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Quote!

Success is the child of audacity
— Benjamin Disraeli

NEWS DIGEST

J&K Reports 75 Fresh Covid Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Wednesday 75 fresh cases of novel coronavirus, while 122 more patients have recovered from the deadly infection in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. According to the officials, Kashmir Valley reported 60 new cases of Covid-19, while 15 others. **More On P10**

Damaged Rifle Recovered In Kupwara

KUPWARA: Police, army and BSF have recovered a "damaged" Ak-47 rifle, ammunition besides three wireless sets from a forest area in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said on Wednesday. They said based on specific information, police, army's. **More On P10**

Leopard Caught In Pulwama

SRINAGAR: The wildlife department officials on Wednesday captured a leopard in Malangpora area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district. A wildlife official said that they were receiving information about the presence of leopards in Malangpora, Koil, Jangalnad, Tokuna and its adjacent areas. "Since three months, **More On P10**

Govt Employee Booked For Fraud

SRINAGAR: Crime Branch Kashmir on Wednesday registered a case FIR against Sr. Assistant in Advocate General J&K office in fake recruitment scam. According to a statement issued by the Crime Branch, the accused Mohammad Yaqoob Bhat son of Ghulam Ahmad Bhat of Budgam has been. **More On P10**

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If Not

Contact Circulation Incharge:
Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927

Security Of Minority Community Our Foremost Duty: Pole

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Reaffirming the resolve of the government to ensure safety and security of all, especially minority communities, the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole said on Wednesday that whatsoever has been mentioned in the minutes of the meeting regarding absence of migrant employees following killing of two school teachers has been corrected.

The Divisional Commissioner said this in response to a news item carried by a national daily, an official spokesperson said. Pole, he said, **More On P10**

Media Creating Fear Psychosis Among People: IGP

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Asserting that the police will not allow peace to be disturbed in the Kashmir Valley, the Inspector General of police (IGP), Vijay Kumar on Wednesday blamed the media for blowing things out of proportion which according to him created a fear psychosis among the people. Kumar made these comments during a meeting with



the representatives of 28 Trade Associations of Kashmir and Civil Society Members at the Conference Hall of Tourism Department, **More On P10**

Police Moves KP Leader To Safe House after 'Life Threat'

Auqib Javeed

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have shifted a prominent Kashmiri Pandit leader, Sanjay Tikoo to a safer place after receiving intelligence inputs about his possible assassination. Tikoo, who heads Kashmiri Pandit Sangharsh Samiti (KPSS)—an organisation which primarily addresses the concerns of Kashmiri Pandits **More On P10**

PCI's Fact Finding Team In Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A three member fact finding committee of Press Council of India (PCI) on Wednesday arrived here to probe the alleged intimidation and harassment of journalists in Jammu and Kashmir.

The three member committee consists of Prakash Dubey, convener and group editor of Dainik Bhaskar, Gurbir Singh Journalist from the New Indian Express and Dr Suman Gupta editor of Jan Morcha.

During their three day visit, the panel will interact with media fraternity and take note of their issues in performing professional duties. They will also hold discussions with the authorities before **More On P10**

LG Visits Family Of Slain Teacher In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha on Wednesday visited the family members of Deepak Chand, a teacher who was shot dead by militants in Srinagar recently, and offered his condolences to them for their "irreparable loss", an official spokesperson said.

Chand was among the seven civilians killed by militants in separate incidents in the Kashmir valley recently. Sinha visited Chand's residence at Patoli-Mangotrian here and assured the family of all support from the **More On P10**

Karan Singh Demands Statehood, Fair Polls

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader Karan Singh on Wednesday expressed sorrow over the recent killings of civilians and armed forces personnel in Jammu and Kashmir, and demanded early restoration of statehood and free and fair elections there.

Singh, who has been the first 'Sadr-i-Riyasat' of Jammu and Kashmir and later its governor, stressed on starting the political process in the Union territory (UT) soon.

"While the L-G and the UT administration are doing their best, this cannot be a substitute for a freely-elected

legislature and a full-fledged popular government," he said in a statement.

Noting that the delimitation process should not be unduly prolonged, the Congress leader requested the Delimitation Commission to fix its own time schedule for completing the exercise.

"Once that is done and statehood is restored to Jammu and Kashmir, the process of free and fair elections can begin, resulting, hopefully, in a stable government within the next few months."

"This seems to me to be the only logical and practical way of proceeding," he noted.

Singh also said the recent events in Jammu and Kashmir **More On P10**

Jaish Militant Killed In Tral Gunfight: Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday claimed to have killed a top commander of Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) in an encounter in Tral town of south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

Acting on a specific input about the presence of militants, police, army and paramilitary CRPF personnel laid a siege around Tilwani Mohalla Waggad area of Tral on Wednesday and launched a cordon and search operation, a police spokesperson said.

During the search operation, he said, as the presence of militants got ascertained, they were given repeated opportunities to surrender.

"Instead they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter. In the ensuing encounter one terrorist was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of encounter," the police spokesperson said.

He identified the slain militant as Shamus-ud-Din Sofi alias Sham Sofi, a top commander of JeM.

As per police **More On P10**

NIA Conducts Multiple Raids In J&K, 9 Held



File Photo

Press Trust Of India

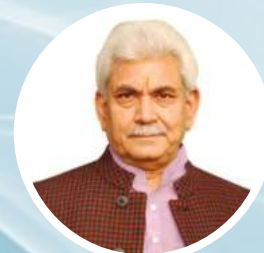
SRINAGAR: The NIA has arrested nine alleged militant associates during searches at 18 locations in Jammu and Kashmir after registration of a case over a conspiracy launch attacks in the union territory and other major cities including New Delhi, an official said on Wednesday.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) had registered the case on October 10 and initiated an investigation.

An NIA spokesperson said a total of nine people were arrested — five on Wednesday and four a day earlier — after multiple searches in different districts of the valley over the past two days.

The NIA identified the five accused **More On P10**

6 DURING THE SEARCHES CONDUCTED yesterday (Tuesday), several electronic devices, incriminating Jihadi (holy war) documents and records of suspicious financial transactions were seized."



Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor

Help us to help you

IF YOU ARE NOT VACCINATED

OR



KNOW ANYONE WHO HAS NOT BEEN
VACCINATED
WITH 1ST DOSE OF COVID-19



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104

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VACCINATED



Issued in Public Interest by:

Health and Medical Education Department, J & K

Over 200 Apple Trees Axed In Budgam Village In 3 Days Farmers Say 26 Year Old Rates Applied For Compensation

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Strong resentment is brewing among the farmers in central Kashmir's Budgam district as the authorities have started chopping hundreds of apple trees for the alignment of the proposed Srinagar ring road and have applied 26 year old rates as compensation to the affected farmers.

According to the farmers, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) in association with district administration has begun cutting down fully grown apple trees in Budgam that are coming under the alignment of the proposed Srinagar Ring Road that passes through several areas of



the central Kashmir district.

The apple farmers allege that government has paid them compensation as per 1995 rates when the wholesale rate of apple was mere Rs 16 per kg in

market. They have appealed LG Manoj Sinha for his intervention.

Details available with Kashmir Observer reveal that more than 200 fully grown **More On P10**



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KASHMIR OBSERVER
Thursday|14-10-2021

2

Public Notice

I have applied for the issuance of D Class contractor card if any-body having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the R&B / PHE & Block Development office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Zulfkar Mehraj Malla
S/O Abdul Jabar Malla
R/o Nathipora Sopore Baramulla

LC

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars
Name : Aadil Farooq Sheikh
S/o Farooq Ahamd Sheikh Ro Khag Budgam



Details of Marks Certificate lost

i) Secondary School Examination (class 10th)
Roll No 2422221 Session /Year Annual-Reg. 2014
ii) Secondary School Examination (class 11th)
Roll No 2154282 Session /Year Annual-Reg. 2015
iii) Secondary School Examination (class 12th)
Roll No 2420315 Session /Year Annual-Reg. 2016
Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam

bmg

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Public Notice

I have applied for the renewal of my fertilizer license . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the CAO Baramulla & Plant Protection Office Lalmandi Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

AliMohd Shah
S/o Wali Mohd Shah
R/o Nowpora Road Sopore

LC

Office of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Baramulla H.Q Sopore

NOTICE

Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shabir Ahamd Sheikh S/O Mohd Maqbool Sheikh R/o Tujar Shariff (Transferor) and Single owner (Shabir Ahamd Sheikh S/O Mohd Maqbool Sheikh R/o Tujar Shariff) (Transferee) for transfer of ECO carriage route Permit No -- Covering Vehicle No DLICU- 2596 Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Baramulla H.Q Sopore. Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer.



NO: ARTO/BLA /690
Dated: 03/05/2017
LC

Sd/-
Assistant Regional Transport
Office, Baramulla H.Q Sopore

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Abdul Hameed Raina S/o: Late Ghulam Hassan Raina R/o: Borwah Chadoora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Alto 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04E - 1114. Chasis number 37847 Engine no. 95967 Model 2017. in favour of Shri.. Firdous Ahmad Dar S/o. Abdul Rehman Dar R/o Rangpora Hazratbal Srinagar (Transferee) As well as HPA cancelation with M/S J & K Bank Ltd B/u Balgarden Srinagar also required.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filled in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3814
Dated 13/10/2021
MCB

Assistant Regional Transport
officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Zahid Hussain Wani S/o: Ghulam Hussain Wani R/o: Parisabad Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Alto 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04F - 9877. Chasis number 56984 Engine no. 404625 Model 2020. in favour of Shri.. Imtiyaz Hussain Wani S/o. Gh Hussain Wani R/o Paris Abad Budgam (Tranferee) As well as HPA cancelation with M/S J & K Bank Ltd B/u Sholipra also required.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filled in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.3801
Dated 12/10/2021
MCB

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

Sad Demise

With profound grief, we inform the demise of Sabiya Zargar W/o Abdul Qayoom Zargar R/o Ali Jan Road, braiwar Syed Pora Eidgah on Wednesday 13th October 2021. Congregational Fateh Khani will be observed on Friday 15th October 2021 at 2:30pm at ancestral graveyard zampa kadal Kaka Sarai Srinagar. Note: ladies are requested not to bring fruits Etc. with them.

Bereaved : Abdul Qayoom Zargar (Husband)
Aqib Zargar (Son)
Basit Zargar (Son)

ABD-KO

ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے

برخاس وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ مظہر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض پیرامنڈ ٹنگ انجنیر آرائینڈی سرکل اینٹ ناگ / کو لگام کھنڈ ہل کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشتر RNA

ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے

برخاس وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ مظہر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض پیرامنڈ ٹنگ انجنیر آرائینڈی سرکل اینٹ ناگ / کو لگام کھنڈ ہل کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشتر RNA

ازنیات رنیر پورہ با اجلاس امتیاز احمد ڈار صاحب درخواست منجانب: شیخ جمیل نبی و تالیش نبی اولاد نلام نبی شمساکند رنیر پورہ بغرض حصول RBA سر فلیٹ تحت 294 SRO اشتہار برادر ادا گائی برخاس وعام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکالان سے ایک درخواست سر فلیٹ دفتر ہڈا میں پیش کیا ہے جس کی فوارر پورٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکالان بچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے وہ ہڈا میں سکونت پذیر ہے۔ کوئڈ کی تقیل یوں ہے۔

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۳۔ شیخ جمیل نبی و غلام نبی شیخ
۴۔ تالیش نبی و دفتر غلام نبی شیخ

اس طرح ساکالان کا کنبد 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے ساکالان کے کوئڈ میں ایک سرکاری ملازم اور ایک پیشتر موجود ہے۔ اور ساکالان کے کوئڈ کے پاس دھ ہڈا میں 5 کنال آبی موجود ہیں۔ ساکالان کے کوئڈ کی سالانہ امدائی مقرر حد سے کم ہے۔ اور ساکالان RBA سر فلیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض دفتر ہڈا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے معیاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نام تب تحصیلدار RNA

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)

Hema Complex, Sector -3, Channi Himmat, Jammu/ Zum Zum Complex Rambagh Srinagar.

www.jkssb.nic.in

NOTICE

Subject: Clubbing/Tagging of Multiple Admit Cards of candidates for Computer Based Type Test (Skill Test), for the post of Junior Scale Stenographer, Personal Assistant and Steno Typist, UT Cadre, Divisional Cadres and various Districts, Advertisement Notification Nos 04, 05, 06 and 07 of 2020 and 01, 02 and 03 of 2021- regarding.

Whereas, the JKSSB issued schedule of Computer Based Type Test (Skill Test) for the post of Junior Scale Stenographer, Personal Assistant and Steno Typist, UT Cadre, Divisional Cadres and various Districts, Advertisement Notification Nos 04, 05, 06 and 07 of 2020 and 01, 02 and 03 of 2021, on 11th, 12th, 13th and 18th of October 2021; and

Whereas, the JKSSB received representation from candidates stating therein that the candidates have been issued multiple Admit Cards / roll numbers for all such item/ posts for which the JKSSB has conducted single Computer Based Type Test (Skill Test); and

Whereas, the matter was examined in the JKSSB and it transpired that there are variations in the particulars /details filled in respective application forms submitted by the candidates due to which all such candidates who applied for multiple posts and for which a single Computer Based Type Test (Skill Test), have been issued multiple Admit Cards on the basis of errors committed by the candidates; and

Whereas, it was deemed fit to allow such candidates an opportunity to be considered for the posts for which they have applied and seek clubbing requests for tagging of multiple roll numbers.

Now therefore, in view of the above, the candidates who are going to appear in the Computer Based Type Test (Skill Test) and have been issued multiple / more than one Admit Cards for posts with similar syllabi/domain, are hereby informed to submit CLUBBING requests in the offices of JKSSB, Central Office, Hema Complex, Sector -3, Channi Himmat, Jammu and JKSSB, Camp Office, ZumZum Building Rambagh, Srinagar along with evidence in support of his/her claim by or before 27th of October, 2021. The candidates who fail to submit their claim within the prescribed time period will loose their right to be considered for multiple posts and the JKSSB shall in no way be responsible on this account.

However, it is further clarified that no claim or representation in this regard shall be entertained after 27th of October, 2021.

DIPK-10483/21

Ashok Kumar) KAS,
Controller of Examination
Services Selection Board
Jammu

No. SSB/COE/2021/6943-49

Dated: 11 -10-2021

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Department of Environment and Remote Sensing Office of the Mass Media Officer SDA Colony, Bemina

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTICE

Due to poor response to tender notice invited vide No. MMO/DEE/21-22/400-02 dated 07-09-2021 fresh sealed Short Term Tenders are invited from Caterers/Firm for providing lunch/refreshment to trainees during capacity building Training Programme at meeting hall (Bemina), Department of Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing, Kashmir.

The detail of lunch/refreshment per trainee per day is given below:

S. No	Item
1	Kehwa + one Shirmal (Morning). Salt Tea + Bakerkhani (Half) (Evening).
2	Lunch
a	Rajma or Dal (Quarter Plate)
b	Mix Vegetable (Quarter Plate)
c	Paneer (Quarter Plate)
d	Green Salad
e	Raita (Curd) (one small bowl)
f	Plain Rice (Half Plate)
g	Tandoori Roti/Nan – (Two Tandoor Rotis + Two nans)
h	Sweet Dish (Gulab Jamun/Gajar Ka Halwa). (Two pieces/half plate)
i	Drinking water – 1ltr/trainee/day

The rates quoted shall include taxes as applicable for disposable items (including cutlery items) & sanitizer with stand dispenser per day at venue. The short listed tenderee shall follow all the SoPs strictly while serving refreshment/lunch to the trainees.

