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P6 THINK

J&K'S UNFOLDING ECONOMIC BLACK HOLE

"Kashmiri businessmen fear closure of 85% industrial units", read a headline in one of the top business newspapers of India. The statement was made by the representatives of Federation of Chambers of Industries Kashmir (FCIK) during their meet-

P7

WHY INDIANS LOST BEING INDIA: A CRITICAL READING OF SATYAJIT RAY'S SHATRAJ KE KHILARI

Shatranj Ke Khilari, was actually Munshi Premchand's short story which was thematized as a movie by Ray in 1977. Unerring, he had not needed a mistake. And the name of this particular



P11 SPORTS

ASHWIN HITS BACK, ASKS MORGAN TO 'STOP TAKING MORAL HIGH GROUND'

An angry Ravichandran Ashwin on Thursday asked Eoin Morgan and Tim Southee to not use "derogatory" words and lecture him on 'Spirit of Cricket' by taking a moral



Widom! Quote!

One cannot step twice in the same river.
—Heracitus

NEWS DIGEST

PcK Resident Arrested Along LoC

JAMMU: A man from Pakistan-controlled Kashmir was arrested by the Army for allegedly infiltrating along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Friday, officials said. "Today, at about 1230 hours, one PcK national (male) crossed LoC and has been apprehended by Indian Army troops along Mendhar river in Balnoi • More On P10

Two Women Drown In Flash Flood

JAMMU: Two women were washed away in a flash flood in a rivulet in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Friday, officials said here. The incident took place when the women were at a farmland near the rivulet in Chatyari Bagla village, they said. In the search and rescue operation launched by authorities, the body of one of the women has been recovered, the officials said.

20-Day Old Militant Killed In Shopian Encounter



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A local militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) was killed in a pre-dawn encounter with government forces in south Kashmir's Shopian district, police said Friday.

Around 5:00am Friday, police,

army's 34 RR and the personnel of CRPF 178 battalion launched a cordon and search operation in Rakhama on the basis of an input suggesting the presence of a militant in the village, a police spokesperson said.

During the search operation, he said, the presence • More On P10

'Man Involved In Inspector's Killing Arrested'

Police on Friday arrested a man allegedly involved in the killing of a police officer in Nowgam area of the city outskirts in June this year. Muheeb Bashir Dar of Manganwagi was arrested by the police for his involvement in the killing of Inspector Parvez Ahmad in Nowgam area here on the evening of June 22, a police spokesperson said Friday. Dar, he said, is also involved in many other "terror" related incidents. • More On P10

Army Chief Takes Stock Of LAC Situation

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chief of Army Staff Gen MM Naravane on Friday visited several forward in eastern Ladakh and carried out a comprehensive review of India's operational preparedness in the backdrop of its prolonged military standoff with China in the mountainous region.

He was given a detailed briefing about the overall situation in the region at the headquarters of the 14 Corps, popularly known as the 'Fire and Fury Corps', that takes care of guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in the Ladakh region, officials said.

On the first day of his two-day tour of the region, Gen Naravane visited the strategically sensitive Rezang-La area and visited a war-memorial there to pay homage to the soldiers who laid down their lives in defending the country, they said. The Chief of Army Staff also called on Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Radha Krishna Mathur, and discussed the prevailing security scenario in the Union Territory.

"Gen Naravane visited several forward areas in eastern Ladakh where • More On P10

PM Focussed On Making J&K Prosperous: Minister



Observer News Service

KULGAM: Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Darshana Vikram Jardosh said on Friday that the Prime Minister is focused on making Jammu and Kashmir a prosperous and developed place and has taken several measures and initiatives for welfare of people. Jardosh made these remarks on Friday during her visit to the south Kashmir district here as part of the

ongoing public outreach programme of the Union Government, an official spokesperson said. During her visit, the Minister took part in a series of events and activities that witnessed participation of public officials and delegations.

She also distributed vehicles among beneficiaries under the MUMKIN scheme and also inaugurated inter-zone district level competition for girls in badminton, table tennis, • More On P10

'Promise To Make J&K No 1 Tourist Destination'

Claiming that Jammu and Kashmir is progressing and moving in the right direction, the Union Minister for Tourism and Culture G Kishan Reddy said on Friday that the Centre would take every measure required to make the Union Territory the number one tourist destination in the country. Reddy made these remarks during his interaction with stakeholders of the tourism industry on the conclusion of his two day visit to Kashmir, an official spokesperson said. The Union Minister, he said, reaffirmed the commitment of the Central government for the promotion of tourism and culture here and said that the centre will do everything in its domain to brand Jammu & Kashmir • More On P10

6 THESE MEMBERS BROUGHT forth various demands concerning the development and public welfare in the whole district as well as in their respective areas."

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Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of India

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

2 October

Nation pays tributes to Gandhi ji and Shastri ji on their birth anniversary

There is much to learn from Bapu's life and noble thoughts. His ideals keep guiding us in creating a prosperous and compassionate India. Similarly, Shastri Ji epitomised simplicity and lived for the welfare of our nation. **-Narendra Modi**

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Saturday | 02-10-2021

NAME CORRECTION IN PASSPORT

It is informed to the general public that my name in passport has mistakenly got registered as Mirza Hina Rasool, Mothers Name Mirza Maryam, while as the actual name is Hina Rasool and mothers name is Maryam. In this regard the correction of the name is required. If anyone has any sort of objections he/she may register her objection in Passport Office Srinagar within seven days of the publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after due date.

HINA RASOOL
D/O: MIRZA GHULAM RASOOL
JAM MOHALLA LALBAZAR, SRINAGAR

AZ/KO

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NOTICE

All those candidates who are enrolled with this Directorate for Post Graduate Diploma in Urdu Journalism (PGDUJ) for the batch 2020 are informed through the medium of this notice that their contact-cum-counselling class shall commence from 5th of October 2021 through offline mode at the main building of Directorate at Naseem Bagh campus. All are instructed to adhere strictly the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP's) during the course of said program to combat COVID-19 pandemic.

Date: 29/09/2021
No. F(Contact/PGDUJ)2021/101
DIPK-NB-3942/21

Program Coordinator
PGDUJ

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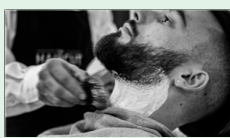


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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER

BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one Shri : Athar Shafi Shah S/o: Mohammad Shafi Shah R/o: Peth Zanigam Qumroo Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04F 8812 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank Ltd B/U Beerwah Budgam.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3623
Dated 30-09-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
MBC



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER

BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one Shri : Ashraf Afzal Bhat S/o: Mohammad Afzal Bhat R/o: Chadoora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E 1300 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Lolipora.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3644
Dated 01-10-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
MBC



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 MAJAXMRKAES49020 Engine No ES49020 Model 2014 in favour of Aljaz Ahmad Dar S/o Mohammad Yousof 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



حکومت جموں و کشمیر
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المستھر
Sd/-
جوائنٹ ڈائریکٹر بینڈلوم، کشمیر

DIPK-9828/21

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER

BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one Shri : Nazir Ahmad Dar S/o: Ghulam Nabl Dar R/o: Yarikhah Near Main Road owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04G 0517 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin B/U Srinagar.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3626
Dated 01-10-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
MBC



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER

BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one Shri : Shabir Ahmad Malik S/o: Abdul Gaffar Malik R/o: Soibugh Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04D 6317 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin B/U Srinagar.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3630
Dated 01-10-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
MBC



NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

It is information for the general public that in my passport bearing No. File No: SG1075030871020, my fathers name was wrongly entered as Fayaz Dar while his actualy Name is Fayaz Ahmad Dar. Now I want its correction. In this regard if any body having any objection may contact passport office Srinagar within a period of 7 days. No objection shall be entertained after 7 days.

JAN ARIF DAR S/o FAYAZ AHMAD DAR
R/o PALLAR BUDGAM.

NAME CORRECTION IN PASSPORT

My passport bearing no K5565638 date of issue 13/4/2012 and date of expiry 12/4/2022, my name & father's name has been recorded as Haneef Mohd Ganie S/o Mohd Jabbar Ganie Instead of Haneef Muhammad Ganie S/o Muhammad Jabbar Ganie. Now I want to correct the changes. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact the office of Regional Passport Office, Srinagar within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be entertained.

HANEEF MUHAMMAD GANIE
S/o MUHAMMAD JABBAR GANIE

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT

MISSION DIRECTORATE, JAL JEEVAN MISSION J&K

Civil Secretariat Srinagar/Jammu (email:info.jjmjk@jk.gov.in)

Subject: Notice Inviting Tenders for "Engagement of Project Development & Management Consultancy, for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Kashmir Province of UT of J&K".

CANCELLATION NOTICE

The e-NIT No.02 of 2021 Dated: 29-06-2021 issued under endorsement No. SMD/ JJM-J&K/13/2020-21/500-503 dated: 29-06-2021 for "Engagement of Project Development & Management Consultancy for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Kashmir Province of UT of J&K" is hereby cancelled.

No.SDM/ JJM-J&K/13/2020-21/782-89
Dated: -09-2021
DIPK-9864/21

Technical Advisor (K)
Mission Directorate, JJM, J&K
Srinagar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir,

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, SOURA, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.

Subject: Extension/Corrigendum Notice.

Ref:- NIT NO: SIMS/HEC/ET/ 28 of 2021-22 Dated: 14-09-2021.

Name of work: - Repair/Renovation of Planium to arrest leakages at Burn Ward at SKIMS.

In view of poor response, the critical dates for above refereed NIT are hereby extended/Corrigendum of class of contract as follows:-

- Class of Contract "Agency who have executed similar nature of works" Instead of "DEE" Class**
- Terms & Condition S.No 67 ("5" years) Instead of ("8" years).**
- Bid submission (uploading) closing date 04-10-2021 up to 3.00 PM .**
- Hard copy submission date 06-10-2021 up to 3.00 PM.**
- Technical Bid opening date 07-10-2020 at11.00 AM**

All other terms & conditions shall remain same.

Dated: 30-10-2021.

No: SIMS 139-95-2021-22-1940-45
DIPK-NB-3946 /21

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Traffic Police Acts Tough Against Two Wheelers For Not Wearing Helmets

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Traffic Police City Srinagar in a continuous effort to remove congestion from Srinagar city and stop the accidents has launched a drive against two wheelers for nonuse of helmets. The drive was intensified after the death of two young children at Nowgam when an oil tanker hit them, and got killed on the spot. It was found that both the children were without helmets.

'Several motorcycles and Scooties were seized under Motor Vehicle Act while found violating several laws', traffic Police said. It was informed by the court of Addl. Mobile Magistrate Srinagar convicted violators especially two wheelers.

Addl. Mobile Magistrate Srinagar, found drivers guilty of offence i.e non-possession of driving license u/s 3/181 MV Act and accordingly sentenced them to a simple imprisonment for one day.

Meanwhile, Traffic Police City Srinagar requested people to ensure that they leave the homes with proper documents, make a habit to wear crash helmets and follow traffic rules for their own safety.

Remove Encroachment From Around Dal Lake In Two Days: Div Com To Officials

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir P K Pole on Friday directed the concerned officials to remove all the encroachment, debris, scraps lying along the road side, banks of Dal lake within two days.

While conducting a spot visit to the fore shore road, Pole impressed upon all the stake holding departments – SMC, LAWDA and R&B- to immediately remove the encroachment, debris scraps lying along the road side, median of road and footpath/banks of Dal lake within two days.

Pole also directed R&B department and Tehsildar Khanyar to ensure demarcation and profile status of land upto 50 meters from the road followed by the removal of encroachment.

The Div Com said that LAWDA shall strictly remove the construction material lying on the premises of sewerage plant which is giving a bad look to the road, besides, shall



utilize the chemicals to stop the bad smell coming out of the STP.

Similarly, Chief Engineer KPDCL, Kashmir was directed to shift the electric poles which are erected in between the footpath, besides, repairing damaged poles and hanging wires to avoid any mishap to the lives and property of the commuters. "R&B department shall maintain

the road and roadsides to ensure that the stones coming out of the footpath sides/road sides/median of road are erected and installed properly. SMC shall do tiling of the footpaths and the floriculture department shall also maintain the decoration part, social forestry to plant saplings," Pole said.

Before culminating the tour the divisional commissioner impressed upon all the officers/representatives of stake holding department to conduct an extensive tour of fore shore road and Tsuntkul within two days and see the shortcomings and problems if any so that same, can be over-powered up to Tuesday.

Pole also informed that a tour shall be also conducted on Wednesday to assess the situation and / improvement and any deviation to the orders/ directions passed in the tour shall be viewed very seriously and action as warranted shall be against the officers who have not adhered the directions in letter and spirit—(KNO)



Smart City: Students paint roads near Sher-e-Kashmir park Polo view Srinagar pic Abdi Bhat

Anjuman Awqaf Jama Masjid Pay Tribute To Sultan-Ul-Aarifeen Sheikh Hamzah Makhdoom (RA)

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid Srinagar and its incarcerated head Mirwaze-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq have paid glorious tribute to the great reformer & spiritual leader and one of the most revered saints of Kashmir, Sultan-ul-Aarifeen Sheikh Hamzah Makhdoom (RA) for his invaluable religious, dawah and reformativ services in Valley.

Paying rich tribute to Hazrat Makhdoom Sahib (RA), the Anjuman described him as a perfect saint of the Kashmir Valley, a God-fearing dervish and a great reformer.

Hazrat Makhdoom Sahib (RA) dedicated his entire life purifying the souls of the Muslims of Kashmir and brought about a spiritual revolution in the region, the statement said.

The Anjuman said that the "Wali-e-Kaamil" in his blessed

era played a key and fundamental role in spreading the message of Islamic teachings, humanity, nobility, morality and friendship and compassion and in establishing a righteous and just society.

This is the reason that despite the passing of centuries, the glorious and enlightening deeds of Hazrat Makhdoom (RA) have never been forgotten; in fact their importance is becoming more and more sustainable, stable and strong with the passage of time, it said.

Anjuman urged the Muslims to pledge to dedicate themselves to spreading the message of philanthropy and social service by following the teachings, biography, character and instructions of Hazrat Hamzah Makhdoom (RA), and to play a role in the betterment of this land of saints and scholars.

IGP Kashmir Orders Promotion Of Nine Officers To Next Rank

KO News service

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone Vijay Kumar, on Friday issued the orders for the promotion of nine ASIs to the rank of Sub-Inspector.

According to a police statement, the promotions had been ordered on the basis of recommendation of DPC constituted by the PHQ "for assessing the suitability of ASIs for their elevation to the rank of Sub Inspectors...having lien and seniority with Kashmir Zone Police".

IGP Kashmir has felicitated the promoted officers and their families.

"He expressed hope that these newly promoted officers will strive to work hard for the interests of the general public and will make efforts to maintain peace and tranquillity in the UT of J&K," the statement reads.

CITING **COVID SPIKE**

Admin Disallows Friday Prayers At Major Shrines, Masjids

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Following the surge in COVID-19 cases, the government on Friday disallowed congregational prayers in most of the mosques and Shrines in Srinagar city.

The news agency, KNO has learnt that congregational prayer was not allowed in major mosques and shrines at Hazratbal, Makhdoom sahib (RA), Jamia Masjid and other major shrines and masjids in Srinagar.

The devotees who have come from the far flung areas expressed anguish for barring them from offering congregational prayers at Makhdoom Sahab (RA) shrine at Rainawari.

One of the devotees said, "I had come from a far flung area to offer Friday congregational prayers at Makhdoom Sahab (RA) shrine, but I was not allowed to enter."

She said, "The government is only putting curbs on offering congregational prayers; however they do not keep tabs

on other places and events wherein COVID-19 can spread more rapidly."

In the meantime, another local Farooq Ahmad of north Kashmir's Bandipora district said, "We were stopped from entering the Makhdoom Sahab (RA) shrine."

Farooq Said, "From downstairs up to the gate of the shrine, everybody is stopping us with an excuse of COVID-19. I failed to understand why curbs are being put at the major shrines only, however most of the roads and malls across the city are full of people."

Meanwhile, the locals of other areas of Kashmir region said that congregational prayers were allowed in some small mosques of the periphery area.

Pertinently, Srinagar district in the past one week has witnessed a significant rise in COVID-19 cases. An official said that in the wake of rise in Covid positive cases in Srinagar, prayers are being barred at some major shrines and masjids in Srinagar as a "precautionary measure."—(KNO)

Gogji Bagh Residents Hold Protest Against Dilapidated Road

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The residents of Gogji bagh near KGP Friday protest against the dilapidated road conditions in the area.

Talking to the news agency locals said that the funds which have been allotted for the road have not been utilised.

"It's unfortunate that our kids and elders are unable to walk through this dilapidated road. Our vehicles are damaged," they said.

Locals said that despite paying tax, they are being deprived of basic facilities.

"Authorities must be asked where funds are being utilised," they said—(KNO)

CS Inaugurates Blood Donation Camp In City Urges Leftover People To Get Vaccinated Soon

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday inaugurated a blood donation camp organised at Red Cross House, Exchange Road, Srinagar, where a large number of people donated blood.

The blood donation camp was organised by Indian Red Cross Society, J&K Chapter (IRCS), in collaboration with NGO's Coordination Committee Jammu and Kashmir. The theme of this year's National Voluntary Blood Donation Day, which is observed in India on 1st October each year since 1975 to encourage healthy people to donate blood, was "Give Blood and Keep the World Beating".

While speaking on the occasion, Dr Mehta said that the blood donation is a noble job and is being performed by the blessed lot.

Congratulating blood donors, volunteers and life members of IRCS on the occasion, Dr Mehta urged upon people to come forward for blood donation and said that government highly recognizes and appreciates the selfless service of the blood donors for the entire society.

SCERT's Survey on Identifying Learning Gaps concludes in Srinagar

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The State Council of Education Research and Training (SCERT), J&K Thursday conducted an assessment survey of classes 3rd, 5th and 8th aimed at identifying gaps in the students' learning results due the Covid-19 pandemic.

The School Education Department, in both the divisions, involved all its offices at the zone and the district level to ensure a smooth conduct of the assessment.

Giving details of the assessment survey, Director SCERT, Prof Veena Pandita said that it was important to identify learning gaps created among our children due to the unfortunate school closures following the Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns.

"This will give us a rough idea of how much damage the Covid pandemic has inflicted upon the education



system in J&K," Prof Pandita said and added that once the gaps are identified, the department will conduct special remedial measures to make up for the loss.

Prof Pandita said that online education helped to a large extent in mitigating these gaps but the poor internet connectivity and a large section of students without smart phones in most of the parts of Jammu and Kashmir impeded learning, essentially causing more problems than solutions.

Giving details of the survey, Ghulam Hasan Reshi,

Academic Officer, Educational Research Survey and Assessment (ERSA) Wing of the SCERT, Kashmir Division, said the 'gigantic' task was pretty challenging.

"We roped in experts available in our own school department, who were earlier a part of many different studies in the J&K, to devise strategies and methodologies on a scientific level," he said.

Reshi described Hilal Ahmad Wani, a teacher, who works at a High school in Ganderbal, "man behind the mission".

The next task was to pre-

pare the items to identify the learning gaps and learning levels among the students.

