

## KASHMIR OBSERVER

Sunday 29 August | 20 Muharram | 1443 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 202 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016



P6 THINK

## TUNISIA: AN EMPTY GESTURE CASE OF DEMOCRACY

Tunisia's democratically-elected President Kais Saied's decision to extend the suspension of parliament on the 24th of August has caused fears that the country's successful democratic....

P7 THINK RONALDO'S SECOND COMING

The final swansong of Cristiano Ronaldo will take place in Manchester – a statement that wouldn't have surprised most, until one heard which half he was planning on going to. Manchester United swooped in to sign Ronaldo on Friday. Reportedly it was a call



P11 SPORTS

## ROBINSON BLOWS AWAY INDIA AS ENGLAND WIN BY INNINGS &amp; 76 RUNS

Pacer Ollie Robinson engineered a middle-order collapse with the second new ball as England completed a facile innings and 76 run victory against



**Widom Quote!**  
Success is never permanent, and failure is never final.  
—Mike Ditka

## NEWS DIGEST

## Bear Injures Woman, 2 Others

**SRINAGAR:** Three persons, including a woman on Saturday were attacked and injured by a black bear in Kupwara district of north Kashmir. According to reports, a bear appeared in Ananwan village in Kralgund on Saturday morning and attacked an elderly woman when she was washing clothes. In the [More On P10](#)

## Youth Found Dead In Poonch

**SRINAGAR:** A youth was found dead on Saturday under mysterious circumstances in Surankote area of Poonch district in Jammu and Kashmir. 22-year-old Imtiaz Husain, a tractor driver was found dead on Jaranwali area of Surankote on Saturday morning, officials said. SHO along with a police [More On P10](#)

## Man Involved In Armed Robbery Held

**JAMMU:** A man who was allegedly involved in an armed robbery at a jewellery shop in Karnataka's Mysuru was arrested in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Saturday, police said. The accused has been identified as Manzoor Ahmed Sheikh, a resident of Sayallan village of Surankote in Poonch district, they said. [More On P10](#)

## Ladakh Reports 8 New Covid Cases

**LEH:** Ladakh's COVID-19 tally climbed to 20,530 after detection of eight new cases, while 10 Coronavirus patients were discharged bringing down the number of active cases in the union territory to 64, officials said on Saturday. Ladakh has registered 207 Covid-related deaths so far 149 in Leh district and 58 in Kargil district since the outbreak of the [More On P10](#)

Do You Get Your Copy of **KASHMIR OBSERVER** Regularly?

**If Not**

Contact Circulation Incharge:  
**Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927**

## 2 Kashmiri Teachers Claim Discovering Gigantic Fossil Site

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Two local teachers on Saturday claimed that they have discovered a gigantic fossil site in Jammu & Kashmir's Kulgam district.

Manzoor Ahmad and Rouf Hamza are junior lecturers at a school in Kashmir.

They told the media that while scouting for fossil samples near the Aharbal waterfall in Kulgam district, they came across a site which is rich in fossil diversity dating back between 488 to 354 million years. "The site located just two kilometres from the Aharbal waterfall is studded with thousands of fossil remains which got exposed due to weathering, road construction and subsequent erosion", the duo claimed. The two teachers said fossils are visible superficially at

## World Is Changing Rapidly, Must Keep Guard Up: Rajnath

Press Trust Of India

**CHENNAI:** India must keep its guard up to deal with any possible impact of the "uncertainties and upheavals" of the current times, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday, in the backdrop of the fluid security situation in Afghanistan after the Taliban seized its control nearly two weeks ago.

In an address after dedicating an indigenously-built Coast Guard ship, he also delved into the emerging challenges in the Indian Ocean, a region that has been witnessing increasing rivalry between India and China.

"Changes happening around the world often become a matter of concern for us. We, as a nation, must keep



our guards high during these times of uncertainties and upheavals around the world," the defence minister said without elaborating further.

His comments came in the backdrop of increasing concerns in the Indian security establishment over the possibility of Taliban spillover from

Afghanistan into Jammu and Kashmir through Pakistan and rise in militant activities, particularly by groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Muhammed.

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat had on Wednesday said contingency plans are in place to firmly deal with any possible militant activity flowing out of Taliban-controlled Afghanistan into India.

"Today the world is changing very rapidly. Economic, political, and trade relations between countries are constantly fluctuating. Nothing can be said about the next news coming from another country," Singh said.

"Obviously, our country can not remain untouched by these [More On P10](#)

## IAF Signs Emergency Deal For 70,000 AK-103 Rifles

**A**t a time when militant groups operating in India are likely to get weapons left behind by American troops in Afghanistan, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has signed a deal for acquiring 70,000 AK-103 assault rifles from Russia under emergency provisions to replace its existing inventory of INSAS rifles.

The India Air Force has a requirement of over 1.5 lakh new assault rifles and the new AK-103 rifles expected to come within the next few months into the service would strengthen its capability to tackle militant attacks in a much better way. "The contract worth around Rs 300 crore was signed last week [More On P10](#)

## NIA Charges Seven In Narco-Militancy Case

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary charge sheet against seven accused in a narco-militancy case related to the recovery of over Rs 20 lakh and two kg heroin from a vehicle in Kupwara district of north Kashmir last year, an agency spokesperson said on Saturday.

The NIA had filed the first charge sheet in the case against six accused on December 5, 2020.

The supplementary charge sheet was filed in a special NIA court here on Friday against the seven arrested accused -- Showkat Salam Parray of Sumbal (Bandipora), Asif Gul of Kanispora (Baramulla), Altaf Ahmed Shah of Dangerpora (Ganderbal), Romesh Kumar of Vijaypur (Samba), Mudasar Ahmed Dar of Wanduna (Shopian), Amin Allai alias [More On P10](#)



A boy jumps in a stream in Ashmuqam hamlet of Anantnag district during a sunny hot day on Saturday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Let's Join Hands To Make J&amp;K Polythene-Free: LG

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday sought people's participation to make the union territory polythene-free, and said it was up to the people to save the planet in the face of the biggest climate crisis.

Sinha made the remarks at a musical event, "Battle of Bands for Polythene Free Srinagar", organised by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) at Sher-e-Kashmir Park here.

"The SMC has started a good campaign and several people from civil society have joined it.... Its success depends upon the participation of the common people.

**'Govt Working With Inclusive, Holistic Approach'**

**T**he Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that his administration is working with an inclusive and holistic developmental approach for all sections of the society involving youth in every field. The LG made these comments while interacting with public delegations, heads of organizations, representatives and Managing Director National [More On P10](#)



So, I appeal to all citizens of J&K UT, especially young brothers and sisters, that it is our duty to make this campaign successful. When all of you support this, only then the polythene-free J-K campaign will become successful," the lieutenant governor said.

He said the world is in the midst of the biggest climate crisis and it is up to the people how to save the planet and the cities.

"If we lose the balance between (protecting) nature and development, I am certain that global warming will destroy our civilisations and all the modern facilities we have created for mankind," he said.

Sinha said he strongly believes it is a collective responsibility to include rivers, forests, grasslands, wetlands and all other living species in development plans because [More On P10](#)

## Ladakh Shuts Down To Demand Statehood MoS Home Holds Talks With Parties, Assures To Resolve Their Demands



Press Trust Of India

**LEH:** A joint strike call given by Apex body of People's Movement for 6th Schedule and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) against the delay by the Centre in holding talks with them on their demand for statehood and constitutional safeguards to the region disrupted normal life in Ladakh Saturday.

However, a joint delegation of

the Apex body and the KDA met the visiting Minister of State (MoS) for Home Nityanand Rai Saturday afternoon after accepting his invitation.

Both Apex body and KDA, which is a separate amalgam of socio-religious, political and youth organisations of Leh and Kargil districts, were formed after the August 5, 2019 when central government abrogated the special status of Jammu and Kashmir [More On P10](#)

## Yamraj Is Everywhere, Why Be Afraid In Kashmir: Farooq Abdullah

Exhorts People To Visit Kashmir

Observer News Service

**SONMARG:** National Conference leader and MP Dr Farooq Abdullah Friday said people should ignore insurgency, overcome their fear psychosis and go ahead with their dream visit to Kashmir.

"Kashmir is paradise on earth but still people fear to travel to this region. Due to the violence and insurgency, people are not



sure whether they go back alive. But, I am happy to see you made it a point to come here. Like you fought the fear and came here, you have seen [More On P10](#)

**Cash N Carry Super Store**



**Jawahir Nagar Srinagar.**  
**9622904015**



**DISCLAIMER:** KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/ CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. *MANAGEMENT*



## Polytechnic Students Protest Against 'Out Of Syllabus' Paper

Srinagar: The students of Polytechnic colleges across Kashmir Saturday staged a protest demanding re-examination and online examination. Scores of students appeared in the Press Enclave and said that their examinations for the 6th semester electrical branch of their Programmable Logic Controllers and Microcontrollers paper but it was out of course.

We had to return blank paper as we couldn't attempt any question asked in the exam," the students said. The students who appeared in the paper said that all the questions in the paper were out of course.

We protested in the examination room while the authorities there assured us that the issue will be raised with the technical board, but

we are not sure whether they will take it up or not and so we arrived here to attract the attention of the higher authorities. We humbly request the technical board to look into the matter and save our career" the protesting students said.

Meanwhile, students demanded authorities to hold their remaining papers through online mode. The pandemic is still on and they cannot put the lives of thousands of students at risk by holding the offline examinations," the students said.

The students appealed to the authorities in this regard to look into the matter and take measures so that the re-examination of these papers is held at the earliest and through virtual mode keeping in view the pandemic.

## Paras Hospitals Reinroduce Outreach OPD In Srinagar

Srinagar: Gurugram-based Paras Hospitals, a leading medical institution in the country, Saturday examined hands with Well Healthcare Medical Centre, Budgam, Srinagar to launch Outreach OPD services again in order to cater to the needs of the complex brain tumors, epilepsy (seizures), brachial plexus injury (paralysis of hands due to injury), head injuries, spinal injuries and fractures, coma due to bleeding inside brain, birth defects, spinal pain, spinal tumors in Srinagar by the expert doctors. A one-of-its-kind initiative by the hospital aims to provide high-end clinical diagnosis and consultation by neuro and spine surgeon in the state, which does not have the access to any superspecialty or multi-specialty hospital.

Experienced Neurosurgeon Dr (Prof.) Sumit Sinha, Director, Neurosurgery and Spine, Paras Hospitals,

Gurugram will be visiting Outreach OPDs on last Sunday of every month from 10 AM to 5 PM in order to cater to the needs of the people in the state. The outreach OPD will be a boon for people with neurological and neurosurgical problems and both the doctor and Well Healthcare Medical Centre will be undertaking all the COVID-19 guidelines as a healthcare facility.

Dr Sameer Kulkarni, Facility Director, Paras Hospitals, said, "We want to ensure that all the patients are provided an appropriate medical care through our outreach OPD services. Well Healthcare Medical Centre is following all the guidelines for COVID-19 and we urge all the patients suffering from neurological and neurosurgical problems issues to come out and get their health check-up done.

## State Land Worth Rs 35C Retrieved During Anti-encroachment Drive

### Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Continuing the drive to retrieve illegally grabbed land in the district, the District Administration Srinagar Saturday launched a massive anti-encroachment drive across Srinagar during which about 40 Kanals of State and Kahcharai land worth approximately 35.0 Crores of rupees was retrieved from encroachment of land-grabbers.

The drive was conducted by the enforcement wing of Revenue Department on the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Srinagar, concerned Tehsildar and other officials from the Revenue and Forest Department were part of the Anti-Encroachment drive teams.

The land was retrieved from land grabbers at various prime locations of Srinagar including Saidpora Eidgah, Ali Jan Road, Shiv Pora, Sonwar, Pantha Chowk, Chanpora, Inderhama, Astan Marg, Dara and other areas in the City.

Speaking about the drive, the DC said anti-encroachment drives will be undertaken in all

areas of the district to retrieve entire State and Kahcharai lands encroached in the district. He said involvement in land encroachment will be dealt with sternly as per the law.

The DC also urged the general public to bring into the notice of Revenue Officers or the DC Office any instances or attempts of encroachment on the State or Common land in the district.

The Land Revenue Act lays down stringent punishment against encroachment on state Land which can lead to imprisonment as well.

## Wheel Chairs Distributed Among Specially Abled Persons

### Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Saturday inaugurated a daylong Workshop on use of modern technological interventions in developing and manufacturing prosthetic aids for physically challenged people.

The workshop was organised by Voluntary Medicare Society, J&K in Collaboration with IIT Madras at Bemina here to disseminate the skills required for Assessment, Prescription, Fitting of Wheelchairs and Training of Users.

The DC who was the Chief Guest on the occasion in his address said that people with physical or mental disabilities are blessed with special abilities due to which such people have proved their mettle in every walk of life besides in the Sports field at national and international level competitions.

He lauded the efforts of VMS for organising such an awareness programme and mitigating the suffer-

IIT Madras for designing and developing innovative Arise Standing Wheelchairs. He emphasised



ings of the people with disabilities.

He stressed on introducing the latest and innovative technology for the rehabilitation of differently abled persons. He said the objective of organizing such events is to encourage social inclusion with equal opportunities for persons with or without disability in order to endorse the fabric of social integration.

The DC also congratulated the

on adopting modern technology to develop prosthetics and other equipment and providing durable, sophisticated and modern standard aids to specially abled persons thus reducing the effects of disabilities and at the same time enhancing their economic potential.

On the occasion, the DC distributed Wheel chairs designed and developed by IIT Madras among the beneficiaries.

## SRINAGAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,

**BEMINA BY-PASS, SRINAGAR PHONES: 0194-2493191, 0194-2493199 FAX: 0194-2493180**

### Tender Notice No. 05 /DIM of 2021-22

For and on behalf of Vice Chairman, SDA, invites tenders by e-tendering process for Auction of shops/works shops/General category shops and Halls situated at Noorbagh and Regional Bus Stand Pantha chowk Srinagar Kashmir from eligible individuals/ Firms/ Organization desirous for participating in e-bid by e-tendering system for the below mention shops on licenses basis for a period of 20 years

s No	Particulars	Shop No	Carpet area of shop	Min. Reserved bid of shops & Hall.	Earnest money.	Cost of Tender document
01	Shops situated at Shopping complex Noorbagh, Srinagar.	01	10'-5"x16'-5"=170.82 Sft	Rs.6788/- per sft	Rs.50,000/- each shop /Hall (pledged to SDA)	Rs.560/- each shop/ hall including 12% GST (pledged to SDA)
		04	10'-6"x16'-x5"=171,48Sft			
		07	10'-5"x16'-5"-170,82Sft			
	Hall situated at Shopping complex at Noorbagh Srinagar	Hall No 04	904.343ft	Rs.6007/- Per Sft		
02,	General Category shops at Regional Bos Stand Panthachowk	Shoo No 08,09,10, 11,12,13, 15,16,17, 20,31,32, 33 & 34	10'-0"x15'-0"=150Sft (each shop)	Rs.11.65 lacs per Shop	Rs.50,000/- each shop (pledged to SDA)	Rs.560/- each shop including 12% GST (pledged to SDA)
03	Workshops at Regional Bus Stand Panthachowk	Shoo No 5,6,13, 14, 64, 69, 70, 71, 81 & 82	10'-0"x15'-0"=150 Sft (each shop)	Rs. 10,45 lacs Per shop	Rs. 50,000/- each shop (Pledged to SDA)	Rs.560/- each shop including 12% GST (pledged to SDA)

- Date of Publishing: 26/08/2021,
- The Bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://jktencSers.gov.in> from 27/08 /2021 (10.AM) to 16/09 /2021 4.00 PM).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 01/09/2021 (10.00AM) to 16/09/2021 (4.00PM).
- a, The bids received will be opened on 18/09/2021 (12.00 Noon),  
b, The complete bidding process will be on line,

No: SDA/DLM/ 884-88  
Dated:27/08/2021

**Director,  
Land Management, Srinagar Dev,  
Authority**

**DIPK-NB-3003/21**

## SRINAGAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,

**BEMINA BY-PASS, SRINAGAR PHONES: 0194-2493191, 0194-2493199 FAX: 0194-2493180**

### Fresh Tender Notice No.05/DLM of 2021-22

For and on behalf of Vice Chairman, SDA, invites tenders by e-tendering process for Auction of shops, halls, Rooms at Jhelum Valley Commercial Complex at Bemina Bye Pass Opposite SKIMS JVC Hospital Srinagar from eligible individuals." Firms/ Organization desirous for participating in e-bid by e-tendering system for the below mentioned shop on licenses basis for a period of 20 years:-

S. No	Particulars	Shop No	Hall No	Room No	Carpet area of shop	Min. Reserved bid of shops & Hall.	Earnest money.	Cost of Tender document
01	Shops/Halls/ Room situated at Jhelum Valley Commercial Complex at Bemina Bye Pass Opposite SKIMS JVC Hospital Srinagar.	01			Ground Floor Back side	108.81 Sit Each shop	Rs. 17600V- per sft	Rs.50.000/- each shop /Hall (pledged to SDA)
		03						
		04						
		05						
		06						
		07						
		08						
		16						
		17						
		16			First Floor	108.81 Sft Each shop	Rs. 12010/ per Sft	Rs.560/- each shop/ hall including 12% GST (pledged to SDA)
		19						
		20						
		21						
		23						
		22						
						102.235ft		
						209.72 Sft each	Rs.12100/- per Sft	
			02	-	2nd floor	101.07 Sft	Rs.9401/- per Sft	
			03					
				02				

- Date of Publishing 21-08-2021,
- The Bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 23-08-2021 (1.0.AM) to 13-09-2021 (4.00 PM),
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the webS\http://jktSnders.gov.in from 31-08-2021 (10.00AM) to 13-09-2021 (4.00PM).