DIPK-10438/21

Sd/-
Mass Media Officer
Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing

No: MMO/DEE/21-22/526-28

Dated: 11/10/2021

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Valley Plumbers - 7947130027
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Electric & Plumbing – 7947130256
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Carpenter Jobs

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Mohammad Yaseen- 9419502845
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Auqaf Announces Friday Prayers At Jamia Masjid



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The management of the historic Jamia Masjid announced on Wednesday to hold congregational Friday prayers in view of the ongoing holy month of Rabi-ul-Awwal. In a statement issued here, a spokesperson of Anjuman Auqaf, Jamia Masjid said that while all mosques, shrines, Imambaras including, the

casation of the blessed birth of the holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW), the grand mosque will be opened for Friday prayers on October 15, 2021 under strict observance of COVID-19 SOPs and guidelines,” he said.

On the occasion, he said, people will make special arrangements for prayers to seek salvation of humanity from COVID-19 pandemic along with repentance of sins, before Almighty Allah.

The Auqaf spokesperson also expressed hope that the authorities will end 28-month “illegal and arbitrary” house detention of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and allow him to resume his centuries-old duty of the Mirwaizeen-e-Kashmir.

“The Anjuman hopes that on the occasion of the month of Rabi-ul-Awal, the Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir is allowed to fulfil his official responsibilities from the pulpit of the Jamia Masjid, and guide people on various issues they face in society,” he added.

THEREFORE, ANJUMAN AUQAF JAMIA MASJID SRINAGAR has decided that in view of the occasion of the blessed birth of the holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW), the grand mosque will be opened for Friday prayers on October 15, 2021 under strict observance of COVID-19 SOPs and guidelines,”

Programme On Powers & Jurisdiction Of Special Judge NDPS Act Held At Srinagar



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: A day long Special Orientation Programme (SOP) on ‘Powers and Jurisdiction of Special Judge under NDPS Act, search, seizure and link evidence; Provisions relating to Bail with special reference to Section 37 of NDPS Act and Default Bail in terms of Section 167(2) CrPC’ for District Judges was held today at J&K Judicial Academy, Srinagar.

The programme was organised by J&K Judicial Academy under the noble vision of Justice, Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief J&K Judicial Academy) and inspiring guidance of Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur, Chairman, and other Judges of Governing Committee of Judicial Academy.

Sanjay Parihar, Director, Judicial Academy extended warm welcome to Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir, Former Chief Justice, High Court of Meghalaya and participating Judicial Officers.

Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir, former Chief Justice, High Court of Meghalaya in his opening remarks laid the foundation of the programme by thought provoking and inspiring address.

He laid stress on the implementa-

tion of the NDPS Act and stated that the Act is commonly known as NDPS Act and came into force on 14th November 1985. But with the passage of time and development, the practice turned into illicit drug trafficking.

Also, India is signatory to UN Conventions on Narcotic Drugs which prescribes for the controlled and limited use of these narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Therefore, the legislation is framed with the objective of using these narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in controlled manner for medicinal and scientific purposes without violating the obligations to UN Conventions, he added.

The former Chief Justice stated that the NDPS Act regulates and controls the abuse of drug trafficking through its stringent provisions. It empowers the competent authority for the supervision of the operation related to narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances.

The NDPS Act prescribes stringent punishment; hence a balance must be struck between the need of the law and the enforcement of such law on the one hand and the protection of citizens from oppression and false implication, he added.

A Safe Working Environment Must For Women: Bhaghat

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Director General, J&K Institute of Management Public Administration and Rural Development (JK IMPARD), Saurabh Bhaghat, today chaired joint valedictory function of three training courses here at IMPARD, Srinagar.

The training courses included “Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace”, “Disaster Risk Reduction in Urban Areas” and “Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Livelihoods”.

The officer trainees who attended the training courses were from departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Medical and Health Education, SDRF and UEED.

Speaking on the issues faced by working women, Saurabh Bhaghat said that it should be the prime concern of every employer that their women employees are provided a comfortable and safe environment at their workplaces.

Saurabh Bhaghat informed the participants of these training courses that IMPARD would be conducting such programmes on a regular basis to sensitize government officers of Jammu and Kashmir about the ways and scope for further streamlining of their working.

Among others present on the occasion were Director Trainings (K), Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Khan, Course Coordinator, Associate Professors Dr. J. A. Jabeen, Dr. G. M. Dar, and Dr. B. A. Kumar.

Vocal For Local: Admin Takes Up Modernisation Of Naanwai Shops



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In order to provide financial and infrastructural support besides, ensure sustainable livelihood of local bread makers (Naanwais), the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad finalised the Detailed Project Report for Transforming Traditional Naanwai Shops under Prime Minister’s Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PM FME Scheme) in a meeting held today in the Meeting Hall of DC Office.

Additional Secretary, Horticulture Department, Jehangir Hashmi was also present on the occasion.

While, Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, Chief Horticulture Officer, Sajid Mustafa, Cluster Head JK Bank Riaz Ahmad Wani, Manager District Lead Bank, Ab Majid Bhat and officers from other concerned departments were also present in the meeting.

The DDC said that the purpose of bringing Naanwai under PM FME scheme is to restructure the traditional Naanwai shops as per modern technological requirements to ensure proper hygiene in and around the shops besides maintaining taste of the products.

He said the administration is very keen about handholding and upliftment of the Naanwais of Srinagar District as Naanwais are an essential part and parcel of society besides the century’s old culture and tradition of Kashmir valley.

The DDC directed Chief Horticulture Officer and other concerned to sensitize Naanwais about the advantage of the scheme so that they can avail maximum benefits.

He stressed the officers of all concerned departments to work in coordinated manner so that the scheme is implemented on ground with cent percent results. He also directed for early implementation of the scheme so that the intended business community is benefitted under the scheme.

He asked the officers of DIC to explore any subsidy related provisions under the scheme so that beneficiaries are entitled for other benefits too.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Secretary to Government Horticulture Department, Jehangir Hashmi also highlighted the objectives and benefits of the PM FME scheme. He assured the members of AKLBMA that they need not to move office to office; instead a representative from the concerned Government Department will visit the shops of the Naanwaie for proper verification and other documentation processes.

He also said that proper training will also be given to the beneficiaries under the scheme.

On the occasion, the DDC was informed that in the first phase around 20 Naanwai shops are being taken up for upgradation and modernisation of shops.

Earlier, the members of the All Kashmir Local Bread Makers Association (AKLBMA) expressed their gratitude to the DDC Srinagar for taking keen interest in welfare and upliftment development of Naanwais of Srinagar district.

The members of AKLBMA (Naanwaees) who participated in the meeting include its president, Abdul Majeed Pampori, General Secretary, Khurshid Ahmad Sofi and Publicity Secretary, Bashir Asrar besides others.

Several Officials Participate In De-Weeding Operations Of Dal Lake



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Several officers from the Union Government of India including State Director PFMS J&K Shakeel Maqbool, Director Doordarshan Qazi Salman and Registrar of Companies (ROC), Hamid Bukhari Wednesday participated in de-weeding operations in Dal Lake.

The officers were accompanied by VC, LAWDA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat and other senior officers of the LAWDA.

Besides participation in the de-weeding operation, the officers also visited the area of Dal Lake where lily extraction is being done on a large scale with the help of Pontoon based machines, an innovative method adopted for the first time for extraction of lily.

The visiting officers hailed the efforts of the LDA and hoped that such endeavours will continue in future as well.

It is worth mentioning the cleanliness drive was started on October 2, 2021 under Swachhta Pakhwada inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor J&K Manoj Sinha as part of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’.

In order to have greater participation in the cleaning process of Dal Lake various organizations like SRDF,NDRF,BSF, houseboat owners association, shikara association and other organizations, students and volunteers. Also SMC has been a part and parcel of this drive since its date of start. The special drive will conclude on 16th October, 2021.

Furthermore, JK Srinagar Eco Watch, GO Green are actively engaged in the cleaning operation who are also working in association with J&K LDA for de-weeding and solid waste management areas.

Meanwhile the enforcement wing of LAWDA under its special drive against illegal encroachments, today conducted a demolition drive in Rakh-e-Arth sub-division for removal of encroachments and illegal filling in Bay 16-A.

During the removal of encroachment and demolition, there was a stiff resistance by the locals however with the security assistance provided by DO Bemina the designs of miscreants were foiled. The demolition team at the occasion managed to demolish the illegally raised structures.

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education, BRANCH OFFICE BARAMULLA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars

Name : Aaqib Mohammad S/O Ghulam Mohammad Beigh

Details of Marks Certificate lost

i) Secondary School Examination (class 10th)

Roll No: 309202 Session Reg 2013

i) Higher Secondary School Examination (class 11th)

Roll No: 3119211 Session Reg 2014

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teased as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Baramulla

bmg

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

- 1322 - Robert the Bruce of Scotland defeats King Edward II of England at Byland, forcing Edward to accept Scotland's independence
- 1758 - Battle at Hochkirk, Saksen: Austrian army beats Prussia
- 1773 - American Revolutionary War: The United Kingdom's East India Company tea ships' cargo are burned at Annapolis, Maryland.
- 1774 1st Continental Congress makes Declaration of Colonial Rights in Philadelphia
- 1805 - Battle of Elchingen, France defeats Austria
- 1806 - Battle of Auerstadt-French beat Prussians
- 1931 - Spanish Cortes agrees to separation of Church & State
- 1933 - Nazi Germany announces its withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 1939 - German U-47 sinks British battleship HMS Royal Oak, 833 killed
- 1943 - Japan declares the Philippines independent under President José P. Laurel
- 1944 - Allied troops land in Corfu
- 1944 - British troops march into Athens
- 1948 - Large scale fighting between Israel & Egypt
- 1952 - UN General Assembly first meets at its new headquarters in New York.
- 1954 - Israeli act of revenge in Qibiya Jordan, kills 53
- 1957 - Queen Elizabeth II becomes the first Canadian monarch to open the Parliament of Canada with the Speech from the Throne.
- 1958 - Malagasy Republic becomes autonomous republic in French Community.
- 1963 - Algeria & Morocco border conflict
- 1964 - Premier Nikita Khrushchev replaced by Leonid Brezhnev as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party
- 1966 - 175 US airplanes bomb North Vietnam
- 1973 - Egyptian tanks move further into Israel
- 1976 - Nobel Prize in Economics awarded to American economist Milton Friedman
- 1976 - Soyuz 23 carries 2 to Salyut 6, but returns without docking
- 1979 - 100,000 demonstrate in Bonn against nuclear energy
- 1986 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Auschwitz survivor Elie Wiesel, for his efforts to ensure the Holocaust was remembered
- 1988 - Naguib Mahfouz is the 1st Arabic writer to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.
- 1991 - Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi wins Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1994 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres
- 1994 - NASA Space probe Magellan burns up in atmosphere of Venus
- 2013 - Eugene Fama, Lars Peter Hansen, and Robert Shiller win the 2013 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for their work on asset prices.
- 2014 - World Health Organization announce Ebola virus death toll at 4,447, and the fatality rate has reached 70%.

From KO Archives

Passengers Forced To Walk 3Km With Luggage

Observer News Service

SOPORE: Security forces have unleashed terror at Watlab on Sopore-Bandipore road for the past four days in the wake of a recent landmine explosion in which a securityman, Suresh Ku-mar, was killed. People in general and the commuters and em-ployees in particular are scared travelling on the route for fear of being belaboured by the personnel of 15 RR deployed at Watlab.

Eyewitnesses told Observer News Service the passengers are brought down from the buses and forced to walk over a distance of three kilometres on either side of Watlab. The Ban-dipore-bound passengers are forced to disembark at Warpora and made to foot the distance upto Sangri top. Likewise, the Sopore-bound passengers have to come down at Watlab and walk three kilometres upto to Warpora.

Lending a sadistic touch to the torment, eyewitnesses al-leged, the security forces force the passengers, both men and women, to carry their luggage over their head all through the 3-km ordeal.

They said many a transporter were reluctant to ply their ve-hicles of the route compounding the people’s problems further.

Reports said the hospital authorities here referred a villag-er of Botengoo to Srinagar after his condition deteriorated fol-lowing several dog bites. He had been beaten by the security forces at the Watlab camp after which dogs were set at him. He was brought to the sub district hospital where doc-tors re-ferred him to Srinagar with multiple dog bites.

(Kashmir Observer, October 14, 2000)

PM Modi Launches Rs 100 Lakh Crore National Master Plan. What It Will Do

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today launched a 100 lakh crore national master plan for multimodal connectivity that aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost



the economy.

PM Gati Shakti targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time, PM Modi said at a function to launch the plan.

The plan aims to lend more power and speed to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform, he said, adding the infrastructure schemes of various ministries and state governments will be designed and executed with a common vision.

PM Modi said taxpayers' money in the past was 'insulted' through a lethargic approach to development work, with departments working in silos and there was no coordination on projects. Development, he said, is not

possible without quality infrastructure and the government has now resolved to develop it in a holistic manner.

"Gati Shakti joins different departments for the coordinated development of projects from road to railways, aviation to agriculture," the Prime Minister said.

Stating that high logistics cost in India at 13 per cent of GDP was impacting competitiveness in exports, he said PM Gati Shakti is aimed at reducing both logistic cost and turnaround time.

This, he said, will give a boost to India as an investment destination. The Prime Minister said the speed and scale that India is witnessing under his government was never seen in the previous 70 years of independence.

Giving examples, he said the first inter-state natural gas pipeline was commissioned in 1987. From then to 2014, 15,000-km of the natural gas pipeline was built. Currently, more than 16,000-km of the new gas pipeline is being constructed.

"What was done in 27 years, we are doing in it in less than half that time," he said. In five years prior to the BJP government coming to power in 2014, 1,900-km of the rail line was doubled, while in the last 7 years 9,000-km of rail line doubling has happened.

Similarly, against 3,000 km of railway line electrification in five years prior to 2014, 24,000 km rail line electrification happened in the last 7 years.

Azerbaijan, Iran Agree To Mend Ties 'Through Dialogue'

Agencies

Tehran: Azerbaijan says it has agreed to resolve a diplomatic crisis with Iran through dialogue, weeks after ties soured over Tehran's allegations that Israel's military was active in the country.

The breakthrough came during talks between Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov and

tensions.

Last month, Iran protested against what it said was the presence of its sworn enemy Israel in Azerbaijan and promised to take any necessary action.

At the beginning of October, Iran staged military exercises near its border with Azerbaijan, drawing criticism from officials in Baku, who have denied Teh-



his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amir-Abdollahian by phone, Azerbaijan's foreign ministry said on Wednesday.

"The sides noted the harmful rhetoric observed recently, which does not correspond to the level of friendly relations between our countries, and the need to resolve all differences through dialogue," its statement said.