"For classes 3rd and 5th, the assessment was conducted in Language, Mathematics and EVS and for 8th, in Language, Mathematics, Science and Social Science," Wani said.

Before finalising the sampled list, Wani said, the data was scrutinized by district coordinators multiple times.Hilal Sultan, a teacher, who is posted at the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, provided all the technical support including the preparation of OMR sheets.

Academic Officer, Dr Nazneen, said the base reference for learning would be taken as per the NAS 2017 findings.Senior Academic Officer, SCERT Jammu, Deepak Sharma, oversaw the proceedings of the survey in the Jammu province.

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
- BIJHERA: 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

- 939 - Battle at Andernach: King Otto & Hermann of Zwaben beat Eberhard of France & Giselbert of Lutherans
- 976 - Hisham II appointed kalief of Cordoba
- 1949 - USSR recognizes People's Republic of China.
- 1972 - Aeroflot Il-18 crashes near Black Sea resort of Sochi, kills 105
- 1977 - Pakistani general Zia ul-Haq bans all opposition
- 1980 - 38 year old Muhammad Ali comes out of 2-year retirement to challenge undefeated world heavyweight champion Larry Holmes at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas; Ali pounded unmercifully for 10 rounds before corner throws in towel.
- 1981 - Ali Khamenei elected president of Iran
- 1984 - 3 cosmonauts return after a record 237 days in orbit
- 1986 - Sikhs attempt to assassinate Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi
- 1990 - WW2 Allied nations cede any remaining rights as occupiers of Germany
- 1990 - Chinese plane explodes, about 100 die
- 1994 - Pakistan cricket batsmen Inzamam-ul-Haq & Mushtaq Ahmed put on 57 runs in 8 overs for highest last-wicket partnership ever to win a Test, as the home team beats Australia by 1 wicket in the 1st Test in Karachi.
- 2001 - NATO backs US military strikes, following 9/11
- 2007 - President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea walks across the Military Demarcation Line into North Korea on his way to the second Inter-Korean Summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il
- 2009 - The International Olympic Committee votes to award Rio de Janeiro, Brazil rights to host the 2016 Summer Olympics and Paralympics
- 2009 - The economic crisis in Ireland is considered to be the driving force behind the largest migration of Irish people to London in 20 years, it is reported today.
- 2014 - Siege of Syrian town Kobani and its surrounds by ISIS prompts 130,00 people to flee the area

From KO Archives

European Team Arrives On Fact-Finding Mission

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - Top diplomats from four Europ-ean Union (EU) countries, including the European Commission envoy in New Delhi, arrived here Monday on a fact-finding mission. The team led by EC ambassador Michel Caillouet met the leaders of All Parties Hurriyat Conference at their Rajbagh headquarters soon after their arrival in the capital. The delegation is scheduled to have meetings with top government officials as well tommorrow.

The team includes ambassadors Guy Trouveroy of Belgium, Bernard de Monteferrand of France and Johaa Nordenfelt of Sweden. The delegation spent an hour and a half at the APHC headquarters where top leaden of the alliance including Chairman Prof Abdul Ghani, Syed Ali Geelani, Maulana Abbas Ansari and Sheikh Abdul Aziz were present. Emerging from the meeting EU ambassa-dors ducked questions from reporters present there about the nature of discussions with the APHC leaders.When the French envoy Monteferrand was asked specifically whether they had brought a new proposal for solving the Kashmir issue,he parried the question and said the purpose of their visit was of the same nature as the previ-ous ones. He said the Indian government was aware of the purpose of their current visit.

Sources however said during the meeting the EU delega-tion informed the APHC leaders that India and Pakistan were being persuaded to resume talks on Kashmir. The delegation was keen for APHC to enter into a dialogue with New Delhi and wanted to know the reasons for Hurriyat's reluctance for such their current visit. Sources however said during the meeting the EU delegation informed the APHC leaders that India and Pakistan were being persuaded to resume talks on Kashmir .The delegation was keen for APHC to I enter into a dialogue with New Delhi and wanted to know! The reasons for Hurriyat's reluctance for such a move. I APHC leaders have reportedly outlined their posi-tion and said that they were not against talks in principle but 1 insisted on purposeful and result oriented negotia-tions. Prof Abdul Ghani later told reporters the discussion with the envoys focussed on the Kashmir issue but added they have their own ideas and we have our own. Mean-while official sources said the government would brief them on J the current scenario in Kashmir, including the offer and I then withdrawal earlier this year of a ceasefire by the Hizbul Mujahideen.The ambassadors also met Fazal Haq Qureshi who mediated in the talks between Hizb and the government recently.The delegation was briefed by the DG Police about the current situation in the state.

(Kashmir Observer, October 02, 2000)

Beijing Delivers First Batch Of \$31 Million Aid To Taliban Government

BEIJING: China has delivered the first batch of its USD 31 million humanitarian assistance, comprising emergency supplies such as blankets and jackets, to the Taliban's interim government in Afghanistan.

The China-donated supplies, which arrived at the Kabul International Airport on Wednesday night, have been handed over to the Afghanistan side, state-run Xinhua news agency reported from the Afghan capital.

China's Ambassador to Afghanistan Wang Yu and Acting Minister of Refugee Affairs of the Afghan caretaker government Khalil-ur-Rehman Haqqani attended the handover ceremony at the airport.

thanked China for providing the emergency supplies. — PTI

Afghanistan soccer squad finds home in Portugal

LISBON: Leaving her homeland Afghanistan was painful, says 15-year-old Sarah. But now safely in Portugal, she hopes to pursue her dream of playing soccer professionally — and perhaps meet her idol, star striker Cristiano Ronaldo. Sarah was one of several players from Afghanistan's national female youth soccer squad who fled their country in fear after the Taliban seized power in August. Portugal has granted asylum to the young footballers. **Reuters**



Wang said amid many difficulties, China has managed to arrange the emergency humanitarian aid materials for Afghanistan in a short time, which included blankets, down jackets and other winter supplies urgently needed by the Afghan people.

He said China would continue to prepare for other materials, including food aid, which are expected to arrive before long. Haqqani

"Been Very Honest About Concerns With Pak" Over Terrorist Safe Havens: US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON: The US has been very honest about its concerns with Pakistan for a long time about the terrorist safe havens along with the border areas of Afghanistan, the Pentagon has said.

Afghanistan and the US have criticised Pakistan in the past for allowing Taliban fighters to cross into Pakistan where they are provided safe havens and also receive medical treatment.

"We've been very honest about our concerns with Pakistan for a long time, about the safe havens that exist on their side of the border along that spine. And those concerns are still valid today," Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby said on Thursday at a news conference.

As Afghanistan's neighbour, Pakistan certainly has equities and responsibilities with respect to terrorism in that part of the world, Mr Kirby said.

"We continue to have candid conversations with Pakistani leaders about our concerns," he said in response to a question.

"I think it's important to continue to remind that the Pakistani people, likewise, have been rendered victim by terrorist threats that emanate from those groups and along that same border," he said.

While Kabul claims that Islamabad is sending thousands of militants to fight in the war-ravaged country and providing safe haven for the Taliban, Pakistan alleges that Afghanistan harbours the anti-Pakistani group



Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan — and also the secessionist Balochistan Liberation Army.

Mr Kirby also said that the United States is within its rights to continue drone strikes inside Afghanistan.

"We believe we have the authorities that we need to continue to protect the nation," he said.

The Taliban has accused the US of violating the withdrawal agreement by continuing to fly drones over Afghanistan and warned Americans against doing that in the future.

"We have the authorities that we need to continue to defend our interests and the security of the American people there and around the world, and we're going to do that," John Kirby said.

"Over-the-horizon operations don't always have to include unmanned aerial assets, and they don't. That we use unmanned aerial assets clearly is true, and the Secretary (of Defence) cited one that was just a week or two ago in Syria. But over-the-horizon doesn't have to mean unmanned. It doesn't even always have to mean aviation," he said.



Iran's military launched a large military drill near the country's border with Azerbaijan, in a show of force amid tensions with its neighbouring country partly linked to the latter's close ties with Israel.

Iran Moves Military Near Tense Azeri Border Over Israeli Presence

TRANS ASIA NEWS

TEHRAN - Iran's military has launched a large military drill near the country's border with Azerbaijan, in a show of force amid tensions with its neighbouring country partly linked to the latter's close ties with Israel.

State television on Friday showed footage of tanks, artillery and soldiers under air cover provided by helicopter gunships being deployed in an unspecified area in north-western Iran for the drill, code-named Fatehan-e Khaybar (Conquerors of Khaybar).

The army also said it was testing a locally manufactured long-range drone and other "achievements" for the first time.

It came after Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps deployed equipment and troops near the border area last month, shortly after Azerbaijan, Turkey and Pakistan conducted a military drill in Baku, according to a report by Aljazeera.

Iran has openly said it is concerned about Azerbaijan's close military ties with its arch-foe Israel, whose provision of high-tech assault drones and other equipment to the Azeri army is thought to have helped tip the balance in its favour during its 44-day war with Armenian forces last year.

Welcoming Azerbaijan's new envoy to Tehran on Thursday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian warned that Iran "does not tolerate the presence and activities of the Zionist regime against its national security." "And we will carry out any necessary action in this regard."

During the military drill on Friday, Iranian Army's Ground Force chief Brigadier General Kioumars Heydari, told Press TV that Iran is also concerned about the presence of Daesh terrorists that Azerbaijan brought in during last year's fighting over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has never started any invasion. But when there was war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, a considerable number of Daesh terrorists were called to the area," he said, referring to the armed group also known as ISIL. "Since we are not sure whether they have departed the area, the drill will convey a message to them. They and the Zionists must know they have no place in the region, and that the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are fairly sensitive to them and will deal with them wherever they see them," Kioumars Heydari said.

Heydari highlighted that four new indigenous military

achievements, including a long-endurance drone which can hit its targets with pinpoint accuracy, electronic warfare systems that can be very effective in defense and offense, and two anti-tank rifles will be tested, and their range and accuracy measured during the maneuvers.

"We will also evaluate the caliber of indigenous smart artillery shells during the exercise," he noted.

Iran's Armed Forces regularly hold military maneuvers to elevate their preparedness and military prowess. Earlier this week, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev said during an interview with Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency that he was surprised by the planned military exercise.

"Every country can carry out any military drill on its own territory. It's their sovereign right. But why now, and why on our border?" he said, pointing out that this would be the first time since the fall of the Soviet Union that Iran is making such a show of force so close to the border.

Tensions between the two neighbours also rose after Azerbaijan imposed a "road tax" on Iranian trucks moving through the Karabakh region, and detained two Iranian lorry drivers last month.

UN Chief Antonio Guterres Warns Of "Hellish Future" Ahead Of Key Climate Summit

Agence France-Presse

MILAN: World leaders must choose between saving the world or condemning "humanity to a hellish future", UN chief Antonio Guterres warned Thursday at a preparatory meeting for a key climate summit next month.

The COP26 UN climate summit, which begins on October 31 in Glasgow, is being billed as crucial to the continued success of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The landmark 2015 accord commits nations to limiting global temperature rises to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels through

sweeping emissions cuts.

Emissions have continued to rise in the six years since the deal, while the latest round of national carbon-cutting pledges puts Earth on track to warm a "catastrophic" 2.7C this century, according to a UN assessment.

"It is essential for all humanity that we fulfil the promise of the Paris Agreement. I cannot emphasise enough that time is running out. Irreversible climate tipping points lie alarmingly close," Guterres told ministers from several countries attending the preparatory meeting in Milan, which runs till Saturday.

"We can either save our world or condemn humanity to a hellish future."

The UN secretary general said "the single most effective step we can take to limit temperature rise is phasing out coal, beginning with no new coal power plants".

Welcoming a recent announcement by China on ending international financing of coal power, he asked private finance "to quickly follow suit and stop financing coal".

Guterres had earlier also asked youths to maintain pressure on global leaders to do more to fight climate change.

Israel Foreign Minister Opens Embassy On Landmark Visit To Bahrain

Agencies

Israel's top diplomat Yair Lapid began a landmark visit Thursday to Bahrain where he opened the Israeli embassy one year after the US-brokered normalisation of ties.

The Israeli foreign minister touched down at Manama airport over an hour before a Gulf Air A320 took off in the opposite direction for the first commercial flight between the two countries.

Crew members waved the flags of Bahrain and Israel from cockpit windows of the passenger jet when it landed later at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv.

The Bahrain flight and Israel's first bilateral ministerial visit to the Gulf country are part of a thaw in regional relations after

The Israeli top diplomat also met with Crown Prince Sheikh Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa and Foreign Minister Abdulatif al-Zayani.

"We talked about the cooperation between our countries and about taking the official peace between us and turning it into an active, economic, security, political and civic friendship," Lapid tweeted following his sit-down with Zayani.

Two-state solution

Zayani and Lapid also held a news conference, during which they signed a number of memorandums of understanding — ranging from cooperation in environmental conservation to sports.

"Your visit builds on the considerable progress we have already made... and underlines once again our shared desire to spread peace, stability, and cooperation across



the United Arab Emirates, Morocco and Sudan also agreed last year to establish ties with Israel under agreements known as the Abraham Accords.

"We have officially opened the Israeli embassy in Bahrain," tweeted Lapid.

"We agreed that by the end of the year, there will be the opening of the Bahraini embassy in Israel."

Lapid met with King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa, in what Israeli media said was the first public meeting of a Gulf monarch with an Israeli official.

the Middle East and achieve genuine and lasting security and prosperity for its peoples," said Zayani.

Bahrain reaffirmed its commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, he added.

Lapid said that he too was "a devoted supporter of the two-state solution" but stressed he was not speaking on behalf of the government.

"I think it's the right solution for the people of Israel and the Palestinians as well. Not everyone in our government thinks the same," he said.

Pakistan Bans Air Travel For Unvaccinated Passengers



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's civil aviation authority on Friday banned air travel by unvaccinated passengers, as the country tries to make a stronger push for vaccinations and avoid stringent lockdowns in the future, media reports said.

Adhering to National Command and Operation Centre's (NCOC) directive, Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority, in a notification, said that from October 1, only fully vaccinated passengers aged 18 and above will be allowed to undertake air travel, to from and within Pakistan, provided they furnish proof of certification against the Covid-19, a Geo News report said.

On Thursday, Aviation Minister Ghulam Sarwar Khan announced the ban with this tweet: "Only fully vaccinated passengers of age 18 years and above will be allowed to undertake domestic air travel within Pakistan."

There is a catch though. Passengers below 18 years may be allowed to travel to Pakistan without a vaccination certificate,

while passengers between 15 and 18 years will be allowed to travel inbound to the country without a vaccination certificate up to October 31, the report stated.

Similarly, patients who have been advised against administering the vaccine will be allowed to travel, provided they have a certificate from the doctor. Passengers holding foreign passports and travelling outbound from Pakistan have been exempted from this ban.

Passengers, who have travelled to Pakistan before October 1, will also be allowed to travel outbound without a certificate, according to a Geo TV report.

Earlier this week, unvaccinated people were barred from restaurants, marriage halls and shopping malls, as per the NCOC diktat.

To date, only a shade above 13 per cent of the 220 million people in Pakistan has been fully vaccinated. The slow and arduous campaign is not due to vaccine shortage, but because of people's hesitance towards getting the jab.

According to data shared by the NCOC, Pakistan has witnessed 1,742 new cases of Covid-19 and 39 deaths were reported in the last 24 hours, with 47,832 active cases.

Pakistan has reported 1.2 million Covid-19 cases and 27,785 deaths since the pandemic began last year. **PTI**

NEWS MAKERS

Malawi's Ex-Deputy Speaker Shoots Himself Dead In Parliament

Agencies

A former deputy speaker in Malawi has shot himself dead inside parliament in the capital, Lilongwe, authorities said.

Clement Chiwaya, who moved in a wheelchair, had gone to the building on Thursday to discuss vehicle benefits entitled to him when he left office two years ago.

Parliament "regrets to inform the public that the former deputy speaker ... committed suicide at the parliament building," it said in a statement.

"The incident is in relation to frustration with the implementation of his conditions of service."

Chiwaya, who was 50, bought his official vehicle at the end of his five-year term in 2019, as provided

for in his contract. But he had tried to get parliament to pay for damages incurred in an accident that happened six months later.

"Honorable Chiwaya was involved in an accident while using his purchased vehicle. Unfortunately, the comprehensive insurance had expired at the time of the accident," the parliament's statement said.

Police spokesperson James Kadzdera confirmed Thursday's incident but refused to give details until he had received a full report from investigators.

The statement from parliament appeared to suggest that Chiwaya had secretly brought a gun into the high-security building.

"Having been a person with a disability, the [security] scanner alerts were deemed to be from the wheelchair," the statement said.

Venezuela Introduces New Currency With 6 Fewer Zeros

Agencies

CARACAS: A new currency with six fewer zeros debuts Friday in Venezuela, whose currency has been made nearly worthless by years of the world's worst inflation.

The highest denomination until now was a 1 million bolivar bill that was worth a little less than a quarter as of Thursday. The new currency tops out at 100 bolivars, a little less than \$25 — until inflation starts to eat away at that as well.

The million-to-1 change for the bolivar is intended to ease both cash transactions and book-keeping calculations in bolivars that now require juggling almost endless strings of zeros.

"The most important and fundamental reason is that the payment systems are already collapsed because the number of digits make the payment sys-



tems and doing the math practically unmanageable," said Jose Guerra, an economics professor at the Central University of Venezuela. "These debit card payment processing systems or an accounting system for companies... are not intended for hyperinflation, but for a normal economy."

Under the old system, a two-liter bottle of soda pop could cost more than 8 million bolivars — and many of those bills were scarce, so a customer might have

to pay with a thick wad of paper. Banks allowed customers to withdraw a maximum of 20 million bolivars in cash per day, or sometimes less if the branch was running short.

So, consumers have come to rely on US dollars and digital payment methods, such as Zelle and PayPal, to make purchases. Nowadays, most transactions are made electronically, and Guerra said, more than 60 per cent are made in US dollars.

Finland To Start Vaccinating Minks Against COVID-19

Agence France-Presse

HELSINKI: Finland will begin vaccinating minks on fur farms against Covid-19 after authorities granted temporary approval for an experimental vaccine, the country's regulator said Friday.

The conditional usage permit "is valid until the end of December, by which time the applicant has to provide further data," said senior inspector Liisa Kaartinen of the Finnish Food Authority, which oversees veterinary activities.

Such conditional permits can be granted during a pandemic when no other vaccine is available.

Minks are bred for their fur and have been found at particular risk of contracting the novel coronavirus.

"We have prepared about half a million doses now, which should be enough to vaccinate all animals twice," said Jussi Peura, research director at the Finnish Fur Breeders' Association, which developed the vaccine together with researchers from Helsinki University.

Because clinical trials have not yet been carried out, the jab cannot be distributed commercially and must be used in conjunction with strict procedures on Finland's 1,000 fur farms to monitor and prevent the spread of the virus.

The vaccine approval applies only to Finland, where so far no cases of the novel coronavirus have been identified among minks, and where transmission rates among humans have remained some of the lowest in the European Union.

Live Life Based On Secular Traditions: LG's Message On Gandhi Jayanti

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday extended greetings and good wishes to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti.

