave Austria
- 1964 - Malta becomes independent from the United Kingdom.
- 1970 - Soviet space probe Luna 16 leaves the Moon
- 1979 - Stephen Jay Gould and Richard Lewontin publish influential paper (cited more than 4,000 times) "The Spandrels of San Marco and the panglossian paradigm", introducing idea of "spandrels" into evolutionary biology
- 1982 - STS-5 vehicle moves to launch pad
- 1983 - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1984 - NASA launches Galaxy-C
- 1990 - Reports that US refinery problems will lead to a loss in capacity and aggressive remarks by Saddam Hussein send crude prices to new highs
- 1991 - Armenia votes on whether to remain in Soviet Union
- 2003 - Galileo mission terminated by sending the probe into Jupiter's atmosphere, where it is crushed by the pressure at the lower altitudes
- 2004 - The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) People's War and the Maoist Communist Centre of India merge to form the Communist Party of India (Maoist).
- 2004 - Construction of the Burj Dubai starts
- 2008 - President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa resigns from office, effective September 25
- 2008 - Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel formally resigns from office, effective as soon as his successor Tzipi Livni has successfully assembled a new government.
- 2012 - Japanese Prime Minister, Yoshihiko Noda, wins a leadership ballot
- 2013 - 100 people are killed in a series of attacks across Iraq
- 2013 - 59 people are killed and 175 wounded in a shopping mall gun battle in Nairobi, Kenya.
- 2016 - Three genetic studies published in "Nature" conclude all non-Africans descended from one migration out of Africa 50-80,000 years ago
- 2016 - Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan pledge \$3 billion to medical research to "cure, prevent or manage all diseases by the end of the century"
- 2016 - Migrant boat carrying 450-600 people capsizes off the Egyptian coast, only 163 rescued
- 2016 - Genomic study finding Australian Aboriginal oldest known civilisation on earth published in "Nature"
- 2017 - Discovery of the first brainless animal that sleeps, the jellyfish Cassiopea, research published in "Current Biology" by Caltech scientists

## From KO Archives

## ‘India faces pressure to solve Kashmir’

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

**ISLAMABAD:** The International pressure is increasing on India to resolve its explosive Kashmir dispute with Pakistan, military ruler General Pervez Musharraf said Tuesday.

"As a result of concerted efforts of Pakistan, the international pressure is growing on India to settle this issue," reports quoted him as saying.

Musharraf, who was speaking to reporters at Gilgit in northern Pakistan, accused India of heightening tension along the line of Control (LoC), the unofficial border in Kashmir, which is divided between the two countries.

On Monday, the two sides reported a clash on the LoC, where skirmishes and duels occur routinely.

The military here said Indian troops attacked a Pakistani forward post in the Lipa region of Kashmir, adding that- the attack was repelled and three Indian troops were killed and more than 10 wounded.

India's army said it fired on the Pakistani border outpost because of "menacing H movements," and killed six Pakistani soldiers. It denied Indian troops had crossed the LoC. Musharraf blamed Indians for frequent firing on villages close to the dividing line on the Pakistani side of the disputed Himalayan territory. He promised government assistance to the people affected by Indian firing.

(Kashmir Observer, September 21, 2000)



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K O V I E W

Troubled Congress

R umblings within the ruling Congress party in Punjab have once shown the party incapable of getting its act right. More so, in the run up to elections. At a time, when crucial elections in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab are coming up, Congress in Punjab is struggling to keep itself united. Amarinder Singh, who was instrumental in winning the party two successive elections was forced to resign as chief minister following revolt against him from within the party's ranks. Now Charanjit Singh Channi has been elected as the new chief minister of Punjab, who is a Dalit leader. One of the major causes of friction within the party was the difficult relationship between Amarinder Singh and Navjot Singh Sidhu, the newly appointed Punjab Congress president. What makes the situation problematic for the Congress party is not only the Assembly elections in Punjab being held next year but its import for the national party that is apparently gearing up to challenge the BJP in 2024.

In August, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's breakfast meeting with the leaders from 15 opposition parties had set the ball rolling for the opposition unity. However, it would require the opposition parties to stay the course to forge unity ahead of 2024 which is still three years away. As of now, the BJP looks still the favourite to win the national polls, despite the political setback of the second Covid-19 wave. Though the opposition looks to have found its bearings, more so, after Mamata Banerjee swept Bengal polls, it has a long way to go before it is counted as a competitor. One good thing is that Rahul has shown some promise to rise up to the challenge, even though his image makeover is still a project in the works.

But the truth is it wouldn't be sufficient to dislodge the Prime Minister Narendra Modi from his exalted position. That seems still very unlikely. The fact is that India's larger secular opposition is still in tatters and fighting over scraps. Gandhi may be a better challenger now, but there is no major pan-India leader in sight to take on the PM Modi who is now well-entrenched as a pan-Indian leader. He is now in a zone where a large section of the population in India have begun to attribute divinity to him. Moreover, the Hindutva ideology that he propagates reigns supreme and it is something whose many aspects are now being bought into by the opposition also. There is no national leader in India who wants to be aggressive on secularism. But still the opposition unity and the Congress revival as a cohesive party can be expected to offer some challenge to the BJP's overwhelming dominance in the upcoming elections. But divisions in the Punjab Congress offer little consolation on this score.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Bitter Taste

I gnorance need not be bliss: it can be hazardous when it comes to food. This is why it is significant that, after eight long years, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has decisively advocated the inclusion of labels on the front of food packets, detailing their salt, sugar and fat content, to enable consumers to take an 'informed' decision. In the Indian context, this is particularly relevant as this kind of transparency could go a long way in enhancing consumers' knowledge of healthy consumption and protecting their rights. After all, there have been alarming transgressions on the part of manufacturers of packaged food — apart from the Maggi adulteration controversy, a study by the FSSAI found that 62.8 per cent of the major processed foods contained higher-than-prescribed levels of sugar, salt and fat, which are key contributors to India's growing burden of non-communicable diseases. However, what is good for public health may not be beneficial for corporations with an eye on profit. It is, therefore, hardly surprising that the Indian processed food industry, estimated to be worth \$44 billion and growing at a rapid pace of about 24 per cent every year, is reluctant to comply with the demand of consumer and advocacy groups to include a health warning on the packages. In fact, there have been reports of corporate lobbying against similar proposals since 2017.

In a country that has seen its fair share of food politics over the past seven years — vegetarianism continues to be forced down the throats of Indians in spite of widespread undernourishment — the lack of awareness about nutrition among the people only aggravates the problem: more than 90 per cent people in India are unaware of even their daily protein requirements. The absence of political will to safeguard the health of citizens is even more baffling given the success of the warning label model instituted in the case of tobacco products — graphic warnings on packages convinced over 90 per cent people of their harmful effects. The complex food culture of the country, along with diverse eating habits, further complicates the formulation of universal nutritional policies. The key, therefore, is for the government to undertake extensive initiatives — from television commercials to anganwadi programmes — to promote the nutritional value of local cuisines over processed food. More fundamentally, food and nutrition must be seen as sacrosanct rights that cannot be sacrificed at the altar of profiteering or political propaganda.

Telegraph India

# Respect The Forest Rights Act



THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENSURE THAT NO PRETEXT should be available to harass forest dwellers. More provisions should be made and meaningful ones must be restored to make the mission a complete success

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

R ecently, while speaking at a ceremony in Srinagar on the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Rights) Act also called as Forest Rights Act (FRA), Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that the administration was working continuously at different levels to safeguard the rights of tribals. He said that the Government was working on a mission mode for their development and betterment. The LG during the function handed over individual and community forest right certificates (IFR & CFR) to the beneficiaries of Gujjar-Bakarwal and Gaddi-Sippi communities. Yet another function was held at Jammu where IFR and CFR claim certificates were handed over to several beneficiaries. Describing the occasion as historic, LG Sinha thanked PM Modi for extending FRA to J&K post the abrogation of Article 370.

Government rolled out the Forest Rights Act (FRA) in J&K after a public outrage last year in December when several apple orchards were axed in Kanidajan in Budgam and many Gujjar hutments were razed to ground in Pahalgam in South Kashmir. The Forest department had acted on the orders from the Government invoking the obsolete Indian Forest Act 1927. Dozens of eviction notices were issued by the forest department in several villages of Kashmir valley asking the gujjar and other forest dwellers to surrender forest land which was under their occupation for the last many decades. Infact, the FRA was extended to J&K on Oct 31st 2019 when the 1st order under JK Re-Organization Act 2019 was issued post article 370 abrogation. This law was not operationalized for almost a year and was only implemented as the issue was raised time and again.

**Ground situation**

Through my visits to places like the tribal hamlet called Darwan Basti near Yusmarg in district Budgam I have come to the conclusion that the tribal population and other traditional forest dwellers had more forest rights before FRA rollout. Only 2 years back, the families who live in Darwan Basti forest area were allowed to grow vegetables around their Kotha's (huts) between May to October but for the last 2 years the forest department is not allowing them to continue that traditional activity.