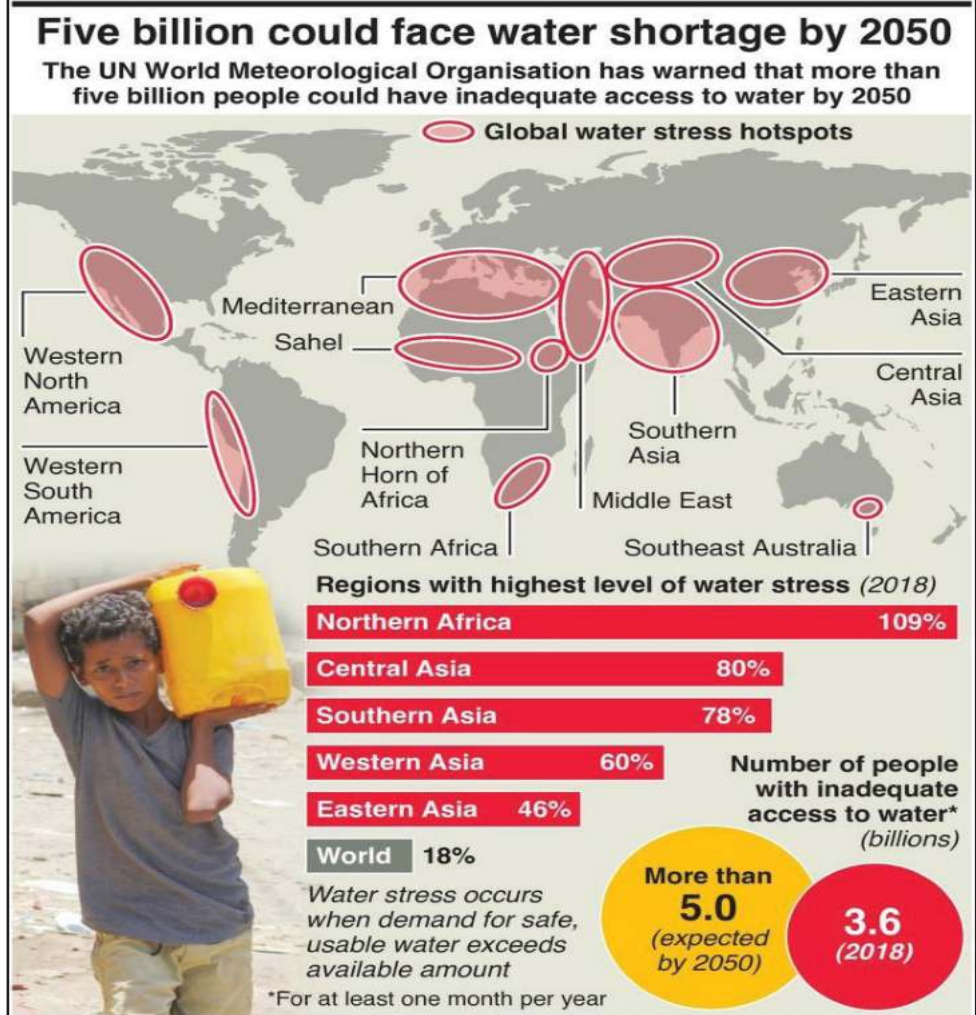
"The Ministers stressed the importance of always respecting the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of the countries."

The Iranian foreign ministry also confirmed the two sides agreed to rely on talks to resolve

ran's claims. Israel supplies arms to Azerbaijan and the two countries have strengthened their military alliance in recent months.

Last year, Israeli-supplied high-tech drones helped Azerbaijan defeat neighbouring Armenia during a six-week war over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region.

Azerbaijan and Iran have long been at loggerheads over Tehran's backing of Armenia in the decades-long dispute over the region, which is internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan, even by Armenia, but is populated and until recently was controlled by ethnic Armenians.



'Widely Used Chemical Linked To 1,00,000 US Deaths Per Year'

Agencies

New York: Daily exposure to phthalates, a group of chemicals used in everything from plastic containers to makeup, may lead to approximately 100,000 deaths in older Americans annually, a study from New York University warned Tuesday.

The chemicals, which can be found in hundreds of products such as toys, clothing and shampoo, have been known for decades to be "hormone disruptors," affecting a person's endocrine system.

The toxins can enter the body through such items and are linked to obesity, diabetes and heart disease, said the study published in the journal Environmental Pollution.

The research, which was car-

ried out by New York University's Grossman School of Medicine and includes some 5,000 adults aged 55 to 64, shows that those with higher concentrations of phthalates in their urine were more likely to die of heart disease.

However, higher concentrations did not appear to increase the risk of death by cancer.

"Our findings reveal that increased phthalate exposure is linked to early death, particularly due to heart disease," said study lead author Leonardo Trasande.

"Until now, we have understood that the chemicals connect to heart disease, and heart disease in turn is a leading cause of death, but we had not yet tied the chemicals themselves to death."

Trasande cautioned, however, that the study does not es-

tablish a direct cause and effect relationship between phthalate exposure and death, in part because the specific biological mechanisms of that relationship are unclear.

"Our research suggests that the toll of this chemical on society is much greater than we first thought," Trasande said, adding that it "is undeniably clear that limiting exposure to toxic phthalates can help safeguard Americans' physical and financial wellbeing."

Other studies have already linked phthalates to more than 10,000 deaths per year associated with reduced testosterone levels in adult men. The study added that the economic loss due to phthalates is between \$40 billion and \$47 billion - more than four times what was previously estimated.

Centre Notifies New Rules For Allowing Abortion Till 24 Weeks Of Pregnancy For Certain Categories Of Women

Agencies

New Delhi: The central government has notified new rules under which the gestational limit for termination of a pregnancy has been increased from 20-24 weeks for certain categories of women.

According to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Rules, 2021, these categories include survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest, minors, women whose marital status changes during an ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce) and those with physical disabilities.

The new rules also cover mentally ill women, cases of foetal malformation that has a substantial risk of being incompatible with life or if the child is born it may suffer

from such physical or mental abnormalities to be seriously handicapped and women with pregnancy in humanitarian settings or disaster or emergency situations as may be declared by the government.

The new rules come under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021, passed by Parliament in March.

Earlier, abortion required the opinion of one doctor if it is done within 12 weeks of conception and two doctors if it is done between 12 and 20 weeks.

According to the new rules, a state-level medical board will be set up to decide if a pregnancy may be terminated after 24 weeks in cases of foetal malformation and if the foetal malformation has

a substantial risk of it being incompatible with life or if the child is born it may suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities to be seriously handicapped.

The function of the Medical Board shall be to examine the woman and her reports if she approaches for medical termination of pregnancy and provide the opinion with regard to the termination of pregnancy or rejection of a request for termination within three days of receiving the request.

The Board has also been tasked to ensure that the termination procedure, when advised by it, is carried out with all safety precautions along with appropriate counselling within five days of the receipt of the request for medical termination of pregnancy.

In Punjab, Tearful Farewell To Three Soldiers Killed In J&K Encounter

Press Trust Of India

Kapurthala, Rupnagar, Gurdaspur: In a village in Punjab's Kapurthala district, a teary-eyed Vikramjit Singh (13) on Wednesday lit the pyre of his father Naib Subedar Jaswinder Singh, who was among the five soldiers killed in a fierce gunfight with militants in Jammu and Kashmir.

In Gurdaspur and Rupnagar districts, the families of Naik Mandeep Singh and Sepoy Gajjan Singh, who were also killed in the operation on Monday, were also inconsolable.

Slogans of "Shaheed Amar Rahe" and "Bharat Mata ki Jai" rented the air as military vehicles carrying the bodies of the three soldiers reached their respective villages. Anti-Pakistan slogans were also raised.

Villagers, especially the youth, showered flower petals on the military vehicles.

In Kapurthala's Mana Talwandi village, Jaswinder's son Vikramjit and daughter Harnoor Kaur (11) saluted their father's body.

A weeping Vikramjit lit his father's pyre and pledged to join the Army.

Jaswinder was the third member of his family to join the Army after his father and his brother.

Punjab minister Rana Gur-

jit Singh laid a wreath on behalf of Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi. Besides, scores of villagers, Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee chief Bibi Jagir Kaur, Congress MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira and district administration officials attended Jaswinder's last rites.

Jaswinder, who was awarded the Sena Medal in 2006, is survived by his wife and two children.

Similar heart-rending scenes unfolded at the residence of Sepoy Gajjan Singh in Rupnagar's Pachrandra village. Chief Minister Channi shouldered the body of Gajjan.

The youngest of four brothers, Gajjan, 27, married in February. Besides his wife Harpreet Kaur, he is survived by his parents.

He had last visited home two months back to attend the wedding of one of his brothers.

Gajjan's father Channan Singh, who lit his son's funeral pyre, demanded that a gate be erected at the entry of the village in memory of his son so that the future generations can be inspired by his sacrifice.

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Rana KP Singh, MLA Amarjit Singh Sandoa and Punjab Youth Congress president Barinder Singh Dhillon also attended the last rites of the soldier.

India Rejects China's Objection To Naidu's Arunachal Visit



Agencies

New Delhi: India on Wednesday strongly rejected China's objection to a recent visit to Arunachal Pradesh by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, asserting that the state is an "integral and inalienable" part of India.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said objecting to the visit of Indian leaders to a state of India "does not stand to reason and understanding" of Indian people.

"We have noted the comments made today by the Chinese official spokesperson. We reject such comments. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India," Mr Bagchi said.

He was responding to a question on comments by a spokesperson of the Chinese foreign ministry objecting to Vice President Naidu's visit to Arunachal Pradesh over the weekend.

"Indian leaders routinely travel to the state of Arunachal Pradesh as they do to any other state of India. Objecting to the visit of Indian leaders to a state of India does not stand to reason and understanding of Indian people," Mr Bagchi said. China has been objecting to visits of Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh, saying it is a part of South Tibet.

The fresh war of words between the two sides came three days after the 13th round of military talks on the 17-month eastern Ladakh standoff ended in a stalemate.

"Further, as we have mentioned earlier, the current situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector of the India-China border areas has been caused by unilateral attempts of the Chinese side to alter the status quo in violation of the bilateral agreements," Mr Bagchi said.

Nirmala Sitharaman's Swipe At Amartya Sen: "Worrying That Scholars..."

Boston: It is worrying that scholars can be now "influenced" and become "imprisoned" by their own likes and dislikes rather than comment on the basis of facts, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said, as she took a swipe at Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen for his views about the BJP government.

During a conversation organised by the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government on Tuesday, Ms Sitharaman was asked by Harvard Professor Lawrence Summers that "number of people in our community", notably economist Amartya Sen has expressed "rather strong reservations" about the BJP government.

He said there's a feeling that the legacy of tolerance "has been very much called into question" and that the attitude taken by "your government to the Mus-



lim population is something that comes between the United States, given our values of universalism and inclusion, and India."

During the conversation at Harvard Kennedy School, Ms Sitharaman said that even the issue of violence in states not governed by the BJP "will be at the doorstep of the Prime Minister because that suits my narrative."

Ms Sitharaman said she respects "Dr Amartya Sen, who you

mentioned," and "I would think for every one of us", "he goes to India, moves around freely and finds out what's happening. That itself would help us to know, particularly as a scholar, who is talking based on facts."

"No. It's worrying that scholars can be now influenced more by their personal likes and dislikes rather than comment on the basis of facts. It's really worrying that scholars can become imprisoned by their own likes and dislikes, rather than be equanimous, look at the facts and data before them, and then speak," she said.

"It's one thing to have a view and totally another to base it on facts. If opinions become my prejudice, there's no way in which I can counter it," Ms Sitharaman said.

She said that "sometimes it is an effort similar to waking up somebody who's pretending to sleep. If

you're genuinely sleeping, I can tap on your shoulder and say, 'Please wake up.' But if you're pretending to sleep, will you wake up. You can't, you won't. And I'll be fooling myself thinking I'm waking you up."

She told the audience that in India, "law and order is a subject which is each province for its own."

If in the United States, one particular state has any problem, it may not be a problem which the President of the United States will have to deal with but the governor of that state. "That is the case even in India. There are provinces which are ruled by not the party to which the Prime Minister belongs. Even last night, not even the day before yesterday night, even last night in a state which is ruled by... not the party to which the prime minister belongs, crimes have taken place, the poorest of the poor have been hit, some dead.

US should face up to its 'shameful past', says Harris

WASHINGTON: Vice President Kamala Harris said on Tuesday that the European explorers who first landed on US shores had "ushered in a wave of devastation for tribal nations, perpetrating violence, stealing land and spreading disease".

"We must not shy away from this shameful past, and we must shed light on it and do everything we can to address the impact of the past on native communities today," she told the National Congress of American Indians, the largest US organisation for native peoples.

The Biden administration would renegotiate a memo of understanding about federal funding for job training on tribal lands with tribal nations, she



said. It was renegotiated in 2018 between 12 federal agencies, but without input from the tribal nations affected.

She spoke the day after Columbus Day, which marks the landing of explorer Christopher Columbus, and the newly recognised Indigenous Peoples Day.

Since 1934, "every October the United States has recognised the voyage of the European explorers who first landed on the shores of the Americans", Harris said. "That is not the whole story, it has never been the whole story."

Install Biometric Attendance Within 3 Months: SED to CEOs

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The School Education Department on Wednesday issued a notice asking Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of Kashmir division to install Biometric Attendance System within three months to ensure punctuality of staff.

In the official communiqué issued by the officer on special duty to Directorate of School Education Kashmir has impressed upon all the Chief Education Officers to install Biometric Attendance System in Institutions for ensuring punctuality of staff within three months.

The order, a copy of which is, available with KNO, reads that the officer was directed

to request the CEOs to provide details and updated status of institutions where Biometric Attendance System is installed till date.

Earlier on July-06, the Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department in a circular had asked the concerned authorities to install the Biometric Attendance System in all Schools to capture the attendance of the Teachers for ensuring punctuality in Schools within three months.

Accordingly, the Chief Education Officer was asked to ensure installation of Biometric attendance systems in all the Schools to capture attendance of Teachers and is advised to submit an action taken report.

ACB Arrests Poonch RDD Official While Accepting Bribe

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday arrested Panchayat Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) of Panchayat Draba Khatana, Block Bafiaz, District Poonch, Muhammad Sharief while accepting bribe of Rs 50,000.

According to a statement issued to the news agency KNO, a complaint was received in the office of the ACB P/S Central, J&K, Jammu against Muhammad Sharief, son of Mishri of Draba Khatana Tehsil Surankote, District Poonch, presently posted as Secretary (RDD Deptt) Panchayat Draba Khatana, Block Bafiaz alleging therein that the accused is demanding bribe of Rs 5000 per file for release of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) 1st installment from the beneficiaries of the said scheme who are homeless poor villagers of Panchayat Halqa, Draba Khatana, Poonch through the complainant who happens to be the Sarpanch of that Panchayat.

The said complainant / Sarpanch

was told by the accused to collect Rs. 5000 per file as his commission/bribe for the release of the payment from the beneficiaries.

Based upon the facts disclosed in the complaint which prima facie constituted an offence under section 7 of the PC Act 1988 (as amended in 2018). A verification was got conducted and it is found that there are 10 beneficiaries whose payments was blocked by the said accused for the want of bribe money at the tune of Rs. 5,00,000 per file which amounts to Rs. 50,000 in total, the statement said.

"Accordingly, a case under FIR number 09/2021 was registered in P/S Central ACB, J&K on 12-10-2021 against the accused person. Consequently, a trap team was constituted whereupon the accused person was caught red handed on the spot while accepting the bribe of Rs 50,000 and accordingly was placed under arrest in the case. Searches are being conducted at the official and residential premises of the accused," the statement said, adding that further investigation in the case is under progress.

MD, JKRLM Reviews Progress In Ramban District

Asks officers to involve SHGs in income generating activities

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Mission Director, Jammu Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar on Wednesday emphasised on the field officials of the Mission to involve Self Help Group (SHG) members in income generating activities to sustain their livelihoods for all necessary support like capitalisation and easy credit will be provided by the Mission.

Dr. Sehrish made these comments while chairing the review meeting of the Mission for district Ramban here.

While highlighting the need for door to door banking services to rural community, the Mission Director asked the of-

ficials that under Mission "One GP One DIGI-PAY" identify the locations in their respective gram panchayats so that DIGI-PAY Sakhi's can be engaged for banking services in these areas who can provide services to rural populace.