"Gandhi Jayanti reminds us to rededicate ourselves towards promoting amity, peace, selfless service, social equity, and social justice. It also calls upon us to actively contribute to the progress of the nation. I believe that this occasion will inspire us all to follow Gandhiji's path of truth and non-violence," the LG observed in his message.

"Gandhi Ji dedicated his entire life for the cause of the downtrodden, deprived, and oppressed sections of the society. His work was focused on promoting communal harmony and national integration," he added.

The LG said that promoting the values, ideology, and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, we are keeping 'People First' at the centre of the governance process.

As the nation celebrates birth



anniversary of the Father of the Nation, we are moving ahead with the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister.

The LG also remembered Lal Bahadur Shastri, former Prime Minister of India on his birth anniversary.

Paying rich tribute to the former Prime Minister, the LG recalled his vision for a progressive India. "Humble yet steadfast in his resolve, honest to the core, and a symbol of honesty and humility, his legacy will continue to inspire the generations to come," he said.

Union MoS For Steel, Rural Development On 2-Day Kupwara Visit



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA: Union Minister of State for Steel and Rural Development, Fagga Singh Kulaste reached the frontier district of Kupwara on a two day visit on Friday.

On reaching Kupwara, the Minister laid the foundation stones of Block Development Council Office at Wavoor and Alama Anwar Shah Sports Stadium, Kuligam coming up at a cost of Rs.97 lakh and Rs.20 lakh respectively in Lolab Subdivision of Kupwara district.

The Minister also laid e-foundation stone of 15 Solid Waste Management Plants costing Rs.120 crore coming up in the area.

Speaking at the occasion, the Minister said that the Government of India is committed to ensure overall development

of all urban as well as rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir UT, adding that various flagship programmes aimed to develop infrastructure and economy in rural areas like Kupwara district have been yielding better results on ground level.

Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Irfan Sultan Panditpori, Vice Chairman DDC Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir; Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Imam Din, Director Rural Development Kashmir Tariq Ahmad Zargar and DDC Member Wavoor were present on the occasion.

Responding to the demand of further release of funds, the Minister said there is no shortage of funds however submission of Utilization Certificates is a prerequisite for which Government will take sympathetic consideration.

Protest Enters 3rd Day Outside GMC Jammu

'Chaos' as Police try to to breakup protests

AGENCIES

JAMMU: Chaotic scenes were witnessed on Friday after police tried to remove NHM workers, who are on protest since the last three days outside GMC Jammu, protesting against their termination orders.

Officials told KNO that hundreds of police tried to remove the NHM employees who were engaged during COVID-19 pandemic, and have been protesting for the last three days against their termination orders. The witnesses told the news agency that the action led to chaos at GMC Jammu.

They said that they are protesting since Wednesday and on Thursday police tried to remove them. They said the chaos continued on Friday as well after police and the NHM workers entered into a scuffle outside main gate of GMC Jammu.

According to officials the workers are demanding con-



tinuation of their services.

Disengaged NHM Workers Deserve Compassion: NC's Rana

Expressing anguish over disengagement of contractual workers engaged under National Health Mission in Jammu, National Conference Provincial President Devender Singh Rana today said they should be respected and honoured because they are the heroes of the society and their being on the road is sad.

"The action of disengagement coming at a time when the health

warriors are being saluted around the world for their huge contribution in serving the virus hit population at the peril of their own, and their families', life is unfortunate", Rana said while joining the protesting NHM workers at Government Medical College Hospital here this morning.

Rana assured them that their issues will be raised at the appropriate forum. Those accompanied Rana included Ashok Singh, Corporator, JMC, Rohit Bali and others.

First-Ever 'Retreat Ceremony' To Kick Start On Indo-Pak Border

Ceremony today at Suchetgarh

AGENCIES

JAMMU: In a major boost to Jammu's tourism potential, Border Security Forces (BSF) will start 'Retreat Ceremony' on Saturday at Octroi Post along the Indo-Pak International Border in Suchetgarh village of Ranbir Singh Pura Sector here in the outskirts on.

Officials told KNO, the first-ever ceremony will be inaugurated by J&K's LG, Manoj Sinha, which mainly is aimed to boost border tourism in the region.

"The Retreat Ceremony will be a regular feature after its inauguration and will enthrall the tourists on the lines of the Wagah Border, Amritsar Punjab," the officials said, adding that though there will be no participation from the Pakistan side, the BSF will, however, "make it a daily feature."

Tourism department along with other sister concern-agencies



have developed suitable infrastructure in Suchetgarh close to India-Pakistan International Border for the retreat ceremony under Border Tourism development programme.

"The tourism department had planned to develop Suchetgarh under border tourism about a decade ago but as there was no positive response from the Pakistan side, the Tourism Department after an approval from the Central Ministry of

Home Affairs and Ministry of Tourism, proposed to organise the 'retreat ceremony' on the Indian side, which has finally got the approval," an official privy to the development, told the news agency.

Interestingly, this year till mid of September, around 61.33 lakh tourists visited the Jammu region including 70,643 to Suchetgarh. However, on an average, 5000 to 6000 tourists every day reach Suchetgarh.

Union MoS Education Inaugurates 'Conference Hall' At GDC Baramulla



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA: On the second day of his visit to district Baramulla, Union Minister of State for Education Dr. Subhas Sarkar today inaugurated a Multi-purpose Conference Hall at Government Degree College Baramulla that has been developed at an estimated cost of Rs 1.14 Crore. The Minister also carried out several activities having larger educational significance.

Dr. Sarkar is on a visit to Baramulla district as part of Union Government's special outreach programme which aims to evoke public feedback from different sections of the society besides carrying out developmental activities in the region.

Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Bhupinder Kumar, Director Colleges Prof (Dr) Yasmeen Ashai, Principal GDC Baramulla Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Lone,

President MC Baramulla Tauseef Raina, heads of various departments, faculty members and other concerned functionaries were present on the occasion.

After inaugurating the Conference Hall, the Minister held an interactive session with the students and faculty members wherein they shared their viewpoints pertaining to the educational scenario. The students as well as faculty members appraised some important issues and grievances hampering the smooth functioning of educational ecosystem and sought their timely redressal for the betterment of the overall educational system in the district.

Meanwhile, Dr. Sarkar formally presented the National Assessment Accreditation Council (NAAC) Grade 'A' to the college authorities during which he highly appreciated the college administration for meeting the requisite standards of excellence.

G A Mir Concludes 2-day Tour Of Machil

Questions delay in granting statehood, holding elections in J&K

AGENCIES

KUPWARA: J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JK-PC) President Ghulam Ahmad Mir concluded 2-day tour of Machil Kupwara, expressing dismay over the problems

confronting people on account of developmental, employment and other issues.

JKPCC President Ghulam Ahmad Mir on Friday addressed a workers' convention at Kupwara and reviewed the organisational affairs and activities in the District and also received feedback with regard to developmental and other issues confronting people in Kupwara and other areas of the district.

JKPCC Vice President Haji Abdul



Rashid Dr, Gulzar Ahmad Wani (Former Legislators) DCC Presidents Imtiyaz Parray, Umer Jaan, Congress Leaders Muneer Ahmad Mir, Nazir Ahmad Lone, Irshad Ahmad Ganie, Sheikh Amir, Deen Mohd Cheeta and various other leaders of Kupwara District were present on this occasion and addressed the convention.

Speaking on the occasion Ghulam Ahmad Mir lashed out at the Govt for failing to address developmental and other local issues concerning people in the district especially in backward and far flung areas not only in Kupwara, but in the entire Jammu and Kashmir and asked the Centre Govt to explain as to what the people of J&K have achieved after August 5, 2019.

Govt Orders Transfer, New Posting Of 10 Officers

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The J&K government on Friday ordered for the transfer and posting of 10 senior law officers with immediate effect.

In a government order, the following transfers and postings have been made:

Kulbushan Singh Salathia, senior Law officer presently posted in the advocate general's office, Jammu is transferred and posted in the office of managing director, state road transport corporation, Jammu, Manzoor Ahmad, senior law officer presently posted in the General Administration Department is transferred and posted in the Finance Department vice Waseem Ahmad Lone, Mohammad Yousef Fazan, senior law officer presently posted in the revenue department is transferred and posted in the office of Chief Engineer, PW(R&B), Kashmir

vice Shamsul Arif Makhdoomi, Toha, Deputy Legal Remembrancer presently posted in the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Jammu is transferred and posted in the District Litigation Office, Rajouri along with the post, Musbat Ismail, Deputy Legal Remembrancer presently posted in the Directorate of Litigation, Kashmir is transferred and posted in the office of Secretary, J&K Sports Council, Srinagar along with the post and Waseem Ahmad Lone, Deputy Legal Remembrancer presently posted in the Finance Department is transferred and posted in the General Administration Department vice Manzoor Ahmad.

Moreover, as per order Showkat Ahmad Bejard, Assistant Legal Remembrancer presently posted in the School Education Department is transferred in the Directorate of Litigation, Kashmir as Assistant Director Litigation, Shamsul

Arif Makhdoomi, Assistant legal remembrance presently posted in the office of Chief Engineer, PW(R&B), Kashmir is transferred and posted in the Revenue Department vice Mohammad Yousef Fazan, Sheikh Abdul Rouf, Associate Law Officer presently posted in the General Administration Department is transferred and posted in the office of Commissioner, State Taxes Department against available post; and Waseem Mohd Dar, Assistant Law officer presently posted in the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir holding additional charge of the office of Conservator of Forest, North Circle, Sopore is transferred and posted in the School Education Department vice Showkat Ahmad Bejard.

"The above officers/officials shall be deemed to have been relieved from the date of issuance of this order," the order reads.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B CONSTRUCTION DIVISION No. 1ST SRINAGAR.
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
FOR MACADAM WORKS

NIT No. 50 of 2021-22/8746-63 **DATED: 28-09-2021.**

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost(Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Dcc. (In Rupees)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Ref. to T.S	Ref. to Auth. /A.A	M.Head
1	Restoration of Sempora Bathama Wuyan road (at Bathama) by way of providing and laying 75mm thick WMM in full, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam in full, 25mm thick semidense in full with 6mm thick seal coat in full. (Machine mixed to be laid with paver).	29,87,000/-	1100/-	03 days	AAY (Civil)/ (HMPO) & Regd. HMPO	CE (R&B) K/ TS/608 of 2021-22 dtd.23-09-2021	Auth. No. CE/R&B/K/ Plg/17445-78 dtd.17-08-2021	3054 (M&R) Potholes 2021-22
2	Restoration of Buchpora Hazratbal road via Malla Bagh by way of providing and laying 50mm thick Bituminous macadam, 25mm thick semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mixed to be laid with paver).	19,52,000/-	800/-	02 days	AAY (Civil)/ (HMPO) & Regd. HMPO	CE (R&B) K/ TS/606 of 2021-22 dtd.23-09-2021	Auth. No. CE/R&B/K/ Plg/17445-78 dtd.17-08-2021	3054 (M&R) Potholes 2021-22
3	Restoration of Nowhatta Malkha Zindshah Masjid road by way of providing and laying 50mm thick Bituminous macadam, 25mm thick semidense with 6mm thick seal coat. (Machine mixed to be laid with paver).	14,63,000/-	600/-	02 days	AAY (Civil)/ (HMPO) & Regd. HMPO	CE (R&B) K/ TS/603 of 2021-22 dtd.23-09-2021	Auth. No. CE/R&B/K/ Plg/17445-78 dtd.17-08-2021	3054 (M&R) Potholes 2021-22

Position of Funds:- Available).

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28/09/2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	29.09.2021 from 10.00 AM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	29.09.2021 from 10.30 AM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	05.10.2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	06.10.2021 at 11:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Construction Division No. 1st Sgr.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Construction Division No. 1st Sgr. (tender inviting authority) and Bid security Declaration as per format given in SBD. The Performance Security Deposit has to be submitted by the lowest bidder L1(3% of quoted cost) within two (2) days from the date of Opening of Bids which will be released after successful completion of work with DLP.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Construction Division No. 1st Sgr. (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, If-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
- All other terms and conditions shall be strictly as per SBD circulated vide letter No. CE/RBK/HD/29158-88 dated 10-02-2018

No. _8746-63
Dated: _28-09-2021
DIPK-9685/21

sd./
Executive Engineer
(R&B) Construction Division No. 1st Sgr.

KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED(KPDCL)
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECTS KASHMIR
House No. 9, 10 Post Office Lane Near Mubarak Hospital Hyderpora Sringar Kashmir
Phone No. 0194-2438751, Fax No. 0194-2438750 E-mail: ceprojectwing@gmail.com
EXTENSION NO. 01

In view of Poor response the last date of submission of e-bids for Replacement of Barbed Wire and Wooden Poles Under DDUGJY (New) in District Shopian of Kashmir province is here by extended as per below mentioned details:

S.No	Description	e-Nit/Pack-age Number	Estimated Cost Rs in Lacs	Last date for sub-mission of e-Bid (extended)	Last date for sub-mission of Hard Copies (extended)	Opening of Technical bid (extended)
1	Replacement of Barbed Wire and Wooden Poles Under DDUGJY (New) in District Shopian of Kashmir province	CE/P/KP-DCL/15 of 2021-22	821.14	07-10-2021 3pm	08-10-2021 2pm	08-10-2021 3pm

No: CE/P/KPDCL/4212-17
Dated: 29-9-21
DIPK-NB-3935/21

**Chief Engineer
Projects Kashmir**

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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Twitter Talks



"Vaccination for Flu for the coming season is important as there is every possibility of an increased activity of influenza this year with all preventive measures having been dispensed with and people mixing too often without protection. Marriages, Religious gatherings, Shopping centres, and now schools and colleges allow mixing of people. Better safe than sorry. Vaccinate for flu"

@ParvaizKoul

"Srinagar is more than a mere place. It hosts the oldest Khanqahs, Masjids mostly made of de-
odar, and the beautiful Jamia Masjid. A city with beautiful
gardens, lakes and Chinars. Jhelum river flows through the
city with nine bridges. #Srinagar #Kashmir"

@MohammadRafi

"The only thing that's growing rapidly in #Srinagar is traffic!
" - @Wordswala

Gathering Storm: On
The Congress Crisis

The Congress party is gripped by a crisis after its Punjab strategy to unseat Captain Amarinder Singh as Chief Minister went haywire. The reformist group within the party has questioned the authority of the family triumvirate comprising Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, in a manner it had avoided until now. While the Gandhis were resolute about ejecting Captain Amarinder, they were clueless about what would come afterwards. As it happened, Charanjit Singh Channi emerged as Chief Minister

open question. Meanwhile, resentment is streaming forth. Navjot Singh Sidhu, who never deserved to be the president of a Congress state unit to begin with, resigned in a huff, embarrassing the Gandhi siblings. Captain Amarinder, now bruised and humiliated, is vengeful and appears willing to do anything to derail the Congress's prospects in next year's Assembly election. He could join hands with the BJP or explore other options. Many social fault lines in Punjab may have resurfaced now. Mr. Sidhu has been playing the Sikh communal card, which could have dangerous ramifications.

Mr. Gandhi's impatience with the party old guard is understandable and even justified to a great extent. What he lacks is a coherent strategy and transparent plan to revamp the party. He owned up to the party's debacle in the 2019 general election and resigned as party president, but continued to retain ultimate authority. He appoints and removes office bearers and Chief Ministers, while posturing that he is above the fray. This is untenable as his authority without accountability is far too evident. If he wants to be the leader of the Congress, it cannot be in the informal and whimsical manner as it is now. It needs to be formal and consultative, for which he needs to return as the party president. Reviving the Congress will require the leadership's constant engagement with workers, and the management of the egos and ambitions of individual leaders. The Congress cannot be revived by stealth and subterfuge, or by recruiting boastful charlatans. The burden of revitalising it cannot be shifted to the shoulders of random, untested new recruits, as Punjab shows. Mr. Gandhi is taken in by the self-defeatist notion that the Congress as it exists cannot be revamped until there is a purge and parallel induction of outside talent. No knight in shining armour can help the Congress unless it nurtures its roots and respects its workers. The disastrous Punjab experiment underscores that elementary fact.

The Hindu

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out of a factional scramble, and the party sought to find virtue in his accidental elevation by highlighting his Dalit identity. The Dalits in Punjab are largely with the Congress. Whether the party will accrue additional votes owing to Mr. Channi's identity remains an

Economy Central
J&K's Unfolding Economic Black Hole



Credits: AP

Ejaz Ayoub

BESIDES KASHMIR
ECONOMY, THE
economic stress on the
other side of the Jawahar
Tunnel i.e., in Jammu
division has started to
become quite tangible.
Economies, no matter how
small, take decades to
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balanced exchanges which
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debris of economic
hopelessness and despair.
The disruptions in the
economic exchanges
coupled with capitalistic
advances are creating an
economic black hole of ugly
proportions

Kashmiri businessmen fear closure of 85% industrial units", read a headline in one of the top business newspapers of India. The statement was made by the representatives of Federation of Chambers of Industries Kashmir (FCIK) during their meeting with the Union Minister of State for Commerce, in the third week of September 2021. Given the magnitude and duration of economic turbulence witnessed by the region since the last few years, this number is anything but an exaggeration. It's a matter of established fact that the economy of Jammu & Kashmir is going through a downward spiral since the vortex of article 370 abrogation engulfed it in 2019. Almost all the regional economic indicators have witnessed dangerously unhealthy patterns. Far from charming headlines and discourse management events, the situation on ground has never been this bad in the last three decades. Besides the economy as a whole, Govt finances too have suffered deep losses. The rate of business foreclosures and bankruptcies has never been this brazen. Impoverishment and living unaffordability are rising rapidly, the economy and livelihoods on the other hand are contracting aggressively. The region's economy is fast developing into a toxic black hole which is slowly but surely swallowing everything in its way.

As per University of Hampton Professor, Dr. Dejenie Alemayehu, "Any system that is established from relations from different groups, continues to exist if the relations remain fair and the forces (that are created from the relations to keep the system alive) remain on balance and valid to all parts.

However, when one of the forces dominates to the extent of diminishing the strength or eliminating the powers of others, then only a force of pulling towards the dominant entity remains and that leads to the collapse of the system". This is what he refers to as a black hole syndrome.

The economic situation unfolding in the region which derives its chaos from the underlying collapsed political framework, very well fits the criteria of a black-hole syndrome as defined by Dr. Dejenie.

Besides Kashmir economy, the economic stress on the other side of the Jawahar Tunnel i.e., in Jammu division has started to become quite tangible. Economies, no matter how small, take decades to create and sustain balanced

exchanges which support and strengthen the participating entities. The rapid changes have collapsed all the pillars simultaneously leaving a debris of economic hopelessness and despair. The disruptions in the economic exchanges coupled with capitalistic advances are creating an economic black hole of ugly proportions. Ranging from loss of labour-intensive mining business to encroachment in liquor trade, these forces have started pinching Jammu business community aggressively. Latest assault being the entry of a retail giant which has left regional retailers worried and anguished. Discontinuance of darbar move too is expected to dwindle the migratory demand of otherwise thriving retail sector of Jammu during winters. In wake of this unfolding risk profile and uncertainty, indigenous investment sentiment has taken a serious blow.