- The bids received will be opened on 15-09-2021 (12.00 Noon),
- The complete bidding process will be on line,

No: SDA/DLM/ 823-30  
Dated:20/08/2021

**DIPK-NB-3002/21**

**Director,  
Land Management, Srinagar Dev.**

### 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

- 708 - Copper coins are minted in Japan for the first time (Traditional Japanese date: August 10, 708).
- 1350- Battle of Winchelsea (or Les Espagnols sur Mer): The English naval fleet under King Edward III defeats a Castilian fleet of 40 ships
- 1526- Battle of Mohács: In a decisive battle the Hungarian Empire is conquered by the Ottoman Empire led by Suleiman the Magnificent
- 1655- Warsaw falls without resistance to a small force under the command of Charles X Gustav of Sweden during The Deluge.
- 1842- Great Britain and China sign Treaty of Nanking, ending the Opium war
- 1862- Second Battle of Bull Run, fought in Manassas, Virginia begins, Confederate victory (US Civil War)
- 1909- World's 1st air race held in Rheims France. Glenn Curtiss (USA) wins
- 1953- USSR explodes its first hydrogen bomb
- 1985- Atlantis moves to launch pad for 51-J mission
- 1988 - USSR launches 3 cosmonauts (Valery Polyakov, 1 Afghan) to station Mir.
- 1991 - USSR suspends Communist Party activities
- 1995 - NATO launches Operation Deliberate Force against Bosnian Serb forces.
- 1997 - At least 98 villagers are killed by the GIA in the Rais massacre, Algeria.
- 2003 - Ayatollah Sayed Mohammed Baqir al-Hakim, the Shia Muslim leader in Iraq, is assassinated in a bombing, along with nearly 100 worshippers as they leave a mosque in Najaf.
- 2004 - 28th Olympic Games closes at Athens, Greece
- 2004 - Athens Olympic marathon is run on same route as 1896 Games, start at site of the Battle of Marathon to the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens: Stefano Baldini of Italy wins men's gold in 2:10:55
- 2004 - Future undisputed world light heavyweight boxing champion Andre Ward of the US wins the light heavyweight gold medal at the Athens Olympics beating Magomed Aripadajiev of Belarus on points
- Panhandle. Kills more than 1,836, causes over \$115 billion in damage.
- 2007 - A United States Air Force nuclear weapons incident takes place at Minot Air Force Base and Barksdale Air Force Base.
- 2013 - 41 people are killed and 33 are injured in a bus accident in Kenya
- 2014 - Senegal is 5th country hit by Ebola
- 2017 - Hurricane Harvey sets rainfall record (51.88 inches in Cedar Bayou) from a tropical cyclone in continental US, according to US National Weather Service
- 2017 - Monsoon rains in Mumbai cause chaos closing schools and airports

## From KO Archives

## Troops resume offensive against Hizb

### There Are No Talks On Now: Advani

#### Agence France Presse

NAGPUR : Union Home Minister L.K. Advani said Monday that counter insurgency operations had been resumed against the Hizbul Mujahideen militant group in Kashmir following the collapse of ceasefire talks.

"Operations had been suspended only against the Hizbul Mujahideen during the talks. The forces had been asked not to attack the Hizb militants. This (policy) has been reversed as there are no talks on now," Advani told AFP on the sidelines of a ruling Hindu nationalist BJP party convention.

"Our forces are back to searching and destroying all militant bases in Kashmir," Advani said.

The government had previously refused to confirm the resumption of full operations against the Hizb, amid signs that the two sides were still in contact.

Hizb announced a unilateral ceasefire on July 24, but their Pakistan-based supreme commander Syed Salahudin revoked the decision 15 days later, citing Indian intransigence over demands that Pakistan be involved in the talks.

Advani told delegates at the BJP convention that the number of Muslim militants killed by security forces in Kashmir in July was the highest in recent times. "There is no lowering of guard whatsoever on our part. The killings of (Hindu) pilgrims in Kashmir in August were largely the result of the proxy war being waged against us (by Pakistan). They did not happen due to any security lapse on our part," he said.

Advani said Indian forces would "relentlessly unearth and bust" bases being set up in the country by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency.

"In 1998 we busted 80 such bases and arrested 80 people, in 1999 we destroyed 25 ISI bases and arrested 49 people.

This year, so far, we have unearthed seven bases and arrested 20 people. "There will be no let-up in this effort.

We will uproot them from every part of the country." BJP's newly-elected president Bangaru Laxman said Pakistan would pay a heavy price if it continued supporting terrorist and disruptive activities in Kashmir and other parts of India. "We want strong and tough action from the government against Pakistan.

They should be warned that we will not keep quiet for long," Laxman told AFP, while adding that the BJP did not advocate "hot pursuit" of Kashmir terrorists across the disputed Kashmir border.

A resolution adopted at the end of the BJP convention said a clear message "needs to be sent to terrorists and their masters across the border that ... cross-border terrorism cannot continue to remain a cost-free option."

(Kashmir Observer, August 29, 2000)



HIJRI  
CALENDAR

20  
MUHARRAM

1443

## PRAYERS

FAJR

4:34

ZUHR

12: 32

ASR

5:12

MAGRIB

7:05

ISHA

8:29



## Pakistan Vital For 'Any Sustainable Solution' In Afghanistan, Says US Lawmaker

Agencies

US Senator Lindsey Graham said on Friday that Pakistan must be part of a "sustainable solution" to the conflict in Afghanistan.

His remarks came following a discussion on the region with Pakistan's Ambassador to the US



Asad Majeed Khan.

"Any sustainable solution in Afghanistan must include Pakistan," the US senator wrote on Twitter, calling the region "very complicated" and the current period "dangerous".

"We all must remember Pakistan is a nuclear-armed nation," he said, adding that "there is a Pakistani version of the Taliban who wishes (to) topple the Pakistani government and military."

"Very much appreciate the efforts of the Pakistani government to assist with the evacuation of US citizens, our allies, and other nations," Graham wrote on Twitter.

Responding to the US senator in a tweet, the Pakistani Ambassador said he had spoken to Senator Graham on the evolving situation

in Afghanistan, and briefed him on Pakistan's efforts to support evacuations from Afghanistan.

A few days ago, the US had reached out to Pakistan and half a dozen other countries it believes can influence the situation in Afghanistan, where the Taliban appear to be consolidating their hold after capturing Kabul.

The foreign ministers of Pakistan, China, Russia, India and Turkey and the foreign secretary of Britain were among the top diplomats US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with on Aug 16, his office had announced in a statement.

Later, Blinken had called his Pakistani counterpart Shah Mehmood Qureshi to discuss Afghanistan and the developing situation there.

According to Radio Pakistan, Qureshi had assured Blinken during the telephonic conversation that Pakistan would remain closely engaged with the US and other international partners in "promoting efforts for supporting a peaceful and stable Afghanistan".

The foreign minister had stressed the importance of an "inclusive political settlement as the best way forward" in Afghanistan and the need for the US to continue economic engagement with Afghanistan.

National Security Adviser Moeed Yusuf had on Aug 26 also underlined that the United States and Pakistan had a shared interest in working together in Afghanistan.

"I'm not asking for any sympathy for Pakistan," the NSA said. "I'm thinking in terms of pure US selfish national interests. How does it help to push away a country of this size, stature and power," he wondered.

## 19 Drown As Boat Collides With Ship In Bangladesh

Agence France-Presse

DHAKA: At least 19 people were killed and dozens remain missing as a boat packed with passengers and a sand-laden cargo ship collided on Friday in a lake in eastern Bangladesh, officials said.

The boat was reportedly carrying some 60 passengers when the incident occurred on a lake



in the town of Bijoy Nagar, local government administrator Hayat-ud-Doula Khan said.

The cargo ship's steel tip and the boat collided, causing the passenger vessel to capsize, he said.

"We have recovered 19 bodies including nine women and two children so far," he told AFP, adding that the toll would likely rise.

Local fire service spokesman Taufiqul Islam said divers were searching the scene of the accident for more bodies, and that reinforcements had been called

in from neighbouring towns.

Police said at least seven people were taken to a local hospital after they were rescued from the sunken boat.

The maritime accident was the latest in a string of similar incidents in the south Asian country. In April and May, 54 were killed in two separate boat capsizing accidents.

Experts blame poor maintenance

## Afghanistan Overshadows Iraq Summit As France's Macron Warns Against IS

Agence France-Presse

Baghdad: The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan overshadowed a summit in Iraq Saturday attended by key regional leaders, with French President Emmanuel Macron warning of the threat Islamic State group jihadists pose.

The meeting comes as Iraq, long a casualty of jihadist terrorism, also tries to establish itself as a mediator between Arab

fying role" to tackle crises shaking the region, sources close to Iraq's Kadhemi said.

Oil-rich Iraq has been caught for years in a delicate balancing act between its two main allies, Iran and the United States.

Iran exerts major clout in Iraq through allied armed groups within the Hashed al-Shaabi, a powerful state-sponsored paramilitary network. Baghdad has been brokering



countries and Iran.

"We all know that we must not lower our guard, because Daesh (IS) remains a threat, and I know that the fight against these terrorist groups is a priority of your government," Macron said, after a meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhemi.

Iraq and France "are key partners in the war against terrorism," Kadhemi replied.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Jordan's King Abdullah II flew in for the summit, while the foreign ministers of regional foes Iran and Saudi Arabia were also present.

Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, as well as Kuwait's Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah and Turkey's foreign minister were also present.

- 'More urgent than ever' -

Iraq is seeking to play a "uni-

talks since April between US ally Riyadh and Tehran on mending ties severed in 2016.

"It was really not easy to put the Saudis and Iranians in the same room," a French diplomatic source said.

But an adviser to Kadhemi said that just the presence of the two foreign ministers together was itself a "success".

Macron aims to highlight France's role in the region and its determination to press the fight against terrorism, his office said.

The French president considers Iraq "essential" to stability in the troubled Middle East, it added.

The Baghdad conference "will make it possible to lay the framework for cooperation in the fight against terrorism," Macron said.

An IS affiliate claimed Thursday's suicide bombing in Kabul that killed scores of people, including 13 US service members.

The attack has revived global

## US says ISIS-K 'planner' of Kabul airport attack killed in drone strike in Afghanistan

The US military has said that it carried out a drone strike on Saturday at an ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K) group in eastern Afghanistan, killing a "planner" of this week's terrorist attack at the Kabul airport.

"US military forces conducted an over-the-horizon counterterrorism operation today against an ISIS-K planner," Captain Bill Urban, spokesperson for the US Central Command, said in a statement.

"The unmanned airstrike occurred in the Nangarhar province of Afghanistan," Captain Urban said. "Initial indications are that we killed the target. We know of no civilian casualties."

The announcement did not identify the targeted individual but indicated that this could be the first of many reprisals at ISIS-K targets for Thursday's terrorist attacks at the Kabul airport.

Before the drone attack, US Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin telephoned Turkish Minister of National Defence Hulusi Akar and thanked "Turkey for its longstanding and significant support to the

mission at Hamid Karzai International Airport," the Pentagon said.

They agreed to stay closely engaged with respect to any future arrangements at the airport.

Secretary Austin also spoke with Qatar's Deputy Prime Minister and



Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr. Khalid bin Mohammed Al-Attiyah about the situation in Afghanistan. Qatar is facilitating the transit of US citizens, embassy personnel, and at-risk Afghans from Afghanistan to the US.

Over 100 people, including 13 US service members and 22 Taliban fighters, were killed in the attacks. ISIS-K claimed responsibility for the attacks, prompting an immediate response from US President Joe Biden who addressed his

nation on Thursday evening and vowed to punish the perpetrators.

"We will not forgive. We will not forget. We will hunt you down and make you pay," the president declared. Biden also ordered American military commanders to devel-

op operational plans to strike ISIS-K "assets, leadership and facilities."

The attack at the airport was one of the deadliest in nearly two decades of the US-led war in Afghanistan.

White House Press Secretary, Jen Psaki, said at a Friday afternoon news briefing that the militants were planning another attack in Kabul.

"The threat is ongoing, and it is active. Our troops are still in danger," she said.

## US To Prevent Afghan Aid Going Through 'Taliban Cooffers'

Reuters

WASHINGTON: The United States will continue to be a "very generous" donor of humanitarian aid to the Afghan people and will aim to prevent any of its assistance from passing through Taliban cooffers, State Department spokesman Ned Price said on Friday.

The United States is taking steps to allow humanitarian work to continue in Afghanistan despite US sanctions on the Taliban.

"We can maintain a humanitarian commitment to ... the Afghan people in ways that do not have any funding or assistance pass through the coffers of a central government," Price told reporters. "I expect the United States will continue to be a very generous donor to the Afghan people."

The United Nations says more than 18 million people — over half of Afghanistan's population — require aid and half of all Afghan children under the age of five already suffer from acute

malnutrition amid the second drought in four years.

The Taliban have said they will respect human rights and will not allow terrorists to operate



from the country. The group has encouraged aid organisations to continue their work, saying aid was welcome as long as it was not used as a means of political influence over Afghanistan.

A Taliban offensive culminated with the capture of Kabul on Aug 15.

## Biden, Trump Same On Nuclear Issue, Says Iran's Leader Khamenei

Reuters

Tehran: Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Saturday accused US President Joe Biden of making the same demands as his predecessor Donald Trump in talks to revive a nuclear deal.

The multilateral deal that offers Iran relief from sanctions in return for curbs on its nuclear programme was torpedoed by Trump's decision to withdraw the United States from it in 2018.

A last round of negotiations between Iran and the deal's

on Iran, the Islamic republic retaliated by gradually waiving most of the key nuclear commitments that it had accepted under the agreement.

Six rounds of nuclear talks between Iran and world powers -- with the United States taking part indirectly -- were held in Vienna between April and June. The last round concluded on June 20, with no date set for another.

In his speech, Khamenei also called on Raisi to "repair" the public's damaged trust in government.

"It's a great asset for a gov-



remaining parties to revive the 2015 accord concluded in June with no resumption in sight.

"America's current administration is no different from the previous one, because what it demands from Iran on the nuclear issue is different in words, but the same thing that Trump demanded," Khamenei said, quoted by his official website.

"The Americans truly have no shame on the nuclear issue, and even though they withdrew from the JCPOA... they now talk in a way and make demands as it was (Iran) that withdrew," he added, referring to the deal by its official name, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Khamenei made the remarks during a meeting with President Ebrahim Raisi's newly formed cabinet.

A year after Trump's decision to withdraw from the deal and impose sanctions

ernment to be able to attract the people's trust, which has unfortunately been slightly damaged. You must repair this".

He said the way to do it is "officials' words and actions becoming one" and realising promises made.

Iran has in recent years been hit by several protests over the economy and living conditions made worse by punishing US sanctions.

The latest was protests over water shortages that erupted in July in southwest Iran, where, according to Iranian media, at least four people were killed.

Human rights groups outside of Iran have previously accused the Islamic republic of using force against protesters. Iran has denied the charges and blamed violence at protests on "opportunists" and "rioters" linked to its enemies.

## Pulitzer Prize Board Awards Special Citation To Afghanistan Journalists

New Delhi: The Pulitzer Prize Board awarded a special citation to journalists of Afghanistan — "from staff and freelance correspondents to interpreters to drivers to hosts" — on Friday for their "courageous" work. According to a press release, the Pulitzer Prize Board decided to honour "the women and men of Afghanistan who have dedicated themselves at great personal risk to create and support journalism that has chronicled decades of life and war". The board also stated that the efforts of such "courageous Afghan residents helped produce Pulitzer-winning and Pulitzer-worthy images and stories that have contributed to a wider understanding of profoundly tragic and complicated circumstances".

A tweet on the official handle of The Pulitzer Prizes states, "The citation 'comes with a \$100,000 grant to be administered by @



pressfreedom for the emergency relief of such individuals and their families."

The Pulitzer Prize Board has issued a special citation to honor and assist Afghanistan journalism workers. The citation "comes with a \$100,000 grant to be administered by @pressfreedom for the

emergency relief of such individuals and their families." https://t.co/ASzXZSXdas

The press release quoted Pulitzer Board Co-Chairs Katherine Boo, Gail Collins and John Daniszewski, as saying, "It's critical in a moment of stark threat to support those Afghans whose bravery, skill, and com-

mitment to the ideals of a free press have helped create so much important journalism in recent decades."

Earlier this month, the Taliban took control of Afghanistan's capital Kabul, leaving many people stranded and seeking a way out of the country. On Thursday, evacuation efforts were thwarted when a bombing attack on Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul left many people dead and injured.

Months before their takeover of Kabul, in April 2021, a report in Human Rights Watch had stated that the Taliban were deliberately targeting journalists and other media workers, including women, in Afghanistan. Human Rights Watch also found that Taliban forces "engaged in a pattern of threats, intimidation, and violence against members of the media in areas where the Taliban have significant influence".

## "Crack Their Heads": Haryana Official Caught Coaching Cops About Farmers

Agencies

Chandigarh: A video showing a top district official in Haryana asking policemen to ensure farmers who are protesting against BJP leaders get "head injuries" has surfaced on social media, drawing criticism from a wide section of people including BJP MP Varun Gandhi.

Some 10 people were injured today after the state police lathi-charged a group of farmers who had stopped traffic on a highway while heading towards Haryana's Karnal to protest against a BJP meeting, where Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, state BJP chief Om Prakash Dhankar and other senior leaders were present. In the video, Karnal's Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Ayush Sinha is seen standing in front of a group of policemen and instructing them that no protesting farmer should go beyond a certain barricade in the area.

"It is very simple and clear, whoever he is, wherever he is from, no one should be allowed to reach there. We will not let this line be breached at any cost. Just pick up your lathi and hit them hard... It's very clear, there is no need for any instruction, just thrash them hard. If I see a single protester here, I want to see his head smashed, crack their heads," Mr Sinha is heard saying in the video.

"Any doubt?" the SDM added in the end.

"No sir," the group of policemen shouted.

On hearing about the police action in Karnal, farmers in other districts also came out in large numbers and blocked highways in solidarity. This led to huge traffic jams on key highways connecting cities like Delhi and Chandigarh.

The police said only mild force was used as the protesters were blocking the highway and stopping

traffic.

"Stone-pelting had started at many places... It was said during the briefing to use force proportionately," Mr Sinha told news agency ANI.

"I hope this video is edited and the DM did not say this... Otherwise, this is unacceptable in democratic India to do to our own citizens," BJP's Varun Gandhi tweeted.

I hope this video is edited and the DM did not say this... Otherwise, this is unacceptable in democratic India to do to our own citizens. pic.twitter.com/rWRFSD2FRH — Varun Gandhi (@varungandhi80) August 28, 2021

Strongly condemning the action, senior leader Randeep Singh Surjewala tweeted, "Khattar Sahab, today you have rained lathis on Haryanvis' soul... coming generations will remember the blood of farmers which has been spilled on the roads."



## Timing Restrictions On Banihal-Qazigund Tunnel Irks Commuters

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The timing restrictions on Banihal-Qazigund tunnel has left the commuters fuming. The tunnel remains closed till 8 am and passengers travelling on the Srinagar-Jammu Highway have to wait for hours to cross the tunnel. The commuters said that on a daily basis they end up



wasting hours in while waiting for opening of the tunnel.

Built at a cost of Rs 2,100 crore, the tunnel reduces the distance between Banihal in Jammu and Qazigund in Kashmir by 16 kms.

However, the purpose of this tunnel on the highway is dying nowadays. Instead of facilitating the flow of traffic for 24 hours, the tunnel is closed till 8 am, due to which there are endless queues of vehicles for many kilometres on both sides of the tunnel.