Dr. Sehrish further emphasized upon the officials to enrol SHG members under various social security schemes in the District besides asking them to organize special campaigns about Aadhaar seeding and opening of Prime Ministers Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY) accounts for individual members.

She impressed upon the Block Programme Managers to identify the areas where infrastructure and marketing support can be enhanced.

Govt Needs to Give Sense of Security to All People of J&K: Omar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR: Voicing concern over the recent killing of civilians, former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said "everyone is feeling unsafe", and asked the administration to give the people a sense of security cutting across religions.

Pointing out that militant attacks in the Union Territory this year had claimed the lives of 28 civilians cutting across religious lines, Abdullah, who is the vice-president of the National Conference (NC), at the same time hoped there will not be a fresh exodus of Kashmiri Pandits and Sikhs, both of whom had been targeted in the recent days.

"All of us should try our level best to ensure that we do not see a fresh exodus of minorities from Kashmir", he said, adding that no one community feels safer than the other.

"Whatever can be done to stem this and to restore the sense of security to these communities must be done. Obviously, the lion's share of this work has to be done by the administration but as the majority community, we also carry some of that responsibility. We must fulfil that responsibility", he told PTI in an interview here.

Castigating the administration for trying to "score propaganda and public relations victories rather than focus on the ground realities", Abdullah asked the authorities to "take a long hard look at why we have reached where we have".

Abdullah, however, refrained from terming the recent attacks as an intelligence failure, saying: "... I think it's the failure to act on intelligence. That is a failure you cannot just blame the police for because the counter-militancy operations are conducted by police, paramilitary and military. It is the collective failure of our counter-insurgency grid."

He reasoned that for the last few months there has been chatter about targeted attacks against minorities, particularly against Kashmiri Pandits.

"So obviously, if somebody



like me who has no association or anything like that with the government and is not privy to any intelligence reports, if I could hear this, then I am sure the intelligence agencies also picked it up and if they have picked it up, they would have passed it on to the people who matter," he said.

Expressing concern about locals joining various militant groups, he said this is an issue that the government and political parties should be concerned about.

"I am not privy to statistics, I don't know the numbers but from my own colleagues, I do understand that this trend continues and it is not a trend limited to a particular area, we hear these reports from south, central and north Kashmir," he said.

"It is something that should concern us and again it is for the government to create the necessary conditions that these youngsters do not get attracted to the idea of picking up a gun," he added.

Abdullah recalled the statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 24 this year of removing dil ki doori and Dilli ki doori (removing distance between hearts and between Delhi and Srinagar) and suggested, "If we take some concrete steps in this direction, even this move towards joining militant tanzeems, I think we will be able to reduce it to a great extent. We may not be able to eradicate it but we will be able to reduce it".

Abdullah, however, cautioned against detaining people across the valley and said, "We need to be very careful not to get into knee-jerk reactions. Reactions for the sake of reacting, just because we have to show something, we do this."

"I am sure that I don't doubt that perhaps these 400 plus people have some sort of dos-

sier with the government, for whatever reason -- whether they were involved in stone pelting, linked to proscribed organisations. The fact is, are they directly connected to this attack or is there any linkage between them and this attack?"

"If there is, by all means proceed and file charges and let the courts decide about the guilt but this sort of random and wanton sort of arrest, it doesn't help the situation and in fact anything it makes the situation worse," Abdullah said while replying to a question about the recent crackdown by police in Kashmir and detaining over 400 people.

He said the government needs to be very careful and should not be seen to be carrying out activities with a view to take revenge. Instead, it should be seen as an organisation or as an "entity that delivers justice by all means", he said.

Abdullah, who was the chief minister of the erstwhile state for six years between 2009-14, had been able to clear central and north Kashmir of militants and their supporters.

Asked whether he was disheartened that the place has been infested by militants again, he said: "Disheartened will perhaps be a strong term, disappointed and concerned yes because we know militants are moving around in areas that have been free of militancy."

"Srinagar city was completely cleared of militancy. Same is true for Ganderbal and Budgam districts. It is disappointing but again the government needs to take a long hard look at why these areas have been occupied again and then see what corrective measures the government needs to take. The corrective measures that are not at the cost of everybody, they know they have to be very careful how they go about their activities," he said.

Abdullah asserted that the situation in Afghanistan would have no impact on the security situation in Kashmir other than the distinct possibility that it may act as a morale booster for militant groups operating in the Union Territory.

DHSK To Celebrate Oct 14 As One Billion Vaccination Day

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: October 14 will be celebrated as a milestone in the fight against Covid-19, DHSK officials said on Wednesday.

A circular issued in the regard by Director Health Services Kashmir informed that the country may achieve the mark of vaccination of one billion population for Covid-19 on October 14, 2021 and the Government of India has desired that this day be observed as a milestone in our fight against Covid-19 pandemic.

"In addition to above, pertinently, it will be a landmark occasion for J&K in particular as the date of achieving 100 percent vaccination among 18 years+ age group within the UT is also expected to coincide with the one billion vaccination mark across India," the circular reads.

"As such, all the Chief Medical Officers, Medical Superintendents & Block Medical Officers of Kashmir Division are enjoined to take the initiatives and measures suggested by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govern-

ment of India for observing celebrating the milestone of completion of 100 million vaccinations across India and also for achieving 100% first dose Covid-19 vaccination among 18 years age group," it said.

The initiatives include the illumination of Health Department buildings (health institutions & other buildings), installation of hoardings, certificates of appreciation to be awarded to healthcare workers for their exceptional efforts and media coverage to be given across Kashmir division.

LG Inaugurates Video Wall Facility En Route VD Shrine



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

KATRA: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, who is also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, on Wednesday inaugurated hi-tech Multipurpose Video Walls installed at prominent locations en route Vaishno Devi Shrine, at a cost of Rs. 5.13 crore, with assistance from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

The LG also visited the holy shrine of Vaishno Devi on the auspicious occasion of Durga Ashtami and paid obeisance at the sanctum. He prayed for peace, harmony, and prosperity in the UT.

The LG observed that the installation of hi-tech multi-purpose video walls at various locations on the track will enable dissemination of real-time information to the visiting pilgrims with regard to the yatra, and also add to the aesthetics of various locations on the track. The live telecast would be the main attraction to the pilgrims. It will

also showcase the awareness about various initiatives commenced by the Shrine Board for the facilitation of the pilgrims.

The project, to be accomplished in two phases includes installation of six large outdoor video walls at prominent locations on the track in the first phase, which was inaugurated today, and 20 Indoor LED screens at major establishments of the Shrine Board during the second phase.

The locations where the video walls would be displayed include Darshani Deodi Banganga, New Darshani Deodi Tarakote Marg, Langer Point at Tarakote Marg, Adhkuwari Complex, Bhairon ji platform, and Sanjichhat platform.

The project also provides general information to the visiting pilgrims such as medical & ambulance facilities, accommodation & catering arrangements, water & toilet locations, general announcements, assistance information, dos and don'ts, etc.

Union MoS Balyan Concludes 2-Day Samba Visit

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA: Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Dr Sanjeev Kumar Balyan on Wednesday concluded his 2-day visit of district Samba.

Dr. Balyan inaugurated the Primary Health Centre Utterbehni constructed at a cost of Rs 6 crore having double story building which will cater to the medical health needs of the local population. The PHC has 18700 sq feet area with 24 bedded wards, labour room, baby care unit, ECG room, OT (minor) room, x-ray room besides residential and administrative offices.

The Minister during the visit distributed fish seeds among beneficiaries at Birpur Community Pond under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) as a part of Aatm Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Later, the Minister held interaction with local delegations and addressed their genuine demands and issues. MoS directed administration Samba to resolve the local issues at the earliest. Dr Balyan also held interaction with the sheep and goat rearers at Mandal village of Purmandal. He felicitated vaccination team of Samba for 100% Covid vaccination feat and also carried out a plantation drive at the PHC premises.

Several Delegations Call On Advisor Farooq Khan

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: A number of delegations and deputations besides, individuals called on Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan here today. They put forth a series of demands, Public issues before the Advisor.

A delegation of PRIs of District Ganderbal led by Bilal Ahmad Bhat, Panch, Panchayat Halqa Shalbugh, Ganderbal met the Advisor and put forth the demand for construction and development of Sports stadium at Shalbugh besides providing of Sporting equipments. They also requested for provision of a new transformer for PHC Shalbugh.

A delegation of Employees of State Co-Operative Bank compris-

ing of Senior Functionaries of the bank also met the Advisor and put forth the demand of giving boost to the State Co-operative Bank by taking several initiatives. The Advisor asked them to come with a comprehensive plan by virtue of which the Bank can be taken on modern lines.

A delegation of Labour Union also called on the Advisor and raised various issues pertaining to construction Labourers/Workers. They also suggested some initiatives which can be taken for the over welfare of the Labour Community. The Advisor gave a patient hearing to all the deputations and assured them that Government is committed towards the welfare of all the weaker sections of the society particularly Labour Community.

SHORT TAKES

JKRLM Organises Bankers Workshop At BK Pora Block

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: A Bankers workshop was on Wednesday organised by Block Mission Management Unit, BK pora Block under Jammu Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (UMEED).

The workshop was organised for a smooth coordination between the SHG members of JKRLM Umeed and the concerned bank branches.

The workshop was attended by Lead District Manager Budgam Madam Farhat, concerned bank branch representatives financing the SHG members of JKRLM Umeed, Community Cadre, Self Help Group members associated with Rural Livelihood Mission (UMEED), Block Programme Manager B.K Pora Madina Bukhari, MIS Officer BK Pora Owais Ahmad, District Programme Manager Financial Inclusion JKRLM Budgam Jibran Rashid.

Direct interaction was enabled between Self Help Group members and bankers to enable ease of banking for the members of Self Help

Groups formed under the ambit of JKRLM UMEED.

Many of the issues like delay in credit disbursement to Self Help Groups, hindrance in leadership change request of Self Help Groups, delay in account opening of Self Help Groups, SHG account title mismatch, besides varied other concerns were discussed threadbare and immediate redressal of the issues was assured by Lead District Manager, District Budgam.

The lead District Manager directed the concerned bank officials to strictly adhere to guidelines pertaining to NRLM/JKRLM/UMEED and to enable ease of Banking to SHG members.

The bankers assured the Self Help Group members of their full support and cooperation with respect to the banking on Individual Member Account Opening, Credit Linking of Self Help Groups for Creation of Livelihood, besides a consistent coordination with BMMU B K Pora for smooth implementation of the Program was assured.

IUST Hosts Webinar On 'Latest Trends In Nursing Education'

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

AWANTIPORA: Three Day webinar on 'Latest Trends in Nursing Education' organised by Alamdard Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology, a constituent college of Islamic University of Science and Technology concluded on Monday.

More than 1300 participants which included principals, professors, teaching faculty, clinical nursing officers and students of various nursing colleges of India USA, Canada attended the webinar. Chief Nursing Education Academia USA Dr. Ruth Robert, Assistant Director Nursing division MoHFW Gol, Dr Rathi Balachandran, Dr Usha Mullich Ukande and Dr Geeta Sinha from Nursing care continuum New Delhi, Principal Saraswati Nursing inst. Punjab Dr Raman Kalia, Principal Sharda University Prof. Urmila Bhadarwaj, Director of Health Science IGNOU Prof. Pity Kaulm, Assistant Professor AIMS Rishikesh Rakhi Mishra were keynote speakers during the webinar.

Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Mehmooda Regu, while addressing the participants gave a detailed account on nursing education in preparing nursing professionals for promotive, preventive, and rehabilitative aspects of health care. Prof. Regu appreciated the organisers and faculty for success of program.

D&FCO Jammu Disallows Operation Of 26 Erring Establishments

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Drugs & Food Control Organization (D&FCO) on Wednesday disallowed operation of 26 Sale Establishments for violation of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

The sleuths of the Drugs & Food Control Organization carried out surprise checking of Drug sales establishments (Retail/Wholesale) under the supervision of respective Assistant Drugs Controller in Jammu Province under the overall supervision of Lotika Khajuria, State Drugs Controller.

"During the drive, operations of twenty six Sale Establishments were disallowed u/s 22 (d) of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 on spot which included six in Jammu, four in Doda, three each in R.S Pura, Ramban and Rajouri, two each in Samba, Kishtwar and Kathua Districts and one in Poonch District for violation of conditions of the licenses. The Licensees were warned of severe action in case the deficiencies are not removed within the stipulated period of time," a handout issued by

the Organisation stated.

Statutory samples of more than one hundred fifty drug formulations viz Antibiotics, PPI, Steroid, NSAIDs etc, were lifted from public institutions and private firms particularly situated in far flung areas and government institutions for determination of strength and purity. These samples were referred to Drug Testing Laboratories located within and outside the UT of J&K for framing legal opinion to ascertain their quality parameters.

Moreover, the Department has broadened its scope in other fields and initiated a special exercise wherein statutory samples of cosmetics and medical devices were also lifted and have been dispatched to the notified laboratories outside the UT.

Stocks of Drugs worth Rs 10,672 that were found to be contravening the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act were also confiscated from the supply chain by the Regulatory Officers of the Organisation under the relevant provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act.

Several Valley Leaders Ready To Join BJP: Gupta

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: After enrolling Devender Singh Rana and Surjit Singh Salathia in the party, BJP's senior leader Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday claimed that several political leaders from Kashmir Valley were ready to join them.

"Several valley leaders are ready to come with us. You will get to know soon who all they are. We will welcome them all. There are faces from NC also who want to join the BJP," Kavinder Gupta told news agency KINS.

A saffron party insider here in Srinagar also claimed that at local level, joining of leaders is going on and now big names will also join the BJP like Rana and Salathia.

Another senior BJP leader, Ashok Koul told the agency that the doors are open for all those who want to join the BJP party.

"We have kept our doors open for all. Those who want to join, BJP leadership will welcome them," he said.

The agency reported that there were inputs that some more political leaders from other parties could join the BJP during Amit Shah's visit to Jammu later this month.

However as of now there is no information about Amit Shah's political engagements during his visit to the JK UT.

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Lingering Stand-Off

Yet another round of talks between India and China to resolve the ongoing standoff in Ladakh have ended in a stalemate. This means the two sides will need to keep their troops deployed along the Line of Actual Control for the second winter in a row. India has blamed China for not being “agreeable,” even though it had offered “constructive suggestions.” Chinese military spokesperson, on the other hand, blamed the Indian side for sticking “to unreasonable and unrealistic demands, adding difficulties to the negotiations”.

The stand-off is thus seems set to continue. And this is not a good evolving security situation for India. And the country's security brass is aware of this. Earlier, Army chief General M M Naravane termed “the largescale build-up” of the People's Liberation Army along the Chinese side of the border as a matter of concern. He also pointed out “an equal amount of infrastructure development,” on the Chinese side.

But there is little that New Delhi can do about it. In the recent past, China has tried to expand the conflict along the LAC. Two weeks ago, over a hundred Chinese transgressed into Uttarakhand and returned after destroying a bridge. As time goes by, the differences between India and China are becoming irreconcilable.

India wants China to go back to status quo ante as it existed in April last year but Beijing is in no mood to do so. On the contrary, the People's Liberation Army has enhanced its military profile on the border by deploying thousands of its soldiers and equipment. In recent years China has reportedly more than doubled its total number of airbases, air defense positions, and heliports near the Indian border. This has now become a high-stakes war of nerves between the two countries.