Kashmiri businesses on the other hand are fighting a survival war of different proportions. Given the scale of income shock, the consumer demand has consistently declined to pick up which is resulting in slumped sales. Trading sector which soaks more than a quarter of the region's work force is therefore severely impacted. Transport, Manufacturing, Tourism and Construction, every sector is in red. Exports and foreign remittances too have dried up resulting in the furthering of economic slump in Kashmir. To make matters worse, the highhandedness from the narcissistic bureaucratic system towards businesses and public welfare is killing the sentiment of revival even further. Economic packages remain primarily loaded with debt financing and are mostly limited to announcements and headline management. The targeted beneficiaries, however, continue to wait for the implementation of all these magnanimous announcements. The same was even voiced by FCIK during their meeting with the Union Minister of State for Commerce. Lack of concrete policy response for containing this economic mayhem is gradually leading to a socio-economic crisis in the region.

Rising unemployment and untamed inflation are breaking all the hell loose on households and businesses. As per Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), J&K's average unemployment for the last twelve months, preceding August 2021, has been around a whop-

ping 14% with youth (15 to 29 years of age) unemployment skyking to around 25%. All India average for the same period has been around 8%. These numbers sketch a very grim scenario depicting the sheer volume of bread earners sitting idle without a dignified livelihood. This is pushing a large portion of households towards abject poverty and negatively impacting the other essential socio-economic indicators of the region.

Besides unemployment, the cruel spike in inflation is turning the situation into a fatal cocktail. Inflation for the month of August 2021 for J&K was recorded at 7.65. It is consistently hovering above 7 with 7.42 in June and 7.81 in July. With no intervention from the Govt, Inflation in J&K is making living excruciatingly hard for an already ailing economy. All India average, however, slowed down from 5.59 in July to 5.30 in August. J&K's inflation is second highest in India after Telangana (7.92). With joblessness and choked earnings, this consistently sharp rise in inflation is making life a living nightmare for the economically destitute sections of the region.

Another data point which depicts a very grim picture of the state of economic affairs in the region, post August 5, 2019, is the pattern of income tax collections. Although a very limited percentage of the earning population in the region is eligible for paying direct taxes, however, the patterns of the drop indicate a significant contraction. From Rs. 541.40 crore in FY 2018-19 to only Rs. 267.28 crore in FY 2020-21, there is a drop of around 50 percent in direct taxes collection in J&K. This is a staggering number. This clearly shows the severity of the impact on people's earnings.

Factors like rising inflation, joblessness, dwindling incomes etc, being cyclic, might turn a corner in near future, however, the onslaught of selfish advances by deep pocketed business houses is something which is altering the economic dynamics of the region permanently. This new reality is shrinking the space for indigenous businesses at a rapid pace. The removal of stop gaps in things like tendering etc has demolished the protective entry barriers which otherwise used to secure the livelihood of millions of J&K based businesses. The sheer amount of capital with comparatively large corporations has tilted the playing field mercilessly and exposed the regional players to an economic challenge which they are unable to stand. In absence of democratically elected representatives who otherwise were answerable to the public for securing indigenous interests, the unilateral policies by bureaucrats is leading to an undercurrent of mistrust, anguish and worrying uncertainty among people. It's therefore time for policymakers to understand this situation and devise policies which are equitable, justice oriented and economically viable.

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

The author has been working in the BFSI industry in the field of Financial Risk Management, Strategy and Foreign Exchange. He can be reached at: ejaz.ayoub@gmail.com

America's Litany Of Lethal Lies

Andrew Mitrovica

By now, they have been forgotten by everyone but the people who admired, cared for and loved them.

Zemari Ahmadi – a father, brother and son – was running his usual errands on August 29. For years, the veteran aid worker had spent much of his time and energy delivering food and canisters of water to make the grinding hardship so many Afghans endure less taxing.

That morning, like most days, Ahmadi, an electrical engineer by training, left the compound near Kabul airport where he lived with his four children, two brothers and a slew of nieces and nephews. Ahmadi carpooled. So, driving a white Toyota Corolla, he picked up a few colleagues on route to the headquarters of Nutrition and Education International – the California-based humanitarian group – where they unloaded some bags and containers. At noon, he made a brief visit to a police station. Later that day, Ahmadi used a hose to fill several jugs with water to ferry home. He arrived a few minutes before 5pm.

Then, in a happy family ritual, Ahmadi let one of his children hop into the driver's seat to finish parking in the gated courtyard. A gaggle of excited children rushed to greet him and pack into the car. Meanwhile, a cousin helped unload the jugs of water.

Within moments, a "Hellfire" missile fired from a "Reaper" drone obliterated the Corolla and anyone nearby. The 10 dead included Ahmadi and three of his children, Zamir, 20, Faisal, 16, and Farzad, 13, as well as his cousin, Ahmad 30, and three of Ahmadi's nephews, Arwin, seven, Benyamin, six, and Hayat, two and two three-year-old girls, Malika and Somaya.

At first, the US military insisted, with typi-

US POLITICIANS, SOLDIERS AND SPIES
have not "learned" and will never learn. America's sordid, relentless history of killing civilians – many of them children – while waging its imperial wars is proof of that. Otherwise, America would have stopped making its calamitous catalogue of "horrible mistakes" long before another "Hellfire" missile destroyed another Afghan family in late August

cal bravado, that its carefully planned attack – triggered by unimpeachable "intelligence" that warned of impending mayhem – was "a righteous" reply that rid the world of a terrorist implicated in the murderous assault days earlier on Afghans and American soldiers milling outside Kabul's airport, waiting for flight out and far from the Taliban's tentacles.

It was the first of a litany of lies.

The US had not avenged the barbarity committed by terrorists. It had, once again, massacred innocents.

Of course, after its lie had been exposed by the grieving family, other witnesses and sceptical reporters, a US soldier was compelled to apologise for America's "horrible mistake". And the cable TV personalities and their stable of serious-sounding pundits who had instantly applauded their country's "righteous" retaliation, were now quick to agree that an "errant missile" launched by the US military had dismembered and incinerated 10 Afghan girls, boys and men in a tragic error.

That was a lie, too.

The slaughter of Ahmadi and the other Afghans in that tiny courtyard was not a "mistake". Misspelling the word "mistake" is a mistake. What US soldiers and spies conspired to do to Ahmadi and his extended family was a heinous crime. It was a crime that the US military has – the incriminating record

shows – committed often in Afghanistan and beyond. Only this time, America was forced, grudgingly, to acknowledge its guilt.

"Clearly, our intelligence was wrong on this particular white Toyota Corolla," a US General said. "We thought this was a good lead. We were wrong."

But US soldiers and spies know that being "wrong" rarely results in being arrested. Just like all the other soldiers and spies who have made lethal "mistake" after lethal "mistake" in Afghanistan and beyond, none of the architects and perpetrators of this latest US-engineered bloodbath will be held to account in or out of court.

Instead, America may offer the surviving family members a wad of cash as a fleeting and meaningless act of penance to absolve itself of the responsibility for the horror it unleashed via an "errant" missile on still more Afghans trying to survive, as best they can, the deprivations, struggles and indignities of war.

On predictable cue, Congress, the military and the "intelligence community" have promised to launch investigations and so-called "lessons learned" inquiries to try to find out what went wrong and prevent the carnage from happening again. Sure, they will.

"We need to understand exactly what went wrong and what that means in terms of the limits of what we are able to do," a US congressman said.

This is yet another feeble lie.

US politicians, soldiers and spies have not "learned" and will never learn. America's sordid, relentless history of killing civilians – many of them children – while waging its imperial wars is proof of that. Otherwise, America would have stopped making its calamitous catalogue of "horrible mistakes" long before another "Hellfire" missile destroyed another Afghan family in late August.

Here is the truth: the sprawling espionage-industrial complex that set its technological cross-hairs on Ahmadi – and tracked his movements before deciding that he was a "terrorist" who had to be summarily executed – is populated, for the most part, by plodding, pedestrian bureaucrats. The spies also know they enjoy immunity from the inhumane consequences of their manifest archive of negligence and ineptness.

The overarching conclusion I arrived at after devoting years studying and reporting on the secret, subterranean world of spies is that the popular impression of intelligence agencies as housing dogged people with impressive credentials, dedicated – with missionary zeal – to protecting America from "bad actors" is largely a myth.

It is, however, a stubborn, reassuring myth promoted by the television-savvy former spies and their close friends in academia and a bevy of "think-tanks" hired as "consultants" by agreeable US news networks who invariably defend the interests and reputations of the powerful institutions they have faithfully worked for and with in a variety of lucrative capacities.

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

The author is an Al Jazeera columnist based in Toronto. The article was originally published by Al Jazeera

Understanding India Through Shatranj Ke Khiladi

Inayatullah Din

Shatranj Ke Khilari, was actually Munshi Premchand's short story which was thematized as a movie by Ray in 1977. Unerring, he had not needed a mistake. And the name of this particular short story by a 19th century Hindi speaking intellectual on why Indians lost India. It is actually an Orientalized understanding of British power in India by an Indian. Here we are looking at the colonized Indian mind, who is critically located as a colonized subject, legal subject in the British dominated India and is reflecting with a colonized imagination on how Indians lost India. I would definitely like you to see this movie. Munshi Premchand is both a legal subject and a very critical eye witness of the indigenous systems which are being phased out before his eyes. A bit like Mir Taki Mir.

Colonial Stereotypes and bad governance
A huge range of correspondence showcases two different frames of governance. One is the indigenous style of governance, and the other is the western governance perfected in the western nation-state, as centralized, highly efficient, modern, and as understating power in the Foucauldian manner.

Premchand actually has a far more scathing understanding of the Indian elite. Close to the personalized space of the Indian king. You will take a gander at the personalized rule by an Indian potentate where every word he speaks is heard with appreciation. Regardless of whether the king talks garbage, nobody can really say anything. Against this, you will find disciplined (Foucauldian sense) bodies of European official hierarchy, where there is a protocol of rigged obedient, stand to arms kind of attitude to subordinate vis-à-vis his superior officer.

Sometimes visuals can give you these frames, that too visual from heritage which is both colonial and critical. We have Ray, coming from a very long pedigree line of a colonized, highly influential Bengali family, and therefore, Ray actually has internalized the critical, and at the same time colonized imagined spaces of these commentaries on what had been the problem with Indian ruling cultures. The movie uses strong visuals via court and (British) correspondence in order to put together a historical/historized representation of the Indian elite.

The story has several domains. The first most important domain is the emerging political domination of the British. The second most important domain is the micro-level of power which in this case is the Kingdom of Awadh, which has the last nawab (Wajid Ali Shah) in place.

Wajid Ali Shah and the kingdom of Awadh have had a long history of running up against the British, militarily right from the 1740s. And it is these coming together of various Indian powers against the British paramourcy which has cost Awadh her token freedom. Awadh has actually been incorporated in a treaty which is a metaphor for being completely dominated by the British power in India. So, this is the subsidiary alliance, where a resident (General Outram) is pushed into Wajid Ali's court, where he reports on how he conducts governance on a day to day, monthly, and yearly basis. Which sums it all up as part of a rather imperialistic pin and which seeks to record only the flows of these Indian princes. And this is what the resident at Lucknow does too. This is the domain of microchips of power, the indigenous kingdom with limited understanding of power but in Wajid Ali's eyes huge power.

In this way, we are exploring how Satya-



Shatranj Ke Khidari is actually from this understanding of the location of the elite time. But they miss the larger moves on the Indian chessboard. ©Nemai Ghosh

jit Ray places Wajid Ali Shah on a larger power nap, where his notions of power seem to be very petty, stupid, and very short-sighted coming from the resident's analysis. But from Nawab's own point of view, he is hugely powerful (symbolized at the beginning of the movie when he sends his crown to be displayed in the Crystal Palace exhibition). Furthermore, this limitless power is encouraged by the language of the courtiers use in his courtroom. His shayari and songs are taken as the last word in poetic excellence. His very ambiguous understanding of being fantastically a good Muslim is bracketed within his fascination with Lord Krishna and his gopis, which he constantly enacts in his harem.

Relative understanding of power and



Orientalism as a larger framework (best symbolized by a dialogue between General Outram and Colonel Weston). The movie gives you the domain of substitution & subjective power.

the blindness of the Indian ruling classes.

We have Wajid Ali Shah becoming a Sufi saint on the streets of Lucknow, beating the drum, attracting huge crowds who obviously love him. We also have exuberant fun-loving public of this particular region who understand the king as a lovable monarch. That's where the connection between the state and the people ends. So, we are looking at this dissatisfaction of these disjunct people and the Nawab at a level of governance. But at a level of connectivity, they are connected. This was their understanding of kingship, territory, realm, which was very strange in the English sense.

This particular Nawab is conscious of the shadowy power of Queen Victoria, and his mother is equally conscious of

SOMETIMES VISUALS CAN GIVE YOU these frames, that too visual from heritage which is both colonial and critical. We have Ray, coming from a very long pedigree line of a colonized, highly influential Bengali family, and therefore, Ray actually has internalized the critical, and at the same time colonized imagined spaces of these commentaries on what had been the problem with Indian ruling cultures

this shadowy presence of the English monarch across the oceans. And it is this clockwork regiment of the English officialdom which uses the language of treaties, revokes the agreement of treaties, which breaks the treaty turns as in when



The misreading of the modern nation state. The misreading of the modern contract and notions of legality (symbolized by company's attempt in brushing aside the earlier 1837 treaty). Misreading of authority and power. Misreading of the relative values of the Indian kingdoms viz a via the sovereign power of the British monarchy. Image credit: Devki Chitra, Productions (Suresh Jindal).

tation that they realized that they did not have armies. Because the armies were taken over by the company. They don't have weapons because weapons have been banned. They don't have any hold on the people because they can't pass laws. They don't hold to their borders because they don't have any diplomatic power to make alliances with other kingdoms. The treaties under which they operated had been quietly changed. We have treaties been breached and the complete helplessness of the queen mother (Aulea Begum) appealing to queen Victoria in a very emotional petition.

It comes with a modern sense of bitterness on what India had lost and how. Ray is just reconstructing it, where queen mother doesn't understand that England is England. She calls England Englishtham like Hindustan. (Englishtham ki Rani Sahibah like I'm the rani sahibah of Awadh).

Social Domain and the location of elite time

The social domain is divided into men and women. The masculine men (Mir-Mirza plot) with military histories within their families, which they kind of use to patch each other, there's no real power. There is just mythical belonging to martial family history. They are just passing the time. They don't live through times. This is a very important difference which Ray is making in the way the English and the Indians occupy the frame of time. Where Indians pass it, and the British makes it work. They play chess. Shatranj ke Khidali is actually from this understanding of the location of the elite time. But they miss the larger moves on the Indian chessboard.

The film is looking at two chess boards, one which is a very small-time game and the other which is played by the British with the Indian kings and ruling elite. This is going to be the level of the domain of the masculine occupation, and the masculine notion of power, masculine notion of masculinity.

There is a women's domain which is highly politized at the level of the do-

mestic. There is a women's domain that is highly politized at the level of the domestic. They aren't powerless. But they are even more blind than the men as to what is political power. We have only some rare insights that come from the queen mother.

The central hub of the entire movie is Wajid Ali Shah, with whom sometimes Prem Chand Munchi sides, sometimes commenting, sometimes compassionate, and sometimes he uses the framework of the oriental despot as developed by the western stereotype of who is an oriental ruler. Prem Chand used the modern eye, colored by western expectations/norms of good governance, and the long-held discourse of the rule of law, law & order, and the penetration of the state.

This was the 19th century when imperialism was high and deeply penetrated into the psyche of the middle class educated communities across India. And these discourses have taken a deep hold about what the expected governance, administration, and the state deliver. On all these accounts, Wajid Ali Shah falls way short. He's composing Shayari on his throne when it is fariyad for justice. Running from British arms, he says, 'I did this when I was sitting on a throne'.

It's tragic, it's comic, but it's not romanticized. Huge difference in visual effects. Other films (like Rang de Basanti, Mangal Pandey, Padmavat) are romanticized in which the elite is highly conscious of what is happening. But that's not the case in Ray's projecting. If you are a student of history, you will find the Shatranj Ke Khiladi a good educative project.

The film gives frames of the colonial stereotypes on good/bad governance, bad Indian rulers who need to be deposed, and more flexible Indian rulers, more manipulable by the East India Company. All these issues are going to be highlighted by this movie. The movie highlights a fairly syncretic notion of governance which actually stays were lightly the Indian population, regardless of religious affiliations of any kind of community. The movie highlights the pluralistic society and the understanding of the Indic syncretic culture, which is being formally smashed by a modern nation-state and its representative in the East India Company (epitomized in the final game played by Mir and Mirza wherein the Indian Wazir is replaced by the British Queen). 'Annexation of kingdom means annexation of culture'.

The author is a researcher

Poets, Quotes And Rumi In Our Times

Shabir Hussain

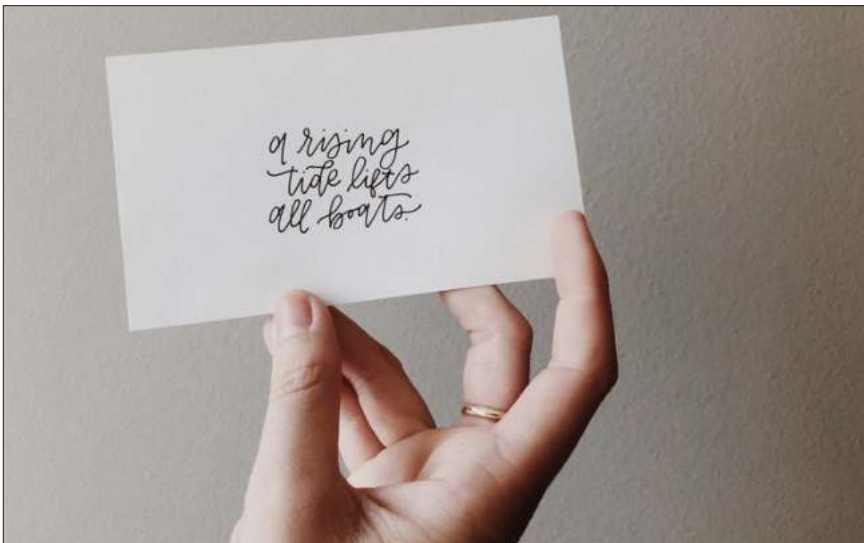
As a teenager on a Sunday market stroll, I chanced upon a novel, Qatilon Ke Qatil (The Murderer of Murderers), by Ahmad Faraz.

Faraz, I knew, was a noted Urdu poet but this was for the first time that I was laying my hands on a novel by him, except that it wasn't written by him. But I had no idea that it was a case of reverse plagiarism of sorts to lend credibility to the book. I was, anyway, too young to understand exactly what plagiarism or reverse plagiarism meant.

It was a couple of decades later that I came to know that this piece of piracy was a part of a series of novels attributed to Faraz under the title Ahmad Faraz Ki Jasoori Dunia — Ahmad Faraz's World of Spying — after I came across an interview that the poet had had with noted Pakistani broadcaster Naeem Bukhari.

I wasn't at all appealed by the book's sensational cover or the spurious paper on which it was written, but I bought it solely because the person it was attributed to was a modern great among Urdu poets and I was hooked to literature.