One of the residents said that it should be ensured that the tunnel is kept open 24 hours so that the passengers would not face any difficulty and steps should be taken for smooth movement of traffic on the tunnel. He said that the concerned authorities were not paying any attention to the problems faced by the passengers including a

large number of patients and students.

Instead of resolving the problems faced by the passengers on the tunnel, administration has remained as a silent spectator, he alleged. DSP Traffic Tariq Ahmed Tak said that the traffic advisory for the highway is issued every day and under the advisory, vehicles are allowed to cross the tunnel after eight o'clock.

"We allow vehicles according to the advisory," he said.

## Kite Festivals Draw Crowds In Jammu, Samba

Agencies

Jammu: Colourful kites of different shapes and sizes dotted the skyline of Jammu and Samba in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday as scores of people participated in kite festivals in the two districts.

The second edition of the Jammu Kite Festival was organised by the Directorate of Tourism in collaboration with the J&K Tourism Development Corporation (JKTDC) at the Tawi River Front Park here.

The event was inaugurated by Divisional Commissioner Raghar Langer. Fifty people participated in the event, an official spokesperson said.

"Kites have been a part of (our) tradition since ancient times and even today, they are flown to celebrate various festivals and sentiments. Ever since we started thinking about organising a kite-flying festival in Jammu, we were sure that it would get a great response," said Director Tourism, Jammu, Vi-

vekanand Rai.

Deputy Director, Tourism (Publicity), Naresh Kumar said the idea behind organising the event was to revive the age-old tradition of flying kites and provide Jammu residents an opportunity to witness 'patangbaazi'.

The festival also marked the celebration of 'Azadi ka Amrut Mahostav' to commemorate 75 years of India's independence, he said.

Kumar said the kite festival would be made a regular feature in the coming years and would be organised on a grander scale to help attract tourists from all parts of India.

The Samba district administration also organised a kite festival at the Rani Suchait Singh Sports Stadium, Arazi.

"The event was organised with an objective to discourage the use of nylon or plastic threads and simultaneously engage the youth and promote among them the age-old sport of kite-flying," the spokesperson said.

## PDP Accuses Admin Of Applying Covid Protocol Only To Party's Meetings

Agencies

Srinagar: The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Saturday accused the Jammu and Kashmir administration of selectively applying the COVID-19 protocol only to the party's meetings while overlooking it for others. It was referring to a musical event at Sher-e-Kashmir Park where Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha was the chief guest.

"It's okay for J-K administration to hold functions attended by hundreds and presided over by the Hon'ble LG. But COVID-19 protocol is selectively applied only to PDP and overlooked when it comes to admin and its proxy parties," the party said

on its official Twitter handle. It also posted pictures of a marriage function of a BJP leader at Dak Bungalow in Anantnag and a youth convention of the Altaf Bukhari-led Apni Party in Sallar.

The remarks came after authorities in the Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir issued a show-cause notice to the party president Mehbooba Mufti for alleged violation of the COVID-19 guidelines by calling a public gathering beyond the permitted number of people in attendance.

The notice to Mufti was issued by the Executive Magistrate first class/Tehsildar of Shopian on Wednesday after she addressed a party convention in the south Kashmir district the same day.

## Security Forces Will Act Tough Against Militants, OGWs: DGP

'Won't Allow Taliban Takeover Deteriorate Situation In Kashmir'

Agencies

Bandipora: Jammu and Kashmir police chief Dilbagh Singh Saturday said that police will go tough against militants and their supporters in Kashmir to maintain peace.

He said that police and security forces won't allow the prevailing situation to deteriorate in the wake of Taliban's takeover in Afghanistan. Talking to reporters on the sidelines of his visit to District Police Lines (DPL) Bandipora, the DGP said that due to the Covid situation, meetings with the police officers had slowed down and now that the Covid graph is going down, the interactions have once again picked up.

"Bandipora is on a peaceful track and the situation has improved here," he said. The DGP

said that in the past few weeks many top commanders of various militant outfits were killed in encounters and especially the killing of Lashkar-e-Toiba/TRF chief Abbas Sheikh and his aide Saqib in Srinagar encounter, people have heaved a sigh of relief.

"Abbas and his associates were involved in so many activities. After their killing, people are feeling relieved," the DGP said, adding that similarly in other districts of Kashmir, the situation is peaceful and people are enjoying the peaceful atmosphere.

The DGP said that police will act strictly against militants and militant supporters including OGWs. "It is the OGWs who carry a pistol to do selective killing and throw grenades to target innocent civilians. We are going very tough against them," he said.

Asked how he sees the Tali-



ban takeover in Afghanistan and possible infiltration of Taliban militants into Kashmir, the DGP said that they won't allow the prevailing situation in Kashmir to deteriorate. "Situation at present in Kashmir is peaceful and it will remain so," he said.

## Completed After 14 Years, Botengoo PHC Yet To Be Made Operational

Agencies

Sopore: The inhabitants of Botengoo area of Zainageer belt in North Kashmir's Sopore Saturday demanded that the new building of the Primary Health Center (PHC) should be made operational. Locals said that the building was under construction for the last 14 years, and was completed last year, but it is still not operational for some unknown reasons.

Irfan Dilawar Bhat, a well-known social activist from Botengoo said that although the building has been completed, it has not been put into practice due to the careless approach of the concerned departments

and district authorities.

Irfan said that most of the villagers of Zainageer area have to travel long distances to Sopore sub-district hospital for treatment which causes a lot of hardship for people.

He said that the building was completed a year ago but is still closed for unknown reasons which have now become a hotbed for illegal activities.

"The government has spent a lot of money for the construction of the PHC building but the general public is taking no benefits from it," said Junaid Ahmed Butt, a local resident of Botengoo.

Accusing the health department of indifference, he said

that the functioning of the building would mitigate a lot of problems for the villagers.

Block Medical Officer Sopore, sub-district Hospital Dr Zulfikar said that despite the completion of the building, the R&B department has not yet handed it over to the health department.

"We have already informed higher authorities about the matter," he said.

Meanwhile R&B Department Muzaffar Ahmad said, the work has stopped due to non availability of funds.

"We have issued a new Detailed Project Report (DPR) once it is approved, the work will resume again," he said.

## Complete Dev Works In Gurez Before Winters: Samoon Directs Officers

BANDIPORA: Principal Secretary, Skill Development Department (SDD) Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon on Saturday visited Gurez sub-division of Bandipora district to review and get the first-hand account of the developmental activities of the area. Dr. Samoon who is also the in-charge Secretary for Monitoring of Developmental Works of Bandipora district held a detailed meeting with the senior

of District during 2020-21 and 2021-22. They informed the meeting about the major developmental activities completed till date.

JDP informed that District Hospital Bandipora has been completed and made operational during the current financial year besides four other major works including Gujjar and Bakerwal hostel Bandipore at the cost of Rs 3.25 crores , Polytechnic College Bandipore

at 900 solar street lights have been installed in 123 Villages including Gurez and 03 towns of Bandipore while 1175 Works with 06 school buildings, 06 Roads, 03 Irrigation Schemes etc have been completed during last financial year.

It was given out that last year a record macadamization of 115 Kms was completed while this year the administration has set a target to macadamize 173 Kms out of which 77 kms have been macadamized so far. Dr Samoon was informed that 10 MVA Receiving Station at Nasoo Bandipora was recently inaugurated that which augmented the power infrastructure in the district. It was given out that a modern ISM Health and Wellness centre with all modern facilities was also established in Aragam.

The meeting was further informed that nine projects including 7 bridges and two roads have been taken up for execution in Gurez valley while bridges at Dawar, Achoora Bypass, Satni Nallah and Gujran Tulail have been completed. The meeting was also informed that under BADP sector, out of 47 On-going projects costing Rs 19.08 Cr, 17 projects are targeted for completion this year including Road From Kashpat to Kilshay Phase-II, Food Godown at Wazirhat, Electrification of Blowneil, Sekinder and Safadaab Villages for which an amount of Rs 1.39 Cr have been earmarked for the current Financial Year.



officers to assess the progress on different sectors. Speaking on the occasion Dr Samoon urged the officers to work in mission mode to ensure the completion of all ongoing works without any further delay. He asked the officers to ensure the important works are completed in Gurez valley before the onset of winter. While remarking that Gurez valley has a limited working season, Dr. Samoon stressed upon the officers to expedite the pace of all ongoing works for their timely completion before the onset of winters. At the outset, ADC and JDP gave a detailed Power Point Presentation about achievements

at the cost of Rs 18.00 Crore, Dak Banglow Gurez at the cost of Rs 3.25 Cr and Indoor Stadium, Shadipora at the cost of Rs 4.83 Crore have also been completed.

It was also given out in the meeting that Wullar Dredging Project is being completed at the cost of Rs 200.00 Crores and the work is in progress in full pace and 60 lakh cubic metres have been dredged so far.

ADC Bandipora informed the Principal Secretary that among new initiatives, Burnai-Tulail has been provided with a Mobile Network for the First time.

He also informed the meeting

## PDD Directed To Accelerate Pace Of Work On Mir Bazar Grid Station

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan Saturday directed the officers of the Power Department to accelerate the pace of work on the augmentation of Mir Bazar Grid Station.

He passed on these directions during his visit to the Grid Station where upon he had a detailed review of the progress of civil, electrical and other works with the Chief Engineer, Superintendent Engineer and other officers of Power Development Department.

He directed the officers to complete the civil works on the grid station within one month and said that the import of transformers should be expedited so that no time is lost.

The existing capacity of the grid station is 320 MVA and will be enhanced by an additional 155 MVA thereby increasing the ca-

capacity to 475 MVA. The total cost of the project is 29.53 crore," the Advisor was informed.

Advisor while inspecting the progress of works, said that once the grid station is commissioned at the new capacity, the power supply will improve manifold to cater to the demands of consumer base including industrial and commercial segments. It will also improve reliability, distribution efficiency, voltage profile, reduction in faults, and voltage variations, he said.

He emphasized that it would help in a big way to streamline the transmission and distribution of power in the Valley in general and in South Kashmir in particular.

Advisor said that with the augmentation of grid station, there will be perceptible improvement in electricity scenario during the winters.

## Badimarg Villagers Decry Lack Of Road Connectivity

Agencies

Shopian: The residents of Badimarg village in Imamsahib Tehsil of South Kashmir's Shopian are without proper road connectivity.

Locals of the area said that the tall claims of development are proving hoax on ground as for the last 70 years the government has even failed to construct a small bridge and a patch of 2 km of road.

The residents said that since the last two decades they are moving from pillar to post to get the approval for the road connectivity but to no avail.

"The construction of the bridge would have connected the village with other districts. Currently, we are cut off from the district as well as from the Tehsil headquarter," said Ishfaq Ahmad a local resident. Ishfaq said that to reach Shopian or Imamsahib, they had to take a detour through Kulgam district.

"If this bridge is constructed it will shorten the distance, providing much relief to the residents of

around one dozen villages," said Sajad Ahmad another local resident.

He said that people of the area, particularly elders, children and patients are facing a lot of inconvenience in absence of road connectivity.

"We have repeatedly knocked on the doors of Chief Engineer R&B, District Magistrate, Executive Engineer but their assurances have also proved a hoax on ground," Sajad said.

"We once again request higher ups to look into the matter and provide proper connectivity to the area so that they can heave a sigh of relief," locals said.

Meanwhile Assistant Executive Engineer R&B Zainapora Nisar Ahmad said that they have twice forwarded the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for both road as well as for the bridge to higher ups but it hasn't been approved yet.

"Recently we have again forwarded the DPR to higher ups and hopefully it will be approved soon," Nisar said.

## JMC Signs MoU With SMVDU For 'Smart' Makeover Of Jammu City

Agencies

Jammu: The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) to serve as a foundation for developing quality landscape projects across the city of temples, officials said on Saturday.

The areas of collaboration outlined in the five-year agreement cover landscape planning and design. It is essentially envisioned at transforming Jammu as a smart city under the flagship Smart City Mission of the Centre, the officials added.

The MoU was signed by JMC Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer, Jammu smart city, Avny Lavasa and SMVDU registrar Nagendra Singh Jamwal on Friday.

According to the MoU, the highly-experienced faculty of the School of Architecture and Landscape Design of the university would provide services with respect to site appraisal and suitability, site planning, land-

form and grading, surface drainage design and water management, irrigation design, open space design -- hard and soft areas -- planting design, landscape structures and features, garden furniture design, illumination design, graphic design and signage, tendering services, periodic inspection and evaluation works.

On the other hand, the JMC would provide the detailed requirements for the project, property lease or ownership documents, where applicable, site plan to a suitable scale, showing boundaries, contours at suitable intervals, existing physical features, including roads, paths, trees, structures, existing service and utility lines and such lines to which the proposed service can be connected.

"The JMC has embarked upon development of public spaces of Jammu under the Smart City Mission by way of beautification and improved aesthetic looks while keeping up with the unique identity of the city," Lavasa said after signing the MoU.

SMVDU vice chancellor Ravindra Kumar Sinha said professionals and technical experts of the university are being encouraged to engage in institutionalised consultancy with different government departments in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Besides architectural landscaping and design, we are collaborating for projects pertaining to civil works, heritage conservation, energy conservation, public health and establishment of industrial biotechnology parks," he said.

A wide range of projects for area-based landscape improvement of Jammu city are being executed under the Smart City Plan (SCP) approved by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

## Jammu Has Potential To Emerge As Distinct Integrated Education Model In Country: Singh

Agencies

New Delhi: Union minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday said Jammu has the potential to emerge as a distinct integrated education model in the country, according to a statement issued by the Personnel Ministry here.

Addressing an event in Jammu, he said as India evolves into a frontline nation in the world community, the mantra for success will be to pull out all academic faculties from silos and integrate them for meaningful and cost-effective outcomes.

At the event, a multipartite MoU was signed between AIIMS Jammu, IIT Jammu, IIM Jammu and University of Jammu.

Singh described it as a landmark occasion and the "rise of a

rare quaternary" bringing together medical science, engineering technology, management skills and varied specialised disciplines on the same platform.

The minister of state for personnel said this is a unique model which has the capacity to be developed and extended further.

"With different kinds of higher education institutions coming up within close vicinity of each other and catering to diverse specialisations and streams of academics, Jammu has the potential to emerge as a distinct integrated education model, which can also be emulated in other parts of the country," the statement quoted Singh as saying.

On the coronavirus pandemic, he said that almost every department, ministry or agency launched a proj-

ect on Covid because it fetched visibility, media attraction and funds.

If only all these different agencies or departments had pooled their resources to come up with a single project on Covid, the outcome could have been much better, he added.

Referring to the new industrial policy for Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said Union Home Minister Amit Shah will launch a web portal on August 31 for the registration of units under the new central scheme for the industrial development of the union territory.

"This will also be optimally useful only through an integrated approach if we are able to integrate the academic institutions with industry, start-ups, private sector, etc.," he said.



## KASHMIR OBSERVER

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the  
Kashmir Observer LLP  
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001  
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider  
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja  
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304  
Editorial: (0194) 2502327  
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobsrver.net

### #K-TWITTER



Amidst NEET and JEE coaching institutes there should be a stock market fundamental and technical analysis coaching centre in Kashmir as well.

Faheem Wani  
@nelson\_mondela

Most of our childhood is stored not in photos, but in certain biscuits, lights of day, smells, texture of carpet.

@kashafudduja\_

It takes a one-and-a-half-minute video for a person in position of power to say, "Don't use my comment to further your propaganda. A sport doesn't teach or further enmity." Niraj Chopra could have chosen to keep quiet just as this country's cricketers have for years. He didn't.

Mirza Arif Beg  
@lammirzaarif



## The incomplete Kashmir story

Exactly two years ago, the Centre pushed through a set of radical constitutional changes in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). The state was split into two entities; it was turned into a Union Territory; and Article 370, which guaranteed its special status, was effectively nullified. Domestically, this was followed by additional security deployment, detentions of both mainstream and separatist leaders, and curbs on political activities, civil liberties and communication. Externally, it led to criticism not just from Pakistan (an interested party with a record of sponsoring terror) and China (another interested party which illegally occupies part of Kashmir), but also partners concerned about India's democratic record.

A lot has changed. The government has eased restrictions and released leaders, including three former chief ministers. It appointed a new lieutenant governor, the politically sharp Manoj Sinha. It held local body elections. This summer, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted Kashmir's leaders and sought their views. For their part, Kashmiri parties formed the Gupkar Alliance to push their demand for restoration of Article 370 and statehood. Externally, the United States reconciled itself with the end of Article 370 fairly soon, seeing it as an internal governing arrangement, but would like to see more political freedom in the Valley.

To show its domestic audience that Islamabad hasn't given up, Pakistan has insisted India take corrective steps. But it is no longer making the restoration of Article 370 a precondition for talks, there is a ceasefire, and its terror networks are weaker. There is a view that China's aggression in Ladakh was prompted by India's actions in Kashmir — but it is hard to know, and this may well have been one among a set of multiple variables.

And, so, the Indian State has succeeded in its ambition to exercise full control over J&K. But this is still half the story. It would be a mistake to read silence in the Valley (especially during the pandemic) as consent. There is a psychological distance and radicalisation. Mainstream "pro-India" leaders remain weak. The instability in Afghanistan can spill over given the transnational jihadi networks at play. For India to succeed and be true to its own values, even as it keeps up its security preparations, it must restore statehood to J&K, hold elections, and let Kashmiris articulate their aspirations and exercise the same political rights as any other Indian citizen without fear, but within the Constitution.

The Hindustan Times

# Tunisia: An Empty Gesture Case of Democracy

Shukery Ahmed and Haris Rashid

Tunisia's democratically-elected President Kais Saied's decision to extend the suspension of parliament on the 24th of August has caused fears that the country's successful democratic journey is coming to an end. The country, unlike its peers in the MENA region, was initially believed to have had successful and democratic aftermath to the Arab Spring. With its slogan of "Shugl, Hurriya, Karama Wataniya", roughly translated to "Work, Freedom, National Dignity", the Tunisian revolution toppled the autocratic regime of Ben Ali and set the country in the course of democratization and economic liberalization. However, democracy has not been able to address pressing socio-economic demands leading to popular support for the anti-democratic policies of the president.

This article explores four features of Tunisia's newfound democracy: (i) how the legislative and the president were selected or removed (ii) the alternation of power between different governments (iii) who could participate and win in elections, and (iv) the ability and freedom of people to influence policy outcomes of the government. We first summarize the main events beginning from the removal of Ben Ali by protestors in January 2011 to the removal of Hichem Mechichi as the prime minister and the suspension of the parliament in July 2020. Despite high levels of contestation and the ability to influence political outcomes, not much changed for the people in terms of socio-economic factors. In fact, too much energy has been spent on the selection and removal of political leaders. In just one decade, alternation of power took place between three presidents and there have been six alterations between the prime ministers. These alternations have led to slow socio-economic reforms which have made people disenchanted with the way democracy in Tunisia is being carried out, which also explains the popular support for Kais Saied's recent moves.