An eyeball to eyeball confrontation between the two countries has lingered ever since the forces of the two countries clashed at Galwan Valley in June-15-16 last year leading to the death of 20 Indian soldiers and four Chinese personnel. A pragmatic way out to resolve the lingering stand-off is through negotiations, even if it takes time. With winter again approaching it will be in the interest of both the countries to reach an understanding that also holds on the ground. But this can only happen if Beijing approaches the dialogue seriously. But as the latest rounds of the dialogue between the two countries has underlined, it seems unlikely that the stand-off would be resolved in near future.

OTHER OPINON

Unquiet Front

There is only one silver lining in the war of words after the 13th round of India-China corps commander level talks on the Chinese incursions at the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh: The talks have not broken down altogether. Neither side has said there will be no more talks, and the Indian statement included the line that the “two sides have agreed to maintain communications and also to maintain stability on the ground”. The disagreement came over the Indian demand that China must vacate PP15 at Hot Springs in the Gogra sector. In July this year, the two sides had agreed on and carried out a disengagement close by at PP17, also known as Gogra Post. Like PP17, the one at Hot Springs does not offer itself to either side as a launchpad for a military strike. From a military standpoint, it is illogical that the People's Liberation Army disengaged from one but is not ready to hear about the other, unless the idea is to signal an intention to let the situation at the LAC in Ladakh fester. It is intriguing that the Chinese statement after this round came from the PLA's Western Command headquarters in Chengdu rather than from Beijing, as has been customary until now. The acrimonious end was definitely not in keeping with the recent agreement at Dushanbe between Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar and his counterpart Wang Yi that the two sides should resolve the remaining issues at the earliest. The Ministry of External Affairs said it put forward “constructive suggestions”, but the Chinese side did not agree, and did not come up with any “forward-looking proposals” either. The PLA accused India of making “unreasonable and unrealistic demands”.

India now faces another winter of harsh forward deployment in eastern Ladakh. And going by the hardening positions on both sides, it may not be just for one more year. Army chief MM Naravane has acknowledged that the rapid pace of infrastructure construction on the Chinese side of the LAC to the so-called friction points worries him and that it means the PLA are “here to stay”, and that this means India will stay there as well. It is even more worrying that India now has what he described as a “kind of LoC situation” along the LAC. The LAC is certainly quieter than the western front. But going by recent developments, at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh where there was a minor stand-off between Chinese and Indian troops, and in Barahoti in Uttarakhand, where the PLA reportedly tried to make some incursions, nothing can be taken for granted.

The trust deficit between the two countries has increased even though trade between the two sides is clocking astonishing numbers. The limits of the Boycott China campaign stand exposed. The challenge for India is to keep pushing China for results at the LAC and a broader resolution of the boundary question via talks, and equip the military better to stand guard at the LAC.

Indian Express

Rethinking India's Global Strategy



JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA are not irrelevant in this sphere, but they are minnows compared to the US.

Nirvikar Singh

CHINA IS FLEXING ITS STRATEGIC muscles on the back of a stunning three decades of growth, increasing its chances of political success. This is noted without in the slightest degree approving of its political goals, domestic or international. Of course, one can also be a relative economic failure like Russia, and exert military power, but that is not a model to follow in any dimension

The Indian Prime Minister's recent visit to the US and the United Nations gave him an opportunity to project himself to his domestic constituency as a global leader. Controlling the domestic media narrative has always been a vital component of the current approach to governance, and this visit was in that tradition. But ultimately, substance is what matters, not the surface. On the global front, India has major strategic interests in national security and in economic development. The US is potentially important for both.

The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) with Australia, Japan and the US is a significant new collaboration. The motivation for this cooperation is, of course, the geopolitical challenge of China. The recent Quad summit, the first in person, marked an important step forward. Military security is an obvious frontline concern, especially for India's three partners, because of their geographic positions and the US's global strategic posture.

India has also cheered on the AUKUS military pact between the US, United Kingdom and Australia, while officially saying it is separate from the Quad. Indeed, on the security front, India's locus of conflict with China is geographically and strategically very different than that of Japan, Australia and the UK, and it is fair to say that none of these countries matter. The US does, but its debacle in Afghanistan illustrates the limits of its competence in the region. Indeed, India's piggybacking on the US Afghanistan strategy did not seem to do it much good.

I would argue that India should keep its eye on the economic development ball, and not let the strategic interests of the US divert it from achieving what it needs—rapid, sustainable economic growth. China is flexing its strategic muscles on the back of a stunning three decades of growth, increasing its chances of political success. This is noted without in the slightest degree approving of its political goals, domestic or international. Of course, one can

THE QUADRILATERAL SECURITY Dialogue (Quad) with Australia, Japan and the US is a significant new collaboration. The motivation for this cooperation is, of course, the geopolitical challenge of China. The recent Quad summit, the first in person, marked an important step forward. Military security is an obvious frontline concern, especially for India's three partners, because of their geographic positions and the US's global strategic posture.

also be a relative economic failure like Russia, and exert military power, but that is not a model to follow in any dimension.

On the economic front, of course, India and the US have tremendous potential for further alignment. The PM's meetings with US business leaders in information technology, solar power, defence production, telecom and finance were hugely symbolic, as well as furthering strategic goals. Several of them illustrate possible synergies in economic strength and national security. It will be important to track how effective is the follow-up on the Indian side, to achieve tangible benefits.

It is useful to contrast these meetings with the recent decision by Ford Motor to stop producing cars in India. This illustrates that the US can be good as a source of money and cutting-edge technologies, but its business and political leaders and operatives are not always good at understanding and adapting to local conditions. At an abstract level, Afghanistan exemplifies some of the same US weaknesses as Ford. The strong implication is that India should really be looking to Asian economies—Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, in particular—for the kinds of investment and know-how it needs for its own economy in many sectors. This includes a range of consumer durables, capital equipment and infrastructure needs.

Finally, while India should not unduly limit itself to the US as a source of what it needs for economic development, nor allow the US to drive its geopolitical strategic

stance, there is enormous scope for leveraging US strategic concerns to tap into its strengths where it matters the most. Specifically, the recent Quad summit included plans for new research collaborations and the development of 'competitive technology ecosystems'. Japan and Australia are not irrelevant in this sphere, but they are minnows compared to the US. This is the proverbial sweet spot for India's global strategy.

India's goal must be to use this collaboration to build world-class research universities, and use them, in turn, to grow an innovation ecosystem. Training world-class faculty takes time, and so India will have to figure out how to attract them from everywhere, not limiting that effort to those of Indian origin. And, while the emphasis on science and technology inherent in this effort can avoid some of India's current problems of cultural nationalism, ultimately, fostering creativity will require openness in many different ways. Allowing this openness will require self-confidence on the part of India's leaders. That means something very different from the current approach of Russia or China, or that of the last US president.

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

The author is a Professor of Economics, University of California, Santa Cruz. The article was originally published by Financial Express



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Meritocracy?

We've all been raised with the false assumption that somehow, merit, is independent of anything. This means that in our system of beliefs, as long as access to education is enabled, one shouldn't have any reason to not excel. However, this is farther from truth. Even today, access to education isn't as simple as it may seem. There are many variables involved which still do not make academic resources equitable. This means that some have more access to resources than others.

SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS AN INTERNSHIP IS also feasible to only privileged students as they're the ones who can afford to not work right after their college. Others have to rush to make ends meet.

For instance, how many students can afford NEET or JEE coaching? Even after scoring equal in their boards, everyone doesn't get a chance at getting "good" coaching to crack these entrance exams. This means that many fall merely due to lack of resources than lack of ability. Yes, there are some who make it nonetheless but this rarely happens on a platform where all students are equal. Something as simple as an internship

is also feasible to only privileged students as they're the ones who can afford to not work right after their college. Others have to rush to make ends meet. This might not seem like the rosy picture we had thought it to be. These instances don't make it to people because of shame involved around not having as much as others. With COVID-19 and the lockdown post abrogation of Article

370, how many businesses went abysmal! So many lost their livelihood. Have we as a society ever wondered who is paying their school fees and how other expenses are being managed? So, no! Your child may score a whopping 100% but that's because they may have had the privilege of having a care free and resourceful environment which was conducive for their academic growth — this is hardly true for everyone.

Faizal Sheikh

Many Attributes Of Great Prophet

MUSLIMS EVERYWHERE, too, shall pay the Prophet special tribute in this month of Rabi-ul-Awwal to celebrate his birthday. Many will rejoice, as there will be illuminations, particularly in the mosques. Yet, unfortunately, many will forget the profound and inspired discourses as they leave their respective congregations.



NEVER has so much been written by so many on the life of one human being, of any time, than on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Eminent people from other faiths, too, have showered him with praise. Thomas Carlyle was not the only one to pay him tribute in his lecture on 'Hero as a Prophet', choosing him over all those mentioned in the Old Testament, from Adam through Abraham, to Moses and Jesus. Napoleon Bonaparte in Bonaparte et Islam is quoted as saying: "Moses revealed the existence of God to his nation. Jesus to the Roman world, Muhammad [PBUH] to the old continent.... Arabia was idolatrous when, six centuries after Jesus, Muhammad [PBUH] introduced the worship of the God of Abraham, Ishmael, Moses and Jesus. "The Aryans ... had disturbed the tranquility of the East by agitat-

ing the question of the nature of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Muhammad [PBUH] declared that there was none but one God who had no father, no son.... I hope the time is not far when I shall be able to unite all the wise and educated men of all the countries and establish a uniform regime based on the principles of the Quran which alone are true and which alone can lead men to happiness." And this from George Bernard Shaw: "If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe, within the next hundred years, it could be Islam. I have always held the religion of Muhammad [PBUH] in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him, the wonderful man, and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Saviour of Humanity.

"I believe that if a man like him were to assume the [leadership] of the modern world he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much-needed peace and happiness: I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad [PBUH] that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today." Muslims everywhere, too, shall pay the Prophet special tribute in this month of Rabi-ul-Awwal to celebrate his birthday. Many will rejoice, as there will be illuminations, particularly in the mosques. Religious scholars will recount anecdotes from his life, highlighting his character and achievements, and recalling his sayings on different aspects of human life before gatherings of devotees. Naat recitations and milads (sessions singing praise to the Prophet) will be held everywhere. Scholars will dwell upon his attri-

bute of Rahmatallil Aalemeen ('Mercy for all the worlds' —including those of the birds and beasts, of insects and worms, etc.), because a Muslim is enjoined to not hurt any living being except in the way of God. Scholars will explain what the Prophet said to his followers about how to treat women, how to interact with people of other faiths and how to carry oneself in one's everyday life. Yet, unfortunately, many will forget the profound and inspired discourses as they leave their respective congregations. A few of those who may be swaying in ecstasy at the mention of the Holy Prophet's name would go back to indulge in sectarian hate and killing, as we have been witnessing in Pakistan. As Rahmatallil Aalemeen, the Prophet gave protection to Christians through a covenant signed in 628 CE, when a delegation from St Catherine's Monastery visited him seeking his protection. (The monastery, located at the foot of Mount Sinai, is the world's oldest, and a treasure house of rare manuscripts, icons and Christian history.) The covenant's words are as follows: "This is a message from Muhammad ibn Abdullah, as a covenant to those who adopt Christianity, near and far, we are with them. "Verily I, the servants, the helpers, and my followers defend them, because Christians are my citizens; and by Allah! I hold out against anything that displeases them. "No compulsion is to be on them ... Neither are their judges to be removed from their jobs nor their monks from their monasteries. "No one is to destroy a house of their religion, to damage it, or to carry anything from it to Muslims' houses. "Should anyone take any of these [belongings], he would spoil God's covenant and disobey His Prophet. Verily, they are my allies and have my secure charter.... "No one is to force them to travel or to oblige them to fight. Muslims are to fight for them. "If a female Christian is married to a Muslim, it is not to take place without her approval. She is not to be prevented from visiting her church to pray. "Their churches are to be respected. They are neither to be prevented from repairing them nor [barred] the sacredness of their covenants."No one of the nation is to disobey the covenant till the Last Day (of Judgment),"

It is important to remember that this covenant was made binding on all Muslims for all times, past, present and future, till the Day of Judgment. How this covenant has come to be violated in some Muslim countries should shame anyone who claims to love or follow the Prophet of Islam. --From KO Archives

Why Do We Wake Around 3Am And Dwell On Our Fears And Shortcomings?

Greg Murray

When I wake at 3am or so, I'm prone to picking on myself. And I know I'm not the only one who does this. A friend of mine calls 3am thoughts "barbed-wire thinking", because you can get caught in it. The thoughts are often distressing and punitive. Strikingly, these concerns vaporise in the daylight, proving that the 3am thinking was completely irrational and unproductive.

So, what's going on?

I'm a psychology researcher with expertise in mood, sleep, and the circadian system (the internal clock regulating sleep). Here's what the research says about what may be behind this common experience. What's happening in your body at 3am? In a normal night's sleep, our neurobiology reaches a turning point around 3 or 4am. Core body temperature starts to rise, sleep drive is reducing (because we've had a chunk of sleep), secretion of melatonin (the sleep hormone) has peaked, and levels of cortisol (a stress hormone) are increasing as the body prepares to launch us into the day. Remarkably, all this activity happens independent of cues from the environment such as dawn light – nature decided long ago that sunrise and sunset are so important that they must be predicted (hence the circadian system). We actually wake up many times each night, and light sleep is more common in the second half of the night. When sleep is going well for us, we are simply unaware of these awakenings. But add a bit of stress and there is a good chance that waking will become a fully self-aware state. Not surprisingly, there is evidence the



pandemic is a sleep-disturbing stressor. So if you're experiencing 3am wakings at the moment, you're definitely not alone. Stress also impacts sleep in insomnia, where people become hypervigilant about being awake. Concerns about being awake when one "should" be asleep can cause the person to jolt themselves into anxious wakefulness whenever they go through a light sleep phase. If that sounds like you, be aware that insomnia responds well to psychological treatment with cognitive behavioural therapy. There's also a strong link between sleep and depression, so it's important to speak to your doctor if you have any concerns about your sleep.

Catastrophising in the wee hours

As a cognitive therapist, I sometimes

joke the only thing good about 3am waking is that it gives us all a vivid example of catastrophising. Around this time in the sleep cycle, we're at our lowest ebb physically and cognitively. From nature's viewpoint, this is meant to be a time of physical and emotional recovery, so it's understandable that our internal resources are low. But we also lack other resources in the middle of the night – social connections, cultural assets, all the coping skills of an adult are unavailable at this time. With none of our human skills and capital, we are left alone in the dark with our thoughts. So the mind is partly right when it concludes the problems it's generated are unsolvable – at 3am, most problems literally would be. Once the sun's up, we're listening to the radio, chewing our Vegemite toast and pushing the cat off the bench, and our

IN A NORMAL NIGHT'S SLEEP, OUR neurobiology reaches a turning point around 3 or 4am. Core body temperature starts to rise, sleep drive is reducing (because we've had a chunk of sleep), secretion of melatonin (the sleep hormone) has peaked, and levels of cortisol (a stress hormone) are increasing as the body prepares to launch us into the day.

3am problems are put in perspective. We can't believe the solution of just ringing this person, postponing that thing, or checking such-and-such was overlooked in the wee hours. The truth is, our mind isn't really looking for a solution at 3am. We might think we are problem solving by mentally working over issues at this hour, but this isn't really problem solving; it's problem solving's evil twin – worry. Worry is identifying a problem, ruminating about the worst possible outcome and neglecting the resources we would bring to bear should the non-preferred outcome actually occur.

So, what can we do about it?