A few pages into the book and, even as a youngster, I knew I was going through some trash that Faraz could never write. I remember going back to the vendor the following Sunday and throwing it in his



face. I got its replacement with an explanation: "I'm an illiterate man, sonny; how would I know all this!"

Smuggled books and DVDs
Back in the day, a lot of books were smuggled from Pakistan along with DVDs of stage dramas and music cassettes. Pakistani artists like Nazia Hassan, Junaid Jamshed, Umer Shareef and Moin Akhtar had great fan following across the subcontinent and in the Indo-Pak diaspora as well.
Fast forward to 2021 and nothing has

changed. In fact, the misattribution is far more rampant and viral owing to the emergence of various social media platforms. Faraz continues to have dozens of couplets that he never said attributed to him. So do his contemporary Faiz Ahmad Faiz and two of Urdu literature's all-time greats, Ghalib and Iqbal.

Nothing irks me more when I get this alleged poetry that these greats never wrote. My usual response is a cuss word and it has been a bit of a deterrent.
Some of these so-called couplets are

A FEW PAGES INTO THE BOOK AND, EVEN as a youngster, I knew I was going through some trash that Faraz could never write. I remember going back to the vendor the following Sunday and throwing it in his face. I got its replacement with an explanation: "I'm an illiterate man, sonny; how would I know all this!"

outright pathetic while some are barely passable. Some, however, are reasonably decent, though, not anywhere close to the works of the greats they're attributed to.

The worst part of this pathetic trend isn't the content or that it's attributed to all-time greats by some anonymous folk but the fact that it's shared and circulated by even reasonably educated people.

Strong religious overtones

Most of these couplets sound philosophical and have strong religious overtones as well and what I've felt in most of the cases is that people attribute them to these greats, thinking that the message would sell better. They obviously believe there is no harm in lying for a greater cause.

And then many well-meaning people share it. I've seen people arguing on social media after they're called out for sharing such content, often asserting that the reader should consider the message which is more important.
But it doesn't stop at these stalwarts of

literature. There's an even greater victim than these doyens of literature, one with a far wider audience and popularity across the world: Maulana Jalaludin Rumi, fondly known as Mevlana in the West. The 13th century dervish-poet has tonnes of quotes and other works compiled as best-selling books against his name.

Rumi's original writings draw upon religious spirituality, contrary to what is attributed to him now in the form of its distorted and diluted versions so as to cater to the West's sensibility. Rumi's projected work is a far cry from his real work. But it sells.

The Rumi experts in the West can't read or understand Persian and yet they translate him copiously to fit into their money minting projects. So next time you post a Rumi quote, bear in mind that there's every likelihood it's a fake one.

author is a Kashmiri writer based in New Delhi. The article was originally published by Gulf News

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Srinagar Smart City Ltd
(A J&K Government Undertaking)
NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NIT No.: RFP 10-SSCL of 09/2021 Dated:29/09/2021
Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), invites bids, from reputed advertising agencies for Implementation of Smart Poles in Srinagar City including Operation & Maintenance for Fifteen (15) Years..

S. No.	Name of the Project	Cost of Tender Document (INR)	Approx. value/ Estimated cost of the Project	Contract Duration (Years)
1.	Implementation of Smart Poles in Srinagar City including Operation & Maintenance for Fifteen (15) Years.	5,000.00	The project is on PPP mode.	270 days (Construction Phase) + 15 Years (O&M)

The Request for Proposal (RFP) document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule of dates given hereunder:

S. No.	Description	Date
1	Date of issue/publish of RFP	29/09/2021
2	Download Start Date	30/09/2021 from 10:00 Hrs.
4	Date of Pre-bid Meeting	16/10/2021 at 15:00 Hrs.
6	Last date of Online Submission of Bid	29/10/2021 up to 14:00 Hrs.
7	Opening of Technical Bid	30/10/2021 at 14:00 Hrs.
8	Opening of Financial Bid	To be intimated later

- The Bid must be accompanied with a non-refundable tender document cost of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) only, to be paid online in favour of Srinagar Smart City Limited with Bank Account details as under:
Name of Bank: Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Branch: SSI Lal Chowk, Srinagar.
Bank Account Number: 0216010100002252,
IFSC Code: JAKA0SSISGR
MICR Code: 190051059
- The Bid documents consisting of Instructions to Bidders (ITB), Qualification Criteria and Documents to be furnished with the Bid, General & Special Conditions of Contract, Contract Data, Drawings, Specifications, the schedule of quantities and set of terms and conditions of contract and other forms will be uploaded on the website: www.jktenders.gov.in. The Bidders can download the bid documents from the specified date and time for sale.
- The entire bidding process shall be online only. No hard copy shall be entertained. Bids must be uploaded along with proof of having deposited cost of Bid Document. Bids received without evidence of payment of cost of Bid Document shall be declared non-responsive.
- The eligible firms registered as Micro and Small Enterprises shall be provided tender document free of cost, subject to furnishing of relevant valid certificate/ documents for claiming such exemption. The MSEs are also required to submit the Bid securing declaration form duly completed along with their bids.
- A Bidder requiring any clarification of the bidding documents may send his queries on the email srinagarscl@gmail.com . No queries will be entertained after the pre-bid meeting. Clarifications/ Responses to queries raised prior to pre-bid meeting and during the pre-bid will be uploaded on the e-tendering portal.
- Technical Bids received online shall be opened at the date and time specified in e-NIT in the office of Chief Executive officer, Srinagar Smart City Limited. Bidders can witness the opening of bids online after logging on to the site. If the office happens to be closed on account of public holiday on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Bids received without the required documents and not fulfilling the requirements of this RFP shall be declared rejected.
- Conditional bids and the bids not meeting the qualifying criteria on the date of receipt of bids shall be rejected.
- The bidder is required to quote the percentage of "Revenue Share" and the selection will be done on the basis of Highest Revenue Share Quote, as described in the RFP.
- The Authority does not take any responsibility for the delay in uploading the bids for whatever the reason.
- Right to revise or amend this notice and / or the RFP Document, fully or partially, prior to the last date notified for submission of offers or on any subsequent date is reserved by the Authority.
- The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, cancel the bidding process, at any time prior to the award of contract, without assigning any reason thereof and thereby assumes no responsibility of incurring any liability to the affected applicants.

No: SSCL/CEO/5456-57
Dt: 29/09/2021
DIPK-NB-3910/21

Sd/-

Chief Executive Officer
Srinagar Smart City Limited

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER HORTICULTURE P&M CONST.DIV.SGR.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e-NIT No.49 of 2021 -22 **DATED: 30-09-2021**
For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K UT, tenders are invited by Executive Engineer, Horticulture (P&M) at Rajbagh by e-tendering mode on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of work	Adv cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of Tender documents	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Construction of Surface Drain at Various Locations at Fruit and Vegetable Market Parimpora (Balance Portion RCC Spun Pipes)	6.00 lacs	300/-	20 days	CEE/DEE	CAPEX

Position of AAA/TS: - Accorded.

Position of Funds: - Assured/Available.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	30-09-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	30-09-2021
3.	Bid submission Start Date	30-09-2021
4.	Bid Submission End Date	11-10-2021 up to 4:00 Pm
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	12-10-2021 at 11:00 Am

Note: - As per circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat finance department:

- Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e tenders is dispensed with the same and should be obtained from the bidders who declare first lowest (L1) after opening of financial bids.
 - first lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR /FDR within (02) two days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
 - All bidders must have to upload Card Verification Certificate issued by Concerned Authority.
- Deposit Head (HPM)
- The Horticulture Planning and Marketing Division does not have sanctioned deposit Head.
- The Allotted agency should produce FDR @ 10% of running bills which shall be treated as bill deposit and shall be released after DLP is over as per the procedure.
- All bidders have to submit bid security declaration form instead of earnest money deposit (EMD) as per the secular of finance department (bid security declaration form is as Annexure A below
 - The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below
 - Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury challan to be credited into revenue head 0401(nonrefundable) in favour of Executive Engineer HPM (Tender Inviting Authority)
 - The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- 5.The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Bids
 - The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
 - Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in acquaint bid submission process.
 - To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
 - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.8.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
 - The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
 - Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury challan in favor of Executive Engineer Horticulture (P&M) Rajbagh, to Executive Engineer Horticulture (P&M) Rajbagh must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. Including scanned copy of WhatsApp contact Number.
 - Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
 - Price escalation and Taxes: -The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to completion of the work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
 - Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
 - Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
 - All bidders shall include the following information and documents with their bids: -
 - Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business.
 - Valid GST No. & PAN No.
 - The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid
 - Nonattendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder.
 - All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
 - If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list/quantity schedule, cost of such item/ items shall be deemed to be part of the overall/total contract value. No rate shall be allowed for such item / items in the allotment of contract.
 - General Conditions of Contract :-
 - The date of start of the work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issuance of LOI/ Contract allotment as the case may be.
 - Penalty for delay in completion:-In case of delay in completion of work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to maximum of 10% of the contract shall be imposed.
 - Time extension:-Suitable time extension shall be granted in case of increase in scope of work and in the event of delay beyond control of contractor to be determined by the department.
 - Advance Payments: -No mobilization advance/equipment advance shall be paid unless otherwise specified in the SBD.
 - Retention Money: -10% shall be deducted from each running bill of the successful contractor which shall be released after virtual completion of work in all respects.
 - Schedule of Payment: -The payment schedule shall be fixed after award of contract in favour of successful bidder, on the basis of availability of funds and value of work executed, shall be determined by the Engineer
 - Amendment of bidding document: -Before the deadline for submission of bids the employer may modify the bidding documents by issuing Addenda.
 - The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
 - Restoration of work: - On completion of contract the contractor shall be responsible to remove all un-used material and restore all work in its original position at his own cost.
 - Traffic regulations: -The contractor is bound to adhere to traffic regulations as is applicable from time to time and ensure arrangements of smooth regulation of traffic during execution of work.

No. EE/Horti/P&M/2021 -22/1278-80
Dated: -30-09-2021
DIPK-9835/21

Sd/-

Executive Engineer Horticulture (P&M)
Construction Division Kashmir Srinagar

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR.
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING BARAMULLA.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (Retender 2nd call)
NIT No: - 121/Xen/Rew/Bla/2021-2022 Dated.28/09/2021

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors Regd. With J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following work:-

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account	Position of AAA/TS	Position of Funds
1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10
1	C/O Lining wall to main khul at najar mohalla at gushbugh-B, Block Pattan, under CD PYT	2.36	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted
2	Improvement of Link road/Tilepath from H/O nazir ahmad Mir to H/O Ali mohd Hussain Khan and others W.No 2 Bela salamabad, Block :-Boniyaar, under CD PYT	2.10	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted
3	C/O road from Bonichakal to Matipora, under CD PYT,Block Singhpora.	4.86	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted
4	Development of road with P-Wall From H/O Ali Mohd War To Tejram bund at Gohat tengpora, under -CD PYT,Block Pattan.	2.48	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted
5	Construction of P-Wall to Yadi Canal from Gauge to Onwards at Nillahpalpora under :-CD PYT,Block Pattan.	2.27	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted
6	C/O Flood Channel with path at Maidian Kamakote w no 2 Block Paranpeela under CD PYT.	2.54	200	30 days	DEE	CD&PYT	AAA Accorded	Allotted

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-09-2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 28-09-2021 to 05-10-2021 up to 6:00 PM
3	Bid submission Start date	28-09-2021
4	Bid Submission End Date	05-10-2021 up to 6:00 PM
5	Date and time of Opening of Bids (Online)	Technical Bids will be opened on 06-10-2021 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Baramulla and Financial Bid opening will be declared online.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of treasury challan/receipt under HEAD 0515 mentioning therein name of work and NIT No. (Copy enclosed) in favour of the Executive Engineer, REW Division Baramulla (Tender inviting Authority).
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsivebidders shall be opened online on same Web Site at the office of theExecutive Engineer, REW Division Baramulla.
- All The Bidders has to submit Bid Security Form instead of Earnest Money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- The 1ST Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3 % of Contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days after opening of financial bid and shall be released after successful completion of DLP as per norms.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "BiddersManual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in into acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Besides, original documents related to bid be submitted physically by the bidder who is declared as L1 immediately after opening of financial bid.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid & no documents in terms of hard copies shall be entertained. However, in case of any clarification, the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
- The earnest money in favour of un-successful/ non-responsive bidders shall be released only after ensuring submission of tender document fee in original, irrespective of Hard copies, failure of submission of tender document fee by the bidder using site shall entail him for blacklisting.
- The department will not be responsible for any damage/ destruction caused to the work or any material for the work during its execution (by flood, fire, earth quake)/ theft or any other reason what so ever and other natural climates) contractor has to arrange watch& ward of the material and shall be responsible for the safety/ custody of departmental supplies from the time of issuance to its consumption at site.
- The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No 9604-11

Dated 28-09-2021

DIPK-9689/21

Executive Engineer.

REW Baramulla

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION QAZIGUND
E-mail : qazigundphedivision@gmail.com Phone/Fax: 01931-295040
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
(STAGE CONTRACT)

NIT No: 48/EE/JSD/Qazigund/3180-92 of 2021-22

Dated 29/09/2021

For & on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-tenders of Stage Contract in single cover system are invited on item rate basis from registered Transport Companies whose registration Certificates are valid in terms of standing rules for the following work:-

S.No	Name of work	Earnest Money (in Rupees)	Class of Contract	Validity of Contract	Cost of tender Document	MH of Account
1	Carriage / handling charges of store items for the financial year 2021-22	10,000/=	Regd. Transport Companies	Up to 31/03/2022	500/-	(KIDCF / NRDWP / NABARD / Distt./UT Sector / AR)

- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of Quantities (BOQ), terms & condition of contract can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the dates shown below:-

i	Download start date	29/09/2021from 1600 Hrs.
ii	Download end date	05/10/2021 upto 1600 Hrs.
iii	Bid submission start date	29/09/2021from 1600 Hrs
iv	Bid submission end date	05/10/2021 upto 1600 Hrs
v	Bid opening date	06/10/2021 upto 1000 Hrs

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan shown against the each item advertized & credited to MH:0215-PHE Government Account as per the format devised / attached with this NIT & earnest money in the shape of CDR pledged to the Executive Engineer PHE Division Bijbehara. .
- It is mandatory upon the bidder to upload "Bidders Address Format" duly filled in under his seal and signature for future correspondence, which is attached with this NIT.
- The bids shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Qazigund on above mentioned date in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents like CDR/ Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan/PAN/GST Registration with latest return/Bidders Address Format / Registration card duly renewed. In case of any clarification, the bidders have to produce original documents in support of hard copies if need arises.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days.
- As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department. However, non-drawl of agreement will not prevent the contract from being enforced upon him.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-
 - Any bidder withdraws his bid during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms & condition of the bid.
 - The successful contractor fails to execute an agreement with the department within 10 days after fixation of contract.
 - The successful bidder fails to start the work within one week from the date of fixation of contract.
- The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept/reject the bid without assigning any reason thereof.
- Any kind of damage which may occur to material during the course of transportation due to natural calamities. shall be the responsibility of the bidder till the material is finally handed-over to the Department at the designated site / store .
- The taxes viz. Income tax, Service tax/ GST & Cess shall be deducted from the bidder's claims as per standing Govt. instructions.
- The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities). In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling item rate inclusive of all taxes & it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- The unit rates & prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of work unless otherwise specified. The intending tenderers will have to quote rates as per unit rate as advertized for each item considering quantity as one for every item and comparative shall be generated for sum total of all items to arrive at L1, L2 and L3 in the overall and shall be accordingly negotiated with successful bidder to arrive at a reasonable/ negotiated rate. However, in case of the rate of any particular item is exorbitant to such an extent that it contradicts with the wisdom of the evaluator, the rate of such item shall be considered in accordance with the prevailing market rate with some reasonable contractors profit for evaluating the comparative rate.
- If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the BOQ, such item/ items shall be deemed to be the part of the overall/ total contract value and no rate shall be allowed for such item/ items.
- Bidders should note that the terms and conditions of the contract circulated by the tender inviting authorities from time to time shall be applicable on the contract even if not incorporated in this NIT..
- The work done claim of the successful bidder shall be entertained only after production of proper check certificate of in-charge concerned
- No mobilization advance/ equipment advance shall be paid.
- It shall be mandatory for the contractor to ensure safety of material from source upto dumping site of work.
- Insurance cover as admissible under rules shall be provided to all the workers skilled/unskilled deployed and the necessary premiums shall be borne by the executing agency/ contractor itself.
- The earnest money in favour of un-successful bidders (other than 2nd. Lowest bidder) shall be released only after ensuring submission of tender document fee receipt in the shape of Treasury challan. The EMD of the 2nd. Lowest bidder shall not be released till the completion of the contract

i.e. up to 31st March,2021.

22. The successful bidder shall have to respond within the minimum possible time (Not more than three hours) to execute the requisite job failing which, the Engi-
neer Incharge or the Authorized Supervisory Staff shall be at liberty to get the job executed/completed through 2nd. lowest bidder on the rates allotted to 1st.
Lowest bidder. If the allottee fail to respond in time continuously for three times, his contract shall be deemed to have been cancelled besides, his CDR shall
be forfeited and he shall be barred to take part in any other tendering process in the Division.

23. Toll tax if any shall be paid as per actual against receipt/ voucher (to be submitted by contractor/ agency duly verified by Engineer in charge/ Store keeper.

24. The contract shall remain in force w.e.f the date of fixation of contract up to 31/03/2022.

25. Other terms & conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form-25 double/GFR-2017.

No:PHQ/3180-92

Dtd: 29/09/2021

DIPK-9747/21

Executive Engineer

Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Qazigund

GST Collection Hits 5-Month High In Sep At Rs 1.17 Lakh Cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: India's GST collection remained above Rs 1 lakh crore for the third month in a row at over Rs 1.17 lakh crore in September, raising expectations that second half of the year will post higher revenues.

The tax collections in September on goods sold and services rendered was 23 per cent higher than Rs 95,480 crore collected in September 2020, and 27 per cent higher than Rs 91,916 crore collected in September 2019.

The collection in September is the highest in five months since April, when revenue was at record high of Rs 1.41 lakh crore.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in August and July was Rs 1.12 lakh crore and Rs 1.16 lakh crore respectively.

"The gross GST revenue collected in the month of September 2021 is Rs 1,17,010 crore of which Central GST is Rs 20,578 crore, State GST is Rs 26,767 crore, Integrated GST is Rs 60,911 crore (including Rs 29,555 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs 8,754 crore (including Rs 623 crore collected on import of goods), the finance ministry said in a statement.

During September, rev-



enues from import of goods were 30 per cent higher and the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) were 20 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

The average monthly gross GST collection for the second (July-September) quarter of the current year has been Rs 1.15 lakh crore, which is 5 per cent higher than the average monthly collection of Rs 1.10 lakh crore in the first quarter of the year.

"This clearly indicates that the economy is recovering at a fast pace. Coupled with economic growth, anti-evasion activities, especially action against fake billers have also been contributing to the enhanced GST collections. It is expected that the positive trend in the revenues will continue and the second half of the year will post higher revenues," it added.