There are almost 250 families putting

up around Darwan Bast who belong to almost 4 villages of Chalyan,Tchoonth Nad,Nowgam and Darwan. The families who are mostly Gujjars and other traditional forest dwellers are forced to buy even leafy vegetables from the market several kilometers away from their habitation. For years they would grow Collard greens (Kashmiri Haak),potatoes,kidney beans and other vegetables during summer months near their Kothas but out of the blue, in the summer of 2020, they were forced to stop that age-old practice.

**Lack of Awareness**

Without any proper awareness, the Forest Rights Act (FRA) was rolled out last year in December. Gram sabha with better participation of people (50 % of Coram) to elect Forest Rights Committees (FRCs) was not held in a majority of villages near forests. Women's participation was meager, which defeats the essence of this act.

**SDLC & DLC Meetings**

Under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), the Gram Sabha which consists of all adults of the village have to elect a 15 member Forest Rights Committee (FRC) at village level. 50 % coram is to be mandatory during the gram sabha meetings. Rule 11 (1) (a) of Forest Rights Act 2006 says that Gram Sabha shall (a) call for claims and authorize the Forest Rights Committee (FRC) to accept the claims and such claims shall be made within a period of three months from the date of such calling of claims along with at least two of the evidences mentioned in rule 13, shall be made within a period of three months. Provided that the Gram Sabha may, if considered necessary, extend such a period of three months after recording the reasons thereof in writing. This makes it clear that the Gram Sabha has the powers to extend the time of receiving the claims for Forest Rights from villagers. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA),the nodal agency of FRA, kept this thing in consideration and made necessary guidelines.

Pertinently, the J&K Government had directed field officials like Panchayat Secretaries and Patwaris to complete the entire process of holding gram sabha on FRA implementation by 31st March 2021 and that is why people were asked to organize the meetings in a haste in January and February this year. Inspite of all that confusion and chaos all the claim forms submitted in the majority of villages are eating dust. They lie with local Chairpersons of the Forest Rights Committees (FRCs).These claim forms had to go

to the Sub Division Level Committee (SDLC) members headed by Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) and then to the District Level Committee (DLC) headed by respective Deputy Commissioners.

**Gram Sabha Inside Rooms ?**

Before holding Gram Sabha meetings, the Govt was supposed to issue a gazette notification through J&K Tribal Affairs Department wherein they would provide details of villages

IF THE GOVERNMENT is really serious about implementing the Forest Rights Act (FRA) in J&K, then first and foremost, the list of villages should be notified. Then a large-scale awareness campaign has to be launched. School teachers,officials of the Rural Development Department,Revenue officials and NGOs need to be involved in this campaign.The role of the Forest Department has to be restricted as they are the respondent party under FRA

where people can claim the rights under FRA. Ironically, JK Tribal Affairs Department has not been made the Nodal Agency for FRA implementation in J&K. Why so?

In December last year, the Forest Department was made the Nodal agency by the Govt and I had written several articles on that arbitrary decision. At the national level as well, it is the Ministry of Tribal Affairs that looks after the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and its awareness/advocacy.

Most of the FRA meetings from December last year to March this year have been organized by the Forest Department at top, which goes against the principles of this legislation.

Infact, the Government made some people in villages hold "closed door meetings" which have been labelled as Gram Sabha meetings. There has

been resistance from some people as well. In Bonen village of Budgam the villagers came out in 6 feet of snow and held a protest against the holding of a closed door gram sabha. The local panchayat then held a fresh gram sabha which was attended by 50% adult population of the village which is the requisite coram as per the law. With 4 to 5 feet of snow on the ground, in most of the forest villages, Gram Sabha were hardly held. How were these meetings held in places like Tulail,Gurez or Machil; nobody knows.

In most of these meetings, participation was very meagre. One only wonders how 15 members of FRCs were elected then.

There are more than 6000 village Panchayats in J&K and the average village population consists of more than 2500 people. The participation of a majority should have been ensured in democratic spirit.

**No Deadline**

As per the FRA guidelines jointly prepared by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India office in 2015 there is no time limit for receiving FRA claims. Processing of applications by Gram Sabhas have to be done as per Forest Rights Rules 2012 especially proviso to Rule 11 (1) (a), which provides that the Gram Sabha shall call for the claims and authorize the Forest Rights Committee (FRC) to accept the claims.

Since the Gram Sabha is the "authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of individual or community forest rights or both" the commencement of the process must be made by the Gram Sabha, and not the Forest Rights Committee. The guideline further reads :

"The FRA is intended to recognize the rights of the country's poorest and most marginalized people. Such communities frequently will not even become aware of the existence of this legislation for long periods. Imposing a cut-off date would amount to penalizing them for the failure of the state machinery to inform them of their rights"

If the Government is really serious about implementing the Forest Rights Act (FRA) in J&K, then first and foremost, the list of villages should be notified. Then a large-scale awareness campaign has to be launched. School teachers,officials of the Rural Development Department,Revenue officials and NGOs need to be involved in this campaign.The role of the Forest Department has to be restricted as they are the respondent party under FRA.

The government should ensure that no pretext should be available for the Forest Department to harass forest dwellers. The LG must now ensure that no leeway be left for forest dwellers to suffer further. More provisions should be made and meaningful ones must be restored to make the mission a complete success. This can start from allowing forest dwellers to grow vegetables near their huts.

The government must also ensure that people from all traditional forest dweller communities are included. In addition to Gujjars and Gadi Sippi there are other traditional forest dwellers especially Kashmiri speaking ones who also need to be given a space and platform in government initiatives/functions like the ones recently held at SKICC.

*Views and details expressed in the article are the author's own responsibility and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer*

*The author is an Acumen Fellow and Founder of Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement. He is also an Anant fellow for Climate Action*



All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, space and accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

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## Reuse And Recycle Old Textbooks

A ll schools provide new textbooks every year. And at the end of each year, most of these books are thrown away and only a few are reused or recycled. This is very bad for the environment as millions of trees are cut down to make these books. There are a few very easy to adopt and workable solutions for this problem of wastage. Schools should not make it compulsory to buy textbooks. Those who want to borrow books from

their senior batches can certainly do so. If possible, they can even conduct drives to collect notebooks at the end of each year so they can recycle them. Another great option is to use that recycled paper for their notebooks and question papers. Schools can adopt these solutions and will make a tremendous difference in the fight to save trees.

Kashvi N  
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## Better Safe Than Sorry

J ammu and Kashmir, especially Srinagar, is witnessing a spike in the number of covid-19 cases. This has raised alarms for the much anticipated and unfortunate third wave. It isn't easy to tell if the third wave will be as devastating as the second one. However, it is important to be just as cautious as we were back then. Covid-19 waves come unannounced. There's usually an eerie silence before it makes itself visible. This time is most likely that time. Therefore, one must

follow SOPs robustly. Maintain physical stance, wear masks outside and possibly in indoor spaces as well, ensure ventilation and follow proper hand hygiene. It is also extremely essential to get vaccinated. Even as it doesn't mean you won't get infected but the severity has been shown to be much less. There's still time left. So, we must ensure that we do everything in our capacity to ensure our loved ones and community is safe.

Sahil Shah  
Sahilshah@rediffmail



# Demystifying Vaccine Hesitancy

Misha Ketchell

When I first wrote about the arrival of SARS-CoV-2 in early March 2020, the question was whether or not the new virus would become a pandemic. At the time, most experts believed that we had already reached the point of no return.

Today, 18 months later, the answer is clear. You don't need to be a scientist to know it. This pandemic is the worst public health emergency of international concern that our modern society has faced. To date, more than 215 million cases have been confirmed and 4.5 million deaths have been reported globally.

These are just the reported cases. In reality, the number of cases is higher, and for a variety of reasons: lack of diagnostic capacity, infection without symptoms, unwillingness or inability to be tested or to visit a health facility, etc. The number of deaths due to COVID-19 is probably underestimated, both in Canada and worldwide.

In addition to changing the way we live our daily lives, the pandemic has brought scientific processes to public attention. Researchers, used to working in the shadows, now had to provide solutions – and explanations – to a very real threat, and they have been doing this under the watchful eye of the public.

One of these solutions, vaccination, is far from new. Yet no matter what the context, it has always generated news. So where are we now?

Still in our laboratories! I recently completed my PhD in microbiology-immunology at Laval University, research that I conducted under the supervision of Professor Gary Kobinger, who is known for co-developing an effective vaccine and treatment for Ebola. This fall, I will begin a postdoctoral fellowship at the Galveston National Laboratory in Texas, where I will continue my work on the transmission of, and vaccine development against, severe pathogens.