Have you noticed the 3am thoughts are very self-focused? In the quiet dark, it's easy to slide unknowingly into a state of extreme egocentricity. Circling round the concept "I", we can generate painful backwards-looking feelings like guilt or regret. Or turn our tired thoughts to the always uncertain future, generating baseless fears. Buddhism has a strong position on this type of mental activity: the self is a fiction, and that fiction is the source of all distress. Many of us now practice Buddhist-informed mindfulness to manage

stress in the daytime; I use mindfulness to deal with 3am wakings. I bring my attention to my senses, specifically the sound of my breath. When I notice thoughts arising, I gently bring my attention back to the sound of breathing (pro tip: earplugs help you hear the breath and get out of your head). Sometimes this meditation works. Sometimes it doesn't. If I'm still caught in negative thinking after 15 or 20 minutes, I follow the advice from cognitive behavioural therapy, and get up, turn on dim light and read. This action may seem mundane, but at 3am it is powerfully compassionate, and can help draw you out of your unproductive thinking. One last tip: It's important to convince yourself (during daylight hours) that you want to avoid catastrophic thinking. For good reasons not to worry, you can't go past the Stoic philosophers. Waking and worrying at 3am is very understandable and very human. But in my opinion, not a great habit to get into. – By arrangement with The Conversation

Author is Professor and Director, Centre for Mental Health, Swinburne University of Technology, Swinburne University of Technology.

By Arrangements with The Conversation

Anxiety Of Socialisation Can Be Cause Of Concern For Students Returning To Schools



Press Trust Of India

Noting that the Covid pandemic has severely affected the mental health of children, healthcare experts have said that anxiety of socialisation can be a cause of concern for students returning to schools as they were physically away from their friends and teachers for a prolonged period.

On the occasion of World Mental Health Day on Sunday, the healthcare experts said children might face anxiety returning back to schools and advised their parents and teachers to watch out for warning signs such as lack of concentration and sudden anger among children since reopening of the schools. Schools are reopening in several states and Union Territories after remaining shut for months due to the pandemic.

The experts believe that anxiety of socialisation can be a cause of concern for students returning to schools as children were physically away from their friends and teachers for a prolonged period due to the pandemic.

Gracy Andrew, vice president and country director for India of NGO Cor-Stone, advised parents to acknowledge and allow their children to express their fear.

"Very often parents will negate the feelings by saying 'don't be scared' or 'don't be silly', 'there is nothing to be scared' - instead it is important to let children express their fears and acknowledge that it is natural to feel anxious. Next is to really probe about what is making them scared? Is it just being

with other children or is it fear of getting Covid... then provide them with information about safety and the low risk of children getting severely sick even if they get infected. Parents can support children by just being there for them as they go back to school," she told PTL.

Andrew said teachers too can let children express their fears that can be done in classrooms through activities depending on the developmental age/ level.

"Providing them with information about the virus so they have the knowledge and most important is to let attendance not be compulsory - letting children have a choice of going for a few days a week in the beginning and then may be increasing the pace as they settle in," she said.

Dr Jyoti Kapoor, senior psychiatrist, Paras Hospital in Gurgaon said parents can play an important role in helping children get back to normal.

Providing them with information about the virus so they have the knowledge and most important is to let attendance not be compulsory - letting children have a choice of going for a few days a week in the beginning and then may be increasing the pace as they settle in

"The pandemic has severely affected the mental health of children like never before. Anxiety of socialisation is one of the most prominent aspects as children were physically away from their friends and teachers for a prolonged period. Parents play an important role in helping children get back to normal. Watch out for warning signs such as lack of concentration, sudden anger, etc," she said.

"But most importantly, parents must get completely vaccinated as a first step to address their anxiety. They must also teach children how to maintain mask and hand hygiene. Games and activities like cycling and kabaddi that promote interaction without getting too close to partners are also a good way to address their anxiety," Kapoor told PTL.

Dr Anant Bhan, researcher of Global Health, Bioethics and Health Policy, said it is important for the school management and the government to reassure parents about the steps being taken to minimise the risk for infection spread.

"Children need to be counselled about the risk for caution, there needs to be a focus on ensuring ventilation, and encouraging complete vaccination for all adults who the kids will interact with (teachers, school staff, school transport staff, as well as members of their own families), usage of masks as per age criteria. It's also crucial to remember that there are advantages to opening schools and to socialising with other kids of their age, and this could be a vital component of the all round growth and development of our next generation," Bhan said.

Public Notice

This is inform general public that I have applied for pesticides license. In this regard any person having any objection He/She may contact office of the PPO Lal Mandi Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after that.

Name: ROZEY MANZOOR
D/O: MANZOOR AHMAD MIR
R/O: SAGAM

RNA

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars
Name : Hanaan Nazeer S/O Nazeer Ahamd Beigh
R/o Badran Magam



Details of Marks Certificate lost
i) Secondary School Examination (class 10th)
Roll No 12407253 Session /Year Annual-Reg. 2020

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

bmg

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam

Indian Institute of Carpet Technology Srinagar

Baghi-Ali-Mardhan-Khan, Nowshera, Srinagar

Email: contact@iictrsrinagar.org; www.iictrsrinagar.org

Ph. 0194-2411143, Fax: 2428636

Advertisement Notice

The Institute shall be conducting 04 months Skill Up-gradation and Capacity Building cum Entrepreneurship Training Programme under Technology Up-gradation Scheme sponsored by National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India.

For this, the Institute requires the services of 02 Instructors, possessing a valid Artisan Registration Card of Carpet Craft, for conducting training programme in Khrati Larnoo area of Anantnag District and Naidkhai area of Bandipora district, as per the eligibility criteria mentioned below:

Minimum Academic Qualification: Matriculation
Essential Work Experience (Carpet): 20 years
Max Age: 50 years
Consolidated Monthly Remuneration: Rs. 15,000/-

The engagement shall be purely on need basis for a period of 04 months only, and shall be co-terminus with the completion of the course. The eligible and desirous candidates may submit their applications, in the prescribed format, which can be had from this Institute against cash payment of Rs. 20/-, along with all relevant documents to Director, Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Srinagar by or before 29-10-2021. The date of Trade Test/ Interview for the short-listed candidates shall be notified separately.

DIPK-NB-4158/21

Sd/-
Chief Coordinator

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

NAAC Accredited Grade "A+"
Hazratbal, Srinagar (J&K)-190006

NOTICE

It is notified for the information of all concerned left out gold medalists students, who have secured 1st position from the year 2010 to 2021 and have missed registration in the Convocations held in the year 2012 and 2021, that they shall be considered for award of Gold Medals/Cash rewards separately by the University in the following subjects as a onetime exception:

BA/ B.Sc/ B.Com/ BBA/ BCA/ IMBA/B.Tech/M.Tech/B.Sc. IT/MBBS/ BDS/BUMS/BE, BA.LLB, LLB/M.Pharma/B.Pharmacy/B.ED/ B.P.Ed/MA/ M.Sc/ M.Com/ MBA/ MCA/MFC/ MLIS/ M.ED/ M.P.ED, LL.M/ Hon's exam in (Kamil) Kashmiri.

All left out candidates eligible for above categories of awards are informed to get themselves registered by submitting online application form, available on University Website: <http://kashmiruniversity.net/> along with registration fees of Rs. 200/- by or before 15th November, 2021.

There will be no extension to the last date and no unregistered candidate shall be considered for award of medals whatsoever. Further instructions to registered candidates shall be notified separately.

DIPK-NB-4193/21

No :- F (Leftover-Gold-Medals) Gen/KU/21

Dated:- 12th October, 2021.

Sd/-
(Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed Zarri)
Joint Registrar
(GENERAL)

Office Of The Executive Engineer (KPDCL)

Sub Transmissin Divisoin 1St Bemina Srinagr 190018

Email: XENSTD1@GMAIL.COM

Extension Notice

NO: STD-1 3732-34

Dated 09-10-2021

In order to get adequate response the last date of sale/download & receipt /submission of e-Bid document and Techno-Commercial Bid-Opening Date are extended as under

NIT No	Tender ID	Description/Reason	Last date of sale/download & receipt/submission bid doc.	Techno-Commercial Bid-Opening date
e-NIT NO STD-1/ 14 OF 2021-22 DATED 10-09-202	2021_PDDp138844_1	Agumentation of Ahmad Nagar Reciving Substation from 2X6.3 MVA TO 2X10 MVA	16-10-2021 (3:00 PM)	18-10-2021 (04:00 PM)

The complete NIT/ Tender documents /BOQ can be downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. All other terms and conditions as stipulated in the original NIT shall remain same

DIPK-NB-4153/21

Office of the Executive Engineer (KPDCL)
SUB TRANSMISSIN DIVISOIN 1ST BEMINA

SRINAGAR MUNICPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

TENDER NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS

NIET NO: 33 e-Tendering/2021-22

Dated: 12-October-2021

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work:-

S.No	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Cr.)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Time of Completion in days/ Weeks	Class of Contract (Civil)	Head of Account
1.	Improvement to Children Park near Iqbal Park Srinagar Opposite Tagore Hall	Rs. 47.00/-	Rs. 2000/-	30 Days Strictly	AAY/ Approved Manufactures and their authorized agents & dealers / distributors	Capex Budget 2021-22

Position of AA = Available

Position of Technical Sanction = Accorded

1. Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

CRITICAL DATE SHEET

1	Publish date	12-10-2021 04:00 PM
2	Document download	12-10-2021 04:00 PM To 27-10-2021 04:00 PM
3	Bid submission/uploading date	12-10-2021 04:00 PM To 27-10-2021 04:00 PM
4	Bid Opening date	29-10-2021 11:00 AM
5	Submission of hardcopy for bidder	28-10-2021 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. The successful bidder shall have to produce/deposit performance security 3% of the value of contract in shape of FDR/CDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC before issuance of allotment to protect the department against any financial loss in the event of default of the successful bidder/tenderer which the successful bidder should submit / deposit within 03 days from the date of formal intimation is issued in his favour from the corporation.

2. The successful bidders/tenders should submit the hard copies of their documents including DD after the opening of tenders.

3. In Case of Holidays/office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids. Bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue

3(a). The intending tenderer/bidder should attach sales tax clearance certificate with upto date Validation without which no tenders/bids will be entertained.

4. The bid shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer LRWD, SMC at Old Funds office Building Karan Nagar near National School Municipal Park on 29-10-2021 11:00 AM.

5. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Demand Draft pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer SMC payable at Srinagar or Bank receipt of tender fee deposit in the Municipal Account No: 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Brach Balgarden. Scanned copy of the same withmentionofNIET No.& Serial no. to be uploaded along with all other documents including Bid Security Declaration with validitynot less than 180 days from the Bid due date.

DIPK-NB-4185/21

No. SMC/EELRWD/2302-2311

Dated: 12-07-2021.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Left River Works Division,
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

CIVIL WORKS

SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs.2.50 Crores)

EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-tender FRESH -NIT No.179 of 2021-22 issued under endorsement No.13573-78 Dated:12.10.2021

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

S.No	Nome of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs.In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees}	Earnest Money	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class Of Contactor
1	Construction of road from National Highway to Izbandar Gularpati (Sonamarg-C) B2V3.	Rs.05.80 Lacs	Rs.300.00	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	5475-B2V3	DEE/CEE

Position of AAA:- Accorded.
Position of funds:- Available.

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	12/10/2021 from 5.30 PM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	12 /10/2021 from 5.30 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	20/10/2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	21/10/2021 at 10.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer Division R&B Division Ganderbal

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

2.1 The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Ganderbal within 07 (seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division (tender receiving authority).

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-

a) Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6(A). Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

6.4 Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

6.5 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.

6.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including Bid Security Declaration, tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy. However in case of any clarification the bidders all have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

a) On contractor's representation based on the grounds as detailed above the time for completion of the work may be extended by a period considered reasonable by the Department.

b) Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.

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

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

No.13573-78

Dated:12-10-21

DIPK-10550/21

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderbal

Agri Dept launches valley-wide campaign to double area under Oilseeds



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: To realize the Prime Minister's goal of doubling the farmers income by 2022, the Department of Agriculture Kashmir today launched a two day massive campaign under 'National Mission on Edible Oils' for doubling the area under Oilseeds (Mustard) during Rabi 2021-22.

The campaign was initiated by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal from Srinagar district and a series of events including field visits, participation in Oilseed sowing operations, awareness programs for farmers and interactive sessions with the farmers, bike and car rallies were also organized by the department across the valley.

After formally inaugurating the mass campaign, the Director Agriculture said that AP&FWD under the supervision of Principal Secretary AP&FWD, Navin Kumar Choudhary has chalked out an ambitious plan for increasing oilseed production to cut imports of edible oil in the country.

He further added that the Government is planning to double the area under the cultivation of oilseeds during the coming Rabi season by way of utilizing paddy land which otherwise remains idle during the winter in cold climatic areas, and sowing mustard in these paddy lands will produce an additional crop.

Iqbal emphasized on the importance of oilseed in the agriculture sector. He said there is a great scope for this crop in the valley as far its productivity is concerned and oil recovery rate is compara-

tively better than many other parts of the country, and these are the driving forces that the department is taking seriously to increase the area under this crop.

He said the agro climatic conditions for the cultivation of mustard are very conducive and we are expecting good returns in days to come.

While highlighting the importance of recent technologies for crop improvement programs, the Director said that various conventional methods have been exploited for enhancing the yield of oilseed crops like mustard, however for further improvement there is a need to adopt recent technologies, which will lead to improved sustainability.

He asked the officers/officials of the department to work in close coordination with the farming community and ensure that all the recent interventions are being adopted and practiced by the farmers on their field.

Similar functions were held in all the districts of Kashmir valley.

The different events organized by the Department in the two districts of central Kashmir (Srinagar/Budgam) were supervised by Joint Director Agriculture Inputs Kashmir, Farooq Ahmad Shah.

In South Kashmir's Anantnag/Kulgam, the proceedings were monitored by Joint Director Agriculture Extension Kashmir, Shahid Iqbal Sheikh while as in Pulwama and Shopian the massive campaign was run under the supervision of Joint Director Agriculture Apiculture and Mushroom Development Kashmir Mohammad Sayed Peer.

India looks at close to double digit growth this year: Sitharaman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BOSTON: India is looking at near close to double-digit growth this year and the country will be one of the fastest-growing economies, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said.

The minister also emphasised that she expects the economic growth next year to be in the range of 7.5-8.5 per cent, which will be sustained for the next decade.

As regards the growth of India, we are looking at near close to double-digit growth this year and this would be the highest in the world. And for the next year, on the basis of this year, (the) growth would definitely be somewhere in the range of eight (per cent), Sitharaman said here on Tuesday during a conversation at Harvard Kennedy School.

She noted that while the Ministry of Finance has not done any assessment as yet about the growth number, but the World Bank, IMF and rating agencies have all come nearer to this kind of growth number for India.

So, the next year would also be somewhere in the range of eight to nine (per cent), 7.5 to 8.5 (per cent) would be the growth. And I expect that to be sustained for the next decade because of the rate at which expansion in core industries is happening, the rate at which services are growing, I don't see a reason for India to be any way lesser than in the next coming decades, she said.

During the conversation with Professor at Harvard University Lawrence Summers during the talk organised by the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and



Government, Sitharaman, when asked about the state of the global economy, said: I don't think you can have one picture for the entire globe. The emerging market economies are likely to recover speedily and are likely to have a growth trajectory, which will probably be even the title of engine for growth. They are the ones who are going to be pulling forward the global economy.

And in that, at least from the data which has been released yesterday and the week before, I can say that India's growth this year will be the highest in the world, of course, based on a lower base of last year, but that will continue into the next year. And even there, we will be one of the fastest-growing economies, she noted.

She added that some other countries in the emerging market areas will also record high growth rates.

The developed world will also catch up because their base is very high. So, the growth that they can show off will not be closer to double-digit but cer-

tainly will be also adding to the global growth, she said, adding that she sees "different picture in different regions".