The month-long Jasmine revolution that began in mid-December 2010 led to the ousting of authoritarian leader President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali, who had been in power since 1987. Ben Ali's removal paved the way for the democratic transition of the country. Tunisia has since held four successful elections and, in an inclusive manner, adopted a new constitution that gives unprecedented political rights and civil liberties



to the people. The economic transition, however, was not able to keep pace with the accelerating democratization process. The average annual economic growth between 2011 and 2019 was 1.8 per cent compared to 4.2 per cent between 2000 and 2010. The Covid-19 pandemic also further aggravated the economy where the GDP growth saw a contraction of 8.8% in 2020. Unemployment increased from 15% prior to the pandemic to 17.8% by the end of the first quarter of 2021. Women and young people aged 15-24 are the most affected with an unemployment rate of 24.9% and 40.8% respectively. These worsening socio-economic conditions have made people disillusioned with the promises of democracy. The current president's landslide victory in the 2019 elections was, in fact, an indicator of growing disenchantment with democracy.

Initially, the uprising against the Ben Ali regime called for improvement in socio-economic conditions. Calls for democratization followed later.

The first post-revolution elections in Tunisia were held in October 2011 for an assembly to draft a new constitution and shape a new government. The moderate Islamist Ennahda party, which was previously banned under the Ben Ali regime, won the polls and formed a coalition government. Moncef Marzouki, a long-time rights activist and outspoken critic of the former president, was elected as president of Tunisia while Hamadi Jebali was appointed as prime minister. In February 2013, in the first political assassination after the Jasmine revolution, secular opposition leader Chokri Belaid was shot dead, prompting large protests across Tunisia. In response

to the protests, the prime minister resigned. The cascading series of events finally made the Ennahda party step down and hand over power to a technocratic caretaker government in January 2014. The caretaker government was expected to oversee the elections. Tunisia's assembly under the caretaker government passed the new constitution later that month. The constitution, for the first time, recognised equality between men and women and guaranteed the freedom to worship. In May 2014, the assembly also adopted the new electoral laws, establishing universal adult suffrage. Also, in order to achieve equal representation for women in elected bodies, the laws require that every electoral list include 50% women and 50% men and ensure they were placed alternately on the list.

In July 2019, Tunisia's first freely elected president, Beji Caid Essebsi died prompting the speaker of parliament, Mohamed Ennaceur to take over as interim president. The presidential elections that were to be held in November were preponed to September. The presidential elections were won by an independent candidate, Kais Saied, who received 72.71% votes, defeating his opponent Nabil Karoui who was in jail for most of the campaign. The elections saw a turnout of 55%. Saied is considered a political outsider and a conservative leader who supports the death penalty and opposes homosexuality and equal inheritance of men and women. Moreover, in the parliamentary elections held in October 2019, Tunisia elected a fractured parliament with two major parties, Ennahda and the newly formed Qalb Tounes party, winning 52 and 38 seats respectively, falling

well short of the 109 seats that are required to form the government. In February 2020, Prime Minister Elyes Fakhfakh formed a coalition government but he resigned in July 2020 after allegations of conflict of interest. Later that month Hichem Mechichi was appointed as the new prime minister.

On July 25, 2021, Tunisia's president Kais Saied dismissed Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi and suspended the parliament on the grounds that the coronavirus and economic situation had become so dire that he needed to freeze parliament and dismiss the government, as well as launch an anti-corruption drive. The president's move had popular support. Tunisia's powerful UGTT trade union body with more than one million members said that the president had acted "in accordance" with the constitution to "prevent imminent danger and to restore the normal functioning" of the state and called his measures "a definitive solution to the complexity of the crisis the country is going through in the absence of any other solutions".

As evident from Tunisia's case, democracy and political rights do not necessarily translate into economic well-being. In fact, democratization in Tunisia had further slowed down economic growth and led to a rise in unemployment rates. The world, especially the West, prematurely celebrated Tunisia as a model and democratic outcome of the Arab Spring without scrutinizing the existing economic conditions in which democratization was occurring. People, however, expect more than just political rights from democracy. If people in undemocratic countries are expected to lead their countries into democratization, there must be evident socioeconomic changes that come as a result which could sustain democracy at home as well as incentivize democratization abroad. If Tunisia returns to authoritarianism, it might be prescribed as a failure of democracy to address the socioeconomic challenges of the developing world. The Tunisian success tale might, ironically, discourage future democratization projects.

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

The authors can be reached at shukery.ahmed\_ug22@ashoka.edu.in and haris.rashid\_ug22@ashoka.edu.in



## Unity in Diversity

Divisions of all kinds within our communities should be looked at as opportunities to cultivate values that would keep us together in adversity, against adversaries

Syed Zahid Rizvi

As a Muslim, I am a minority in India. As a Kashmiri, I am a minority among Indian Muslims. As a Shia, I am a minority among Kashmiris and as an Abbasi I am a minority in my own native village where almost

every resident is a Shia Muslim. Is it not strange that a Shia Muslim can be a minority among Shia Muslims?

All these titles are lines of division, as if I can live my life disconnected from my Sunni brothers, Sikh, and Hindu neighbors. Moreover, within the Shia community in Kashmir, there are

even more divisions when it comes to politics and religious leaders. As humans, and as Muslims, we have been divided into so many factions. We have been disconnected and taught to hate or at best avoid each other because of these differences. This has allowed invasive, hegemonic powers to take

over most of the positions of power in the world. While we are divided in our fight for truth and justice, our enemies are united in oppression. This is similar to the way an invasive plant easily takes over an unhealthy ecosystem and continues to spread destruction until it arrives at its own demise.

In the opening pages of a book called The Education of a Gardener, the author writes that the key to a thriving, beautiful garden is unity in diversity. What does this mean?

It means that we must learn not only to garden, but to live by the laws of nature. The Quran is a book of guidance to help us do just that and unity in diversity is an imperative repeated throughout its pages. Diversity is a sign of a healthy ecosystem, where all the different parts work together in unity, in ways both known and unknown to us.

While I could go on to elaborate on the benefits of unity in diversity, my goal is to apply it to the social-political situation in Kashmir.

The current political landscape among Shias in Kashmir is divided into at least eight parties, each struggling on their own and having little impact on the wellbeing of the community they represent. While these parties' leaders might benefit from fame and income, they are not fulfilling any political purpose according to the Quran. In fact, these divisions that they allow to exist fuel the oppressor's power.

What is the solution? The solution is for all of us to reconnect and reflect upon the purpose of our scholars and leaders and to support anyone working to unify and lead our community in the right direction.

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



# Ronaldo's Second Coming

Shashank Nair

By signing Ronaldo to a presumably monster contract, United may have relinquished the opportunity to sign a once-in-a-lifetime striking option next year. The decision to sign the club legend is based on his popularity with the fan base as well as his dalliance with City

The final swansong of Cristiano Ronaldo will take place in Manchester – a statement that wouldn't have surprised most, until one heard which half he was planning on going to. Manchester United swooped in to sign Ronaldo on Friday. Reportedly it was a call from Sir Alex Ferguson that changed the mind of the player who won the first of his five Ballon d'Ors at Old Trafford. While the rumours had started weeks ago, Juventus manager Massimiliano Allegri confirmed on Thursday that Ronaldo had asked to leave the club immediately. Leading European publications had confirmed that the Ronaldo to Manchester City gossip was well on its way to being true. Until news of the same triggered Manchester United's interest and resulted in a whirlwind transfer day.

#### Why is Ronaldo leaving Juventus?

The separation is mutual. With one year remaining on his contract, Ronaldo is looking for his next big deal – a deal that could be one of the last he gets to make as a commodity in the transfer market worth investing in. Just a week ago, Ronaldo had put out a long post on his Instagram asking for people to respect his situation. The post was in response to stories that alleged that Real Madrid didn't consider resigning their greatest goalscorer. For Juventus, it is getting rid of a superstar they were never really geared to fully accommodate. Jose Mourinho, who worked with his countryman at Real Madrid said that Juventus had bought a nuclear bomb that they had no idea how to use.

#### How does Manchester City figure into the conversation?

The last week had seen multiple clubs' names thrown into the Ronaldo sweepstakes. But the loudest noise had emanated out of Manchester City. A failed pursuit for Tottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane meant that Pep Guardiola was looking to begin this season sans the leading frontman he has desired. Jack Grealish's signing has not done anything to solve City's weakest area. And while prospects like Erling-Braut Haaland weren't available this season, one could see City's logic in taking Ronaldo away from Juventus. The English club reached the Champions League final last season and an instant impact player like Ronaldo could change everything for the better, while giving the club a whole year to bring the next great striker available on the market.

#### How did Manchester United swoop in for Ronaldo?

According to reports in various media outlets, it reportedly took a combination of calls and messages from Sir Alex Ferguson, Bruno Fernandes and ex-Manchester United players to convince Ronaldo to return to United. Once that happened, it was only a matter of time before the Portuguese captain made up his mind to return to Old Trafford. There is no doubt that if the signing goes



through, it will be because Manchester United made an emotional decision to bring back a player with a sizable legacy at the club. But does the decision help on the football side of matters?

#### The good and the bad of Ronaldo to United

At 36, Ronaldo is no longer as fearsome as he used to be in his prime at Real Madrid. His career has transitioned from a left winger to a left-sided striker through the years. At Manchester United, he will most likely displace Edinson Cavani and Anthony Martial as the first-choice striker immediately. His return will also herald a change in the way United operate on the pitch. Rather than a team that likes to zip at opposition players with the ball, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is likely to transition his side to provide for Ronaldo. Paul Pogba and Bruno Fernandes suddenly have one of the greatest goalscorers in the history of football to ping balls to. Their assist numbers are likely to go up, although Fernandes will see fewer goals this season because of Ronaldo taking up freekick and penalty duties. United's pressing game at the top will also change. Ronaldo has never truly embraced pressing opposition players and to expect a change in that regard at this point of his career, would be fool-

hardy. The question will be whether he can score enough to justify the lack of hassling opposition defenders on the ball. Also in Explained | Why New Zealand's football team, the All Whites, could have a new name

#### How does this impact next year's striker sweepstakes?

If Real Madrid are unable to sign Kylian Mbappe this year, he becomes a free agent in 2022. Haaland will look to move from Borussia Dortmund as well with a host of clubs chasing the Norwegian's signature. Harry Kane may have failed to engineer a transfer this season, but next year could see another attempt at moving on from Tottenham for the England captain. By signing Ronaldo to a presumably monster contract, United may have relinquished the opportunity to sign a once-in-a-lifetime striking option next year. The decision to sign the club legend is based on his popularity with the fan base as well as his dalliance with City. Take those two reasons away, and United might have been better served to look at the future rather than take a punt on the past.

Indian Express

## Early Arab Medicine Against Epidemics

The coronavirus pandemic has turned lives upside down all over the world. In the Middle Ages, however, people lived with epidemics all the time. The best and most famous physicians worked in the Islamic world.

Dunja Ramadan

Abbasid polymath Abd al-Latif al-Baghdadi saw through the three young men pretty quickly. He met them at the al-Nuri hospital in Damascus, young Persians who had feigned pain in order to spend a few days in the hospital, with its muqarnas dome and leafy courtyard. The doctor treating them, al-Baghdadi wrote in his travelogue, did not let on. Only on the fourth day did he confront the patients and say with a smile on his face: "Traditional Arab hospitality lasts three days: so please go home!" The incident took place in the 13th century, in what is now Syria's oldest surviving hospital. Nur ad-Din Zengi of the Turkish Zengid dynasty had it built in 1154. Until the start of the Syrian war in 2011 what is now the Museum of Medicine and Science in the Arab World attracted many visitors and tourists. Why the men voluntarily spent three days in a hospital would still not have made sense just a few centuries later – and certainly not in the age of COVID-19.

Images of overcrowded treatment rooms, of patients reduced to hoping for ventilator slots, of corpses being transported away from hospitals in refrigerated trucks have been circulating ever since the current pandemic started. These days, hospitals are seen by many as places best avoided – unless you can't breathe.

#### An oasis of well-being rather than an infirmary

All the more reason to reflect on the hospital as an institution. A glance back in time reveals how ideas varied among the different peoples at that time. While those who fell ill in the European Middle Ages were banished to so-called infirmaries outside the city gates, where the sick were isolated from society and mostly dependent on the mercy of wealthy donors, patients were treated very differently in the Islamic world. From the descriptions of these institutions included in travel accounts by contemporary Arab and Persian geographers, physicians and scholars, the impression is frequently more of fancy rehabilitation clinics or spiritual oases of well-being, than of mediaeval infirmaries. Ibn Jubayr, the founder of the so-called 'rihla' literature (Arabic for journey), compared the al-



Muqtadiri hospital on the banks of the Tigris in the 12th century to a "royal palace where all comforts are provided". These descriptions provide insights into an era when such hospitals were flourishing in the great Muslim metropolises of Damascus, Cairo, Cordoba and Baghdad. Al-Baghdadi, who at the age of 26 travelled to Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Armenia and Turkey, solves the mystery of the three young Persians a few lines later: It was the "excellent food and service at the hospital" that had attracted the men. An apothecary prepares medicine in a Persian miniature from the 13th century: the best and most famous physicians worked in the Islamic world at that time, writes Dunja Ramadan. The hospitals, the "bimaristan", provided free medical treatment, clean rooms and tasty food. Under the Abbasid ca-

Indeed, in the early Islamic bimaristan, patients found free medical treatment, clean rooms and free – and apparently tasty – food. The name 'bimaristan' comes from Persian and can be translated as "house of the sick". Under the Abbasid caliph Harun al-Rashid (763-809), of Arabian Nights fame, there are said to have been several hundred hospitals in Baghdad. Considered today to be the forerunners of modern hospitals, bimaristan had high ethical standards

liph Harun al-Rashid (763-809), of Arabian Nights fame, there are said to have been several hundred hospitals in Baghdad. Considered today to be the forerunners of modern hospitals, bimaristan had high ethical standards. They were run secularly, with doctors treating people of any race and religious affiliation. They were forbidden by law to turn away destitute or travelling patients. Muslim, Jewish and Christian physicians all found employment within their walls. "All costs are to be borne by the hospital" The policy statement of Qalawun Hospital, built in Cairo in the 13th century by the Mamluk sultan Saif ad-Din Qalawun al-Alfi al-Mansur, states that the hospital shall accommodate all patients, men and women, until they are fully recovered. "All costs are to be borne by the hospital, regardless of whether people are from far or near, residents or foreigners, strong or weak, of high or low status, rich or poor, employed or unemployed, blind or visually impaired, physically or mentally ill, educated or illiterate. There are no conditions regarding recompense and payment; no one shall be challenged or even indirectly notified of non-payment. The entire service is provided through the generosity of God, the Generous One." Qalawun Hospital, which continued to exist for 400 years into the 19th century, formed part of the Qalawun complex, still to be found on Al-Muizz Street in the Islamic Old City of Cairo. It has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979.

Qantara



# Sugars from human milk could help treat, prevent infections in infants: Study

Agencies

Bacteria known as group B Streptococcus (GBS) are a common cause of blood infections, meningitis, and stillbirth in newborns. Although GBS infections can often be treated or prevented with antibiotics, the bacteria are becoming increasingly resistant.

Now, researchers have discovered that human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs)- short strings of sugar molecules abundant in breast milk- can help prevent GBS infections in human cells and tissues in mice. Someday, HMOs might be able to replace antibiotics for treating infections in infants and adults, they say.

The researchers will present their results at the fall meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS). ACS Fall 2021 is a hybrid meeting being held virtually and in-person August 22-26, and on-demand content will be available August 30-September 30. The meeting features more than 7,000 presentations on a wide range of science topics.

"Our lab has previously shown that mixtures of HMOs isolated from the milk of several different donor mothers have antimicrobial

and antibiofilm activity against GBS," says Rebecca Moore, who is presenting the work at the meeting. "We wanted to jump from these in vitro studies to see whether HMOs could prevent infections in cells and tissues from a pregnant woman, and in pregnant mice."

Moore is a graduate student in the labs of Steven Townsend, Ph.D., at Vanderbilt University and Jennifer Gaddy, Ph.D., at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 2,000 babies in the US get GBS each year, and 4-6 per cent of them die from it. The bacteria are often transferred from mother to baby during labor and delivery. An expectant mother who tests positive for GBS is usually given intravenous antibiotics during labor to help prevent early-onset infections, which occur during the first week of life.

Interestingly, the incidence of late-onset infections (which happen from one week to three months after birth) is higher in formula-fed than breastfed infants, which suggests that factors in breast milk could help protect against GBS. If so, the sugars could perhaps replace anti-

biotics, which, in addition to killing beneficial bacteria, are becoming less effective because of the rise in antibiotic resistance.

The researchers studied the effects of combined HMOs from several mothers on GBS infection of placental immune cells (called macrophages) and of the gestational membrane (the sac surrounding the fetus). "We found that HMOs were able to completely inhibit bacterial growth in both the macrophages and the membranes, so we very quickly turned to look at a mouse model," Moore says.

They examined whether HMOs could prevent a GBS infection from spreading through the reproductive tract of pregnant mice. "In five different parts of the reproductive tract, we saw significantly decreased GBS infection with HMO treatment," Moore notes.

To figure out which HMOs and other oligosaccharides have these antimicrobial effects and why, the researchers set up an artificial two-species microbiome with GBS and the beneficial Streptococcus salivarius species growing in a tissue culture plate, separated by a semi-permeable membrane.

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, BUDGAM  
(CONVENER DISTRICT HEALTH SOCIETY)**

Applications on prescribed formats are **RE-ADVERTISED** on behalf of District Health Society, Budgam from the eligible candidates who are permanent residents of **District Budgam** (viz area of operation of District Health Society, Budgam) for Hiring/contractual engagement against the below mentioned post under National Health Mission (NHM), Budgam.

S.No	Category	No. Of Posts	Vacancy at District	Unit of Selection	Requisite Qualification	Selection Criteria
01	ISM Pharmacist (Ayurvedic/Unani /Homeopathy)	03	Medical Block Budgam/Chadoora/ Nagam	Block Level	Ayurvedic/Unani Diploma in ISM Pharmacist training course recognized by J&K Govt. Homeopathy: Diploma in homeopathic training course recognized by J&K Govt. Age upto 45 Years	(i) Screening Test = <b>60 Points</b> . (ii) Matric = <b>10 Points</b> . (iii) Diploma in ISM Pharmacist (Homeopathic, Unani, Ayurvedic) from SMF or other recognized institute = <b>15 Points</b> . (iv) Viva Voce = <b>15 points</b> Note: - Item (i) to (iii) on pro-rata basis.