RBI May Signal Policy Normalisation On October 8: Report

AGENCIES

MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to signal the start of an unwinding of its accommodative monetary policy, introduced to cushion the economic impact of the pandemic, at a meeting next week, economists at Standard Chartered Bank wrote in a research note on Friday. The consensus view is that the RBI will leave interest rates unchanged at its October 8 MPC meeting and only start to unwind its accommodative monetary policy by reducing the gap between the repo and reverse repo rates early next year.

Some economists, including those at StanChart, however have brought forward their policy normalisation expectations amid concerns of rising

domestic inflation from high oil and global commodity prices and a sharp increase in the pace of vaccination.

"We now expect India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to hike the reverse repo rate by 40 basis points to 3.75% at the December 2021 and February 2022 policy meetings; we had earlier expected the hikes in February and April 2022," the Standard Chartered economists said.

They expect the MPC to raise the key repo rate only in August 2022 but said the risk of an earlier hike has increased.

They also acknowledged the risk of a nominal increase in the reverse repo rate on October 8, on account of the higher cut-offs at recent variable rate reverse repo auctions.



Petrol, Diesel Prices Hiked Again, Touch All-Time Highs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel price soared to an all-time high across the country on Friday after rates were hiked again by 25 paise and 30 paise a litre, respectively.

The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest ever level of Rs 101.89 a litre and to Rs 107.95 in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Diesel rates too touched a record high of Rs 90.17 in Delhi and Rs 97.84 in Mumbai.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

The third increase in its rates this week has sent petrol prices above Rs 100 in most major cities of the country.

Similarly, sixth increase prices eight days has shot up diesel rates above Rs 100 mark in several cities in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan - which has the costliest fuel in the country because of local taxes and additional freight because of it being right on the border - saw petrol price rise to Rs 113.73 a li-



tre and diesel to Rs 103.9 per litre.

State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) resumed daily price revisions on September 24 after international oil prices neared a three-year high. Global benchmark Brent crude is trading above USD 78 per barrel.

In six price increases since September 24, diesel rates have gone up by 1.55 paise per litre. Petrol price has increased by 75 paise per litre in three instalments this week.

International crude oil prices have reached a nearly three-year

high as global output disruptions have forced energy companies to draw more crude oil out of their stockpiles.

When international oil rates fell in July and August, retail prices of petrol and diesel in the Delhi market were reduced by Rs 0.65 and Rs 1.25 per litre.

Prior to that, the petrol price was increased by Rs 11.44 a litre between May 4 and July 17. Diesel rate had gone up by Rs 9.14 during this period.

India is dependent on imports to meet nearly 85 per cent of its oil needs and so benchmarks local fuel rates to international oil prices.

Markets Recoil For 4Th Day As Global Risks Pile Up

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI: The Sensex and Nifty racked up losses for the fourth straight session on Friday, mirroring a risk-off sentiment overseas as stubborn inflation and faltering global growth sapped investor confidence.

The 30-share BSE Sensex opened on the backfoot and stayed in the negative zone throughout the session, ending 360.78 points or 0.61 per cent lower at 58,765.58.

On similar lines, the broader NSE Nifty declined 86.10 points or 0.49 per cent to close at 17,532.05.

Bajaj Finserv was the top laggard in the Sensex pack, diving 3.45 per cent, followed by Maruti Suzuki which lost 2.39 per cent after the country's largest carmaker reported a 46.16 per cent decline in September sales, impacted by the global semiconductor shortage.

Bharti Airtel shed 2.22 per cent after the Department of Tele-



com (DoT) slapped a penalty of Rs 1,050 crore on the firm based on sector regulator Trai's recommendation five years ago.

Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, HDFC, NTPC, ICICI Bank and TCS were among the other losers.

On the other hand, M&M, Dr Reddy's, UltraTech Cement, Sun Pharma, PowerGrid and Tata Steel were among the gainers, climbing as much as 3.05 per cent.

"Despite favourable growth in India's core sector output, which accelerated by 11.6 per cent in

August from 9.9 per cent in July, domestic indices were in red reflecting weak global cues and losses in heavyweights. High Eurozone inflation at 3.4 per cent in September, slowing global growth and the existing Chinese crisis bolstered global sell-off.

"The auto sector is hold-on despite weak sales, in anticipation of festival demand, as numbers from major manufacturers showed a fall in September sales mainly due to semiconductor supply shortage," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

During the week, the Sensex plunged 1,282.89 points, or 2.13 per cent, while the Nifty declined 321.15 points or 1.79 per cent.

On the macroeconomic front, India's manufacturing sector activities improved in September as companies benefited from strengthening demand conditions amid the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Tata Sons Emerges Top Bidder For Air India: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Tata Sons has emerged as the top bidder for the takeover of debt-laden state-run airline Air India but the bid is yet to be approved by a group of ministers headed by Home Minister Amit Shah, sources said.

Financial bids put in by the salt-to-software conglomerate and SpiceJet promoter Ajay Singh were opened a few days back and were vetted by Core Group of Secretaries on Disinvestment headed by Cabinet Secretary on Wednesday, sources with knowledge of the matter said.

The bids were evaluated against the reserve price set and Tatas emerged the highest bidder, they said adding this will now have to be placed before the committee of ministers on Air India privatisation led by Shah. The finance ministry and Tata Sons declined to comment.

Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary to the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) - the government department responsible for privatisation, in a tweet said the government has so far not approved the financial bids for Air India.

"Media reports indicating approval of financial bids by Government of India in the AI disinvestment case are incorrect. Media will be informed of the Government's decision as and when it is taken," he tweeted. If its bid is accepted, Tata will take over the national carrier they once founded.

Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy (JRD) Tata founded the airline in 1932. The airline was called Tata Airlines then. In 1946, the aviation division of Tata Sons was listed as Air India and, in 1948, the Air India International was launched with flights to Europe.

The international service was among the first public-private partnerships in India, with the government holding 49 per cent, the Tatas keeping 25 per cent and the public owning the rest. In 1953, Air India was nationalised.

The government is seeking to sell 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent share - holding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd.



Mahindra To Launch XUV700 in Srinagar Today



AZHAR KHAN/TAJALI KHAWJA

SRINAGAR: Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., has announced the launch of the most awaited SUV of the year, the XUV700.

The unveiling ceremony will be held at the company showroom located at Tengpora By-Pass Srinagar on Saturday at 12 P.M.

There is an XUV700 for everyone who seeks a rush with the widest range of offerings you will find in the segment.

Mahindra XUV700 forays into a highly competitive SUV segment where it will square off against names such as Tata Sa-

fari, Hyundai Alcazar, Kia Seltos, Hyundai Creta, MG Hector Plus, Skoda Kushaq, MG Hector, etc., based on if you opt for the five- or the seven-seater variant.

Starting with the line-up, the prices for the petrol and diesel XUV700 MX remain unchanged at ₹11.99 lakh and ₹12.49 lakh. Both variants pack in kit such as dual airbags, ABS, an 8.0-inch touchscreen, a 7.0-inch digital instrument cluster, Android Auto compatibility, power-adjustable wing mirrors, LED tail-lamps, steering-mounted controls and 17-inch steel rims with wheel covers.

Gold Rallies Rs 555; Silver Jumps Rs 975

NEW DELHI: Gold in the national capital on Friday rallied Rs 555 to Rs 45,472 per 10 gram amid rupee depreciation, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal had settled at Rs 44,917 per 10 grams.

Silver also jumped Rs 975 to Rs 58,400 per kilogram from Rs 57,425 per kilogram in the previous trade.

The Indian rupee declined 12 paise to 74.35 against the US dollar in opening trade on Friday. In the international market, gold was trading marginally lower at USD 1,752 per ounce and silver was flat at USD 22.16 per ounce.

"Gold prices traded steady with spot gold prices at COMEX trading marginally down at USD 1,752, still holding above USD 1,750 per ounce on Friday," according to HDFC Securities, Senior Analyst (Commodities), Tapan Patel. (PTI)

Rupee Pares Initial Losses To Close 11 Paise Up At 74.12 Against USD

MUMBAI: The rupee reversed early losses and settled for the day higher by 11 paise at 74.12 against the US dollar on Friday, despite a muted trend in domestic equities.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit witnessed heavy volatility. It opened on a negative note at 74.33 per dollar as against its previous close of 74.23. It hovered in the range of 74.11 to 74.35 per dollar during the day before ending at 74.12 against the American currency.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.03 per cent to 94.25. On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 360.78 points or 0.61 per cent lower at 58,765.58, while the broader NSE Nifty declined 86.10 points or 0.49 per cent to close at 17,532.05. (PTI)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION SHADIPORA

Email: midshadipora@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No.24 OF 2021-22.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Shadipora, invites tenders by e-tendering mode on percentage rate basis. Registered Electrical contractors are eligible for below mentioned Electrical works. The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz. Cover '1st' - Tender fee, fulfillment of pre-qualification criteria and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender. Cover '2nd' - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S No	Name of work	Estt. Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (in Rs.)	Earnest money in BDC	Tech. Sanction	Time of Completion	M.H of Account
01	Supply /installation /testing of 200 HP starter, 630 mm Sq cable, 400 Amp/630 amp MCCB etc at Dewatering /Irrigation Station Zoonipora Banyari of MISD Hajin.	245800.00	300.00	Bid Declaration certificate	51 of 9/2021	21 days	4711 (State Sector)
02	Fabrication, Providing, Installation of testing of foot valve, MS Pipe, priming pump at Dewatering /Irrigation Station Anwath Banyari of MISD Hajin.	189260.00	200.00	Bid Declaration certificate	52 of 9/2021	21 days	(State Sector)

KEY DATES OF THE TENDER

- Bid documents can be assessed at and downloaded from the websites www.ifckashmir.com / <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 27/09/2021 (1000Hrs).
- The Bids shall be submitted on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 29/09/2021 (1000 Hrs) to 13/10/2021 (1400Hrs).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The bids received shall be opened online 14 / 10/2021 (1500 Hrs) in the office of Executive Engineer MID Shadipora.
- Bids must be accompanied by cost of Tender Document and Bid Declaration Certificate.
- The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, action as per the Appendix I will be initiated against the bidder.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

No:MIDSH/Ts/2306-10
Dated/28-09-2021
DIPK-9854/21

Executive Engineer
Mech. Irrigation Division
Shadipora

JAMMU & KASHMIR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RESHAM GHAR COLONY RAKSHI NAGAR JAMMU . 180001

Website: <http://jkpsc.nic.in> Jammu: 0191-2566528(F) 2566530
email: jkpscsecretary@gmail.com Srinagar: 0194-2312629 (F) 2312631

Subject: Revised select List for the posts of Lecturer Anesthesiology (GMC-Srinagar) in Health & Medical Education Department.

NOTIFICATION NO. 76 - PSC (DR-S) OF 2021

DATED: 30.09.2021

Whereas, Health & Medical Education Department vide letter No. ME/GAZ/187/2014 dated 25.04.2019 referred 04 posts [OM:02, RBA:01 & SC:01] of Lecturer in the discipline of Anesthesiology (GMC-Srinagar) for selection of suitable candidates; and

Whereas, J&K Public Service Commission vide Notification No. 08-PSC (DR-P) of 2019 dated 20.05.2019 advertised the said posts for selection of suitable candidates; and

Whereas, Commission received 49 applications, which were scrutinized and 42 eligible candidates were called for interview; and

Whereas, the interview of the shortlisted candidates was conducted on 29.07.2021 & 30.07.2021 with the assistance of experts; and

Whereas, one post under SC category has been left vacant due to nonavailability of candidates; and

Whereas, provisional select list was issued vide Notification No.35-PSC (DR-S) of 2021 dated 06.08.2021 in pursuance of Commission decision in its 17th meeting held on 06.08.2021 at Agenda Item No.17.2 with the stipulation that objection, if any, may be submitted to the Commission within five days for examination and disposal. No claim, whatsoever, shall be entertained after five days from the date of issuance of Notification; and

Whereas, on the basis of above, one Sh. Tantry Tariq Gani S/O Sh. Ab Gani Tantry represented in the Commission pleading that in the above referred select list his marks in Academics have been shown as 30.88 whereas his actual marks, should have been as below:-

i. Academics
(1479/2450 = 60.36%)
60.36x15% = 9.05
M.D. = 25
Total Academics (9.05+25) = 34.05

ii. Special Attributes + viva = 34.75
Total = 68.80

Whereas, the representation of Sh. Tantry Tariq Gani S/O Sh. Ab Gani Tantry was considered in the Commission and after scrutiny of the entire record pertaining to Academics, it has been established that due to typographical error the Academic marks have been shown as 30.88 instead of 34.05 in the award sheet.

Now, therefore, on the basis of the performance in the interview in pursuance of Rule 51 of the J&K Public Service Commission [Business & Procedure] Rules, 1980 as amended from time to time and other related parameters, the revised merit of the candidates who had appeared in the interview is enclosed as Annexure-"A" to this Notification.

Consequent upon the above, the select list of the candidates against the available posts is given in Annexure-B to this Notification.

Note:-

- The Commission reserves the right to have certificates/ documents of the candidate verified, if at any later stage found expedient to do so. The Selection of the candidate is purely provisional and is subject to the outcome of writ petition[s] pending before any competent Court of law.
- The select list is provisional and objection, if any, may be submitted to the Commission within five days for examination and disposal. No claim, whatsoever, shall be entertained after five days from the date of issuance of Notification.

No. PSC/DR/Lect/Anes./H&ME/2019
Dated: 30.09.2021
DIPK-9805/21

(R. K. Katoch) JKAS
Secretary
J&K Public Service Commission.

Shocking! UP Man Kills Neighbour Because She 'Fought A Lot'

AGENCEIS

In a bizarre incident, a 50-year-old man walked into a police station in Uttar Pradesh's Amroha and claimed that he had allegedly shot dead his neighbour, a 35-year-old woman, "because she used to fight a lot".

The incident took place on Thursday evening.

Policemen, posted at Hasanpur station, took the accused, Rajpal Singh, into custody and rushed to the spot where he had claimed to have shot dead the woman, identified as Seema Devi.

They found the body with a bullet wound in Deepur village, exactly in the same area.

Rajpal told police that he killed Seema, his nephew's wife, because "she fought a lot, created trouble and did not listen to him. That is why I shot her dead".

Rajpal is a history-sheeter and facing several criminal cases in Hasanpur police station.

He was booked for murder and sent to jail.

According to the family, Seema's husband had died five years ago. Later, she got married to her brother-in-law.

Amroha Superintendent of Police Poonam said: "The body of the deceased has been sent to the district hospital for autopsy and the accused has been arrested. Further investigations are underway."

DU first cut-off: SRCC, Hindu among 8 DU colleges seeking 100 pc marks for 10 courses

NEW DELHI: Eight Delhi University colleges, including SRCC, Hindu, Ramjas, Hansraj and Khalsa, announced 100 per cent cut offs for admissions to 10 undergraduate courses, while the first cut off marks for a few courses in some colleges increased by six to seven per cent as compared to last year.

Other colleges that have set a perfect score for admission are Jesus and Mary College, Deen Dyal Upadhyay College and Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies.

Lady Shri Ram College for Women, which was the only college last year to come up with 100 per cent cut offs for three of its courses—BA (Hons) Economics, Political Science and Psychology — has reduced its cut offs by 0.25 per cent-0.5 per cent for the courses this year.

The cut offs this year for Economics, Political Science and Psychology are 99.50 per cent, 99.75 per cent and 99.75 per cent respectively.

College principals attributed the soaring cut offs to rise in board exams scores, with over 70,000 CBSE students scoring above 95 per cent marks this year.

Many students who scored marks above 95 per cent are now pinning their hopes on extra curricular activities (ECA) and sports quota, anticipating limited chances of scores dropping in subsequent cut offs or seats remaining vacant.

SRCC has demanded cent per cent marks for admission to BA (Hons) Economics and BCom (Hons). Last year the college had pegged the cut-off for BA (Hons) Economics at 99 per cent and for BCom (Hons)

at 99.50 per cent.

Jesus and Mary College (JMC) has pegged the cut-off for BA (Hons) Psychology at 100 per cent for those who do not include the subject while calculating their best of four (BFS) percentage.

The cut-off for students who will include the subject in their BFS marks is 99 per cent.

Last year, the cut-off for Psychology (Hons) was 99.5 per cent if the subject was not included in BFS or if a student had scored less than 85 per cent in the subject, while for the others it was 98.5 per cent. To get into BSc (Hons) Computer Science at Hansraj College, a student requires cent per cent marks, a significant increase from last year when 97.25 per cent was needed to get into the course.

This year, Hindu College and Ramjas College have kept a perfect score for getting into BA (Honours) Political Science. In 2020, the minimum marks required for admission to BA (Hons) Political Science at Hindu were just 0.50 per cent short of 100 per cent while at Ramjas College, the cut-off was 99 per cent.

For getting into BCom at SGTB Khalsa College, students will this time need a 100 per cent score, a significant increase from last year when 96.5 per cent was required to be eligible for admission to the course.

Ramjas College has pegged the cut-off at 100 per cent for a combination of BA programmes under which a student can opt any of the two subjects (English/Hindi/ Political Science/Economics/ History/ Mathematics).

Religious Places In Delhi Opened For Devotees

AGENCEIS

New Delhi: The Delhi government has allowed the reopening of religious places in the city for devotees from Friday with strict adherence to Covid guidelines and standard operating procedure (SOP).

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority issued fresh COVID-19 guidelines on Thursday.

Religious places in the national capital were closed for devotees for over five months, since April 19, following the imposition of a lockdown due to the severe second wave of Covid infections.

Although the Delhi Disaster Management Authority order permitted the entry of devotees to religious places, it prohibited large gatherings there.

It also directed the district magistrates and deputy commissioners of police to ensure strict compliance with Covid-appropriate behaviour in view of the upcoming festivals.

The standard operating procedure (SOP) for religious places to ensure precautions against COVID-19 include allowing entry to only asymptomatic persons, use of face masks, avoiding common mats



for prayers and staggering devotees among others.

"No physical offerings like prasad distribution or sprinkling of holy water etc to be allowed inside the religious place," it stated.

Seating arrangements should be made in such a way that adequate physical distancing is maintained. A gap of six feet has to be maintained in queues, and only those with face masks allowed entry.

"Specific markings may be made with sufficient distance to manage the queue and ensure social distancing in the premises. Preferably, separate entry and exits for visitors shall be organised," the noms laid out prepared by the Health

Ministry stated.

Air conditioning and ventilation at religious places should follow guidelines of the CPWD that lay down temperature settings in the range of 24-30 degrees Celsius, relative humidity of 40-70 per cent and intake of fresh air, it said.

Community kitchens, langars, "ann-daan" at religious places should follow physical distancing norms while preparing and distributing food. Recorded devotional songs should be played and choirs should not be allowed, it added.

Other activities permitted and prohibited by the Delhi Disaster Management Authority will continue to be so up to October 15 midnight.

Clear Conspiracy To End Paddy Procurement At Minimum Support Price: Congress

AGENCEIS

CHANDIGARH: Congress spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala on Friday hit out at the BJP-led government at the Centre over its decision to postpone procurement of Kharif paddy till October 11, alleging that it is a clear conspiracy to end the paddy procurement at Minimum Support Price.