## Relevant questions

The World Health Organization (WHO) currently lists 13 available COVID-19 vaccines, based on four different platforms, including mRNA vaccines and viral vector vaccines. Globally, more than five billion doses of vaccines have been administered. In Canada, five of these vaccines are currently approved for use: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca, COVISHIELD and Janssen, with Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca in wide distribution. Combined, these vaccines have been administered to approximately 70 per cent of Canadians.

However, many people have raised questions about these vaccines. And it is fair to do so! The unknown has always been a source of anxiety for human beings, it is normal to ask questions.

So, after working tirelessly to develop vaccines against COVID-19, what are scientists and doctors doing now?

They are doing what they have always done: Practising the best science they can within the limits of current knowledge. This scientific practice means continuing



**TO THOSE WHO ARE HESITANT ABOUT VACCINATION, SCIENTISTS** should ask: “What data would make you change your mind?”, “Why do you think the current data are insufficient?”, “Why do you trust this individual, but not another or the institutions?” This is how constructive dialogue can be initiated and more in-depth reflection can begin

to evaluate the effectiveness of these vaccines against new variants in labs, as the virus continues to mutate.

It means continuing to record who has experienced side-effects (serious or not) from vaccination and continuing to investigate the potential links between these side-effects and the vaccine. The science they are practising involves studying the virus day and night to understand how it makes people sick, how we can prevent infection and what our options are for getting rid of it as quickly as possible.

The term “current knowledge” is very important here. It is possible that more side-effects related to vaccination will be discovered much later. Here's why.

## The scientific method

When vaccines are initially developed in the laboratory and tested on animals, it is normal that not all side-effects are identified. A mouse is not a human, after all, and models cannot account for all the variables that can be found in a human. Humans live in a complex environment and society where individuals each have their own genetics, immunity and lifestyle (exercise, smoking, nutrition).

Furthermore, the more people are vaccinated, the greater the likelihood of detecting a serious side-effect. Clinical trials, where drugs and vaccines are evaluated in a small group of individuals before being made available to the general population, are designed to be safe. Volunteers are usually healthy adults, without serious pre-existing medical conditions.

Vaccination is now widespread in many countries. It is therefore statistically normal that rarer effects (for example, ones that one in a million people develop) are now being observed. These effects are too rare to have been detected in a clinical trial of 10,000 people. This is the case for rare side-effects such as Guillain-Barré syndrome and Bell's palsy.

The scientific method requires that the following process is followed: Observe a problem, formulate a hypothesis about its possible causes, evaluate it experimentally by controlling the variables, interpret the results and draw a conclusion.

It can turn out that our initial hypothesis is wrong, and that is equally acceptable. This is how science was designed. I think that before the pandemic, people

considered science infallible. Opening up research to the general public has greatly changed this perception, especially as science quickly became embroiled in politics, particularly over the question of the origin of the pandemic.

## Knowing how to communicate

And that's where the problem comes from, among other things. The key to effective scientific communication is not the science. It's the communication. The results of laboratory experiments and clinical trials are what they are. Either the vaccine or drug works to reduce mortality, or it doesn't work, and we go back to the drawing board.

So where does the reluctance about vaccines come from? One of the main problems is not the lack of information about the safety of the vaccine. Almost everyone has access to this information on internet. The problem is the lack of trust in institutions, which has been growing globally in recent years.

But this trust can be earned – or regained. It just takes time, respect and empathy. A study by researchers at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke shows

that an educational session about immunization that used motivational interviewing techniques with parents of infants resulted in a nine per cent increase in immunization rates compared with families who did not receive the sessions.

## Finding the right answer to a question

Ultimately, the goal of science is to find the right answer to a question.

Of course, human nature being what it is, we are not immune to conflicts of interest. We need to ensure transparency about things like funding and links between scientists and potential investors. This is especially important since we are all responsible for funding research, whether through federal subsidies, which are partly derived from taxes paid by citizens, or through the ordinary purchase of drugs in pharmacies.

Since this concerns everyone, it is high time that the public became more involved. After all, scientific discoveries and health measures are everybody's business. For example, few citizens are familiar with “gain-of-function research.” These studies can involve a level of risk ranging from very low to very high. For example, producing a drug from a bacterium carries little risk and much benefit. However, increasing the virulence or transmissibility of a virus such as Ebola or Influenza could carry a lot of risk if such research were carried out by individuals with bad intentions, or in poorly secured laboratories.

As with any aspect of science, a risk-benefit analysis must be carried out. Note that in the vast majority of institutions where research is done, the committees assessing whether or not a study is worth doing are not only composed of scientists and students, but also members of the public.

Now each side just has to do its part. Scientists need to do a better job of communicating their results and the interpretation of them, as well as specifically answering questions of interest to the public and regaining their trust. They need to listen and stop hiding behind mountains of data, complicated words and scientific articles that are not easily accessible to the general public.

To those who are hesitant about vaccination, scientists should ask: “What data would make you change your mind?”, “Why do you think the current data are insufficient?”, “Why do you trust this individual, but not another or the institutions?” This is how constructive dialogue can be initiated and more in-depth reflection can begin.

For their part, citizens can adopt better practices when it comes to getting information and not only consider information that fits into their personal narrative. It is also important to avoid falling into a spiral of conspiracy theories and trust in false experts. It is important to not be afraid to doubt, to find other sources to confirm or refute what you have just read and to ask trusted experts around you what they think.

*The author is a PhD Student in Microbiology-Immunology, Université Laval. The article is being reproduced by arrangement with The Conversation*

Johnny Luk

In an announcement that must have struck dread into the hearts of millions of children and teenagers, the Chinese government recently set out a new policy to restrict online games for those under 18 to just three hours a week.

While unpopular with young people as well as gaming companies, it does pose the question whether other countries need to look into the issue of children being increasingly consumed by online gaming.

The online gaming industry is massive. In 2020, the global online gaming market generated approximately \$21.1bn in revenue, translating to a record 21.9 percent growth compared with the previous year. There are approximately one billion online gamers worldwide, of which more than 10 percent are Chinese children.

## Heavy incentives

Online games, and the platforms that support them, are becoming increasingly good at ensuring eyeballs remain glued to screens for as long as possible. They are heavily incentivised because it helps them make money through advertising revenue and in-game services. For example, Amazon-owned streaming platform Twitch made more than \$100m in advertising revenue alone in the first quarter of 2021, in part through enabling users to engage with 71 million hours of gaming streams daily.

Children who otherwise might be playing outdoors and making real friends, learning a skill, such as playing an instrument, or studying, are instead playing addictive online games.

The rapid enhancements in technology have made it all too easy for parents and children alike to rely on the internet for entertainment rather than make the effort to organise physical activities. With social networks now deeply integrated into these games and smartphones enabling instant access to technology, children's social lives are predominantly limited to the various online platforms.

The problem, however, goes beyond wasting precious time that could be better allocated to making friends, doing physi-

# Time For Digital Detox



cal exercise or studying for children. It can cause serious health issues.

Chinese authorities have branded their latest campaign as a war against “electronic drugs” due to the concerns about the addictive nature of online gaming platforms.

The US-based rehabilitation clinic Addiction Center describes how video games trigger the chemical dopamine in the same way addictive drugs can. The World Health Organization recently included gaming addiction as a disorder and estimated that 3-4 percent of video gamers struggle with addiction.

There are potentially tens of millions of people suffering from gaming addiction. People with symptoms of depression are also particularly vulnerable, seeing gaming as an escape from their day-to-day struggles.

## ‘Pay to win’ culture

Many platforms have gambling elements built into their systems, so addiction to online gaming can also lead to severe financial implications. Examples include in-game currencies that can be swapped with real money, enabling micro-transactions in exchange for “loot boxes”, which leads to a “pay to win” culture, where gamers can further their progress and add character customisation with money.

Ninety-three percent of all children play video games, but more worryingly, according to the charity Gamble Aware, up to 40 percent of those children opened in-game “loot boxes”, containing randomised digital awards.

Hence some children can end up spending more than \$100 a month in an attempt to get a specific digital feature, such as a

**MANY PLATFORMS** have gambling elements built into their systems, so addiction to online gaming can also lead to severe financial implications. Examples include in-game currencies that can be swapped with real money, enabling micro-transactions in exchange for “loot boxes”, which leads to a “pay to win” culture, where gamers can further their progress and add character customisation with money

new outfit for their avatar. To counter such quasi-gambling, the UK government is exploring measures to control gaming micro-transactions the same way it regulates gambling.

Addiction to online gaming does not only affect children, adults can get hooked on these platforms, too. The Royal Society, the UK's national academy of sciences, has published studies showing a “moderate to strong” correlation between adolescents playing games with micro-transactions and then developing a gambling addiction as an adult.

Online gaming forms part of a wider challenge in the modern digital world. Recent technological advancement has enabled us to search for information and services with relative ease, whether it is to access healthcare, conduct business via online video calls or share and discover gossip

on social media platforms through videos, photos, news and blogs.