When asked about the sustained growth of 8 per cent, a historical rarity, her medium and longer term vision of where that growth is going to come from, Sitharaman underlined that she does not think the growth of any country post-pandemic can be compared with what had happened earlier, prior to the pandemic.

The reset which the globe has seen itself tells you a narrative that the way in which countries are going to plan their growth is going to be very different from what it was earlier, she said.

She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic itself is one of the reasons for the reset, which is happening from certain geographical territories where people are coming out of it, looking for other places where they can run their businesses from because no longer you have the transparency and rule of law in certain geographical territories.

Therefore, the industry is the first one to get out. Investments are the first ones to get out and they are looking for destinations where certain assumptions can be taken up - rule of law, democracy, transparent policies and assurance that you're with a broad global frame of things and that you are not an outlier, that you will not have anything to do with the global scheme of things, and it's no good for us.

The minister said all these are extraneous factors that helped India to attract industries to set businesses there.

Global debt jumps to a new high of USD 226 trillion: IMF

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON: Due to the COVID-19 and policies put in place to respond to it, the global debt has jumped to a new high of USD 226 trillion with India's dues projected to rise to 90.6 per cent in 2021, the International Monetary Fund said on Wednesday.

Advanced economies and China contributed more than 90 per cent to the accumulation of world-wide debt in 2020. The remaining emerging economies and low-income developing countries contributed only around seven per cent.

Because of COVID 19, and of policies put in place to respond to it, debt levels increased fast and reached high levels. High and rising levels of public and private debt are associated with risks to financial stability and public finances, IMF Director of Fiscal Affairs Department Vitor Gaspar told reporters during a release of the 2021 Fiscal Monitor Report.

The debt of governments,



households and non-financial corporations added up to USD 226 trillion in 2020 USD 27 trillion above 2019. This increase is, by far, the largest on record, he said.

This figure includes both public and non-financial private sector debt.

In its 2021 Fiscal Monitor report, the IMF said India's debt increased from 68.9 per cent of its GDP in 2016 to 89.6 per cent in 2020. It is projected to jump to 90.6 per cent in 2021 and then decline to 88.8 per cent in 2022, to gradually

reach 85.2 per cent in 2026.

Constraints on financing are particularly severe for poorer countries, Gaspar said. Noting that in 2020, fiscal policy proved its worth, he said the increase in public debt, in 2020, was fully justified by the need to respond to COVID-19 and its economic, social, and financial consequences. But the increase is expected to be one-off, he said.

Gaspar said debt is expected to decline this year and next by about 1 percentage point of GDP per year.

After that it is projected to stabilise at about 97 per cent of GDP. These debt dynamics are driven by a strong contribution from nominal GDP growth, accompanied by a much more gradual reduction in the primary deficit, he said.

In its report, the IMF said risks to the fiscal outlook are elevated. A scaling up of vaccine production and delivery, especially to emerging markets and low-income developing countries, would limit further damage to the global economy.

Desperate Families Sell Gold Ahead Of Diwali To Cope With Covid Cash Crunch



AGENCIES

MUMBAI: In Mumbai's jewellery bazaar, Kavita Jogani gingerly places her wedding bangles on the shopkeeper's scales, one of the thousands of Indians parting with their most cherished asset -- gold.

It was not an easy decision -- Jogani was desperate after her garment business took a severe hit in the past year and a half with multiple coronavirus lockdowns, making it difficult to pay shop bills and the salaries of her 15 employees.

The headline growth numbers suggest Asia's third-largest economy is rebounding from the economic crisis unleashed by Covid-19, but there is no end yet to the financial pain for many Indians.

"I don't have any other option than selling the gold," said Jogani as she waited nervously for the shop owner to make her an offer.

"I bought these bangles before my wedding 23 years ago," the 45-year-old told AFP.

Business closures and job losses pushed more than 230 million Indians into poverty in the past year, according to a study by Azim Premji University, leaving many struggling to pay rent, school fees and hospital bills.

Their difficulties have been compounded in recent weeks by soaring prices for electricity, fuel and other items.

Desperate for cash, many families and small businesses have been putting up gold jewellery -- their last resort -- as collateral to secure short-term loans to tide them over.

Banks disbursed "loans against gold jewellery" worth 4.71 trillion rupees (\$64 billion) in the first eight months of 2021, a whopping 74 per cent jump year-on-year, central bank data showed.

And many of these loans have gone sour with borrowers unable to keep up with repayments, leaving lenders to auction off the gold.

Newspapers have been flooded with notices for such sales.

Tomato turns costly on tight supply

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Tomato prices in retail markets of metro cities have shot up to Rs 72 per kilogram on tight supply due to unseasonal rains in key producing states like Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Among the metros, the maximum increase in the retail price of tomato was seen in Kolkata where the key kitchen vegetable was ruling as high as Rs 72 per kg on October 12 when compared to Rs 38 per kg during the month-ago period.

In Delhi and Chennai, retail prices of tomato increased to Rs 57 per kg from Rs 30 per kg and Rs 20 per kg, respectively, compared to the month-ago period, according to data compiled by the Consumer Affairs Ministry.

In Mumbai, tomato prices in retail markets rose to Rs 53 per kg from Rs 15 per kg in the said period, the data showed.

The retail prices of tomato vary depending on quality and locality where the commodity was sold.

"Unseasonal rains in producing states like Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have damaged the crop due to which the supply to consuming markets like Delhi has been affected. This

has led to a rise in prices, both in wholesale and retail markets," Azadpur Tomato Association President Ashok Kaushik told PTI on Wednesday.

Azadpur Mandi in the national capital is the Asia's largest wholesale market for fruits and vegetables.

Even the crop in hilly regions like Shimla has been affected due to the unseasonal rains, he said, adding that 60 per cent of the tomato crop has been damaged in producing states that received the unseasonal rains.

As a result, tomato prices in a month have almost doubled to Rs 40-60 per kg at Azadpur Mandi as daily arrival of the commodity has halved to 250-300 tonnes, he added.

At present, harvesting is underway in key growing states of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Tomato crop will be ready for harvest in around 2-3 months after planting and harvesting is done as per the requirement of the market.

India, the world's second largest tomato producer after China, produces around 19.75 million tonnes from an area of 7.89 lakh hectares with an average yield of 25.05 tonnes per hectare, according to National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation.



SHORT TAKES

Market on a roll: Indices capture new peaks; log 5th straight gains

MUMBAI: Equity gauges Sensex and Nifty on Wednesday climbed to new record highs, stretching their winning run to the fifth consecutive session, as investors continued to lap up auto, power and infra shares.

After scaling a lifetime intraday high of 60,836.63 during the session, the 30-share Sensex settled 452.74 points or 0.75 per cent higher at 60,737.05 - its all-time closing high.

Similarly, the Nifty rallied 169.80 points or 0.94 per cent to a new closing peak of 18,161.75. It also touched an intra-day record of 18,197.80. M&M was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, zooming over 5 per cent, followed by PowerGrid, ITC, L&T, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel and Titan. On the other hand, Maruti Suzuki, HUL, Nestle India, Axis Bank and SBI were among the laggards.

Sectorally, BSE auto, utilities, momentum, industrials and power indices rallied up to 3.46 per cent, while realty index ended in the red.

Broader midcap and smallcap indices surged up to 1.56 per cent. "Auto stocks led by Tata Motors propelled the Nifty to new highs of 18200 with good support from infra and metal stocks on the launch of the Master Plan for Infrastructure Development and Multi-Modal Connectivity, S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP securities, said.

As the street awaits earnings today from big IT names, Tata Group stocks hogged the limelight despite profit-taking in late afternoon trade, he added.

Sustained rebound in financials and Reliance Industries supported broader indices. Tata Group stocks were in focus especially Tata Motors after company announced USD 1 billion investment from TPG in Electric Vehicle division valuing EV business strong at USD 9.1 billion. (PTI)

KVIB organises one day buyer-seller meet at Anantnag

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG: The J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board (J&K KVIB) Wednesday organised a one day buyer-seller meet at Common Facility Centre of Martand Crewel and Chain Stitch Embroidery Cluster, Ranipora, Anantnag.

The event was attended by Atul Kumar, Secretary/CEO J&K KVIB, Rashid Ah. Qadri, Dy CEO, J&K KVIB, officials from district administration and a large number of participants, buyers and artisans from Anantnag and adjoining areas.

On the occasion, the artisans displayed a plethora of handmade items that were available for sale including pillow covers, wall hangings, etc.

Speaking at the event, the Secretary, J&K KVIB said that the aim of conducting such programs is to motivate the artisans for furthering local manufacturing of such products and

to better their marketing prospects to make them attractive in local, national, and international markets.

He further informed the gathering that KVIB hopes that the Common Facility Centre will positively impact the artisans in the region.

Addressing local artisans, he encouraged them to ensure efficient operationalization of the installed machinery and utilize the infrastructure at the CFC to the best of their abilities. He also appealed to the locals to encourage beneficial utilization of the facility.

The Dy. CEO J&K KVIB informed the gathering that other than being provided all needed facilities under one roof, the artisans will also be provided marketing assistance and other forward linkages like sponsorship to national and international trade fairs and creation of online web portals to exhibit and sell their craft items.

Gold gains Rs 63; silver jumps Rs 371

NEW DELHI: Gold in the national capital on Wednesday rose Rs 63 to Rs 46,329 per 10 grams amid rally in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal had settled at Rs 46,266 per 10 grams.

Silver also jumped Rs 371 to Rs 60,788 per kg, from Rs 60,417 per kg in the previous trade.

In the international market, gold was trading higher at USD 1,768 per ounce and silver was flat at USD 22.80 per ounce.

"Gold prices traded firm with spot gold prices at COMEX trading 0.46 per cent up at USD 1,768 per ounce on Wednesday.

"Gold prices traded higher supported by weaker dollar and lower US bond yields," said HDFC Securities Senior Analyst (Commodities) Tapan Patel. (PTI)

No shortage of anything; reports of coal crisis baseless: FM

BOSTON: Amid reports of the ongoing coal shortage in the country, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stressed that there is no shortage and termed these as absolutely baseless, saying India is a power surplus country.

Sitharaman said that Power Minister R K Singh went on record just two days ago when he said absolutely baseless information is floating around that there is probably shortage of coal, shortage of other inventories which will lead to a sudden gap in the supply demand situation in the energy consumption.

"Absolute baseless! There is no shortage of anything. In fact, if I recall the minister's statement, every power producing installation has the next four days' stock absolutely available within their own premises and the supply chain has not broken at all, Sitharaman said here at Harvard Ken-

nedy School on Tuesday.

During the conversation organised by the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Sitharaman was asked by Harvard Professor Lawrence Summers about energy shortage and reports of reduced coal inventories in India.

There are not going to be any deficiencies which may lead to any shortfall of supply. So that takes care of India's power situation. We are now a power surplus country.

We are also taking fairly good amount of risks to see what the basket of energy is available for India, how much is based on fossil fuel and how much comes from renewable and we are always looking at ways in which it can be shifted in favor of renewable energy. So the picture is not of short supply, but it's also picture of newer components into the basket, she said.

India Strongly Rejects China's Objection To Vice President Naidu's Arunachal Visit

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: India on Wednesday strongly rejected China's objection to a recent visit to Arunachal Pradesh by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, asserting that the state is an "integral and inalienable" part of India and such a reaction does not stand to "reason and understanding" of the Indian people.

Rebutting China's comments, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi also said India expects that the Chinese side will work for a speedy resolution of the remaining issues in eastern Ladakh while referring to the "unilateral attempts" by that country to alter the status quo in the mountainous region.

"We have noted the comments made today by the Chinese official spokesperson. We reject such comments. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India," Bagchi said.

"Indian leaders routinely travel to the state of Arunachal Pradesh as they do to any other



state of India. Objecting to the visit of Indian leaders to a state of India does not stand to reason and understanding of Indian people," he said responding to a media query on China's reaction to Naidu's visit to the northeastern state over the weekend.

At a media briefing in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian, in response to a question about Naidu's visit to Arunachal Pradesh, said China has never recognised the state.

"China's position on the China-India boundary issue is consistent and clear-cut.

The Chinese government has never recognised the so-called 'Arunachal Pradesh' established unilaterally and illegally by the Indian side and firmly opposes the Indian leader's visit to this above-mentioned area," he said.

"China urges the Indian side to earnestly respect China's major concerns, stop taking any action that would complicate and expand the boundary issue, and refrain from undermining mutual trust and bilateral relations. It should instead take real actions to maintain peace and stability in the China-India border area, and help to bring China-India relations back

onto the track of sound and steady development," Zhao added.

China has been objecting to visits of Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh, claiming it is a part of South Tibet.

The fresh war of words between the two sides came three days after the 13th round of military talks on Sunday on the 17-month standoff in eastern Ladakh that ended in a stalemate.

"Further, as we have mentioned earlier, the current situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector of the India-China border areas has been caused by unilateral attempts of the Chinese side to alter the status quo in violation of the bilateral agreements," Bagchi said.

The government often refers to eastern Ladakh as Western Sector. "Therefore, we expect the Chinese side to work towards early resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in eastern Ladakh while fully abiding by bilateral agreements and protocols rather than trying to link unrelated issues," Bagchi said.

A day after the 13th round of

military talks, the Indian Army said the "constructive suggestions" made by it were neither agreeable to the Chinese side nor it could provide any "forward-looking" proposals.

"The meeting thus did not result in resolution of the remaining areas," it said in a statement on Monday.

On its part, the Chinese PLA's Western Theatre Command said India insisted on "unreasonable and unrealistic demands, adding difficulties to the negotiations."

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

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in the Gogra area in August and in the north and south banks of the Pangong lake earlier in February. Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the LAC in the sensitive sector.

Fraudsters Have Unlocked New Ways To Steal From Your Bank Account

MUMBAI: Scammers are now luring victims to share their confidential banking and personal information using social engineering tactics. They are enticing their targets through a combination of too good to be true offers, promise of help and sometimes through threats.

The digital frauds have seen a makeover since the beginning of the pandemic and are now becoming sophisticated enough to gain people's trust.

Bankers and law enforcement officials have been receiving reports/complaints in recent months about customers falling prey to cyber frauds in the name of KYC update, fake marketplace listings, job scams, and false customer care numbers. The usual modus operandi in such cases include receipt of unsolicited calls, text messages, e-mails, etc. with a link urging customers to share details of their bank accounts, login credentials, card information, PINs, and OTPs. Sometimes unauthorized and unverified mobile apps are used to take control of the victim's phone to gain access to confidential information.

These are typically vishing attacks. In vishing attacks, imposters call or approach the customers pretending to be bankers / insurance agents / healthcare workers / government officials. They seek confirmation of the secure credentials by sharing details such as name / date of birth to gain confidence and offers critical and essential services.

In some cases, the imposters even put pressure on customers to share confidential details urgently citing emergency, supply shortage of critical medical care products, account blocking, and similar other threats. These credentials are then used to defraud the customers.

It should be noted that customers are not required to authenticate through OTP or PIN for receiving any money in their bank accounts and any such request for OTP/PIN should raise an alarm.

Many of these frauds are now being perpetrated during weekdays and working hours to trick customers into believing that the calls and offers are legitimate.

CONTD. FROM 3RD PAGE

Security of Minority

directed all DCs of Kashmir division to take necessary measures for security of political leaders and representatives, besides ensure one to one meeting with the representative/ leaders of all the political parties for the redressal of their apprehensions regarding security, accommodation besides others.