**Terms and Conditions :-**

- The applicant must be a permanent resident of J&K, hailing from District Budgam (**Medically**).
- The expression "Block Level" wherever used in this advertisement notification would mean "Medical Block" and not the "C.D Block" certified by concerned Block Medical Officers.
- Applications can be rejected by the screening committee if found not falling as per required criteria.
- Contract will be offered by District Health Society, Budgam and not by the J&K Government.
- The initial contract will be for a period upto 31-03-2022, extendable subject to performance review of the selected candidates, budgetary provisions in the next financial year and continuation of Scheme.
- The selected candidates shall be paid monthly honorarium under National Health Mission, as communicated by State Health Society J&K and contractual hiring shall not be entitled to any other allowances or monetary benefits whatsoever.
- A contractual appointee shall have to execute an agreement/bond with District Health Society Budgam.
- The contractual appointee shall be required to work at the place against the post to which he/she is appointed and shall not be eligible for transfer from the place of posting.
- Only recognised degrees shall be considered for eligibility.
- Applications not falling in the prescribed criteria or without aforesaid documents shall be rejected outrightly.
- The candidature of the appointed candidates shall be cancelled, in case it is found at any stage that he or she has concealed any fact or submitted fraudulent certificates or misrepresented the facts to avail the candidature.
- Number of posts may increase or decrease depending upon the sanction/approval from the State Health Society, NHM, J&K or any vacancy which may arise during the process of selection.
- All eligible candidates of District Budgam can apply for the said post subject to ; In case of the candidate is not available within the block, the candidate from the tehsil shall be given preference, if the candidate is not available within the tehsil, a candidate from within the district shall be considered.**

Interested candidates from the District Budgam can only apply by sending their applications on the prescribed format, which can be had from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Budgam. The duly filled application form along with one recent passport size photograph (attested), should reach in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Budgam by or before **15-09-2021** upto 4:00 P.M and shall not be responsible for any postal delays and applications received after last date shall not be entertained.

The list of documents (self-attested) to be attached with the application form are mentioned below:-

- Date of Birth Certificate.
- Diploma Marks Cards.
- Domicile certificate.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Marks Cards/Certificates.

No:- CMOB/NHM/21-22/  
Dated: 09-08-2021

**DIPK-7503/21**

Chief Medical Officer  
(Vice Chairman DHS)  
Budgam

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY EXCISE COMMISSIONER  
(EXECUTIVE), JAMMU.**

**EXCISE AND TAXATION COMPLEX, RAIL HEAD, JAMMU.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**(e-Auction of Wine Shops-Advance Notification)**

In terms of the Excise Policy 2021-22 Issued vide S. O. 114 dated 31.03.2021, licenses for retail vend of liquor for off-premises sale (JKEL-2) are to be issued through e-auction.

As on date following locations are to be re-auctioned:-

S. No.	Vend ID	Location	Excise Range
1	519	JMC Ward No.21-C	South, Jammu
2	532	Cantonment Board, Srinagar	Srinagar
3	562	SMC-B, Srinagar	Srinagar
4	576	SMC-C, Srinagar	Srinagar
5	489	Ward No. 5-A, Kathua MC	Kathua
6	518	JMC Ward No.10-D	North, Jammu
7	488	JMC Ward No.66-B	North, Jammu
8	368	JMC Ward No.19 (North of Tawi) B	North, Jammu
9	365	JMC Ward No.51, Jammu	South, Jammu
10	444	R. S. Pura TAC, Ward No.10-A	South, Jammu
11	500	Ward No.4-B, Udhampur MC	Udhampur-Reasi
12	471	Upper Rehmbal Panchayat	Udhampur-Reasi
13	413	Panchayat Pathwal-B	Kathua
14	499	Ward No.21 Kathua MC	Kathua
15	494	Ward No.5-B, Kathua	Kathua
16	483	Ward No.1, Kathua	Kathua
17	450	Panchayat Terhara	Kathua
18	575	Galak Panchayat	Kathua

The terms and conditions governing the issue of these licenses, eligibility criteria, the obligations in terms of Minimum Guaranteed Revenue (MGR) and Minimum Guaranteed Quota (MGQ) that the successful bidders in the e-auction shall have to comply with, are given in the Excise Policy ibid and are to be read with the Excise Act and Rules made there under. The manner in which the e-auction is to be conducted is also given in the Excise Policy ibid/Bid document which is available on the official website of the Excise Department i.e. [www.ikexcise.nic.in](http://www.ikexcise.nic.in).

The detailed schedule of e-auction and the instructions for bidders regarding registration and participation in the e-auction are likely to be issued soon and shall be available on the website mentioned above.

The licenses/vends shall be allotted to the successful bidder, after completion of the requisite formalities and operation of vends is likely to commence w.e.f. 1st Oct.,

Since the whole process has to be carried out in a limited time frame, this advance notification is issued for the information of interested persons/entities desirous of participating in the e-auction so that they acquaint themselves with all the issues of fact and law including familiarizing with the location(s), and undertake preparation of documents required for participation in Auction; make advance arrangement of premises, finances, solvency, documentation, etc. to enable themselves to participate effectively in the e-auction process and make the vend operational at the specified locations within the given time frame.

Kusum Sharma) KAS  
Deputy Excise Commissioner,  
Executive), Jammu.

Re-auction-JKEL-2/DECEJ/Exc/3525-27      Dated:25-08-2021

**DIPK-7384/21**

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION PULWAMA**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**

**e-NIT No. 30/2021-22 Dated: 25-08-2021**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT, J&K, Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Boc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Acct.
1	CONSTRUCTION OF 32 NO PASSENGER SHEDS AT SP. H. DOGPA B. Halqa M. 1000 B Block Tial	3.99	2000=	34, 500/-TDR	30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
2	Construction of 8 No BPL Houses at Dogpa B. Halqa B. 1000 B Block Tial	5.00	2000=	Acct. cost by TDR lowest cost, after opening of bid	30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
3	CONSTRUCTION OF JULYEST ON RA. PO. ROAD NEAR 400 SIFAJI D.D.H. Halqa M. 1000 B Block Tial	5.00	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
4	CONSTRUCTION OF JULYEST ON RA. PO. ROAD NEAR 400 SIFAJI D.D.H. Halqa M. 1000 B Block Tial	4.00	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
5	CONSTRUCTION OF JULYEST ON RA. PO. ROAD NEAR 400 SIFAJI D.D.H. Halqa M. 1000 B Block Tial	6.00	2000=		30 days	DF/DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
6	CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD FROM RAJAJI ROAD TO NAIN ROAD HAL. K. M. 1000 B Block Tial	3.50	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
7	Construction of various works at Rajajam, Halqa Pulgram-A Scheme: PR / Capex E-0300	4.80	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
8	Construction of road from J. A. B. Road to B. Road at Dogpa B. Halqa Budgam Scheme: DE/DF Capex E-0300	4.50	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)
9	Construction of road from W. Road to B. Road at Dogpa B. Halqa Budgam Scheme: PR / Capex Budget	3.50	2000=		30 days	DF	Capex E-0300 (P2)

Position of AAA Grade: 1      Position of AA Grade: 2      Position of A Grade: 3      Position of B Grade: 4      Position of C Grade: 5      Position of D Grade: 6      Position of E Grade: 7      Position of F Grade: 8      Position of G Grade: 9      Position of H Grade: 10      Position of I Grade: 11      Position of J Grade: 12      Position of K Grade: 13      Position of L Grade: 14      Position of M Grade: 15      Position of N Grade: 16      Position of O Grade: 17      Position of P Grade: 18      Position of Q Grade: 19      Position of R Grade: 20      Position of S Grade: 21      Position of T Grade: 22      Position of U Grade: 23      Position of V Grade: 24      Position of W Grade: 25      Position of X Grade: 26      Position of Y Grade: 27      Position of Z Grade: 28      Position of AA Grade: 29      Position of AB Grade: 30      Position of AC Grade: 31      Position of AD Grade: 32      Position of AE Grade: 33      Position of AF Grade: 34      Position of AG Grade: 35      Position of AH Grade: 36      Position of AI Grade: 37      Position of AJ Grade: 38      Position of AK Grade: 39      Position of AL Grade: 40      Position of AM Grade: 41      Position of AN Grade: 42      Position of AO Grade: 43      Position of AP Grade: 44      Position of AQ Grade: 45      Position of AR Grade: 46      Position of AS Grade: 47      Position of AT Grade: 48      Position of AU Grade: 49      Position of AV Grade: 50      Position of AW Grade: 51      Position of AX Grade: 52      Position of AY Grade: 53      Position of AZ Grade: 54      Position of BA Grade: 55      Position of BB Grade: 56      Position of BC Grade: 57      Position of BD Grade: 58      Position of BE Grade: 59      Position of BF Grade: 60      Position of BG Grade: 61      Position of BH Grade: 62      Position of BI Grade: 63      Position of BJ Grade: 64      Position of BK Grade: 65      Position of BL Grade: 66      Position of BM Grade: 67      Position of BN Grade: 68      Position of BO Grade: 69      Position of BP Grade: 70      Position of BQ Grade: 71      Position of BR Grade: 72      Position of BS Grade: 73      Position of BT Grade: 74      Position of BU Grade: 75      Position of BV Grade: 76      Position of BW Grade: 77      Position of BX Grade: 78      Position of BY Grade: 79      Position of BZ Grade: 80      Position of CA Grade: 81      Position of CB Grade: 82      Position of CC Grade: 83      Position of CD Grade: 84      Position of CE Grade: 85      Position of CF Grade: 86      Position of CG Grade: 87      Position of CH Grade: 88      Position of CI Grade: 89      Position of CJ Grade: 90      Position of CK Grade: 91      Position of CL Grade: 92      Position of CM Grade: 93      Position of CN Grade: 94      Position of CO Grade: 95      Position of CP Grade: 96      Position of CQ Grade: 97      Position of CR Grade: 98      Position of CS Grade: 99      Position of CT Grade: 100      Position of CU Grade: 101      Position of CV Grade: 102      Position of CW Grade: 103      Position of CX Grade: 104      Position of CY Grade: 105      Position of CZ Grade: 106      Position of DA Grade: 107      Position of DB Grade: 108      Position of DC Grade: 109      Position of DD Grade: 110      Position of DE Grade: 111      Position of DF Grade: 112      Position of DG Grade: 113      Position of DH Grade: 114      Position of DI Grade: 115      Position of DJ Grade: 116      Position of DK Grade: 117      Position of DL Grade: 118      Position of DM Grade: 119      Position of DN Grade: 120      Position of DO Grade: 121      Position of DP Grade: 122      Position of DQ Grade: 123      Position of DR Grade: 124      Position of DS Grade: 125      Position of DT Grade: 126      Position of DU Grade: 127      Position of DV Grade: 128      Position of DW Grade: 129      Position of DX Grade: 130      Position of DY Grade: 131      Position of DZ Grade: 132      Position of EA Grade: 133      Position of EB Grade: 134      Position of EC Grade: 135      Position of ED Grade: 136      Position of EE Grade: 137      Position of EF Grade: 138      Position of EG Grade: 139      Position of EH Grade: 140      Position of EI Grade: 141      Position of EJ Grade: 142      Position of EK Grade: 143      Position of EL Grade: 144      Position of EM Grade: 145      Position of EN Grade: 146      Position of EO Grade: 147      Position of EP Grade: 148      Position of EQ Grade: 149      Position of ER Grade: 150      Position of ES Grade: 151      Position of ET Grade: 152      Position of EU Grade: 153      Position of EV Grade: 154      Position of EW Grade: 155      Position of EX Grade: 156      Position of EY Grade: 157      Position of EZ Grade: 158      Position of FA Grade: 159      Position of FB Grade: 160      Position of FC Grade: 161      Position of FD Grade: 162      Position of FE Grade: 163      Position of FF Grade: 164      Position of FG Grade: 165      Position of FH Grade: 166      Position of FI Grade: 167      Position of FJ Grade: 168      Position of FK Grade: 169      Position of FL Grade: 170      Position of FM Grade: 171      Position of FN Grade: 172      Position of FO Grade: 173      Position of FP Grade: 174      Position of FQ Grade: 175      Position of FR Grade: 176      Position of FS Grade: 177      Position of FT Grade: 178      Position of FU Grade: 179      Position of FV Grade: 180      Position of FW Grade: 181      Position of FX Grade: 182      Position of FY Grade: 183      Position of FZ Grade: 184      Position of GA Grade: 185      Position of GB Grade: 186      Position of GC Grade: 187      Position of GD Grade: 188      Position of GE Grade: 189      Position of GF Grade: 190      Position of GG Grade: 191      Position of GH Grade: 192      Position of GI Grade: 193      Position of GJ Grade: 194      Position of GK Grade: 195      Position of GL Grade: 196      Position of GM Grade: 197      Position of GN Grade: 198      Position of GO Grade: 199      Position of GP Grade: 200      Position of GQ Grade: 201      Position of GR Grade: 202      Position of GS Grade: 203      Position of GT Grade: 204      Position of GU Grade: 205      Position of GV Grade: 206      Position of GW Grade: 207      Position of GX Grade: 208      Position of GY Grade: 209      Position of GZ Grade: 210      Position of HA Grade: 211      Position of HB Grade: 212      Position of HC Grade: 213      Position of HD Grade: 214      Position of HE Grade: 215      Position of HF Grade: 216      Position of HG Grade: 217      Position of HH Grade: 218      Position of HI Grade: 219      Position of HJ Grade: 220      Position of HK Grade: 221      Position of HL Grade: 222      Position of HM Grade: 223      Position of HN Grade: 224      Position of HO Grade: 225      Position of HP Grade: 226      Position of HQ Grade: 227      Position of HR Grade: 228      Position of HS Grade: 229      Position of HT Grade: 230      Position of HU Grade: 231      Position of HV Grade: 232      Position of HW Grade: 233      Position of HX Grade: 234      Position of HY Grade: 235      Position of HZ Grade: 236      Position of IA Grade: 237      Position of IB Grade: 238      Position of IC Grade: 239      Position of ID Grade: 240      Position of IE Grade: 241      Position of IF Grade: 242      Position of IG Grade: 243      Position of IH Grade: 244      Position of II Grade: 245      Position of IJ Grade: 246      Position of IK Grade: 247      Position of IL Grade: 248      Position of IM Grade: 249      Position of IN Grade: 250      Position of IO Grade: 251      Position of IP Grade: 252      Position of IQ Grade: 253      Position of IR Grade: 254      Position of IS Grade: 255      Position of IT Grade: 256      Position of IU Grade: 257      Position of IV Grade: 258      Position of IW Grade: 259      Position of IX Grade: 260      Position of IY Grade: 261      Position of IZ Grade: 262      Position of JA Grade: 263      Position of JB Grade: 264      Position of JC Grade: 265      Position of JD Grade: 266      Position of JE Grade: 267      Position of JF Grade: 268      Position of JG Grade: 269      Position of JH Grade: 270      Position of JI Grade: 271      Position of JJ Grade: 272      Position of JK Grade: 273      Position of JL Grade: 274      Position of JM Grade: 275      Position of JN Grade: 276      Position of JO Grade: 277      Position of JP Grade: 278      Position of JQ Grade: 279      Position of JR Grade: 280      Position of JS Grade: 281      Position of JT Grade: 282      Position of JU Grade: 283      Position of JV Grade: 284      Position of JW Grade: 285      Position of JX Grade: 286      Position of JY Grade: 287      Position of JZ Grade: 288      Position of KA Grade: 289      Position of KB Grade: 290      Position of KC Grade: 291      Position of KD Grade: 292      Position of KE Grade: 293      Position of KF Grade: 294      Position of KG Grade: 295      Position of KH Grade: 296      Position of KI Grade: 297      Position of KJ Grade: 298      Position of KK Grade: 299      Position of KL Grade: 300      Position of KM Grade: 301      Position of KN Grade: 302      Position of KO Grade: 303      Position of KP Grade: 304      Position of KQ Grade: 305      Position of KR Grade: 306      Position of KS Grade: 307      Position of KT Grade: 308      Position of KU Grade: 309      Position of KV Grade: 310      Position of KW Grade: 311      Position of KX Grade: 312      Position of KY Grade: 313      Position of KZ Grade: 314      Position of LA Grade: 315      Position of LB Grade: 316      Position of LC Grade: 317      Position of LD Grade: 318      Position of LE Grade: 319      Position of LF Grade: 320      Position of LG Grade: 321      Position of LH Grade: 322      Position of LI Grade: 323      Position of LJ Grade: 324      Position of LK Grade: 325      Position of LL Grade: 326      Position of LM Grade: 327      Position of LN Grade: 328      Position of LO Grade: 329      Position of LP Grade: 330      Position of LQ Grade: 331      Position of LR Grade: 332      Position of LS Grade: 333      Position of LT Grade: 334      Position of LU Grade: 335      Position of LV Grade: 336      Position of LW Grade: 337      Position of LX Grade: 338      Position of LY Grade: 339      Position of LZ Grade: 340      Position of MA Grade: 341      Position of MB Grade: 342      Position of MC Grade: 343      Position of MD Grade: 344      Position of ME Grade: 345      Position of MF Grade: 346      Position of MG Grade: 347      Position of MH Grade: 348      Position of MI Grade: 349      Position of MJ Grade: 350      Position of MK Grade: 351      Position of ML Grade: 352      Position of MM Grade: 353      Position of MN Grade: 354      Position of MO Grade: 355      Position of MP Grade: 356      Position of MQ Grade: 357      Position of MR Grade: 358      Position of MS Grade: 359      Position of MT Grade: 360      Position of MU Grade: 361      Position of MV Grade: 362      Position of MW Grade: 363      Position of MX Grade: 364      Position of MY Grade: 365      Position of MZ Grade: 366      Position of NA Grade: 367      Position of NB Grade: 368      Position of NC Grade: 369      Position of ND Grade: 370      Position of NE Grade: 371      Position of NF Grade: 372      Position of NG Grade: 373      Position of NH Grade: 374      Position of NI Grade: 375      Position of NJ Grade: 376      Position of NK Grade: 377      Position of NL Grade: 378      Position of NM Grade: 379      Position of NN Grade: 380      Position of NO Grade: 381      Position of NP Grade: 382      Position of NQ Grade: 383      Position of NR Grade: 384      Position of NS Grade: 385      Position of NT Grade: 386      Position of NU Grade: 387      Position of NV Grade: 388      Position of NW Grade: 389      Position of NX Grade: 390      Position of NY Grade: 391      Position of NZ Grade: 392      Position of OA Grade: 393      Position of OB Grade: 394      Position of OC Grade: 395      Position of OD Grade: 396      Position of OE Grade: 397      Position of OF Grade: 398      Position of OG Grade: 399      Position of OH Grade: 400      Position of OI Grade: 401      Position of OJ Grade: 402      Position of OK Grade: 403      Position of OL Grade: 404      Position of OM Grade: 405      Position of ON Grade: 406      Position of OO Grade: 407      Position of OP Grade: 408      Position of OQ Grade: 409      Position of OR Grade: 410      Position of OS Grade: 411      Position of OT Grade: 412      Position of OU Grade: 413      Position of OV Grade: 414      Position of OW Grade: 415      Position of OX Grade: 416      Position of OY Grade: 417      Position of OZ Grade: 418      Position of PA Grade: 419      Position of PB Grade: 420      Position of PC Grade: 421      Position of PD Grade: 422      Position of PE Grade: 423      Position of PF Grade: 424      Position of PG Grade: 425      Position of PH Grade: 426      Position of PI Grade: 427      Position of PJ Grade: 428      Position of PK Grade: 429      Position of PL Grade: 430      Position of PM Grade: 431      Position of PN Grade: 432      Position of PO Grade: 433      Position of PP Grade: 434      Position of PQ Grade: 435      Position of PR Grade: 436      Position of PS Grade: 437      Position of PT Grade: 438      Position of PU Grade: 439      Position of PV Grade: 440      Position of PW Grade: 441      Position of PX Grade: 442      Position of PY Grade: 443      Position of PZ Grade: 444      Position of QA Grade: 445      Position of QB Grade: 446      Position of QC Grade: 447      Position of QD Grade: 448      Position of QE Grade: 449      Position of QF Grade: 450      Position of QG Grade: 451      Position of QH Grade: 452      Position of QI Grade: 453      Position of QJ Grade: 454      Position of QK Grade: 455      Position of QL Grade: 456      Position of QM Grade: 457      Position of QN Grade: 458      Position of QO Grade: 459      Position of QP Grade: 460      Position of QQ Grade: 461      Position of QR Grade: 462      Position of QS Grade: 463      Position of QT Grade: 464      Position of QU Grade: 465      Position of QV Grade: 466      Position of QW Grade: 467      Position of QX Grade: 468      Position of QY Grade: 469      Position of QZ Grade: 470      Position of RA Grade: 471      Position of RB Grade: 472      Position of RC Grade: 473      Position of RD Grade: 474      Position of RE Grade: 475      Position of RF Grade: 476      Position of RG Grade: 477      Position of RH Grade: 478      Position of RI Grade: 479      Position of RJ Grade: 480      Position of RK Grade: 481      Position of RL Grade: 482      Position of RM Grade: 483      Position of RN Grade: 484      Position of RO Grade: 485      Position of RP Grade: 486      Position of RQ Grade: 487      Position of RR Grade: 488      Position of RS Grade: 489      Position of RT Grade: 490      Position of RU Grade: 491      Position of RV Grade: 492      Position of RW Grade: 493      Position of RX Grade: 494      Position of RY Grade: 495      Position of RZ Grade: 496      Position of SA Grade: 497      Position of SB Grade: 498      Position of SC Grade: 499      Position of SD Grade: 500      Position of SE Grade: 501      Position of SF Grade: 502      Position of SG Grade: 503      Position of SH Grade: 504      Position of SI Grade: 505      Position of SJ Grade: 506      Position of SK Grade: 507      Position of SL Grade: 508      Position of SM Grade: 509      Position of SN Grade: 510      Position of SO Grade: 511      Position of SP Grade: 512      Position of SQ Grade: 513      Position of SR Grade: 514      Position of SS Grade: 515      Position of ST Grade: 516      Position of SU Grade: 517      Position of SV Grade: 518      Position of SW Grade: 519      Position of SX Grade: 520      Position of SY Grade: 521      Position of SZ Grade: 522      Position of TA Grade: 523      Position of TB Grade: 524      Position of TC Grade: 525      Position of TD Grade: 526      Position of TE Grade: 527      Position of TF Grade: 528      Position of TG Grade: 529      Position of TH Grade: 530      Position of TI Grade: 531      Position of TJ Grade: 532      Position of TK Grade: 533      Position of TL Grade: 534      Position of TM Grade: 535      Position of TN Grade: 536      Position of TO Grade: 537      Position of TP Grade: 538      Position of TQ Grade: 539      Position of TR Grade: 540      Position of TS Grade: 541      Position of TT Grade: 542      Position of TU Grade: 543      Position of TV Grade: 544      Position of TW Grade: 545      Position of TX Grade: 546      Position of TY Grade: 547      Position of TZ Grade: 548      Position of UA Grade: 549      Position of UB Grade: 550      Position of UC Grade: 551      Position of UD Grade: 552      Position of UE Grade: 553      Position of UF Grade: 554      Position of UG Grade: 555      Position of UH Grade: 556      Position of UI Grade: 557      Position of UJ Grade: 558      Position of UK Grade: 559      Position of UL Grade: 560      Position of UM Grade: 561      Position of UN Grade: 562      Position of UO Grade: 563      Position of UP Grade: 564      Position of UQ Grade: 565      Position of UR Grade: 566      Position of US Grade: 567      Position of UT Grade: 568      Position of UU Grade: 569      Position of UV Grade: 570      Position of UW Grade: 571      Position of UX Grade: 572      Position of UY Grade: 573      Position of UZ Grade: 574      Position of VA Grade: 575      Position of VB Grade: 576      Position of VC Grade: 577      Position of VD Grade: 578      Position of VE Grade: 579      Position of VF Grade: 580      Position of VG Grade: 581      Position of VH Grade: 582      Position of VI Grade: 583      Position of VJ Grade: 584      Position of VK Grade: 585      Position of VL Grade: 586      Position of VM Grade: 587      Position of VN Grade: 588      Position of VO Grade: 589      Position of VP Grade: 590      Position of VQ Grade: 591      Position of VR Grade: 592      Position of VS Grade: 593      Position of VT Grade: 594      Position of VU Grade: 595      Position of VV Grade: 596      Position of VW Grade: 597      Position of VX Grade: 598      Position of VY Grade: 599      Position of VZ Grade: 600      Position of WA Grade: 601      Position of WB Grade: 602      Position of WC Grade: 603      Position of WD Grade: 604      Position of WE Grade: 605      Position of WF Grade: 606      Position of WG Grade: 607      Position of WH Grade: 608      Position of WI Grade: 609      Position of WJ Grade: 610      Position of WK Grade: 611      Position of WL Grade: 612      Position of WM Grade: 613      Position of WN Grade: 614      Position of WO Grade: 615      Position of WP Grade: 616      Position of WQ Grade: 617      Position of WR Grade: 618      Position of WS Grade: 619      Position of WT Grade: 620      Position of WU Grade: 621      Position of WV Grade: 622      Position of WX Grade: 623      Position of WY Grade: 624      Position of WZ Grade: 625      Position of XA Grade: 626      Position of XB Grade: 627      Position of XC Grade: 628      Position of XD Grade: 629      Position of XE Grade: 630      Position of XF Grade: 631      Position of XG Grade: 632      Position of XH Grade: 633      Position of XI Grade: 634      Position of XJ Grade: 635      Position of XK Grade: 636      Position of XL Grade: 637      Position of XM Grade: 638      Position of XN Grade: 639      Position of XO Grade: 640      Position of XP Grade: 641      Position of XQ Grade: 642      Position of XR Grade: 643      Position of XS Grade: 644      Position of XT Grade: 645      Position of XU Grade: 646      Position of XV Grade: 647      Position of XW Grade: 648      Position of XX Grade: 649      Position of XY Grade: 650      Position of XZ Grade: 651      Position of YA Grade: 652      Position of YB Grade: 653      Position of YC Grade: 654      Position of YD Grade: 655      Position of YE Grade: 656      Position of YF Grade: 657      Position of YG Grade: 658      Position of YH Grade: 659      Position of YI Grade: 660      Position of YJ Grade: 661      Position of YK Grade: 662      Position of YL Grade: 663      Position of YM Grade: 664      Position of YN Grade: 665      Position of YO Grade: 666      Position of YP Grade: 667      Position of