It is also intrinsic to our daily routine with many positive features, but it means we are now spending most of our hours awake staring at a screen.

Price comparison website Uswitch's studies show that on average in the UK, people are digitally plugged in 6.4 hours a day. The figures are even worse for those born after 1995, known as Gen Z, who are consuming digital media for 11 hours a day, which is the majority of their waking hours.

## Clamping down on gaming

For China, the latest clampdown on game time is an escalation of existing attempts to limit gaming for minors, which previously had a ceiling of 90 minutes of online playtime during weekdays. Online games will now only be available for children for an hour in the evening on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. China may be unique in having the digital infrastructure and political power to enforce this policy.

Major gaming companies like Tencent have the responsibility to implement the policy, including requiring users to provide their real names and age or face the wrath of the Chinese state.

While restricting online games this way would be unthinkable in most countries, a wider debate on our relationship with the online world should still be had. In the UK, the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) journals suggest that pandemic induced lockdowns have led people to spend 71 percent more time playing online games.

We need to be careful to not exacerbate this problem in the longer term, perhaps a digital detox is required. Otherwise, the consequence of inaction could be severe, especially for those born in the digital age.

*The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect Al Jazeera's editorial stance.*

*The author is a strategic advisor, a university governor and ran for parliament in the UK as a Conservative candidate in 2019. The article was originally published by Al Jazeera*



# HDFC Bank partners with Paytm to launch co-branded credit cards

**Agenceis**

Mumbai: HDFC Bank and Paytm, today announced plans for launching a comprehensive range of credit cards powered by VISA. In a first-of-its-kind alliance, the partnership aims to provide one of the widest range of offerings across customer segments, with special focus on millennials, business owners and merchants.

The credit cards will be customized to meet distinct needs of retail customers, from new-to-credit users to affluent users and offer one of the best-in-class rewards and cashback for users. The new cards offering will also facilitate small business owners.

The launch is planned in October 2021. With over 5.1 crore credit cards, debit cards and prepaid cards and over 2 million merchants, addressing every market segment, every third rupee spent on cards in India happens on HDFC Bank cards.

Under the partnership, HDFC Bank and Paytm will introduce the Business credit cards, offering a host of benefits for merchant partners from the smaller cities and

towns of India and enable them to get easier access to credit with instant and paperless approvals.

Bhavesh Gupta, CEO, Paytm Lending said, “ We are delighted to partner with HDFC Bank, and Visa. Our Business Credit Cards have been designed basis our deep understanding of our merchant partners and we believe that the offerings will truly benefit their businesses.”

Parag Rao, Group Head – Payments, Consumer Finance, Digital Banking & IT, HDFC Bank, said: “We are committed to accelerate the adoption of digitization in the country. As a leader in the cards space, our objective is to help enlarge the eco-system through such collaborations, which ultimately offers a differentiated experience for customers.”

T R Ramachandran, Group Country Manager, India and South Asia, VISA said, “We are proud to partner with Paytm and HDFC Bank and deploy the full suite of Visa solutions and capabilities, as they launch an array of world-class products to tap into the potential of this vast and diverse customer set.”

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Internet Suspended

in Delhi, the report said that a group of around six infiltrators managed to sneak in from Pakistan.

“A soldier was injured in firing during the infiltration attempt,” they said.

The report further said that it was for the first time when phone services and the internet was suspended in the wake of a cross-border infiltration attempt.

Earlier, Lt Gen Pandey said that there has been no ceasefire violation along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir since the reiteration of the agreement between the armies of India and Pakistan in February this year, a

“The ceasefire violations have not increased. This year there has been none (ceasefire violation). At least in the Kashmir Valley, there has been zero,” the GoC told reporters on the sidelines of a function here.

Lt Gen Pandey said while there has been no instigation from Pakistan, the Indian Army is totally alert and prepared to respond appropriately to any ceasefire violation.

“We are totally prepared for ceasefire violations, if anything happens, we are all set to respond appropriately. But, frankly, there has been no instigation from across the border, he said.

Asked about infiltration attempts made by militants from across the LoC this year, the Army officer said there have hardly been any successful attempts.

There have been some attempts. Unlike previous years, these have not been adequately supported (by ceasefire violations). There have hardly been any successful attempts, only about two attempts have succeeded. One was neutralised in Bandipora and we are looking for the second one, he said.

India and Pakistan had agreed to the strict observance of all agreements, understandings and ceasefire along the Line of Control and all other sectors with effect from the February 24-25 midnight 2021.

Earlier, the GOC Chinar Corps felicitated students of the first and second batches of the Army's Kashmir Super 30 (Medical) course who are now successfully pursuing MBBS and other courses after clearing the NEET.

### ‘Not Worried Over

Lt Gen D P Pandey, told reporters here.

The GoC said if anyone picks up arms, they will face consequences and will either be neutralised or apprehended, or will have to surrender.

“I am not looking at questions on Taliban or foreign terrorists or local terrorists. For us, it has got nothing to do with the quality and quantity. If there is a gentleman who picks up a weapon, he will be neutralised either way -- by getting killed or by getting apprehended and if he comes and offers (to) surrender, we will take surrender,” he said.

Asked about the number of foreign militants present in the Kashmir valley, Lt Gen Pandey said according to the police, 60-70 foreign militants who are basically Pakistanis are likely present in the Kashmir valley.

“Their strategy is to not carry out any terrorist attack, but motivate the local youth to action and give them arms so that they are killed in encounters. It benefits them in a way that when a young boy from our country, our Kashmir, is killed, his family becomes angry with us. This is their strategy and they do not carry out operations and work from behind,” he added.

The GoC, however, said there is a change in the mindset of the people in Kashmir as they have “realised that they have been taken up the wrong path by the people within their own community”.

“This is the fight against anti-national, anti-social elements which has to be taken up by the people themselves. We need to ensure that the children come out freely, educate themselves and become responsible citizens of the country.

“They take respect in society, they fulfil the dreams of their parents. No father or mother wants their child to pelt stones on the streets, but there are vicious elements which motivate them through various means and take them out on to the streets,” he said.

Lt Gen Pandey said the current security scenario “reflects clearly that the youth has stopped coming out on the street, that they have understood this game”.

“Therefore, we will continue to launch such ventures to ensure there are better

bold investments to make sure every girl has a seat in the classroom – and the skills she needs to chart her own future.

“We need to dismantle the power structures that allow discrimination, violence and economic hardship to keep one half of humanity down. And we need to make sure that girls and women have a seat at every table. From the halls of power to the boardrooms of business.”

Guterres also called for urgent climate action and said nations must “end the war on our planet” and commit to zero emissions by 2050.

“Fifth – we need you. All of you are critical to global recovery. I urge you to work with your governments to put people first in their budgets and recovery plans,” he said.

“It would be easy to lose hope. But we are not hopeless. Or helpless. That's what this SDG Moment is all about,” the UN chief said.

### Srinagar Logs

life of one more person in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. According to the officials, 109 new cases of coronavirus were reported from Kashmir Valley and the remaining 19 from Jammu division on Monday thus taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 328069.

In Valley, the officials said, Srinagar reported highest 68 cases followed by Budgam 14, Baramulla 9, Ganderbal 6, Pulwama and Kupwara 4 each, Bandipora 2 and one each case in Anantnag and Shopian districts. No new case of Covid-19 was reported from Kulgam district in south Kashmir.

Likewise, officials said, Reasi reported 7, Jammu 5, Doda 4, Rajouri 2 and Samba 1 new case of virus. No case of Coronavirus was reported from five districts of Udhampur, Kathua, Kishtwar, Poonch and Ramban.

Moreover, officials said, 159 more Covid-19 patients have recovered—19 from Jammu and 140 from Kashmir.

Also, officials said, one more person died of Covid-19 in Jammu division on Monday, taking the fatality count in J&K to 4417— 2170 in Jammu division and 2247 in Kashmir.

Meanwhile, there was one fresh confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today, they said. So far 46 black fungus cases have been confirmed in J&K, the officials added.

### Admin Warns

Behaviour (CAB)

“There are some areas, where positive cases are on rise due to violation of Covid-19 protocols. We will keep a watch on next two-three days. If protocols are not adhered in these areas, we will enforce a complete lockdown,” he said.

A visibly upset Asad went on to say that his administration will not allow a few areas to endanger lives of people in other parts of the city.

“We will not allow anyone to play with the lives of people. Wherever we find breach in Covid protocols, the enforcement squad will take action.

Meanwhile, the DM accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sandeep Chowdhary and other civil and police officials toured various markets of the city to check the implementation of Covid-19 SOPs.

During the inspection over two dozen business establishments were sealed and a fine of Rs 20,000 was also imposed on violators of Covid-19 SOPs, an official spokesperson said.