The Centre on Thursday postponed procurement of Kharif paddy in Punjab and Haryana till October 11 as the crop maturity is delayed owing to recent heavy rains. Crop procurement is undertaken by the central government's nodal agency Food Corporation of India along with state agencies.

Referring to the arrival of paddy in Haryana mandis, Mr Surjewala said, "Lakhs of quintals of paddy had already started to arrive in mandis from September 20. Eleven days have passed since then but so far not even a single grain of the crop at MSP has been procured in Haryana".

In Haryana, 20 lakh quintal paddy is lying in mandis under open skies, the Congress leader told a news conference which he addressed digitally.

"In Ambala, 4.5 lakh quintal

paddy has arrived in mandis, in Kurukshetra 5.5 lakh quintal, in Yamunanagar 2.25 lakh quintal, in Kaithal 2 lakh quintal and in Karnal 1.75 lakh quintal of the crop is lying in mandis," he said, adding the arrangements made by the government in the mandis, especially in the wake of weather turning inclement in recent days, were also lacking.

Thousands of farmers are waiting for the government to start procurement, he said addressing a news conference which he addressed digitally.

Where will farmers go in this situation?, he asked.

About the decision to postpone procurement, Mr Surjewala said, "this is a clear conspiracy to end paddy procurement at MSP. Arrivals in Haryana began on September 20 and if the government will not procure the crop till October 11, if this is not a conspiracy to end MSP then what else is it?"

He alleged the BJP led government wants to end procurement at MSP and leave farmers at the mercy of open market.

Mr Surjewala aid time and again the "anti-farmer" face of the Narendra Modi and the ML Khattar governments at the Centre and in Haryana has been exposed.

He said earlier paddy procurement was to start on September 25 in Haryana.

Mr Surjewala said the Congress demands the government start procurement of paddy and bajra in Haryana from October 1.

In view of the recent spell of rains and delay in procurement by the government, relaxation should be given in moisture content of the crop, he said.

Mr Surjewala also said that the BJP-JJP government should within 15 days compensate the farmers for crop damage caused by recent spell of heavy rains.

He said Congress will raise the issues of farmers vociferously.

Replying to a question, he said Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Thursday had urged the Centre to withdraw its letter on postponing the paddy procurement in the state from October 1.

Paddy procurement usually commences from October 1.

Mr Surjewala also said that the Centre has not fixed specifications for procurement for paddy for Kharif Marketing Season 2021-22 till date like the percentage of moisture content, slightly discoloured or shrunk-en crop.

Scientists Potty Train Cows To Deal With Environmental Issues Caused By Urine

AGENCEIS

Turns out cows can be potty trained as easily as toddlers. Maybe easier.

It's no bull. Scientists put the task to the test and 11 out of 16 cows learned to use the "MooLoo" when they had to go.

Just like some parents, the researchers used a sweet treat to coax the cows to push through a gate and urinate in a special pen. And it took only 15 days to train the young calves. Some kids take quite a bit longer.

"The cows are at least as good as children, age 2 to 4 years, at least as quick," said study senior author Lindsay Matthews, an animal behavioural scientist at New Zealand's University of Auckland who worked with colleagues on the tests at an indoor animal research lab in Germany.

What started with a half-in-jest question on a New Zealand radio talk show about the very real problem of livestock waste resulted in a serious

animal cognition scientist Brian Hare, who wasn't part of the research. "The critical question is can it and will it scale?"

If it could be done, toilet training animals makes it easier to manage waste products and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, said Donald Broom, a professor of animal welfare at the University of Cambridge in England.

At the lab in Dummerstorf, Germany, the researchers mimicked a toddler's training, putting the cows in the special pen, waiting until they urinated and then giving them a reward: a sweet liquid of mostly molasses. Cows do have a sweet tooth, Matthews said. If the cows urinated outside the MooLoo after the initial training, they got a squirt of cold water.

Then in two sets of experiments, the researchers let the Holstein cows roam about the indoor facility. When they had to urinate, 11 of them pushed into the pen, did their business, and got their sweet reward.



ous study published Monday in the journal Current Biology. And it wasn't just a "wow, this could be fun" academic question. Massive amounts of urine waste is a serious environmental issue, Matthews said.

Urine contains nitrogen, and when mixed with feces becomes ammonia, which is an environmental issue with acid rain and other problems, Matthews said. It can also taint the water with nitrates and create the airborne pollutant nitrous oxide, he said.

And cows do pee a lot. A single cow can produce about 8 gallons (30 liters) of urine a day, Matthews said. In 2019, nitrous oxide comprised 7% of all the U.S. greenhouse gases, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

"I am not surprised they can train calves to urinate in set locations, but I am surprised no one has demonstrated this before," said Duke University

There are a couple caveats to this experiment.

No. 1, they gave diuretics to the cattle to get them to urinate more because they had limited time to run the experiments under ethics guidelines. And No. 2, they didn't do No. 2. They only trained cows to use the MooLoo to urinate, not defecate.

Urine is a bigger problem, at least in Europe, Matthews said. But he predicted they could train cows to poop in a certain place too.

While dogs, cats and horses can be toilet trained, they already show the desire to go in special places, but cows don't, Matthews said.

The biggest environmental problem for livestock, though, is the heat-trapping gas methane they emit in belches and flatulence, a significant source of global warming. The cows can't be trained not to belch or fart, Matthews said: "They would blow up."

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

20-Day Old

of a militant got ascertained and he was given the opportunity to surrender.

"Instead he fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party, which retaliated leading to an encounter. In the ensuing encounter, one terrorist was killed and his body was retrieved," the police spokesperson said. He identified the slain militant as Mujeeb Lone of Redwani Bala, Kulgam.

Lone, as per police records, had joined the militancy recently and was linked with LeT. However, media reports said that Dar had joined militant ranks 20 days ago.

"He was responsible for creating terror among the locals and had been coercing innocent citizens to sympathise with anti-national elements," the police spokesperson said.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including one pistol, 01 magazine were also recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe their complicity in other terror crimes," he added.

The police spokesperson also urged cooperation of police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any.

Meanwhile, in a separate operation in the district, police claimed the arrest of a Lashkar militant.

According to the police spokesperson, on a specific input regarding the movement of militants and their planning to attack on security forces, a joint checkpoint was established at Muijhmarg Junction by Shopian Police, 1stRR and 178Bn CRPF.

During checking, a suspicious person was intercepted who on seeing the search party tried to flee from the spot but the alert party apprehended him tactfully. He has been identified as Kamran Bashir Hajam son of Bashir Ahmed Hajam resident of Babapora, an active terrorist of proscribed terror outfit LeT.

During his personal search, one Hand Grenade and 29 rounds of 7.62 mm calibre were recovered from his possession.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR no. 117/2021

under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Zainapora. Further investigation is going on.

‘Man Involved

"In this regard a Case FIR No 75/2021 U/S 302 IPC; 13,16,18,23, UL(P)Act of Police Station Nowgam has already been registered," the police spokesperson said.

The police officer, as per the spokesperson, was on his way to the mosque to offer prayers when he was fired upon by two militants.

Army Chief Takes

he was briefed on the prevailing security situation and operational preparedness. He also interacted with the troops and complimented them for their resoluteness and high morale," an Army spokesperson said.

His visit to the region came a day after he said that the "unprecedented" military standoff with China required an immediate response and large-scale mobilisation of resources at a time when the country was faced with the coronavirus pandemic.

"The unprecedented developments necessitated large scale resource mobilisation, orchestration of forces and immediate response, all this in a Covid-infested environment," he said while delivering a lecture at an industry chamber on Thursday.

Also on Thursday, India hit out at China for attempting to blame it for the border row and asserted that the "provocative" behaviour and "unilateral" attempts by the Chinese military to alter the status quo along the LAC in the region seriously disturbed peace and tranquillity.

The comments by External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi came in response to China's fresh allegations that the "root cause" of the tensions between the two countries was New Delhi following a "forward policy" and "illegally" encroaching Chinese territory.

The border standoff between the Indian and Chinese militaries erupted on May 5 last year in eastern Ladakh following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area. Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers as well as heavy

weaponry.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in the Gogra area last month.

In February, the two sides completed the withdrawal of troops and weapons from the north and south banks of the Pangong lake in line with an agreement on disengagement.

Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the sensitive sector.

PM Focussed

tug of war and rope skipping at the Mini-stadium.

According to the official spokesperson, the Union Minister highlighted the measures and initiatives taken by the Government headed by the Prime Minister to promote sports culture across the country.

The Minister, he said, also interacted with members of Self Help Groups and entrepreneurs who shared their successes stories. She stressed upon these members to give extensive marketing reach of their products by registering on GeM portal and other business sites.

Speaking on the occasion, the official spokesperson said that the Minister stated that the purpose of the visit is to assess the needs and requirements of the people.

"She added that the Prime Minister is focused on making Jammu and Kashmir a prosperous and developed place and has taken several measures and initiatives for welfare of people," he added.

Later on, the Minister held a meeting with DDC, BDC and members of other PRIs, Presidents of Municipal Committees and other ULB members and councillors.

"These members brought forth various demands concerning the development and public welfare in the whole district as well as in their respective areas," the official spokesperson said.

‘Promise To

as an international tourist destination.

"He said J&K is progressing and moving in the right direction and the Union Government

is supporting the UT in every respect to take the region to uniform prosperity with the rest of India," he added.

The Minister, as per the official spokesperson pledged all support to the J & K Government to bring Mughal Gardens on the UNESCO Heritage map so that these places get international recognition and help in increasing foreign tourist footfall.

Reddy, he said, assured that the Centre would take every measure required to make Jammu & Kashmir the number one tourist destination in the country.

According to the official spokesperson, among other issues, the tourism stakeholders sought direct flights from different cities of the country including Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai to Srinagar.

He said that the stakeholders also demanded insurance cover in case of losses, development of new and virgin tourist destinations, better mobile connectivity at tourism places, renovation of old hotels at tourism destinations like Pahalgam, Gulmarg among others.

"The Minister gave a patient hearing to the tourism stakeholders and assured them that all their genuine issues would be taken up for early resolution," he added.

As per the official spokesperson, the Union Minister noted with appreciation the efforts put in by the Tourism Department in promoting J&K as a top destination for tourists.

"He expressed satisfaction over the way the Department has been carrying out promotional activities, identifying new destinations and has effectively concluded capacity building and vaccination for the tourism stakeholders," he said.

While appreciating the Tourism Department for its work done during Covid-19 pandemic, he said, the Minister stated that the J&K administration has done better than other States and UTs during the pandemic.

PcK Resident

area," PRO defence said.

He said further investigation is underway and updates will follow.

BJP ‘Concocting



J&K U-19 Men & Women's Cricket Teams Suffer Defeats



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Both J&K men's and women's U-19 cricket teams suffered defeats in their inaugural matches of the domestic season 2021-22 played.

In Men's U-19 Vinoo Mankad Trophy match, J&K lost to Vidarbha by 7 wickets on Thursday. J&K's top scorer in the match was Arya Thakur (45), as J&K was bundled out for 104 runs in 18 overs. In reply, Vidarbha scored the runs with 14 balls to spare and with 7 wickets in hand. The match was played at Daly College Ground, Indore.

In Women's U-19 One Day

Trophy 2021-22, J&K on Thursday suffered a 3-wicket defeat to Sikkim.

Batting first, the J&K team made 78 runs in 35+ overs with half a dozen batswomen failing to open their accounts. Ananya Sharma scored 32* and was the top scorer for J&K.

In reply, the Sikkim team managed to chase the total with 3 wickets to spare. The match was played at Railway Stadium, Bhubaneswar.

This is J&K cricket's first foray into a domestic season with the BCCI mandated, JKCA Sub-Committee in charge of the selection process.

SP College Organise 3-Day Trekking At Gulmarg



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The SP College Srinagar organised a three days trekking camping Programme at Gulmarg which was jointly organized by the Department of Physical Education and the NSS units of the college.

About 40 students, including 17 girls, from different courses participated in the programme.

"The students were accompanied by NSS officers, Dr. Khalida Hassan, Dr. Sameera Siraj and Dr. Syed Rashid Masood, in-charge female students, Dr. Nadia Shah, Director Department of Physical Education, Mr. Owais Wani, in-charge male students, Dr. Syed Owais Rizvi and Dr. Mir Irfanullah. Additionally, among the non-teaching staff, Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Wadoo, medical assistant, Mr. Arshad Salam, Mr. Nissar Ahmad, Mr. Bilal Ahmad and Mr. Showkat Ahmad provided necessary assistance during the programme," an official handout reads.

"On the first day, students did a light warm up trek to Baba Reshi from Gulmarg which acted as the base camp for all the three days. The trek was completed in 4 hours. The day concluded with multiple cultural activities carried around a campfire," the press note added.

"Similarly, on the second day, the participants did a trek to Affarwat Mountain. In order to boost the morale of the staff as well as students, Prof (Dr.) Khurshid Ahmad Khan, Principal of the college joined the participants and encouraged them to keep the spirits high."

"Later in the evening, students were engaged in pitching tents on a camping site and the day concluded with a campfire and cultural activities where students participated in singing competition, poetry recitation and other such programmes."

"On the third day, students participated in social outreach programmes wherein they undertook awareness drives regarding the importance of hygiene and sanitation. Further, they spoke to tourists and locals alike regarding the importance of wearing a mask and maintaining hand hygiene."

NSS students of college undertook a cleanliness drive in parts of Gulmarg which encouraged others to maintain cleanliness in the beautiful meadows."

"By evening all the students had safely reached their respective homes thus concluding the eventful and exciting in many ways the annual camping and trekking programme of the college," the handout concluded.

Saqlain Mushtaq Likely To Continue Till T20 World Cup

Agencies

LAHORE: Former Test off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq's appointment as Pakistan team's interim head coach is likely to be extended till the ICC T20 World Cup being held in the UAE and Oman from Oct 17 to Nov 14.

The PCB had appointed the 44-year-old Saqlain only for the New Zealand home series which was cancelled after the visiting team left Pakistan before playing any match of the scheduled series

comprising three ODIs and five T20 Internationals, due to a security alert, only received to them but they did not share with the PCB.

The PCB named Saqlain and former all-rounder Abdul Razzaq as head coach and coach, respectively soon after head coach Misbah-ul-Haq and bowling coach Waqar Younis tendered their resignations in the backdrop of change of guard at the PCB in early September when Ramiz Raja replaced Ehsan Mani as the chairman.

PREMIER LEAGUE 2021

Heroes Defeat Bank Academy 1-0

Matches Played In A-Division And Positive Kashmir Tournaments



R. Elahi

SRINAGAR: JKFA Premier Football League 2021 kick started on Friday with Downtown Heroes playing J&K Bank Academy at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

An inauguration ceremony was held before kick-off in which footballers and officials met various dignitaries.

The young Bank Academy side matched toe-to-toe with the seasoned Downtown Heroes players from the beginning and managed to end the first half at 0-0. Downtown Heroes gained momentum in the match at regular intervals and in the second half managed to take the lead through Shahmeer.

The match ended 1-0 in favour of the Heroes, with the goal scorer Shahmeer earning the man of the match award.

Top 16 teams of Kashmir Valley are participating, and a total of 59 matches are set to be played throughout the Premier League. The tournament is being broadcast live for the first time by Frisk Film Production

on ANN News Channel.

Nuzhat Gul, Secretary J&K Sports Council, was the chief guest on the inauguration ceremony. Abdul Manan Trambo, Director Khyber Milk production, DR Kausar Bakshi M.D AMRL Labs, Karanagar, Shabir Ahmad Shah Committee member and members of J&K Football Association and officials of JKSC, were also present on the occasion.

Two matches of the Khyber Milk Premier Football League will be played on Saturday at TRC. In the first kick-off, J&K Forest XI will take on Ali Jana FC at 1:30 PM. While in the second kick-off, J&K Bank XI will battle it out with Food & Supplies XI at 4:00 PM.

Novelty FC have been added to the list of tournament's competing teams.

A-Division League: Alamdar FC Win 4-2 Against Tengpora FC

In the ongoing Annual League Football Tournament 2021 one match of the A-Division were played at Gindun Ground, Rajbagh here.

Ist match of A Division was

played between Alamdar FC and Tengpora FC in which Alamdar FC defeated Tengpora FC by 4:2 Goals.

The Tournament is organized by JKFA in collaboration with JKSC.

Positive Kashmir KO Tournament: J&K Bank XI Win 3-1 Against Ali Jana FC

In the first edition Positive Kashmir KO Tournament, J&K Bank defeated Ali Jana FC 3-1 on Thursday. Ali Jana FC took a shock lead in the 10th minute of the match through Shaik. A penalty was awarded to J&K Bank FC in the 30th minute after an error by Ali Jana's goalkeeper. Bank's Adnan calmly slotted the ball home to make the score 1-1.

The second half saw attacking football from both teams, but the J&K Bank team managed to score two goals in the last minutes of the match through Prem. The match ended 3-1 in favour of J&K Bank XI.

Shaik of Ali Jana FC was awarded man of the match award by Chairman J&K Bank, who the chief guest on the occasion.



TWO MATCHES OF THE KHYBER MILK PREMIER

Football League will be played on Saturday at TRC. In the first kick-off, J&K Forest XI will take on Ali Jana FC at 1:30 PM. While in the second kick-off, J&K Bank XI will battle it out with Food & Supplies XI at 4:00 PM.

Chance For DC To Bounce Back Against Struggling MI

Press Trust of India

SHARJAH: Delhi Capitals will look to bounce back after a blip in the last match, while a struggling Mumbai Indians unit will hope to hold on to their new-found momentum in the first of Saturday's IPL double headers here.

Having virtually sealed their playoff berth with eight wins, Delhi were done in by the sluggish conditions of Sharjah, as an all-round Kolkata Knight Riders trumped them by three wickets in a low-scoring affair.

Lying second with 16 points from 11 games, the target for the last season's runners-up would be to finish in top-two, which will give them two shots at reaching the final.

For a team that looked at ease all along, it was their first defeat in the UAE leg -- as Delhi struggled to get going against KKR bowlers who made full use of the slow surface after opting to bowl.

That none in the star-studded Rishabh Pant-led Delhi batting lineup managed to get a six in their stipulated 20 overs, highlighted how difficult stroke-making was.

Delhi managed just 127/9 as the mystery spin duo of Sunil Narine and Venkatesh Iyer tightened the noose.

well only to squander the 2-1 advantage. He allowed the world No. 22 Lee Sangsu to come back, especially in the last two games, and post a 7-11, 15-13, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9 triumph.

Though Harmeet Desai did not begin well against Seungmin Cho, he brought back momentum to his game to lead 2-1.

J&K Thang-Ta Championship 2021-22 Concludes



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K UT Thang-Ta Championship 2021-22 concluded on Thursday at Multipurpose Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground, here.

The event was organised by J&K Thang-Ta Association in collaboration with J&K Sports Council. "More than 630 players, both Boys and Girls participated in the championship from all over J&K including districts of Shopian, Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama, Srinagar, Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, Doda, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Budgam and Baramulla,

etc;" a JKSC statement said.

"Mujtahid Mushtaq was declared champion of champions in Men's category while as Fiza Nazir was declared as champion of champions in women's category. Arbeena Ahmad

was awarded best disciplined award and Aman Verma was declared best fighter of the tournament," it added.