FDI Inflow Rises 90% To \$22.53 Bn During Apr-Jun

**Agencies**

New Delhi: The total foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow to India grew 90 per cent year-on-year to \$22.53 billion during the first three months of the ongoing financial year. The FDI inflow was at \$11.84 billion during April-June period of 2020. Meanwhile, the total FDI equity inflow rose 168 per cent to \$17.57 billion during the first three months of FY22 from \$6.56 billion in the year-ago period, the Commerce and Industry Ministry said in a release.

The automobile industry got the highest equity FDI inflow during the three months, with the share of the sector in total FDI equity inflow being at 27 per cent. It was followed by computer software and hardware with 17 per cent share and services

sector with 11 per cent share. "Under the sector 'automobile industry', majority of FDI equity inflow (88 per cent) was reported in the state of Karnataka during the first three months of the current financial year (2021-22)," the release said.

Karnataka was the top recipient state till June in FY22 with 48 per cent share of the total FDI equity inflows, followed by Maharashtra (23 per cent) and Delhi (11 per cent).

The ministry attributed the increase in FDI inflows to measures taken by the government like FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and improvement in ease of doing business.

The trends in FDI are an endorsement of India's status as a preferred investment destination amongst global investors, it said.

Govt Brings New 'BH' Registration Series For Personal Vehicles To Ensure Seamless Transfer Across States

New Delhi (PTI): To ensure seamless transfer of personal vehicles across states, the road transport ministry has come up with a new registration mark for new vehicles - Bharat Series (BH-series).

In this regard, the government has notified a new vehicle registration regime that will free vehicle owners from re-registration process when they shift from one state/union territory to another.

"This vehicle registration facility under 'Bharat series (BH-series)' will be available on voluntary basis to defense personnel, employees of central government/ state government/ central/ state public sector undertakings and private sector companies/organisations, which have their offices in four or more states/union territories," the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) said in a statement.

This scheme, it said, will facilitate free movement of personal vehicles across states/union territories of India upon relocation.

The statement further said that an IT-based solution for vehicle registration is one such effort as "one of the pain points in the vehicle registration process that needed attention was re-registration of a vehicle while moving to another state".

The MoRTH through a "notification dated 26th August 2021, has introduced a new registration mark for new vehicles i.e. 'Bharat series (BH-series)'. A vehicle bearing this registration mark shall not require assignment of a new registration mark when the owner of the vehicle shifts from one state to another," the statement further explained.

Currently, a person is allowed to keep vehicle for a maximum of 12 months in any state other than the state where it is registered. The owners has to get such vehicles re-registered before the expiry of 12 months.

The new rule aims to centralise the system of re-registration of vehicles when relocating between states an easier process.

Jan Dhan Accounts Swell To 43 Cr With Total Deposits Over Rs 1.46 Lakh Cr

**Agencies**

New Delhi (PTI): Bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY) have increased to 43 crore with total deposits over Rs 1.46 lakh crore, the finance ministry on Saturday said as the government's flagship financial inclusion scheme completes seven years of implementation. The PMJDY was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on August 15, 2014 and was simultaneously launched on August 28 to foster financial inclusion. This national mission was launched to ensure people have access to financial services, namely, banking, remittance, credit, insurance, pension in an affordable manner.

As on August 18, 2021, the number of total PMJDY accounts stood at 43.04 crore. Of this, 55.47 per cent (23.87 crore) Jan-Dhan account holders are women and 66.69 per cent (28.70 crore) holders are in rural and semi-urban areas, the finance ministry said in a statement.

During the first year of the scheme, 17.90 crore PMJDY accounts were opened.

Out of total 43.04 crore PMJDY ac-

counts, 36.86 crore or 85.6 per cent are operative, and the average deposit per account is Rs 3,398, as per the statement.

Increase in average deposit is another indication of increased usage of accounts and inculcation of saving habit among account holders, it said.

Total RuPay cards issued to PMJDY account holders rose to 31.23 crore. For account opened after August 28, 2018, the free accidental insurance cover on RuPay cards increased from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 2 lakh.

Under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana announced on March 26, 2020, an amount of Rs 500 per month for three months (April'20 to June'20) was credited to the accounts of PMJDY women account holders, the finance ministry said.

A total of Rs 30,945 crore has been credited in accounts of women PMJDY account holders during Covid lockdown as an income support measure.

About 5 crore PMJDY account-holders receive direct benefit transfer (DBT) from the Government under various schemes, the ministry statement added.

To ensure that the eligible beneficiaries receive their DBT in time, the

government takes an active role in identification of avoidable reasons for DBT failures in consultation with DBT Mission, NPCI, banks and various other ministries, it said.

With close monitoring in this regard through regular video conferencing with banks and NPCI, the share of DBT failures due to avoidable reasons as a percentage of total DBT failures has decreased from 13.5 per cent (FY 19-20) to 5.7 per cent (FY 20-21), it noted.

On the road ahead, the finance ministry said, eligible PMJDY account holders will be sought to be covered under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY).

Banks have already been communicated about the same, it said. The government is also focussed on promotion of digital payments including RuPay debit card usage amongst PMJDY account holders through creation of acceptance infrastructure across India, it said.

Another focus area is improving access of PMJDY account holders to micro-credit and micro investment such as flexi-recurring deposit etc, it said.

Tomato Price Crash Forces Farmers To Dump Produce In Nashik

Mumbai (PTI): Tomato prices have crashed by at least 50 per cent at the wholesale market in Nashik and are being sold at Rs 2.5-9 per kg due to higher production this season and lower exports, according to traders.

"Lack of exports, higher production in the area and uneven distribution of rainfall affecting the quality of the produce that made it highly perishable than before, especially the Kesar variety, forced many farmers to dump their pro-



Tomatoes in some areas have also got damaged due to adverse weather conditions, forcing farmers to dump their produce on roads, they added.

Nashik APMC Secretary Arun Kale said the prices of tomatoes have come down to Rs 50-180 per crate, 20 kg each, this season (June-January), depending on the quality compared to Rs 300-350 per crate in the previous season.

duce on roads," Kale told PTI.

Additionally, he said that higher fuel prices have made the input cost much more than the wholesale prices, which is another reason that farmers are finding it difficult to transport their produce to the mandis and instead dumping it. Balasaheb Patole of Nashik APMC further noted that till now, around 1,000-1,500 crates of tomatoes have been dumped by farmers.

Cocoon Rearing A Profitable Enterprise; Making Efforts To Attract More Youth: Dir Sericulture

Srinagar: The Director Sericulture Development Department, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri Saturday inaugurated Cocoon Auction Market at Sarnal Anantnag. The purpose of the market is to facilitate open auction of cocoons produced by the farmers of twin districts of Anantnag and Kulgam and shall remain open till September, 03 this year.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director said that the department has created marketing infrastructure with requisite facilities for open auction of cocoons and storage and residential facilities for locals as well as outside buyers. This has been done to ensure healthy competitions during the auctioning process so as to boost the price of the produce, he added. Interacting with the growers, the Director said that cocoon rearing is a viable and profitable enterprise and the department is making efforts to attract more youth towards the sector. This provides livelihood opportunities to them and also creates a competitive market environment, remarked the Director.

Qadri said that the department is incentivising the farmers for bulk production which has helped in achieving the targets.

The officials of the department narrated that during the current year 640 MTs of cocoons are expected to be transacted in the market. For growers, DBT facility has been provided while as for buyers cocoon bank facility is available, added the officials.

The Market witnessed participation of a large number of growers and buyers besides the officials of the concerned department.

Income-Tax Return Filing: Centre Set To Extend Key Dates Amid ITR Portal Glitches

New Delhi: The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is set to extend the key deadlines for income-tax returns (ITR) filing even as it picked up pace after Infosys fixed the snags on the new ITR portal. The deadline extension comes in the wake of troubles faced by the taxpayers.

More than 4 lakh ITR returns are being filed a day for the past four days as against a total standstill in filings for two days from August 21. Given the situation, the Centre would extend the key return-filing deadlines, giving ample time to the taxpayers to file ITRs.

"We are factoring in the delays caused due to the technical glitches on the new portal. The extension of dates will be notified in the coming day or two. It will leave taxpayers with suf-

ficient time to comply. We will ease their nervousness," Business Standard quoted a government source as saying.



More than 8 million ITRs for FY21 have been filed so far, which is around 14% of the returns filed by the last date for FY20. The CBDT is also expected to come out with the statistics on daily filings on the new portal.

"Things are settling down and that can be seen from the returns and form filing. These are early days. September has not come. 8 million is a good number for a portal that struggled to settle. These are tell-tale sign that things are settling down," the source added.

The last date for filing ITRs by salaried individuals as well as those whose accounts need to be audited was pushed to September 30 from July 31.

The deadline for tax audit cases has been extended to November 30 from September 30.

Meanwhile, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has given Infosys, who was awarded the Rs 4,242 crore contract to develop the new platform, time till September 15 to resolve the issue of technical glitches.

I-T Dept Detects Rs 175 Cr Black Income After Raids On Steel Manufacturing Group In Maha, Goa

New Delhi (PTI): The Income Tax (I-T) Department has detected alleged tax evasion of Rs 175 crore following raids on a steel manufacturing and trading group based in Maharashtra and Goa, the CBDT said on Saturday.

The searches were carried out on Wednesday in Pune, Nashik and Ahmednagar districts of Maharashtra and in Goa, and a total of 44 premises were covered.

"So far, a total of Rs 175.5 crore of unaccounted income has been unearthed including unaccounted cash and jewellery, shortage and excess of stock and bogus purchases," a Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) statement said, adding that the raids are continuing.

It said "unaccounted" cash of Rs 3 crore and jewellery worth Rs 5.20 crore have been seized.

The CBDT claimed that 194

kg "unaccounted" silver articles worth Rs 1.34 crore have been found during the searches and



have been "accepted and declared" as additional income by the assessee.

"Evidence detected during the search revealed that the group was engaged in fraudulent practice of booking bogus purchases of

scrap and sponge iron from various fake invoice issuers," it said.

"Premises of fake invoice issuers were also covered during the search," it said.

The statement said such invoice issuers have admitted that they supplied only bills but no materials and also generated fake e-way bills to show it as genuine purchases and to claim GST input credit.

"With the active support of GST authorities in Pune, the vehicle movement tracking app was used to identify fake e-way bills.

"Total bogus purchases identified from these parties, so far, is about Rs 160 crore," it said.

The CBDT claimed that the taxman found a "shortage of goods of Rs 3.5 crore and excess stocks of Rs 4 crore from the premises, and the same has been admitted by the assessees".