“The DC said no one has the right to infect others and people who do not wear Masks and avoid mass gatherings will face action as per law,” he said.

“He said any laxity or negligence on part of Covid-19 Appropriate Behaviour will constraint the administration to go for harsh measures in Srinagar to break the chain of Covid-19 virus,” he added.

With regard to inoculation of anti Covid-19 dots, the official spokesperson said that the DC urged the left out population of Srinagar district to visit nearest Vaccination Centers and get vaccinated at an earliest to defeat any possible 3rd wave of Covid-19 pandemic as predicted by Health Experts.

“Meanwhile, the DC said that 50 percent of the total Covid-19 positive cases are coming from Srinagar and added that if Covid SOPs are not followed in Srinagar the administration will be forced to take strict measures again,” he added.

### Cap On Gatherings

after the Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta, who is also the chairperson of the State Executive Committee (SEC) J&K, along with several other officials conducted a review meeting on the Covid situation following which an order on Covid containment measures was issued on Sunday. As per the order, there was a need to continue with the existing Covid containment measures in all the districts in view of the uneven trend observed in daily Covid cases.

Exercising the powers conferred upon it under section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the State Executive Committee (SEC), further ordered that the guidelines on Covid containment in the erstwhile state already notified vide Government Orders 35 and 36—JK (DMRRR) of 2021 dated May 29, 2021 read with Government Order 67—JK (DMRRR) of 2021 dated September 12, 2021 would continue to remain in force till further orders.

As per the order, new guidelines for pandemic containment were issued after a detailed review of the current Covid situation in Jammu and Kashmir that was conducted by the Chief Secretary, J&K with Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Finance; ACS Health and Medical Education; Principal Secretary Home; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police and other officers of Jammu and Kashmir on September 17, 2021.

“The maximum number of people permitted to attend any indoor or outdoor gathering will continue to be restricted to 25. However, as per the order, in banquet halls in districts with positivity rate below 0.2% and weekly caseload below 250, gathering shall be permitted up to an enhanced limit of 50 for vaccinated persons with verifiable RT-PCR or RAT report not older than 72 hours,” the order reads.

The order has also cautioned about any dereliction in the observance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB).

“Enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour is critical in determining the need for additional restrictions. DMs shall constitute inspection teams of district officers to check whether the instructions for enforcement of Covid appropriate behaviour are being implemented by the concerned with due responsibility,” Mehta instructed.

Providing concessions for districts with lower positivity rate, the Chief Secretary directed, “the night curfew shall continue to remain in force in all districts from 8 pm to 7 am but for those districts with positivity rate below 0.2 % and weekly case load below 250, night curfew would be from 10 pm to 6 am.”

The Chief Secretary further directed that for the educational front there will be a, “limited in-person teaching of vaccinated students, not exceeding 50 percent on any given day, in Polytechnics and ITIs subject to consent of parents and students and all measures as per Covid related protocols.”

In the review meeting, SEC in case of class 10th and 12th students, directed that proper screening regarding vaccination should be done on the school gate. The

Chief Secretary directed that the 10th and 12th class students would be permitted with a limited in-person teaching that must not exceed 50 percent on any given day, for vaccinated students and staff.

“Proper screening regarding vaccination should be done at the school gate. If any student or teacher or other school staff shows symptoms of cough, cold, or fever, they will not be allowed to enter the school,” he said.

The Chief Secretary further reiterated that the people connected with the functioning of educational institutions or coaching centres would be accorded priority in the vaccination drives underway in all the districts of J&K.

Pertinently, schools—except for relaxations provided for students of 10th and 12th classes—would continue to remain shut for in-person teaching.

As per the newly ordered SEC guidelines, the districts with higher number of positive cases would be given special attention in terms of the vaccination drive and a daily monitoring of the vaccination drive shall be conducted by the concerned Divisional Commissioner to substantially enhance the vaccination rate.

The order further reiterated that keeping in view the rising load of positive cases in Srinagar, a special campaign would be organised to substantially increase vaccination coverage and achieve the target of 100 percent first dose within the earliest possible time.

### Turning PM's Vision

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a vision for J&K and concerted efforts are being made to turn his vision into reality,” he said.

“He also said that the skill development initiative will not only benefit youth of J&K but will also help UT Administration in understanding the unemployment situation in Kashmir so that necessary steps can be taken based on suggestions from the youth,” he added.

As per the official spokesperson, the Minister stressed on commercial cultivation of high-value products in the primary sectors including agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, dairy, handloom and handicrafts which are profitable job avenues for Pulwama youth.

Reiterating that Pulwama youth are professional, articulate, and talented, the Minister, he said, urged them to work hard to capitalize on the opportunities and assured support of both the Central Government and UT Administration in their endeavours.

“Only the skilled and specialized person can get the benefit of the growing market, therefore it becomes very important to skill our youth,” , Pramanik said.

“I hope such workshops will equip our youth with the emerging skills. New Kashmir has new challenges, and the youths of Kashmir hold bigger responsibilities. Many opportunities are coming up and we must have some sort of skills to grab those opportunities,” he added.

The Minister, as per the official spokesperson requested youth from the district to engage themselves in developing specialized skills rather than looking for government jobs.

Later, the official spokesperson said that the Minister also met DDC Members, BDC Members and Sarpanchs, who apprised him about their demands and grievances. He said that representatives of different political parties and delegation of PRIs also met the Minister wherein they highlighted several demands and grievances pertaining to socio-economic development of the society.

“The Minister gave a patient hearing and expressed happiness over the meeting held with the delegations. He said that Union Government has a dream for development of Jammu and Kashmir,” the official spokesperson said.

He added that the Minister told the delegations that the present out-reach programme has been initiated by the Government to know the basic problems of the people at the ground level

“He assured that the demands and grievances projected by the delegations have “been taken note of and the same would be put up with Government at Union level as well as with Lieutenant Governor for their timely redressal,” the official spokesperson said.

He further said that the Minister also paid a detailed visit to Indian International Trade Saffron Spice Park, Pampore where he inspected various departments of the processing unit.

### Govt Warns

of these instructions by any employee shall invite strict disciplinary action under Rules.”

### Prime Suspect

Jammu, and Rajender Chaudhary, 33, from village Gagore in Sambha, Jammu, were arrested on September 15 and produced before a Delhi court which sent them to 7 days police custody.

According to the police, Chaudhary had revealed during the interrogation that Wazir was shot dead on September 3 and four more people were present at the time of the incident.

A police official informed that former National Conference leader, Wazir, was also given sedatives before being killed.

Wazir had arrived in Delhi on September 1 and was staying with his acquaintance Harpreet Singh and his friend Harmeet Singh, a native of Jammu, at their rented flat in the Basai Darapur area. Wazir was scheduled to leave for Canada in two days on September 3, but, as he went missing on September 2, his family contacted Jammu Police who requested their Delhi counterparts to check on the missing man.

Six days later, on September 9, his body was found in a highly decomposed state.

After this several teams were formed and search operations were carried out in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, and Jammu, and Kashmir to nab the suspects.

The fourth suspect, Harpreet Singh, is still at large and raids are being carried out to nab him.

### PM's Mission

a power-point presentation to him.

With respect to instituting an elected government in the region, the minister said that the Centre is already working hard to make ground for robust democracy in J&K.

“We have successfully conducted unprecedented Block Development Council and District Development Council elections in this regard,” said the minister. He said further democratic initiatives would be taken as the conditions improve.

Allaying apprehensions about privatisation and surge in electricity rates in the future, the minister assured that all economic factors would be considered to ensure that the people of Jammu and Kashmir get quality power supply at cheap rates.

### BMO Attached Over

interest of administration, Dr Ashfaq Hasssan I/C Block Medical Officer Nagam Budgam is attached with the office of Chief Medical Officer Pulwama till further orders,” the order reads. It further added that “Both the above doctors shall deem themselves relieved from present place of posting,” reads the order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer.

Earlier, on September 18, the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Budgam, Dr. Tajamul-Hussain had constituted a six-member committee to enquire complaint lodged against the BMO.

“The committee shall submit its report to the undersigned within two days positively for onwards submission to higher authority,” reads the order issued by CMO Budgam.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Dr. Tajamul-Hussain said he has constituted a committee after allegations were levelled against the BMO.

“A committee is currently probing the case. The report will be submitted to the Director Health once investigations are completed,” he said.

### Lightning Strike

village Panchas of the district on Monday evening, reports said.

The injured were shifted to hospital for treatment. However, Khan succumbed to his injuries while the woman is currently under treatment, the reports said.

### LG To Flag Off

Amrit Mahotsav’, will be flagged off by Sinha, at SKICC, an official spokesperson said Monday.

He said that the display will include flypast by various aircrafts of the IAF. The spectators would also witness para-motor flying and IAF's sky diving team ‘Akash Ganga’ in action. Besides, he said, symphony orchestra of the IAF would be adding glitter to the event.