"Secretary Sports Council appreciated the association and officials of J&K Sports Council for organising such a mega event and assured her full support for such future ventures as well," the statement concluded.

Chris Gayle Pulls Out Of IPL Citing 'Bubble Fatigue'

Agencies

DUBAI: West Indies cricket star Chris Gayle has pulled out of the Indian Premier League (IPL) with "bubble fatigue" and will instead focus on this month's T20 World Cup.

The big-hitting 42-year-old batsman played two out of three matches for Punjab Kings since the big-bucks tournament resumed in the United Arab Emirates last month.

Gayle left the team hotel because of "bubble fatigue" accumulated over the months playing franchise and international cricket during the coronavirus pandemic, Kings said in a statement.

Gayle said he wished to "mentally recharge and refresh myself".

"I want to refocus on helping the West Indies in the T20 World Cup and would like to take a break in Dubai," he was quoted as saying in the statement.

On Wednesday, Gayle released the music video of his new single "Punjabi Daddy" with the self-styled "Universe Boss" sporting traditional Indian dress and shaking a

leg to the catchy tune.

Players in world cricket have often needed to restrict themselves to strict bio-bubbles because of the coronavirus.

They frequently have to stay within the confines of their team hotel and often cannot mingle with anyone outside, even on non-match days.

Some players have opted out, including Kieron Pollard, Andre Russell and David Warner pulling out of The Hundred tournament earlier this year.

The IPL has also been hit by withdrawals, with Josh Hazlewood and Liam Livingstone staying away over similar reasons.

Kings head coach Anil Kumble said the team respected Gayle's decision and "desire to prepare himself for the T20 World Cup" starting on October 17 in the UAE and Oman.

Punjab, who were due to play Kolkata Knight Riders later on Friday, are sixth in the table in the eight-team IPL.

Gayle scored 193 runs from 10 matches this season at an average of 21.44.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR TOURISM (M&W) KASHMIR, SRINAGAR NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. DT/M and W/K/ 38 of 2021-22, Dated 29.09.2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited by Deputy Director Tourism (M&W), Kashmir on (Aggregate Percentage Basis) from approved and eligible Civil Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Repairing / Restoration of Saint Likes Church at Dalgate Srinagar. (By way of various civil works) Balance portion.	29.55	1100	45- days	AAV/BEE	Smart City
2	Construction of 4-units Public Convenience ("Gender based") at Tregbal, Razdhan Top Bandipora.	7.35	300	30- days	CEE/DEE	PLAN

Position of AAA/TS: Accorded

Position of Funds: Committed

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:-

- The intending tenderers must have sufficient skilled / unskilled labour force.
- All Bidders have to upload Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of documents of valid Registration card / PAN / GST registration and Treasury Receipt (1452-TSM Revenue Head). However successful bidder shall produce the original copies of same within 3 days after opening of tenders.
- The successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of Adv. cost as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 03 days after opening of tenders and same shall be released after successful completion of work / DLP.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	29/09/2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	29/09/2021 3.00 PM to 07/10/2021 04.00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	29/09/2021 From 3.00 PM.
4.	Bid Submission End Date	07/10/2021 4.00 PM
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids(Online)	08/10/2021 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Dy. Director Tourism, M&W

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- The bidders will provide email ID and complete postal address including cell numbers.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Website in o/o Dy. Director Tourism, (M&W) Kashmir, Srinagar (Tender Receiving Authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of Bids
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 7 days after fixation of contract.
- Bidders are advised to visit and examine the site / location of work, its surroundings and familiarize himself with existing facilities / difficulties and environment and collect all other information which he may require for preparing and submitting the bid entering into the contract. Claims and objections due to ignorance of existing conditions are in-adequacy of information will not be considered after submission of the bid and during execution of work.
- Bidders are advised to examine the departmental store before quoting the rates and ensure the condition of material available to be fixed and erected at work site any defect or damages in the material shall be rectified by the successful contractor at his own risk & cost.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in in acquait bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original / photocopies of documents related to the bid.
- The tenderer should study all the terms and conditions of e-NIT in carefully and fill up the tender accordingly.

NIT No:- DT/M&W/K/ 38 / 186-190/TD,
Dated: 29/09/2021
DIPK-9724/21

Deputy Director Tourism
(M&W), Srinagar

Indian Men Win Bronze At Asian TT Championships

Press Trust of India

DOHA: The Indian men's table tennis team signed off with a bronze medal in the Asian Championships after losing to formidable South Korea 0-3 in the semifinals here on Friday.

The Indian team was on Wednesday assured of a medal after beating Iran 3-1 in the quarterfinals. Both the semifinalists secure a bronze.

In the semifinals, the clinical South Koreans proved too tough for the Indians who failed to win a single tie.

With a medal already in their pocket, the Indian paddlers took on the Koreans head-on. But the rampaging Koreans, also the top seeds, were a far better side. Starting the match for India, G Sathiyan found himself pushed to the corner straightaway as world No. 12 Korean Woojin Jang brought into focus his backhand game and attacked throughout, often catching the world



No. 38 Indian on the wrong foot.

The Korean eventually won 11-5, 10-12, 11-8, 11-5 to provide the lead. Sathiyan was in a good position in his second game but allowed the Korean to take it to deuce before winning it on extended points.

In contrast, A Sharath Kamal began

well only to squander the 2-1 advantage. He allowed the world No. 22 Lee Sangsu to come back, especially in the last two games, and post a 7-11, 15-13, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9 triumph.

Though Harmeet Desai did not begin well against Seungmin Cho, he brought back momentum to his game to lead 2-1.

BJP 'Concocting Stories' After Aug 2019: PAGD

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) on Friday said the BJP's claims of development and peace in Jammu and Kashmir post abrogation of its special status are nothing but "concocted stories" as the situation on the ground is different.

A spokesperson of the PAGD, the alliance of six mainstream parties seeking the restoration of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, said the claims in the recently-released report by the Union home ministry, titled "The dream of one nation, one law, one symbol fulfilled: After effective removal of the provisions of Article 370, the picture has changed: a new start in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh", are far from reality.

The report claimed that the abrogation of provisions of Article 370 and bifurcating of the state into two union territories has paved the way for new industries, created new employment opportunities, decreased terror incidents, brought atmosphere of peace and security, nurtured democracy, eradicated corruption and brought the new central laws for the betterment of people in the region.

However, PAGD spokesperson M Y Tarigami, in a statement, said these claims "are nothing but concocted and fabricated stories", while the ground situation "belies" these claims.

"The claims are far from reality. The reality is that there is a systematic disempowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir that is continuing to happen, through

bureaucratic rule," he alleged.

He said the projects mentioned in the booklet were mostly approved by the earlier governments, but shown to have been the outcome of abrogation of provisions of Article 370.

"Reality is that the Nashri Tunnel, Zojilla Tunnel, establishment of 50 degree colleges and various medical colleges are projects approved much before the abrogation of Article 370," Tarigami said.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 7, 2015, announced in Srinagar a reconstruction programme during the PDP-BJP coalition government of about Rs 80,000 crore known as the PM's Development Package to strengthen the social-economic infrastructure and for the development of Jammu and Kashmir.

It is claimed that after the reorganisation of the erstwhile state, 53 projects of Rs 58,477 crores in J-K and nine projects of Rs 21,441 crore in Ladakh are under progress, which is part of the PM's 2015 package.

"How can you attribute this progress to abrogation of Article 370?" he asked.

The alliance spokesperson said the BJP government is "boasting" of implementation of various laws like Land Reforms and the RTI Act, which is claimed to have been effective now, but is a "blatant lie" as Jammu and Kashmir was a pioneer in implementing the revolutionary land reforms laws, which no other state has done except Kerala to some extent. ● **More On P10**

Mobilise All Resources For Universal Vaccination In J&K By Oct 15: CS To Officers

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today chaired a meeting to review the public health response to COVID-19 and asked the divisional and district administrations to ensure 100 % coverage of all eligible population with first COVID vaccination dose by 15th October, 2021.

Administrative Secretaries of Finance, Health & Medical Education, Revenue, General Administration, besides Divisional Commissioners Kashmir/ Jammu, Inspectors General of Police, Kashmir/ Jammu, all Deputy Commissioners, all District Superintendents of Police along with MD, National Health Mission, Director, Family Welfare, and other concerned officers participated in the meeting.

It was informed that in Jammu and Kashmir, 12,10,920 tests per million population are being done and 0.21% daily positivity rate is being reported against the national average of 4,21,449 tests per million and positivity rate of 1.49% respectively.

So far, 1,14,31,276 vaccination doses have been administered to the eligible population in the union territory. A total of 79,05,930 (85% of total population) people of 18 years and above age have been administered the first dose while 35,25,346 in the same age group have been given the second dose (38% of total population). A total of 13.97 lakh vaccinations remain to be done



in J&K with first dose.

The Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts of district administration, Srinagar in lowering the daily positivity rate from 0.89% to 0.19% and vaccinating approximately 1,29,300 people during the previous week.

Dr Mehta impressed upon all the district administrations to mobilise all resources towards universal vaccination of eligible group, including initiating door to door campaigns or week long campaigns, if necessary, to saturate all the eligible population in all districts with first dose by 15th October, 2021.

They were advised to utilize the manpower from the blocks/ areas where saturation has already been achieved for dedicated vaccination drives in the left-out areas during the upcoming week while ensuring that the process of second dose vaccination does not suffer.

The Health and Medical

Education Department was asked to ensure regular supply of vaccines to the districts, besides enhancing testing facilities and adequately equipping them with resources so that any increase in COVID infections is identified in the nick of time and the likelihood of third wave is stymied.

The department was further advised to reassign some of the staff from the Control Rooms to their original places of posting or in the areas facing shortage of vaccinators as a part of staff rationalisation to cater to the increased demand of vaccination in view of target dates for completion of vaccination.

Dr. Mehta stressed the need for strict enforcement of the COVID appropriate behaviour (CAB) and COVID SOPs, especially during the upcoming season of festivities. The enforcement agencies were directed to strictly implement the established protocols and levy penalties on defaulters.

J&K Logs 133 New Cases, 138 Recoveries

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Friday recovery of 138 coronavirus infected persons, while 133 fresh cases were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, 138 more Covid-19 patients have recovered in the last 24 hours—27 from Jammu and 111 from the Valley, while during the same time 133 fresh cases of virus have been detected across J&K, taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year to 329,566.

Among the fresh cases of infection, officials said, 97 were reported from Kashmir and the remaining 36 from Jammu division.

In Valley, Srinagar reported the highest 57 cases, followed by Budgam with 14, Ganderbal 8, Baramulla 7, Bandipora 6, Kupwara 3 and Anantnag 2 new cases of infection, officials said. The three districts of Kulgam, Shopian and Pulwama reported no new cases of virus.

In the winter capital, Doda reported a maximum of 12 new cases, Jammu 10, Rajouri 7, Kathua and Poonch 3 each and Udhampur one new case of Covid-19. No fresh cases was reported from Samba, Kishtwar, Ramban and Reasi districts.

Also, officials said, one more coronavirus related death was reported on Friday, taking the overall death toll to 4423—2173 in Jammu and 2250 in Kashmir.

3 OGWs Held In Kulgam: Police

SRINAGAR: The government forces on Friday arrested three overground workers of Lashkar-e-Taiba outfit from Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The arrested persons were identified as Abid Mushtaq, Aadil Jamal Bhat and Danish Rasool Bhat, all residents of Tral area in Pulwama district, an official said.

Security forces, during checking at a vehicle checkpoint at Mir Bazar in Kulgam, apprehended the three associates of LeT, who were travelling in a car and on a motorcycle, he said.

Four hand grenades, four detonators, one IED, one IED wire, one AK-47 short rifle, one magazine and 30 pistol rounds were recovered from their possession, he added.

Bear Mauls Elderly Man To Death

SRINAGAR: A 50-year-old man was mauled to death by a bear in Kokernag area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Friday. Reports said that the man identified as Abdul Rasheed Bhat was attacked and grievously injured by the bear in his native village of Soafshali Kokernag. Soon the locals shifted him to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

A police official confirmed the death of the man due to an attack by the wild animal.

Two 'Absconders' Held After 12 Years

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested two absconders, who were evading arrest from the last 12 years, from central Kashmir's Budgam district. Fayaz Ahmad Ganie of Hajjibagh, Soibugh and Manzoor Ahmed Kumar of Sanoor, Magam were arrested by a team headed by in-charge police post Soibugh on the basis of a specific input, a police spokesperson said. The duo, he said, were evading arrest from the last 12 years.

"They were wanted by law for their involvement in different cases in various police stations of the district. The arrested persons will be produced before the Court of law accordingly," he added.

Afghanistan Developments Will Have "Very Significant Consequences": India

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: India was not taken into confidence on various aspects of the Doha deal inked between the US and the Taliban last year and the latest developments in Afghanistan will have "very, very significant consequences" for the region and beyond, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said.

He also said that the key concerns for India at this juncture included whether Afghanistan will have an inclusive government and that Afghan soil is not used for terrorism against other states and the rest of the world.

Speaking virtually at the annual leadership summit of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) on Thursday, Mr Jaishankar also suggested that India was in no hurry to deliberate on giving any recognition to the new dispensation in Kabul.

In an interactive session with former American ambassador Frank Wisner, the External Affairs Minister also said that the Quad or Quadrilateral coalition comprising India, the US, Australia and Japan is not against any country and it should not be seen as some kind of "ganging up" and a negatively driven initiative.

India and the US are on the same page on many issues relating to the recent developments in Afghanistan including apprehensions about the possible use of Afghan soil for terrorism.

"I think, to some degree, we would all be justified in having levels of concern and to some degree, I think the jury's still out. When I say levels of concern, you know, there were commitments which

were made by the Taliban, at Doha, I mean, the US knows that best I mean, we were not taken into confidence on various aspects of that," he said.

"So whatever, whether deal which was struck in Doha, I mean, one has a broad sense. But beyond that, you know, are we going to see an inclusive government? Are we going to see respect for the rights of women, children, minorities?" he asked.

"Most important are we going to see an Afghanistan whose soil is not used for terrorism against other states and the rest of the world, I think, these are our concerns," Mr Jaishankar added.

He said what had happened in Afghanistan, is going to "have very, very significant consequences for all of us, and we are so close to the region."

The minister said that the key concerns were captured by a UN Security Council resolution in August and that how those questions are addressed today is still an open question, which is why "I said the jury is still out".

"If you ask me is this the time to draw sharp conclusions, I would sort of take my time and study this with a certain degree of deliberation, because as I said, a lot of this, whatever understandings, there have been, many of these are not known to the entire international community," he added.

To another question on how India and the US looked at the situation in Afghanistan, Mr Jaishankar said both sides are on a similar page, at a principle level on many of the issues, particularly on the possible usage of Afghan soil for terrorism.

He said the issue figured in discussions between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden in Washington last week.

"Again, look, there would be issues on which we would agree more, there would be issues on which we would agree less. Our experiences in some regions are different than yours (the US). You know, we have been victims of cross border terrorism ourselves from that region," Mr Jaishankar said.

"And let us say that has shaped in many ways, our view of some of the neighbours of Afghanistan. So now, how much, the US shares that view, and where is it that the US sort of makes its tactical compromises I think that is for the Americans to figure out," he said.

Asked whether it included a joint signal to Pakistan, he only said: "There are aspects that we share, and there are aspects where maybe our positions are not exactly the same."

To a query on Quad and ways to manage the rise of Chinese power, Mr Jaishankar said the four-nation partnership is not against somebody.

"I think it's very important not to be sort of railroaded into some kind of negative discourse, which actually is not from our script, it is somebody else's script. And I don't think we should fall for that. I think we need to be positive," he said.

On the question of how to deal with the rise of China, Mr Jaishankar said: "I would say, in many ways, those are bilateral choices that all of us have to make, we each have a very substantial relationship with China."

RDD To Hire Rtd Engineers For Execution Of Works

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir's Rural Development department (RDD) has given go-ahead to its directors to hire retired engineers for execution of works.

In an order, the department has authorized its directors to initiate the process of engagement of the retired engineers on contractual basis against the available vacancies of assistant executive engineers (AEEs), assistant engineers (AEs) and junior engineers (JEs) in their respective divisions.

"The contractual engagement of the retired engineers shall be made after inviting applications from the eligible retired engineers by making the advertisement through the electronic/print media to this effect," reads the order.

The department has given its go-ahead to the directors after

administrative council of the Union Territory approved the proposal during its meeting held on August 14. The administrative council is the highest-decision making body of the UT and comprises Lieutenant Governor and his advisors, who are exercising ministerial powers.

As per the terms and conditions governing the engagements, the period of contract shall be one year which shall be further extendable in case of satisfactory performance and requirement.

"Contractual engagements are liable to be terminated by the competent authority without assigning any reason, whatsoever, at any time," the guidelines state.

The guidelines said that the JEs would be entitled to monthly remuneration of Rs 30,000, while AEs and AEEs would respectively get Rs 40,000 and Rs 45,000.

The maximum age limit for the applicants shall be 62 years as on January 1, 2022.

UN Defends Bachelet's Comments On Kashmir

'Will Always Protect The Identity Of Vulnerable Witnesses And Victims Everywhere'

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Days after India rejected UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR) Michelle Bachelet's comments on restrictive measures in Kashmir as "unwarranted and far from reality", a senior UNHCR official said on Thursday that the rights body will never side with India or Pakistan on Kashmir.

"We will never side with India or Pakistan on Kashmir. But our job is to protect the vulnerable and take the perspective of the victim." Craig Mokhiber, director of the New York office of Bachelet, told NDTV on Thursday.

Mokhiber's comments came days after India took strong exception to Bachelet's remarks that "restrictive measures in Kashmir can result in human rights violations and foster further tensions and discontent". She had also described India's use of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act as well as "frequent" temporary communication blackouts in Kashmir as "worrying".

Hitting back, India had said that Bachelet's comments on the circumstances in Kashmir are "unwarranted and do not reflect the ground reality."

"India's approach to global promotion and protection of human rights is based on our own experience as a pluralistic and inclusive society and vibrant democracy. Any shortcomings in upholding human rights must be addressed in a transparent and impartial manner, anchored in respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs of States," top diplomat Reenat Sandhu had said at the meeting of the Human Rights Council on September 14.

According to the NDTV report, Mokhiber said that there's an old notion of sovereignty that has been replaced by the evolution of the UN. He also said that the old notion of sovereignty

is that anything that happens within our borders it is up to the government and it's no one else's business.

"What the UN Charter did is that you have a binding treaty, a binding law for every country that is a member of the UN. What the UN Charter did was that it internationalized human rights for all of the members of the UN," he said.

"It is the responsibility of the government. To claim sovereignty you have a job to make sure that you ensure freedom from fear for your people all over the country," he added.

Terming Kashmir as a difficult issue because of the tensions between India and Pakistan and the roles that each of the nations play in the international community, Mokhiber said the UN Human Rights Office "will always protect the identity of vulnerable witnesses and victims everywhere".

"When we insert ourselves into a country's current situation, we don't want to make the lives of people worse. We hope to want to make it better but everything that we've done...we do it in full consultation with the governments that are involved sometimes. It is the governments that don't want to cooperate with us. But we are always bending over backwards to cooperate with them," he added.



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