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER REW DIVISION PULWAMA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e- NIT No. 33/2021-22 Dated 26-08-2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Of Union Territory Of J&K, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT of J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Acctt
1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9
1	Improvement of Dandi road BWO R/Wall at Hakripora. Block NEWA Scheme Capex Budget.	3.00	200/=	3% FDR/CDR Advt. cost by 1st lowest bidder, after opening of bid	30 days	DEE	Capex Budget (PRI)
2	C/O Extension Building near Panchayat Ghar Newa. Block NEWA Scheme Capex Budget.	13.00	600/=		30 days	DEE/CEE	Capex Budget (BOC)
3	C/O 2 No Foot paths at Hr sec school karimabad and girls primary school karimabad. Block NEWA Scheme Capex Budget	3.30	200/=		30 days	DEE	Capex Budget (PRI)
4	Improvement of kull from M/R to L/O Manzoor Ahmad and others at K-Parigam Block..NEWA Scheme Capex Budget	4.00	200/=		30 days	DEE	Capex Budget (PRI)
5	Improvement of parigam nallah with P/Bund from Ganie Nag to Hamzapora Parigam. BlockM NEWA Scheme Capex Budget	4.00	200/=		30 days	DEE	Capex Budget (PRI)
6	Upgradation of L/Road BWO culvert from main road to Grateh khah at urwan. Block NEWA Scheme Capex Budget	5.86	600/=		30 days	DEE/CEE	Capex Budget (PRI)

**Position of AAA: Accorded** **Position of Technical sanction: Accorded**

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 as per schedule of dates.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-08-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	26-08-2021 From 2.00 PM to 09-09-2021 Up to 4.00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	26-08-2021 from 2:00 PM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	09-09-2021 up to 4.00 PM
6.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) -	10-09-2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW Division PULWAMA
7.	Note: Hard copy of original Treasury Challan Receipt and EMD shall be deposited after the financial bid is opened. In case the original Treasury Challan Receipt and EMD is not Deposited within 2 days after the Financial Bid is Opened for all responsive bidders who have participated online , the Department shall serve the Notice as per Rules.	

- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division PULWAMA (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 withdraw 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. Besides, original / photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically / by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.
- Self Help Group of Engineers shall be entitled to execute the work of contracts only in the District in which it is registered. (vide Govt. Order No: 14-L&F of 2017 dated 20-02-2017)
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

No.Xen/REW/Pul/327-37  
Dated:- 26-08-2021  
**DIPK-7509/21**

Sd / -  
**Executive Engineer (REW)**  
**Division PULWAMA**



# PM Inaugurates Renovated Jallianwala Bagh Memorial Complex, Says Not Right To Ignore Such Horrors

Agenceis

**AMRITSAR:** Stressing that it is a country's duty to protect its history, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that events of the past "teach us and give us direction to move forward", as he dedicated to the nation the renovated complex of Jallianwala Bagh memorial.

Modi, who inaugurated the complex virtually, paid homage to those killed in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

"The global developments remind us of the importance of self-reliance and self-confidence.

"At a time when we are celebrating Amrut Mahotsav, we should strengthen our nation's foundation and take pride in it," the PM said.

"Today, if any Indian is in trouble anywhere in the world, then India stands up to help him with all its might. Be it the corona(virus) period or the crisis of Afghanistan, the world has experienced it continuously. Hundreds of people from Afghanistan are being brought to India under Operation Devi

Shakti," he said.

Modi said the dedication of the renovated complex in the country's 75th year of independence is a matter of inspiration for all.

"It is the duty of every country to protect its history. Events of the past teach us and give direction to move forward," he said.

Horrors like the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and the Partition speak of the sacrifices made for India's freedom and should not be forgotten as they inspire to keep the country above all.

"It is not right for any country to ignore such horrors of its past," he said, noting that August 14 is now being observed as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.

"This place will inspire future generations about the journey of our Independence movement, the sacrifices and countless struggles of our ancestors.

"What should be our duty towards our nation and how we should keep the country above all in everything we do, the inspiration for this will come from this place," the PM said.

Quoting Gurbani, Modi said happiness emanates from empathy and service.

For the all-round progress of Punjab and the country, a combined effort is needed, he said, adding that "virasat (heritage) and vikas (development) must coexist".

Modi said the people of Punjab have been the biggest victims of the country's partition.

"We still feel the pain of what happened at the time of Partition in every corner of India and especially in the families of Punjab.

"We will have to work together for the progress of Punjab and the country in every sphere with the spirit of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas," he said.

Referring to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, the PM said those 10 minutes of April 13, 1919 became the immortal story of India's freedom struggle.

He said Jallianwala Bagh is the place that inspired countless revolutionaries and freedom fighters like Sardar Udham Singh and Sardar Bhagat Singh

to make sacrifices for the country.

During the event, Modi also digitally inaugurated the museum galleries at the memorial. The event also showcased the multiple development initiatives undertaken by the government to upgrade the complex.

The PM noted that tribal communities contributed greatly to the freedom struggle and made many sacrifices. However, their contributions did not find mention in history books to the extent they deserve.

He added that work is underway on museums in nine states of the country to showcase tribal freedom fighters and their struggle.

Underlining the brave tradition of Punjab, Modi said that following the path of gurus, brave sons of the soil have fearlessly stood like a rock against all dangers facing the country.

Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs from Punjab and members

of Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Trust, among others, were present on the occasion.

As part of the inaugural event, a wreath-laying ceremony was also held and a two-minute silence was observed in memory of those killed in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

A sound and light show was held to depict the events of the day of the massacre.

Four museum galleries have been created through adaptive reuse of redundant and under-utilised buildings.

They showcase the historical value of the events that unfolded in Punjab during that period, with the fusion of audio-visual technology, including projection mapping and 3D representation, as well as art and sculptural installations.

Over 1,000 people were killed and hundreds wounded on April 13, 1919 when British troops fired indiscriminately on an unarmed gathering of thousands who had assembled in Jallianwala Bagh amid nationwide protests against the Rowlatt Act which had extended wartime repressive measures.

inherent biases," he said.

Justice Chandrachud said that as responsible citizens, "we should put these 'truth providers' through intense scrutiny and questioning to convince ourselves of the veracity of the claims made by them. For this, it is also equally important for those making truth claims to be transparent and conspicuous".

He said citizens must together endeavour to create and encourage a culture that is conducive for deliberation of truth, particularly because truth dances on a fine balance between facts and opinions".

He pointed out that in India opinions of women, Dalits and others belonging to marginalised communities were not conferred the status of 'truth' since they did not traditionally enjoy power.

## Police File Charge Sheet Against Four In Delhi Cantt Rape-Murder Of 9-Year-Old Girl

Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi Police filed a charge sheet in a court here on Saturday against a crematorium priest and three others for alleged rape and murder of a nine-year-old girl in the Delhi Cantonment area earlier this month.

In a statement, the Union Home Ministry said the filing of charge sheet shows the Narendra Modi government's commitment to act speedily to ensure stringent punishment for those committing crimes against women and girls.

The 400-page final report named Radhey Shyam, the 55-year-old priest of the crematorium in South-West district, and its employees -- Kuldeep Singh, Salim Ahmad and Laxmi Narayan as accused -- claiming there was sufficient evidence against them.

The accused were charged under sections 302 (murder), 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 376D (gang rape), 342 (wrongful confinement), 506 (criminal intimidation), 201 (destruction of evidence) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC.

The four have also been charge-sheeted under Section 6 (aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act and Section 3 (offences of atrocities) of the SC/ST Act.

All the accused are currently in judicial custody.

The report was filed before Duty Magistrate Manu Shree, who kept it for the consideration of the court concerned for August 31. The case was transferred to the Crime Branch of Delhi Police on August 5.

The final report has also included a report by the special investigating team, which was formed by the crime branch for expeditious and professional investigation.

During the investigation, scientific, technical and other



evidence was gathered and analysed, besides recording testimonies of relevant witnesses. Assistance was taken from Forensic Science Laboratory, Rohini as well as Delhi Police's Forensic Experts on Biology and Odontology, the police said.

It said that forensic psychologists were also engaged during the interrogation of the accused and a report has been included in the final report.

The Delhi Police registered a case against the four on the basis of the statement of the minor's mother, who alleged that her daughter was raped and murdered and later cremated without the family's consent on August 1.

In its statement, the Union Home Ministry, under which the Delhi Police functions, said the charge sheet was filed after Home Minister Amit Shah had given directions for speedy completion of investigation and filing of the charge sheet within 30 day so that the victim family gets speedy justice.

Keeping in view the sensitivity of the case, the charge sheet has been submitted within 30 days, the statement said.

"Filing of charge sheet by the Delhi Police shows the zero tolerance and commitment of the Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to act speedily to ensure stringent punishment for those committing crimes against women and girls," the statement said.

## We Must Strive To Ensure Press Is Free From Any Influence: Justice Chandrachud

Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** Supreme Court judge Justice D Y Chandrachud on Saturday said that to counter fake news and lies, citizens must strive to ensure the press is free from any influence -- political or economic -- and would provide information in an unbiased manner.

One cannot only rely on the state to determine the truth, he said addressing students and faculty members of law colleges and universities, and judges at the sixth M C Chagla Memorial lecture.

Even opinions by experts such as scientists, statisticians, researchers and economists may not always be true because they may not have political affiliation but their claims are also subject to manipulation due to ideological

affinity, receipt of financial aids or personal malice, Justice Chandrachud said.

"As such, all policies of the state can be assumed to have been formed on their basis of what the truth of our society is. However, this by no means leads to the conclusion that the states cannot indulge in falsehood for political reasons, even in democracies," he said, adding the "role of the US in the Vietnam War did not see the daylight until the Pentagon Papers were published".

In the context of the pandemic, "we see that there is an increasing trend of countries across the world who are trying to manipulate data on the COVID-19 infection rate and deaths", he said.

"The first thing to do is to strengthen our public institutions. As citizens, we must strive to ensure that we have a

press that is free from influence of any kind, political or economic, which will provide us information in an unbiased manner," the Supreme Court judge said.

He added that experts are also often employed by think tanks who conduct research to support specific opinions, but the truth of marginalised communities does not often see the light of the day due to their position in society.

"Similarly, these communities are often never designated as experts due to being prevented from accessing these positions through systemic oppression. As such, that takes away their opportunity to contribute to the determination of truth.

"Since their perspective is never taken into account, the claims of experts also suffer from the problem of their

inherent biases," he said.

Justice Chandrachud said that as responsible citizens, "we should put these 'truth providers' through intense scrutiny and questioning to convince ourselves of the veracity of the claims made by them. For this, it is also equally important for those making truth claims to be transparent and conspicuous".

He said citizens must together endeavour to create and encourage a culture that is conducive for deliberation of truth, particularly because truth dances on a fine balance between facts and opinions".

He pointed out that in India opinions of women, Dalits and others belonging to marginalised communities were not conferred the status of 'truth' since they did not traditionally enjoy power.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

## World Is Changing

developments. This applies all the more to a country like ours, being a country whose interests are directly linked to the Indian Ocean," he said.

The Indian Ocean, a key geostrategic space and considered the backyard of the Indian Navy, is witnessing rising Chinese military footprint forcing the Indian Navy to expand its presence.

"The Indian Ocean region, with more than two-thirds of the world's oil shipments take place, one-third of bulk cargo and more than half of container traffic, serves as a key route in achieving the world's own interests," Singh said.

"And as I just mentioned, today's changing world certainly impacts these areas as well. As such, we need to be vigilant at all times," he said.

The defence minister said in view of global security reasons, border disputes, and maritime dominance, countries around the world are moving towards modernising and strengthening their military power.

He said the demand for military equipment is increasing continuously, noting reports suggest that in the next one or two years, the expenditure on security around the world is going to reach USD 2.1 trillion and it is expected to increase manifold in the next five years.

"In such a situation, today we have great scope to make full use of our capabilities, take advantage of policies, and move towards making the country an indigenous shipbuilding hub," he said.

Singh also said that the Indian Coast Guard has made its mark at the international level by playing a leading role in coastal security as well as in maritime crises, and disasters.

## IAF Signs Emergency

under emergency provisions to buy 70,000 AK-103 assault rifles from Russia. The weapons would be first provided to troops in field areas like Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar along with sensitive air bases," government sources told ANI.

The remaining part of the requirement would be met after India and Russia sign a deal to produce the more advanced AK-203 together within India. The contract for the AK-203 assault rifles is being processed under the Army which requires around 6.5 lakh of these rifles to strengthen its troops' firepower.

A small portion of the IAF requirement was met by the acquisition of around 4,000 Sig Sauer assault rifles that have been procured as part of a larger contract by the Indian Army.

In the last couple of years especially after the Chinese aggression on the Eastern Ladakh front, Indian defence forces have hastened the speed of modernisation of basic weapon systems as troops open the front have already been provided with 1.5 lakh American Sig Sauers along with over 16,000 Negev Light Machine Guns.

The AK-103 assault rifles are already in the existing inventory of the Marine Commandos of the Indian Navy which uses them in operations in the Kashmir valley where they are deployed in the Wular lake.

The emergency procurements of the Indian

armed forces have allowed them to fill the critical gaps in their preparedness in war-fighting. The forces have been given the freedom to choose the weapons they want to buy and these can be acquired under the route which allowed them to get deliveries within one year.

The AK-103 is an upgraded version of the legendary and deadly AK-47. The rifles would also be provided to the Garud special forces who are deployed across the country at airbases.

The requirement for upgraded personal weapons has been felt by the IAF for a long time but the process gained speed post-Pathankot attack in 2016. The IAF now also lays a lot of stress on the personal combat capabilities of its troops along with using their technical abilities

## J&K Logs 166

reported from Bandipora district, officials said. They said Shopian in south Kashmir reported no new cases of Covid-19, while Baramulla reported 10, Budgam 16, Pulwama 9, Kupwara 6, Ganderbal 8, Kulgam and Anantnag 4 each new cases of virus.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu reported 2 cases, Rajouri 3, Doda 14, Kathua 1, Samba 2, Kishtwar 6, and Reasi 1. Three districts of Udhampur, Poonch and Ramban reported no new case of virus.

Also, officials said, one new coronavirus related death was reported from Jammu division, taking the overall fatality count in J&K to 4406—2165 in Jammu and 2241 in Kashmir.

Moreover, the officials said that 103 more Covid-19 patients have recovered—36 from Jammu Division and 67 from the Valley.

## PDP Members

not being allowed to conduct a meeting in Bijbehara today. The gates leading to Mufti sahab's grave have been locked & blocked with barbed wires. Can @muKmrPolice explain why were these young men roughed up?" Mehbooba said on Twitter.

The PDP president said preventing the PDP youth from holding a meeting in South Kashmir "reinforces GOIs (Government of India's) strategy of not allowing any meaningful political engagement especially the one that involves Kashmiri youngsters".

"GOI wants to justify their iron fist approach by branding all Kashmiris as perpetrators of violence," she said.

Mehbooba said the daily encounters where militants are killed have become a "source of celebration" for the Centre, but the PDP does not believe in violence.

"We want to fight peacefully & politically. By discouraging political activities GOI is pushing Kashmiris to the wall," she said.

Later, the activists of the party's youth wing protested the police's action and called for the restoration of electoral democracy.

## Ladakh Shuts

and bifurcated it into two union territories of J&K and Ladakh.

While the people of Leh have welcomed the fulfilment of their long pending demand of UT status and later formed the apex body in support of the demand for implementation of the sixth schedule of the constitution to safeguard

their culture and identity, the KDA was not in the favour of UT status and raised the demand of statehood to Ladakh.

However, on August 1, the ideologically different representatives of Kargil and Leh districts joined hands to seek full-fledged statehood along with constitutional safeguards for the region -- eight months after their historic meeting last year.

The Apex body and KDA are also demanding one more Lok Sabha seat and two Rajya Sabha seats besides a special recruitment drive for the local youth to fill up over 10,000 vacancies.

The Apex body and the KDA called for the general strike in Ladakh on Saturday, claiming that their efforts to start a dialogue with the union home ministry was not positively responded and an attempt was made to "divide the people of Ladakh" by inviting their constituents separately by the visiting MOS home instead of extending an invitation to a joint delegation, proposed by the Apex body and KDA.

While the strike call paralysed normal life in both Leh and Kargil districts with all shops and business establishments closed, the union minister invited the joint delegation of the Apex body and KDA and held a meeting with them, officials said.

"The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere and the union minister heard our demands patiently," former minister and co-chairman of the KDA Qamar Ali Akhoo told reporters after the meeting.

Akhoo, who was flanked by other prominent leaders including apex body leader and former MP Thupstang Chhewang and Co-chairman KDA Asgar Ali Karbalai, said the union minister assured them that the dialogue with them would continue for the resolution of their demands.

He thanked the people of Ladakh for observing a "complete strike" and said: "we (the KDA and the apex body) will raise all their issues and seek their early redressal." Besides the demand for statehood and constitutional safeguards for Ladakh, he said the delegation also raised the demand for filling up of vacancies to provide employment to the youth of the union territory.

## Yamraj Is Everywhere

how secure it is. The Yamraj (Angel of death) is everywhere why bother about him in Kashmir alone?"

Dr Farooq was speaking to a gathering at the closing ceremony of Greentech Foundation's two days meet on Safety and Energy at the tourist resort of Sonmarg.

Referring to Coronavirus which crippled mighty nations like the USA, Dr Farooq said, "Our India has fared well, despite the highest poverty. Our scientific and medical community made our country proud, he said."

Giving hope to his Dr Farooq said, "We will get over the insurgency soon. Keep faith. We have to survive and we make our nation survive."

"God is neither in temple nor mosque. God, the Allah is in every one of us. It is an earnest desire for all of us to live together and progress together. We made a nation that stands for all," said Dr Abdullah.

"The holy Quran teaches us to respect each other, respect humanity. When you go back home make a new India, make India for all. Before I sleep I want to see a new India. The liberators of this nation, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru couldn't see. But, I am optimistic and I would like to see a new India, the India that stands for all."

Welcoming the gathering, Kamalshwar Sharan, CEO of Greentech Foundation said, "what we hear about Jammu & Kashmir about safety is different from what we have been witnessing for the past couple of days. There is a perception gap. We need to correct this. We will spread a positive word about it. We will convey the ground reality of the region."

150 delegates from across India and cross-section of industries participated in the meet. The delegates came from organizations like ONGC, NTPC Ltd, Dalmia Cement, HPCL, IIM Rohtak, Steel Authority of India Ltd, Lupin Ltd etc deliberated, said Sharan.

## NIA Charges Seven

Hilal of Bijbehara (Anantnag) and Abdul Rashid of Tangdhara (Kupwara).

"Investigation has established that the seven charge-sheeted accused persons were part of a deep-rooted conspiracy for procuring and selling narcotics drugs and generating funds in J&K and other parts of India in close association with operatives of banned militant outfits Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), based across the border in Pakistan," the spokesperson said.

"The funds generated were pumped for furtherance of terrorist activity in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir through a network of over ground workers," the spokesperson said.