“Ambassadors of IAF’, Suryakiran Aerobatic Display Team, will be performing in the valley after a gap of 14 years,” the official spokesperson said.

The event, titled “Give Wings to Your Dreams” would also consist of a photo exhibition at the venue to highlight the history of IAF, he added.

### 3 JKAS Officers

Pulwama, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Kupwara, against an available vacancy.

Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Banday (JKAS), Director, Land Management, Srinagar Development Authority, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama.

Ghulam Nabi Bhat (JKAS), Additional Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, against an available vacancy, as per the order.

“He shall also hold the charge of the post of Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Lolab Bangus Drangyari, in addition to his own duties, till further orders,” it added.

### UEED Employee

Objection Certificate (NOC).

As per ACB, a written complaint was received alleging that in connection with running a Guest House at Munwarabad Srinagar the complainant has been asked by the Pollution Control Board Srinagar to get NOC from Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Brarimumbal Srinagar. While approaching UEED office for the NOC, Works Supervisor namely Bashir Ahmad demanded Rs 7,000 for issuing the NOC in favour of the complainant, the ACB said in a statement.

“On receipt of the complaint, a case FIR No.27 of 2021, under section 7 Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered in Police Station ACB Srinagar and investigation was taken up.”

During the course of investigation, the ACB said, a trap team was constituted which caught red-handed Bashir Ahmad while demanding and accepting a bribe amount of Rs. 7000 from the complainant. “The amount of the bribe was recovered on the spot. He was arrested and taken into custody by ACB”.

After the arrest searches were also conducted in the premises of the accused, the ACB said.

“Further investigation is in progress.”



## Daer-e-Adab Delina Baramulla Holds Annual Hussaini Mushaira

Special Prayers held for Dr Aziz Hajini



### AGENCIES

**BARAMULLA:** Daer-e-Adab Delina Baramulla, an oldest literary organisation, in collaboration with Idara Yaadgar-e-Hussainee Hygam Sopore, held its annual Hussaini Mushaira in north Kashmir's Hygam Sopore area which was attended by a galaxy of poets from across Kashmir Valley.

Mushaira was presided over by renowned poet and writer, Professor Mohammad Zaman Azurdah while as Nisar Budgami, Shahnaz Rashid, Fayaz Tilgami and Showkat Ansari were also in attendance.

The Mushaira begun with the recitation of Quran by Syed Basharat while as Shahnawaz Haigami recited Naatiya Ka-laam. In his welcome address, President Daer-e-Adab Delina Baramulla, Shahid Delinavi said that due to COVID-19 this event was held after the gap of two years. He further said that Daer-e-Adab Delina will be resuming its literary activities when COVID-19 gets over.

On the occasion special prayers were held for Dr Azeez Hajini who left for heavenly abode some days ago in Srinagar. Participants prayed for his eternal peace.

Poets from different corners of Valley paid tributes to Imam Hussain A.S and other Martyrs

of Karbala. Poets who took part in the Annual Hussaini Mushaira include Prof. Mohd Zaman Azurdah, Shahnaz Rashid, Fayaz Tilgami, Nisar Budgami, Showkat Ansari, Abbas Jowhar, Syed Akhtar Mansoor, Showkat Shahbaz, Nisar Azam, Sagar Sarfaraz, Shair Ali Mashgool, Shahid Delnabi, Zameer Ansari, Ali Mohd Hasrat, Sarwar Hashmi, Rashid Roshan, Abid Ashraf, Hassan Azhar, Saleem yousuf, Gh. Hassan Haqnawaz, Mir Shabir, Riyan Parwana, Jamal Budgami, Yousuf Sameem, Nazir Hussain Hussain, Gh Ali Pamposh, Nazir Ah Nazir, Ibrahim Muntazir, Aabid Ashraf, Muntaz Gopbbali, Aafaq Delnabi, Asadullah Safvi and Iqbal Hyder. President Adbi Markaz, Kamraz Mohd Amin Bhat and Zahoor Hygami were also present during the function.

In his presidential address Professor Mohammad Zaman Azurdah said that organising this sort of program is a praiseworthy job and organisers deserve appreciation. He emphasised on the need and importance of elegy writing as an important part of the literature.

Pertinently the event was anchored by Zameer Ansari, Advisor Daer-e-Adab Delina, while as General Secretary of the organisation, Jameel Ansari later thanked the participants for taking part in the Mushaira.

## 5 Officials, Civilians Injured As Protest Turns Awry in Surankote

FIR launched against family trio

### AGENCIES

**POONCH:** At least five persons including a Tehsildar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, his PSO and two civilians were injured after a group of civilians demanding repairing of a link road allegedly clashed with police in on Mughal road near Surankote on Monday afternoon, reports and officials said.

According to news agency GNS, a police party visited the spot to persuade the inhabitants to end the protest over the issue of repairing of a link road in the area. The civilians allegedly clashed with the police during

which DySP Surankote Abdul Khaliq, his PSO and two civilians sustained injuries.

Later, Tehsildar Surankote Sheeraz Ahmad visited the spot to take an on ground assessment. The revenue officer however also came under attack, leaving him injured, they said.

Talking to GNS, SHO Surankote JS Sambyal confirmed the occurrence and said that case (FIR 125/21) under sections 353/332/323/427/336/188 IPC has been lodged against Naib Sarpanch Chandimarh, Zareena Bi and her husband Mohammad Ashraf, and their son Danish Ahmad, besides others.

## Budgam Man Killed, Woman Injured In Lightning Strike

### AGENCIES

**BUDGAM:** A 30-year-old man was killed and a woman injured in a lightning strike while they were in a paddy field in Budgam district on Monday.

Official sources said Gulzar Ahmad Khan (30) son of Gh-

ulam Rasool Khan and Shakeel Banu wife of Gulam Mohidin Khan were injured in the lightning strike at Panchas area of the central Kashmir district this evening. The injured were shifted to a hospital, where Khan succumbed to injuries while the woman has been hospitalized.

# Opening Reliance Stores In Jammu Will Hit Local Trade: JCCI

Call for Jammu Bandh on September 22



### AGENCIES

**JAMMU:** Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCC&I) president, Arun Gupta on Monday urged the Jammu and Kashmir Government to protect local trade and business in Jammu region, while stating that opening of over 100 Reliance retail outlets in Jammu would hit local trade in the region badly.

Notably, JCC&I has given a bandh call on September 22 against the opening of over 100 Reliance outlets. Gupta stated that the call has been given with a view that the decisions being taken by the UT administration not only hit the trade body badly but the general public as well.

"People of Jammu always stood against Article 370 and Article 35-A for the purposes of J&K's integration with the Union of India, but several decisions announced and implemented in the last two years have hit the trade in Jammu region more severely than ever before," Gupta told KNS.

Questioning the implementation of passenger tax in Jammu and Kashmir, Gupta said that if passenger tax is not imposed in any other state or union territory of the country, why it has been imposed in J&K only.

Terming the opening of Reliance trade outlets, a big blow to trade and employment in the Jammu region, Gupta demanded immediate roll back of the decision.

He also raised several questions on new liquor trade policy and sand mining policy of J&K Government, and said that trade in Jammu and Kashmir has become a casualty and more so in Jammu region after August 5, 2019 decisions of the central government on the erstwhile J&K state.

Gupta said that till J&K remains a UT the disturbances in trade and other public activities would continue to haunt the people of J&K in one way or the other.

Stating that early restoration of statehood is a must for the smooth functioning of trade and business in J&K, Gupta also demanded early restoration of statehood which he says is mother of all solutions to growing public woes in the UT.

**PEOPLE OF JAMMU ALWAYS STOOD AGAINST ARTICLE 370 AND ARTICLE 35-A ... but several decisions announced and implemented in the last two years have hit the trade in Jammu region more severely than ever before,"** Gupta said.

## Barring BJP, All Parties Support Jammu Bandh Call

### AGENCIES

**JAMMU:** Barring ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), almost every political party of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday extended their support for the Bandh Call given by trader's body on September 22 against the setting up of 100 retail outlets by Reliance company in Jammu alone.

National Conference announced its support to the Jammu Bandh called by the Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCC&I) against the alleged "anti-trade and commerce moves of the administration."

"National Conference has all along stood for safeguarding the interests of Jammu and Kashmir and will continue so with a sense of commitment,"

NC spokesperson said in a statement.

The spokesman told KNO that he hope that the administration will see reason in its anti-business and anti-poor policies.

Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party leadership also extended full support and solidarity with the traders saying the move will only "break back bone of poor business class of Dogras."

"Opening of 100 retail stores in Jammu province alone by Reliance amounts to high cheating of small traders and self employed educated youth," the JKNPP said.

Apni Party, Provincial President, Jammu, Manjit Singh also extended support to the Jammu bandh call.

In a statement to the press,

Manjit Singh said that Apni Party extends support to the demands of Jammu business community which has suffered a lot from the last three years and now, with the report of opening of Reliance Stores in Jammu.

"Jammu traders have suffered from the last three years and the Govt. instead of taking decisions in their favour, if permits opening of Reliance stores it will have a direct adverse effect on the business community," he said.

Other Jammu-based political party, Dogra Swabhimani Sangathan Party also extended its support to the traders. As per a press release, a delegation of DSSP led by its president Ch. Lal Singh visited the office of JCC&I to listen to the grievances of the business community.

## ACB Arrests UEED Employee For Taking Bribe

### AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** The Anti Corruption Bureau on Monday arrested a Works Supervisor of Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) Srinagar for demanding and accepting bribe in connection with issuance of a No Objection Certificate (NOC).

As per ACB, a written complaint was received alleging that in connection with running a Guest House at Munwarabad, Srinagar the complainant has been asked by the Pollution Control Board Srinagar to get NOC from Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) in Brarinumbal, Srinagar.

While approaching UEED office for the NOC, Works Supervisor namely Bashir Ahmad demanded Rs 7,000 for issuing the

NOC in favour of the complainant, the ACB said in a statement to GNS.

"On receipt of the complaint, a case FIR No.27 of 2021, under section 7 Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered in Police Station ACB Srinagar and investigation was taken up."

During the course of investigation, the ACB said, a trap team was constituted which caught red-handed Bashir Ahmad while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs. 7000 from the complainant.

"The amount of bribe was recovered on the spot. He was arrested and taken into custody by ACB." After the arrest searches were also conducted in the premises of the accused, the ACB said.

"Further investigation is in progress."

## Development Ladder Of Nation: MoS Home

### Observer News Service

**PULWAMA:** Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nishit Pramanik on Monday inaugurated a Youth Conclave in Pulwama in which thousands of youth participated.

The Minister appealed the youth of Pulwama to come forward and be the participants in the developmental ladder. He said that the objective of the conclave is a step towards fulfilling the aspirations of youth of Pulwama.

"Skill development initiative will not only benefit youth of J&K but will also help UT Administration in understanding the unemployment situation in Kashmir so that necessary steps can be taken based on suggestions from the youth," Pramanik said.

He stressed on commercial cultivation of high-value products in the primary sectors including agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, dairy, hand-

loom and handicrafts which are profitable job avenues for Pulwama youth.

"Only the skilled and specialized person can get the benefit of the growing market, therefore it becomes very important to skill our youth," the MoS added.

"I hope such workshops will equip our youth with the emerging skills. New Kashmir has new challenges, and the youths of Kashmir hold bigger responsibilities. Many opportunities are coming up and we must have some sort of skills to grab those opportunities," the Minister added.

He requested youth from the district to engage themselves in developing specialized skills rather than looking for government jobs.

DC Pulwama, Baseer UI Haq Chowdhary, also attended the event.

Later the Minister also met DDC Members, BDC Members and Sarpanchs.

## Advisor Baseer Khan Reviews Progress & Functioning Of JKEDI

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Advisor to LG, Baseer Ahmad Khan on Monday reviewed the functioning of Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) at JKEDI, Pampore.

During his visit to EDI, Advisor exhorted upon the officers to come up with innovative measures and interventions to catalyse the entrepreneurial atmosphere and directed them to focus on innovative and modern approach.

He directed for advanced skill development and specialised trainings including new skills relevant to the present day needs like IT and other fields having market potential.

Advisor said that the role of EDI is very important in terms of showing a way forward to the aspiring entrepreneurs and directed to handle trainings and modules very carefully taking

all aspects into consideration so that success rate of budding entrepreneurs is maximised.

He advised the EDI officials to ensure advanced skill development and specialized training to the youth in consonance with the emerging requirements and trends.

He further said that tie-ups with reputed resources nationally and internationally to acquire the mentorship must be pursued and post establishment difficulties of the entrepreneurs should be taken care of.

The Advisor highlighted the need for women empowerment and directed the officers of EDI to focus on programmes aimed in this direction and said that we are ushering into a new era of women empowerment. He also said that women have been able to establish their own business ventures and many success stories are emerging from them.

### BRIEFS

## JKRLM To Create Over 35000 Jobs In J&K: Asgar

### Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Mission Director, Jammu Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), Syed Sehrish Asgar on Monday said that under "SAATH" programme, the SHG women entrepreneurs of rural areas will be provided mentoring and hand-holding support.

Asgar said that through intensive capacity building workshops and one to one mentoring for upscaling their business ventures nationally and internationally.

She further informed that, a total of 8085 applicants across Jammu and Kashmir have applied for the Program. Highest applications were received from Baramulla District in the Kashmir Division, and district Doda, from Jammu division.

Adding Further the Mission Director JKRLM said that 500 enterprises (244 from Jammu and 257 from Kashmir Division) with the highest enterprise potential have been chosen for an intensive training program to be followed by mentoring while 5000 entrepreneurs will be exposed to various business enablement strategies including e-commerce sales, branding.

Dr Sehrish further added that JKRLM will create an enabling environment for these rural women enterprises by creating a conducive ecosystem and facilitate to achieve the full potential of 35000 jobs and more in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Union MoS Finance On 2-Day Visit To Ganderbal

### Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** Union Minister of State for Finance, Bhagwat Rao Kard on Monday arrived on two-day visit to Ganderbal district under the Union Government's public outreach programme.

During the first day of visit, the Minister chaired a meeting of senior officers to review the progress on various ongoing development projects and schemes in the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Atal Dulloo; Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, Krittika Jyotsna; ADDC, ADC, SDM Kangan, ACR, CPO and other concerned officers and officials of the district.

While reviewing the progress made under various schemes, and was given a brief overview of the developmental activities in the district.

During the visit, the Minister also inaugurated Auditorium at Govt. Boys Hr. Sec. School (BHSS) Ganderbal constructed at the cost of Rs 119.34 lakhs.

Later, the minister met DDC delegation led by DDC Chairperson Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq, BDCs, ULBs and PRIs.

Earlier, the minister paid obeisance at Kheer Bhawani Shrine, Tulamulla.

## Congress General Secy Demands Fruit Mandi In Tral

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu & Kashmir and Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) General Secretary on Monday sought creation of Fruit Mandi to ensure respite to growers, besides replacing losses.

Reacting to the pressing demand for creation of Fruit Mandi in Tral area, JKPCC General Secretary Surinder Singh Channi has said that horticulture sector from Awantipora to Tral area produce thousands of metric tons of fruit, every year, but the absence of fruit mandi force them (growers) to sell their production on road sides, which leads to huge losses to growers.

The administration has reportedly identified the land at Nawdal Tral for the fruit mandi, but the work on the project seems to be slow, with the result, growers right from are suffering, besides facing huge inconvenience, while selling their production in open market, Channi Singh said.

It is very unfortunate that growers of Awantipora and Tral area are the worst hit on account of non-availability of Fruit Mandi, PCC General added and urged the Govt to speed up the work to ensure respite to growers, besides replacing losses confronting growers since a long time.

## Union MoS Health & Family Welfare Visits PHC Mattan

### Observer News Service

**ANANTNAG:** Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Bharati Pravin Pawar on Monday visited PHC Mattan, Anantnag to review facilities available in the hospital. She was briefed about the implementation of various health related schemes and also availability of testing facilities for the patients.

The Minister also interacted with

GMC students and assured redressal of their demands at the earliest.

On the occasion, Dr Bharati said that Central Government is committed to provide better healthcare facilities to the general public and to fulfill the genuine demands of youths of UT.

DDC Anantnag, Dr. Piyush Singla, Principal GMC Anantnag, various sectoral officers and PRIs accompanied the Minister.

## DODA ROAD MISHAP: 2 Dead, 1 Injured After Vehicle Rolls into Gorge

### AGENCIES

**DODA:** Two persons were killed, while another one was critically injured after a car, they were travelling in, met with an accident near Khellani Nallah in Doda on Monday.

An official told KNO that the car rolled down into a deep gorge

while it was on its way to Khellani.

He said that three members of a family were travelling in the car. The official said that locals reached to the spot and rescued all the injured persons from the spot and shifted them to GMC Doda, where two were declared dead on arrival.



## Moazzam Rashid Wins Srinagar Open 2021 Tennis Tournament

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Moazzam Rashid won both singles and doubles titles at Srinagar Open Tennis Championship 2021 which was played at Gindun Tennis Courts here.

In the singles final, Moazzam Rashid defeated Inayat Jehangir in straight sets 6-3, 6-1.

Moazzam dominated the match right from the word go, taking a 3-0 lead in no time.

However, the 46-year-old veteran, in an attempt to go one better than last year, reverted to his attritional brand of tennis, forcing several errors from the defending champion.