The case was initially registered at the Handwara Police Station in Kupwara district on June 11, 2020 after Abdul Momin Peer was arrested and an amount of Rs 20,01,000 and two kg heroin were recovered from his vehicle during a routine check, the spokesperson said.

Further interrogation of Peer led to the recovery of 15 kg heroin and Rs 1.15 crore in cash, according to the spokesperson.

The NIA re-registered the case on June 26, 2020 and took over the investigation, the spokesperson said.

## Let's Join Hands

they are integral to the existence of humans. "That is why we are making attempts to keep bio-diversity in mind in making Jammu as well as Srinagar smart cities," he said.

He said that as part of the smart city project, the UT administration has submitted a proposal for Metro Rail in the twin capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu.

On the coronavirus pandemic, Sinha told the gathering, "The danger is not over yet. The administration can only try, and it is trying wholeheartedly and with full responsibility, but unless you do not become a part of it, unless you do not vow to follow SOPs, social distancing and wear masks, we cannot win. No one wants to see the third wave."

## 'Govt Working

Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) K.K Pathak here at Raj Bhavan on Saturday, an official spokesperson said. Pathak, he said, apprised the LG about the progress being made on the Zojila tunnel and Z-Morh tunnel. The MD, he said, also apprised the LG on the status of winter preparedness and informed that Sonamarg-Ladakh connectivity would remain open throughout the winter.

"Discussion was also held on various other projects of NHIDCL in the UT. The MD expressed confidence in completing both the tunnels before the target date," he said.

The official spokesperson said that Padma Shree Javed Ahmad Tak along with President Jammu and Kashmir Handicapped Association, Abdul Rashid Bhat also met LG and discussed with him various concerning issues of the differently-abled (PwD) community of the UT.

"They put forth the demands of special employment drive for educated persons with disabilities, raising the amount under ISSS pensions, easy accessibility in government offices, and reservation in private sectors, besides other facilities for youth belonging to PwD category," he said.

## 2 Kashmiri Teachers

in terms of occurrence, area, diversity and age, he added.

## Bear Injures

incident two others also received minor injuries. Two of the injured have been identified as Saja Begum and Bashir Ahmed Dar.

Among the three, Saja Begum has been referred to SMHS Srinagar for further treatment.

## Youth Found

team reached the spot and shifted the body to hospital for postmortem.

Meanwhile, a police official said that proceedings under section 174 CrPc have been started in this regard.

## Man Involved

Sheikh was arrested in a case of house trespassing and theft in Rajouri town, according to a police spokesperson.

"During the interrogation, the suspect disclosed his involvement in a case of armed robbery and murder in Mysuru," the spokesperson said, adding that the Mysuru police verified this.

Cash worth Rs 46,410 and 234.8 gm gold worth about Rs 11 lakh were recovered from his possession, the police said.

Sheikh and his associates were involved in the armed robbery at a jewellery shop in Mysuru. A customer was shot dead during the robbery. A case is registered at Vidyanayapuram police station in Mysuru, the spokesperson said.

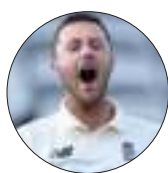
## Ladakh Reports

pandemic last year.

The official said a total of 4,471 persons were tested for COVID-19 and eight of them, four each in Leh and Kargil, returned positive.

Ten patients were discharged from Leh hospital after successful treatment, taking the tally of cured patients to 20,259, they said, adding of the active cases, 45 are in Leh and 19 in Kargil.





**IT'S QUITE BIZARRE, IT CAN HAPPEN** in this country, batting collapses. We thought the pitch was good to bat on, coming on nicely. But the discipline forced mistakes and the pressure was relentless. Difficult to cope when you're not scoring runs. That caused the batting order to crumble."

## ARCO FC Defeats Kashmir Avengers FC In CMW Football Tournament



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a turn of events, ARCO FC defeated Kashmir Avengers in sixth CMW Knockout Football Tournament held at Chanderhama.

Kashmir Avengers FC is one of the best football clubs in J&K, has various foreign players

under its wing and is a formidable opponent for any football team on a given day.

ARCO FC won the match by 3-0 goals against the Avengers' highly talented side and registered a convincing win.

The first goal was scored by Ishfaq followed by Yawar and Shahid who scored one goal each.

## Advisor Khan Bats For Timely Execution Of Sports Infrastructure Projects

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Advisor to LG, Farooq Khan on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the physical and financial progress of various sports infrastructure projects under J&K Sports Council (JKSC) being executed through Jammu and Kashmir Project Construction Corporation (JKPCC).



The meeting was attended by Managing Director, JKPCC, Vikas Kundal, Executive Director JKPCC, Chief Engineer, JKPCC, Secretary, JKSC, Deputy General Managers of JKPCC and other concerned officials of the JKSC.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the physical progress achieved on various projects like, multi-purpose indoor sports halls at Gool (Ramban), Doda, Kishtwar, Mandi (Poonch), Budgam, Shopian, Rajpora Pulwama, Mirgund Pattan and other places.

While reviewing the progress on these projects, Advisor Khan stressed upon the officers for speedy and timely completion of all the projects of JKSC to provide sportspersons of J&K a reliable and modern type of sports infrastructure to realize their potential. He asked them to make concerted efforts to involve more and more youth into sports to channelize their energies.

Speaking on the progress

made on construction of multi-purpose indoor sports halls at Doda, Kishtwar, Advisor Khan directed the officers to complete both these projects before 31st of December 2021.

Regarding the Multi-purpose Indoor Hall at Mandi, Poonch the Advisor expressed his displeasure on slow progress and exhorted upon JKPCC to complete this project before 31st of March 2022.

Regarding the Multi-purpose Indoor Sports Hall Gool, Ramban, MD JKPCC informed the Advisor that while executing the project it was found that the soil condition at the site was not stable as such the project was redesigned for giving it a sound footing which led to delay as well as cost escalation.

The Advisor directed the JKPCC and Sports Council to jointly inspect the site at Gool and come up with revised DPR. It was further directed to formulate a pert chart so that the progress on these works can be monitored and supervised on weekly basis.

The Advisor also directed the officers to devise a mechanism for water harvesting at all stadiums where roofs have yet not be constructed, so that the water harvested by this technique can be utilised for different purposes while carrying out various activities in these stadiums.

The Advisor further directed JKPCC to ensure that the Grounds around the Multi-Purpose Indoor Sports Halls are cleared of all the rubble, building material and are cleaned so that the same can also be utilized by the Sports Persons. Besides it was also directed by the Advisor that the access to the Indoor Halls should be provided by good macadamized roads.

The Engineers of JKPCC informed the Advisor that the Multi-Purpose Indoor Hall at Mirgund Pattan and Shopian will be completed in all respects by 30th of September and 31st of October, 2021 respectively. Further it was informed that the Multi-purpose Indoor Hall at Rajpora Pulwama is complete and is ready for inauguration.

# Robinson Blows Away India As England Win By Innings & 76 Runs



Press Trust of India

LEEDS: Pacer Ollie Robinson engineered a middle-order collapse with the second new ball as England completed a facile innings and 76 run victory against India on the fourth day of the third Test, here on Saturday.

All the good work on Friday, when India reached 215 for two at stumps, was completely undone as Robinson (5/26) and James Anderson (1/26) hit the right lengths and got movement off the pitch to wrap up the Indian innings in a jiffy. India were all out for 278 in the morning session.

It was a match that England won by executing their strategies to perfection with an idea of opposition's soft underbellies.

It was Robinson's second five-for in the series and the tall seamer after a difficult initiation to Test cricket due to off-field controversies is proving to be an asset for

this team.

Robinson had served an unconditional apology after his racist tweets surfaced on the day of his Test debut against New Zealand in June.

India had lost the match on the first day itself when they were bowled out for 78 as it meant that they were always playing a catching up game in this Test match.

India skipper Virat Kohli said it was high quality bowling from England that forced mistakes from the visiting batsmen.

"It's quite bizarre, it can happen in this country, batting collapses. We thought the pitch was good to bat on, coming on nicely. But the discipline forced mistakes and the pressure was relentless. Difficult to cope when you're not scoring runs. That caused the batting order to crumble," he said.

A huge first innings lead of 354 taken by England only increased the worry with three days of batting needed to save the game.

Kohli acknowledged the "score-board pressure".

"Always up against it when you get out for under 80, and the opposition puts up such a big score. But we did well to stay in the game yesterday, fight back as much as we could, and gave ourselves a chance.

"But the pressure today was outstanding from the England bowlers and eventually they got the results they wanted," he said.

The middle-order which looked solid yesterday was completely rattled on penultimate morning under bright sunshine as most of the batsmen didn't know where there off-stump was which was pretty baffling if one takes the third day's performance into consideration.

India lost eight wickets for addition of only 63 runs and the memories of a morning collapse in Adelaide once again became fresh as good balls found their way either into the gloves or hands of slip fielders.

## Two Matches Played In Super Division League



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing DFA Srinagar Annual Football League Tournament 2021, two matches of Super Division were played on Saturday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

The first match was played between Old City FC and Qamarawri FC. Both clubs started with a dominating approach trying to beat each others defensive lines.

Both teams created ample opportunities to score but missed the targets. The match ended as a goalless draw.

The second match was played between Solina Sports FC & Young Rangreth FC. In the 10th minute of the first half Arsalan Parray of Solina Sports found the net and scored a tremendous goal. The game picked up momentum after that and both the

teams played offensive football.

Solina Sports played with all their might but could not stop Young Rangreth's forward player from scoring an equalizer. Both teams trying their hard to take the lead but failed. The match ended with 1-1 goal draw.

The tournament is being organised by DFA Srinagar under the aegis of JKFA and in collaboration with JKSC.

## District Pulwama Table Tennis Championship 2021 Concludes

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: District Pulwama Table Tennis Association under the aegis of J&K Table Tennis Association sponsored by J&K Sports Council successfully organised District Pulwama Table Tennis championship 2021 from August 27 to 28 at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Dadasara Awantipora, Pulwama.

In this championship a total 75 players both boys and girls participated. The main aim of this championship was to engage the youth of Pulwama in Table Tennis and instil the spirit of sportsmanship.

Mohammad Aamin Bhat, Principal Govt. Hr. Sec. School Dadasara, Pulwama was the chief guest, while Mohd. Akram, Manager indoor sports complex Tral Pulwama was the Guest of honour.

championship.

In under-12 boys age group Mir Sibgatullah of Valentines School, Ratnipora was the winner while Mohd Musaib of Saadi Memorial Club came as the runner up.

In sub junior boys age category, Hanad Ali of Pulwama was the winner while Musadiq Maqbool of Dadasara was the runner up.

In junior boys age group, Tajamul Mukhtar was the winner and Mir Naveed of HSS, Dadasara was the runner up.

In senior boys age group Basit Bin Afzal of GDC Pulwama was declared as winner while Dr. Faisal Suleh Hayaat of Ratnipora was the runner up.

In under-12 girls age group Nooran Javid of Pulwama was the winner while Faimama Shafi of Pulwama was the runner up.

In sub junior girls age group



They distributed medals & trophies to the winners & runner ups and appreciated the Table Tennis players for active participation in the championship.

Mohd. Shafi, Secretary District Table Tennis Association, Pulwama, Ashiq Hussain, President District Table Tennis Association, Pulwama, Dr. B. A. Mir, Organising Secretary, along with match officials Parvaiz Ahmad, Aabid Assad, Irshad Ahmad Mir were present in this

Atiya Khan was the winner and Aksha Muzaffar came second.

In junior girls age group Zafeera Zahoor got the first position while Abeerah Nani got the second position.

In senior girls age group, Aneesa Anjum got the first position and Bashaqa Farooq came second position.

At the end of the closing ceremony, Dr. B. A. Mir thanked all player, spectators, guests and officials.

## England Face Mass Withdrawal Before Ashes Owing To Australia's Hard Quarantine Rules

Press Trust of India

LEEDS: As many as 10 England players could be forced to pull out of the Ashes tour of Australia if an agreement is not arrived at over travel and quarantine arrangements for their families.

According to a report in the 'Sydney Morning Herald', unhappy with Cricket Australia's lack of progress on this front, many English players are considering pulling out if their demands are not met.

At a meeting of the England squad at Headingley this week, it is understood there was mounting frustration about a lack of progress by Cricket Australia over quarantine rules, the daily reported.

Australia has some of the strictest COVID-19 quarantine regulations in place and its own cricketers are currently serving two weeks in an Adelaide hotel after returning from a white-ball tour of West Indies and Bangladesh.

It is understood that CA doesn't have enough influence over the government there and even individual states can

impose a ban or shut the city entirely on quick notice, disturbing all the agreements made before the players left the UK.

CA said on Saturday it was working closely with government and health officials in its quest to find a solution.

"Cricket Australia continues to work closely with the ECB (England and Wales Cricket Board) and government authorities in Australia regarding the upcoming Ashes series, which will be the centrepiece for one of the biggest summers of cricket on record," a CA statement read.

"We are currently planning the operational requirements of this tour and working with the ECB on the proposed make-up of the England touring party.

"As was the case last season, CA will work constructively and in partnership with government to deliver the summer of cricket, while ensuring the health, well-being and safety of the community."

The five-Test Ashes series is slated to be held from December 8 to January 18.

## Director DYSS Inaugurates Volleyball Tourney At Budgam

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Director Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K, Gazanfar Ali inaugurated Inter Zonal District Level Competitions of Volleyball for U14 & U17 boys at Sports Stadia here, 12 teams from each age group category are taking part in the mega tournament. The tournament shall conclude on August 31. While interacting with the young students and players, Director YSS congratulated them for taking active part in games and sports and expressed his gratitude to the parents of all such students who encourage and support their children for taking part in such fruitful activities.

Later in his speech Gazanfar Ali impressed upon the field staff of YSS Budgam to go deep down into the grass-root level in finding the best sports talent. He also stressed upon encouraging every student as well as non-students for taking active part in at-least one sport of his/her choice. Joint Director (Kashmir) Bashir Ahmed, District Youth Services and Sports Officer Budgam Masrat Jan and other senior officials of the Department were also present on the inaugural ceremony of the Tournament.

## 'Jarvo 69' Again Enters Field Of Play, Fined & Banned For Life From Headingley

Press Trust of India

LEEDS: YouTuber Daniel Jarvis aka 'Jarvo69', who has intruded into the field of play during the last Test match at Lord's and the ongoing Headingley game, will be banned for life on charges of security breach, English county sources said on Saturday.

Jarvo, who sports the India whites, has attracted plenty of eyeballs because of his two intrusions but the Yorkshire County Cricket Club is treating this as a case of security breach and the man in the eye of a social media storm won't be allowed in the Leeds gallery in coming days.

"Yes, Daniel Jarvis will be banned from Headingley for life. We will also be imposing a financial penalty," a Yorkshire CCC spokesperson told PTI when asked how the county deals with this kind of transgression.

Asked what kind of measures will be taken to avoid such embarrassment which has now happened twice, the spokesperson said: "As on previous days,

there will be stewards present around there to stop anyone that attempts to get on."

On Friday, just after the fall of Rohit Sharma's wicket, 'Jarvo 69' was seen popping up from the gallery located on one side of the sight screen, wearing batting pads and a blue helmet with a surgical face mask on.

Someone from the crowd also threw a cricket bat as he entered the field of play and reached the pitch to take guard when the ground security personnel intercepted him. He was promptly evicted from the Headingley premises.

Earlier, he had also walked his way into the Lord's ground on Day 4 of the second Test between the two sides and was seen setting the field for the Indian team, leaving the spectators and viewers in splits.

At Lord's, the fan, who claims to be a popular prankster, was spotted walking casually on the ground in an Indian jersey with his name on the back. He had to be

escorted out and later also revealed how Ravindra Jadeja and Mohammed Siraj reacted after spotting him.

Siraj and Jadeja could barely control their laughter, before the man was escorted off by the security guards.

However, in the post COVID-19 times when the teams are living in a bio-bubble, this kind of security breach could scare the players.

While people have had a good laugh because of 'Jarvo69's antics but the question that many like former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan raised was what kind of reactions would there be if a similar security lapse had happened in India.

"Imagine the outrage if the same guy invaded the field twice in India," Pathan had tweeted.

There has been no confirmation whether the Indian team filed any official complaint about the British man but the Yorkshire county's decision to ban his entry into the Headingley premises is a step in the right direction.

## 2 Afghan Athletes Arrive In Tokyo To Compete In Paralympics

Agencies

TOKYO: Two athletes from Afghanistan have arrived in Tokyo to compete in the Paralympics, the International Paralympic Committee said Saturday. The two-person team of Zakia Khudadadi and Hossain Rasouli had flown from Kabul to Paris before continuing on to Tokyo, the IPC said.

Khudadadi will be Afghanistan's first female athlete to compete at the Paralympics since Athens 2004. She will challenge in the women's 44-49-kilogram weight category in taekwondo on Thursday, and her teammate will line up in the heats of the men's 400 meters T47 event on Friday.

The Paralympics close on Sept. 5. The IPC said the two were met in Tokyo at the Paralympic Village by IPC president Andrew Parsons. The IPC said the two will not be available for interviews and have been given permission to skip the

usual press conferences.

"Twelve days ago we were informed that the Afghan Paralympic team could not travel to Tokyo, a move that broke the hearts of all involved in the Paralympic movement and left both athletes devastated," Parsons said in a statement provided by the IPC.

"That announcement kick-started a major global operation that led to their safe evacuation from Afghanistan, their recuperation by France, and now their safe arrival in Tokyo," he added.

Chelsey Gotell, the IPC Athletes' Council chairperson, welcomed them in a statement also provided by the IPC. "On behalf of their fellow 4,403 Paralympic athletes competing at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games," she said, "I welcome Zakia and Hossain to the Paralympic Village. This is their home for the next nine days and as a community we are 100% behind them.



Caringly yours



# LIFE IS UNPREDICTABLE, KEEP YOURSELF PREPARED



One Policy, A World Of Protection  
*Mukammal Hifazat*

**Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd.** | Bajaj Allianz House, Airport Road, Yerwada, Pune – 411006. Reg.: 113 | CIN: U66010PN2000PLC015329 | UIN: IRDAI/HLT/BAGI/P-P/V.I/30/14-15 | For more details, log on to : [www.bajajallianz.com](http://www.bajajallianz.com) or call at : Sales - 1800 209 0144 / Service - 1800 209 5858 (Toll Free No.) | For more details on risk factors and Terms and Conditions, please read the sales brochure before concluding a sale.

J&K Bank Ltd is a licensed Corporate Agent [bearing License No.: CA0029] of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd. [IRDAI registration No. 113]. The benefits/features of products are indicative and for more details on risk factors and Terms and Conditions, please read the sales brochure before concluding a sale. | BIAZ-O-JK-0006/17-Mar-20

General Insurance  
**Faayde ki baat**