Inayat held his serve and then broke Moazzam's to make it 3-2. The two players then exchanged breaks to make it 4-3 in favour of Moazzam.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Haider Hussain, Moazzam Rashid, Inayat Jehangir, Tufail Bhat.

While the long rallies continued for the rest of the set, Mozzam's better skill set and energy levels saw him through in the remainder of the match.

Earlier, partnering with Haider Hussain, Moazzam overcame stiff fight from Inayat and Tufail Bhat to take home the title, prevailing 6-1, 6-4.

The defending champions won the first set in under 30 minutes but had some anxious moments in the second as they trailed 4-3. However, Tufail and Inayat went back to their erroneous ways to throw in the towel.

The tournament was played over nine days with over 40 players taking part in the singles

and doubles events of the tournament. As many as 70 matches – 60 round robin and 10 knock out – were played.

National chief selector for Wushu, Kuldeep Handoo, the only Dronacharya awardee from Jammu and Kashmir, was the chief guest at the prize distribution ceremony.

Handoo lauded the District Lawn Tennis Association Srinagar for putting up a wonderful tournament and expressed hope that it will attract more youth to the game.

"Tennis is very popular globally but somehow it had not caught the imagination of sportsmen in Kashmir. But I am sure that events like these will change that scenario for good," he added.

General secretary of the Association Gurmit Singh thanked the Jammu and Kashmir Lawn Tennis Association for its guidance and support. He also expressed his gratitude to Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council for providing the ground and support staff.

"Everyone has chipped in to make this tournament a success. We are extremely thankful to All India Tennis Association for deputing an umpire, Kulwant Singh, for conducting the semi-finals and finals of the tournament," Singh said.

He said this was the first step for a big leap in promoting tennis in Kashmir.

## Hockey J&K Elections Held, Rajeev Sharma Elected President

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Hockey J&K on Monday completed its election meeting at Srinagar in Hotel Lalit Grand, under the observation of J&K Sports Council, Hockey India and J&K Olympic Association.

Elina Norman, CEO Hockey India, represented Hockey India, while Nuzhat Ara, DSO Kashmir and Sheikh Reyaz Ahmad, A.O. were present as observers of J&K Sports Council.

Dushyant Sharma IPS General secretary J&KOA was present as the representative of J&K Olympic Association. Senior

Advocate J&K High Court, Onkar Singh was the returning officer for the elections.

After the election process completed, Narinder Dhruv Batra President Indian Olympic Association interacted with the members of Hockey J&K.

Rajeev Sharma was elected President of Hockey J&K on the occasion. Jameel Mustafa and Rajinder Singh Kuku were appointed Senior Vice Presidents. Manbeer Kour, Randeep Singh and Asima Ali were appointed as Vice Presidents. A total of 21 individuals were elected as office bearers on the occasion.

## HOME SEASON

# Team India To Play 4 Tests, 3 ODIs & 14 T20



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Indian cricket team will play 14 T20 Internationals and just four Tests at home between November 2021 and June 2022 as the BCCI announced its international itinerary, which features just three ODIs.

The teams that will visit India during the eight-month period are New Zealand (in November-December), West Indies (in February, 2022), Sri Lanka (February-March 2022) and South Africa (in June, 2022).

In between in December-January, India will be touring South Africa and the IPL will happen between April-May.

Against New Zealand, India will be playing two Tests and three T20Is while West Indies are due to play three ODIs and five T20Is.

Sri Lanka will play two Tests and three T20Is while South Africa will come for the shortest tour where they would play five T20Is in a space of 10 days.

"We have kept 14 T20Is because we have another T20 World Cup in Australia in a year's time

and we need to have adequate matches before the big event," a BCCI official said.

The four Test matches will be held at Kanpur and Mumbai for the New Zealand series while Bengaluru and Mohali will host Sri Lanka in the traditional format.

As per the rotation system, most of the cities will be getting the 17 white-ball games that has been scheduled.

Jaipur, Ranchi, Lucknow, Vizag, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Cuttack, Trivandrum, Chennai, Rajkot, Delhi have all got matches.

## 4 Matches Played In Srinagar Annual Football League

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing DFA Srinagar Annual League Football Tournament 2021, four matches were played on Monday here.

Two matches of the Super Division league took place at the Synthetic Ground, TRC.

In the first match Towheed FC defeated Qamarwari FC by 2 goals to 0.

After a 0-0 first half score, Towheed FC came out strong in

the second half and took the lead through Unaid. Towheed FC then doubled their lead through Hazik in the 55th minute to take tie out of Qamarwari FC's reach.

In the second Super Division match, IFC Kashmir took on FC Views. The match ended in favour of IFC team as they managed to score the only goal of the match in the 5th minute through Ishfaq Bashir. FC Views tried their best to level the game but failed.

In the 'A' Division, being played

at the Gindun Ground, Rajbagh, the first match was played between Spartans FC and Kashmir Star FC.

The Spartans won the match 3-0. Khawar scored two goals, while Moomin scored one goal for them.

The second match was played between Yahya Warse FC and Eleven Star FC.

Yahya Warse FC won the game 2-0. Umer Lone and Riyaz Khan were the scorers.



## BCCI Announces Compensation For Domestic Players, Hikes Match Fee

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The BCCI on Monday announced that domestic cricketers affected by the COVID-curtailed 2020-21 season will be paid 50 per cent additional match fee as compensation for the disruption and also hiked their remuneration for the upcoming season.

Many Indian cricketers struggled financially after the Ranji Trophy was not held last year for the first time in its history due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The BCCI compensation package for these players was awaited for a long time.

"Cricketers who participated in 2019-20 Domestic Season will get 50 per cent additional match fee as compensation for season 2020-21 lost due to COVID-19 situation," BCCI general secretary Jay Shah said in a tweet.

The decision to give compensation and increase the match fee was taken during the BCCI's Apex Council meeting on Monday.

The per day fee for the top Ranji cricketers, who have played more than 40 matches, was also almost doubled to Rs 60,000, which will ensure that such players earn Rs 2.40 lakh per first-class match.

Those who have played 21 to 40 matches will be paid Rs

50,000, while players with experience less than that will be entitled to a remuneration of Rs 40,000 per day.

The move will likely benefit more than 2,000 male cricketers from the under-16 to the senior level.

Shah also said that domestic players will be paid an increased match fee.

According to the announcement, the cricketers in under-23 and under-19 category will get Rs 25,000 and 20,000 per day respectively.

"I am pleased to announce the hike in match fee for domestic cricketers," Shah tweeted.

Before Monday's decision, a first XI player in a Ranji Trophy game was entitled to Rs 35,000 per day. For Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, the BCCI pays Rs. 17,500 per game.

The BCCI also announced remuneration for women cricketers and the senior players will now be paid Rs 20,000 per match instead of Rs 12,500.

The recommendations to increase the payout were made by a working committee comprising former India captain Mohammed Azharuddin, Yudhvir Singh, Santosh Menon, Jaydev Shah, Avishek Dalmiya, Rohan Jaitley and Devajit Saikia.

## Real Madrid Win 2-1 At Valencia

Agencies

MADRID: Only a few games into the season, Real Madrid already knows it has an attacking duo it can rely on.

Vinicius Junior and Karim Benzema added to their impressive starts to the season by scoring late goals in Madrid's 2-1 win against Valencia in the Spanish league on Sunday.

Vinicius Junior scored his fourth goal of the season in the 86th minute, and Benzema netted his sixth two minutes later to give Madrid its third straight win in the league.

The victory leaves Madrid top with 13 points, two more than defending champion Atletico Madrid, which was held 0-0 at home by Athletic Bilbao on Saturday.

"It's always hard to play here and it was even harder after they scored," Vinicius Junior said. "Things were not going our way but in the end we found a way to rally and get the victory."

Vinicius Junior and Benzema have combined for 11 of the team's 15 goals in its first five league matches and top the league's scoring charts.

Valencia, which entered the weekend tied for first with Madrid and Atletico, opened the scoring with a goal from Hugo Duro in the 66th after a mistake by Madrid defender Lucas Vazquez, who replaced the injured Dani Carvajal in the first half.

"We played great during the first 80 minutes," Valencia coach Jose Bordalas said. "It's a shame



that in the last 10 minutes we sat back and they got the goals in two isolated actions."

Vinicius Junior equalized with a shot that deflected off a defender before going in, and then made a well-placed cross for Benzema's winning header that stunned Valencia fans at Mestalla after the hosts had played well for most of the match.

Valencia had won its first two home games for the first time since 2014-15, when it went on to win five in a row at home. Madrid was coming off three victories in all competitions, including at Inter Milan in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti couldn't count on several players because of injuries, including Gareth Bale, Toni Kroos and Marcelo.

INKISHAF

# Why Walnut Trees Are Axed Arbitrarily in Kashmir?

Watch to know more in this episode of Inkishaf on KASHMIR OBSERVER YouTube Channel



<https://youtube.com/c/kobserver>

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