"Pole said that on his instructions the Deputy Commissioners/ SSPs are regularly paying visits at the migrant colonies/ accommodation and they are being briefed about the security/ confidence building measures, facilities and other arrangements being put in place by the Govt for their safety and security," the official spokesperson said.

He further said that the Divisional Commissioner also stated that the officers have been issued clear cut directions to preferably post these migrant employees in safe and secure zones instead of far flung and vulnerable areas for the time being.

Media Creating

Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), here on Wednesday, an official spokesperson said. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole was also present in the meeting.

According to the official spokesperson, the participants of trade bodies unanimously condemned the killings of innocent people in Kashmir and expressed grief over the loss of lives.

At the outset, he said, participants of the meeting observed one minute of silence to remember those innocent civilians killed in the Valley and prayed for eternal peace to their souls besides paying homage to their families.

Speaking on the occasion, the official spokesperson said that IGP Kashmir said that civil society has to come forward to condemn and criticize such killing of innocent people and stressed that we all have to work together to avert such incidents.

"He further said that J&K police will not allow peace to be disturbed. Besides, he said the situation is normal and blamed the media for blowing things out of proportion which created fear psychosis among the people," he said.

According to the official spokesperson, the traders' fraternity expressed grief over the loss of civilians and said that they as a single family of Kashmir express solidarity with all the families that have lost their loved ones. They all remembered Makhan Lal Bindroo, Principal Satinder Kour and all others who were killed in the latest spree of attacks in Srinagar and other areas.

"Besides, they said Kashmir has suffered economically in the past and business has incurred huge losses which has also led to unemployment especially since 2014 floods, and succeeding years. They demanded a conducive and peaceful atmosphere to carry the day to day trade activities," the official spokesperson said.

The representatives, he said, also flagged the issues confronting them and others ailing the industrial units in the division related to finance, banks, electricity, sanitation, roll back of GST in Pashmina, Comprehensive economic package, release of Covid relief fund, rehabilitation of house boaters, Gem portal, Soft loan, NPAs, roads, Parimpora Bus stand, curbing drug menace, besides many other issues pertaining to their respective business.

Speaking on the occasion, the official spokesperson said that the Divisional Commissioner highlighted the responsibility of civil society and business representatives in promotion and preservation of peace, harmony, brotherhood and respectable coexistence among different communities.

He also assured the business community that all their issues have been noted and will be taken to a higher level in the government and will be addressed in a time bound manner.

The meeting was attended by Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industries (KCC&I), Federation Chamber of Industries Kashmir (FCIK), Kashmir Traders & Manufacturing Federation (KTMF), Kashmir Economic Alliance (KEA), Kashmir House Boat Owners Association (HBOA), J&K Private School Association Committee (PSAJ&K), Travel Agents Society of Kashmir, Shopian Fruit Mandi

Association, Kashmir Retailers Association, Restaurant & Cafe Association of Kashmir, Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Alliance, Kashmir Joint Coordination Committee of Chemists & Druggists, Kashmir Industrial Revival and Development Forum, Jammu & Kashmir Association of Hajj & Umrah Companies, Artisans Rehabilitation Forum, Tourist Trade Interest Guild, Tourist Taxi Stand Federation, Jammu & Kashmir Hotels & Restaurant Association, Association of Kashmir Tour Operators, Kashmir Youth Entrepreneurs Federation, Kashmir Retailers Association, Pilgrim and Leisure Tour Operators, Urban Travel Agents Association, Kashmir Carpet Manufacturers Association, Kashmir Transport Welfare Association, Batmaloo Trade and transport, Shahrekhas traders association, Kashmir Pashmina organisation, Kashmir fruit Association Parimpora and PHD Chamber of Commerce also attended the meeting.

Police Moves

that stayed back in the valley, told Kashmir Observer that he was shifted to a "Security zone" after the police had received inputs about his killing.

Tickoo was shifted on October 6 and remains confined to a particular place.

"My family is staying back at home, only I have been shifted," he told Kashmir Observer.

He further said, he had never faced any kind of threat since last 32 years in Kashmir.

He said there are around 800 Pandit families living in the Kashmir Valley who decided to stay here with the onset of militancy in Kashmir.

Since last week, several Pandit families reportedly left the Valley and some even went to Jammu following the killing of pharmacist ML Bindroo.

Sources from J&K police said that security has been beefed around the areas where Kashmiri Pandits are staying.

Many businessmen from the community could be seen shutting their shops earlier in Srinagar.

In an act of solidarity, two mosques from Srinagar's downtown during Friday sermons on October 8, appealed attendees to stand with minorities and ensure they feel confident of the majority community's support.

Jaish Militant

records, the spokesperson said, the killed militant was categorized and active since June-2019 figuring among the list of most wanted militants operating in the valley.

"He was also part of groups involved in several terror crime cases including attacks on security establishments and civilian atrocities to which several terror crime cases stands already registered against him," he said.

Giving more details, the police spokesperson said that Sham Sofi was first arrested in 2004 and detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA). He further said that the killed militant was also involved in providing logistic support, shelter to the active militants operating in Tral area before joining "terror folds".

"Moreover, he was also involved in motivating local youth to join terror folds, reviving the terror folds in Tral area and conspiring to destabilize the system by means of various terror acts. Besides, he was also involved in threatening the law abiding citizens and policemen also," he said.

The police spokesperson also claimed to have recovered incriminating materials including arms and ammunition from the site of the encounter.

"All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. Police has registered a case under relevant sections of law and further investigation is in progress," he said.

The police spokesperson quoted IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar congratulating the joint forces for the big success that led to the elimination of "most wanted" terrorist involved in several terror crime cases".

Pertinently, Sofi's killing comes a day after police claimed to have killed five Lashkar-e-Taiba militants, including the one involved in the killing of a non-local street vendor, in two separate gunfights in Shopian district on Tuesday.

NIA Conducts

arrested on Wednesday as Mohammad Haneed Chiralu and Arif Farooq Bhat of Srinagar, Hafeez of Budgam, Owais Dar of Pulwama and Mateen Bhat of Shopian.

"The NIA conducted searches at two locations in Srinagar and seized electronic devices and incriminating jihadi documents," the spokesperson said on Wednesday.

The NIA also said during the day that four accused people -- Waseem Ahmad Sofi, Tariq Ahmad Dar, Bilal Ahmad Mir alias Bilal Fafu and Tariq Ahmad Bafanda, all residents of Srinagar -- were arrested during the searches carried out at 16 locations in Srinagar, Pulwama and Shopian districts on Tuesday.

The spokesperson said preliminary investigation has revealed that the nine arrested accused are militant associates or Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of various proscribed organisations and have been providing logistical and material support to militants and facilitating them in their nefarious designs.

"During the searches conducted yesterday (Tuesday), several electronic devices, incriminating jihadi (holy war) documents and records of suspicious financial transactions were seized," the spokesperson said.

The NIA said the case pertains to alleged hatching of a conspiracy both physically and in cyberspace to carry out violent acts in Jammu and Kashmir and other major cities, including New Delhi, by the cadres of the proscribed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al Badr and other similar outfits and their affiliates such as The Resistance Front (TRF) and People Against Fascist Forces (PAFF).

"The terror associates/Over Ground Workers of these organisations are conspiring with their handlers and commanders based in a neighbouring country and also indulging in radicalisation of local youth for the purpose of recruiting and training them in handling of arms, ammunition and explosives," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said these militants and cadres have effected several militant acts including the killing of numerous innocent civilians and security personnel, and unleashed a "reign of terror" in the Kashmir valley, thereby challenging the writ of the state.

The NIA said further investigation in the case continues.

PCI's Fact Finding

submitting a report to the council.

Pertinently, the PCI had constituted the three-member fact finding panel after taking suo-motu cognizance of former chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Mehbooba Mufti's concern about the alleged harassment of journalists in Kashmir.

Mehbooba had also shot a letter to PCI seeking its intervention to prevent the continued harassment of media by the authorities in Jammu and Kashmir.

LG Visits Family

Union Territory administration, the spokesperson said.

He told the bereaved family members that the administration fully stands with them in this hour of grief.

Two teachers -- Supinder Kour, a Srinagar-based Sikh, and Chand, a Hindu from Jammu -- were shot dead on October 7 by members of The Resistance Force (TRF), a shadow outfit of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

They were killed two days after the outfit claimed responsibility for three more killings in the Union Territory.

Makhan Lal Bindroo, a prominent Kashmiri Pandit and the owner of Srinagar's most famous pharmacy, was shot dead at his shop on the evening of October 5. Minutes later, a "chaat" vendor, Virendra Paswan from Bihar, was gunned down elsewhere in the city. Around the same time, another civilian, Mohammad Shafi Lone, was killed at Naidkhai in Bandipora.

On October 2, militants shot dead Majid Ahmad Gojri at Srinagar's Karan Nagar locality and Mohammad Shafi Dar at the city's Batmaloo area

Karan Singh Demands

have filled him with deep sorrow.

"My heartfelt condolences to the families of those killed in the utterly condemnable murder of several innocent civilians drawn from all three religions in the Valley, to the families of the five brave Army personnel in Rajouri who gave up their lives in the defence of the nation and, let me say, to the parents of the misguided young men who took to the gun and, inevitably, perished by the gun," he said.

Singh said these events highlight the necessity to strengthen the security apparatus and public vigilance at all levels, which he hoped is being done.

"They also point to the importance of re-starting the political process as early as possible," he reiterated.

Four people from the minority community, including two teachers, were shot dead by militants in Srinagar City recently.

Five Army personnel, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), were killed in a fierce gunfight with militants during an anti-insurgency operation in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday.

Over 200 Apple Trees

apple trees were chopped down in Gudsathoo village in Budgam during the last three days.

The apple farmers who spoke to Kashmir Observer said that they were paid compensation for the apple trees in 2018 but the rates were assessed as per 26 year old rates.

"The then horticulture Minister Basharat Bukhari had assured us that rates will be revisited. We had obtained a stay order as well from the High Court in 2018 but the Govt didn't revisit their rates and all of a sudden our trees were chopped off. From last 3 days the NHA is cutting down trees in our village and we are watching helplessly fearing they would get us arrested," said Ghulam Qadir Bhat an affected farmer

He further said that the compensation for land has also not been paid to most of the affected families in Gudsathoo.

"Govt is forcing us to take Rs 16.10 lakhs per kanal as compensation as the market value in Gudsathoo (apple orchards) is Rs 60 to 70 lakhs per kanal. In 2018 Govt paid Rs 29 lakhs to at least 60 % people whose land was acquired but now the Deputy Commissioner is asking us to take Rs 16.10 lakhs per kanal only " Ghulam Qadir added

Pertinently the aggrieved persons from several villages of Budgam approached the Jammu & Kashmir High Court earlier this year, contending that their land was notified to be acquired under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act in the year 2017, and that these proceedings have "lapsed" due to the efflux of time as per section 11B of the erstwhile J&K Land Acquisition Act 1934 samvat 1990. The petitioners argued that neither was possession of the land taken from them, nor were they paid any compensation as a result of an award or under Section 17 of the J&K Land Acquisition Act.

A division bench of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, in June this year headed by Chief Justice in the matter of Ghulam Ahmad Paul & others vs UT of J&K issued notice in the petition, and in the interim order directed for the maintenance of 'status quo' with regard to the possession of the land from being acquired for the construction of Srinagar Ring Road in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

After 5 months on October 1st the team from National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) led by a lady engineer and District Administration Budgam lead by a Naib Tehsildar along with a huge contingent of police and JCBs tried to forcibly acquire the land in Budbagh Choon district Budgam. After that action NHAI began axing apple trees in Gudsathoo village, which is a habitation located at the southern end of Srinagar airport.

"When the land owners resisted and showed them the high court order for maintenance of status quo in Budbagh , the officials said they didn't care and asked them to axe their apple trees as soon as possible. We were even detained by police when we resisted" said Waseem Ahmad Budoo of Budibagh Budgam.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Chief Horticulture Officer (CHO) Budgam, Javid

Ahmed said that whenever the horticulture Department assesses any issue of compensation it goes through a specific rule book (SRO).

"The same rules that the department follows were brought into existence in 1995 and a revised version of it was introduced in 2001," Ahmed said.

"So, even today the same two decade old rules are followed and a specific rate is disbursed as compensation to the beneficiaries. Similarly, these people are also being provided compensation as per that rule only," he added.

He further said that, "A few years back, the state Government had formed a committee to revise these rules and several members had raised some serious points against the old rates that were being provided as compensation but unfortunately no action was taken and hence, the old rates are still in place."

"These farmers have a valid point but even the department can't help them as these are the Government defined rates that can only be changed once the rule book is revised." The CHO told Kashmir Observer.

J&K Reports 75

were reported from Jammu division thus taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 330741.

Giving district wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported highest 37 cases followed by Baramulla with 8, Budgam 5, Pulwama 4, Kupwara 3, Anantnag 2, Bandipora 1 new case of virus. Three districts of Ganderbal, Kulgam and Shopian reported no new case of coronavirus.

In the winter capital, the officials said, Doda reported a maximum of 5 new Covid cases followed by Poonch with 4, Jammu 3, and one new case each in Udhampur, Rajouri and Samba districts. No fresh case was reported from Kathua, Kishtwar, Ramban and Reasi.

Also, the officials said that 122 more patients have recovered—44 from Jammu Division and 78 from Kashmir.

There was no death due to the virus. So far 4426—2174 in Jammu and 2252 in Kashmir—have died due to the pathogen, they said.

Damaged Rifle

162 TA and BSF launched a joint operation in forest area of Reshigund Check in Kralpora. During searches, a police official told GNS that an AK-47 Rifle (Damaged)

Four Magazines, 720 rounds, three wireless set, five wireless set antennas, eight detonator besides three Chines grenades and a compass.

The official said a case has been registered and further investigations taken up.

Leopard Caught

searches have been going on in the area and we had also installed a cage there two months earlier," the official said.

He said that during night leopard had entered into the cage and was captured

Govt Employee

arrested in connection with case (FIR No. 56 of 2021 U/S 420 467,468,471, 120(B) r/w Section 66 IT Act), today on 13 October 2021 .

"The FIR has been registered after receipt of a communication from Z.A.Dewani, (Administrative Officer, Office of the Advocate General, J&K) alleging therein that fake orders bearing No's 76 AG of 2021 and 79 AG of 2021 dated 13.07.2021 are being circulated on social media showing the selection of 33 persons as Jr. Assistants and other 33 persons as Orderlies," the Crime Branch said. However, no such orders have been issued by the office of the Advocate General, J&K.

"Accordingly an enquiry was initiated at CBK and during the probe, it came to fore that some touts have conspired with Mohammad Yaqoob Bhat, (Sr. Assistant) posted in the office of the Advocate General, J&K who have lured the candidates on the fake promise of providing jobs," the CBK said, adding, "During probe it also surfaced that some beneficiaries have transferred huge amount of money in the account maintained in the name of Mohammad Yaqoob Bhat," the CBK said, adding, "The investigation of the case is going on and the involvement of other officials and individuals is being looked into."

100 Trekkers Flagged Off For 5-Day Trekking Expedition



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Director Youth Services & Sports Department J&K Gazanfar Ali on Wednesday flagged off two large contingents of boys and girls for a five day trekking expedition to two famous tourist and trekking destinations of Kashmir from the premises of Youth Hostel here.

The contingent of girl trekkers consisting of 50 girl students from different Government schools of district Srinagar was flagged-off for Pahalgam along with 7 officials from the Department. Simultaneously 50 male students from district Srinagar were also flagged-off for the trekking camp to Sonmarg.

While expressing their thoughts about such initiatives of the Department, young trekkers looked very enthusiastic about it and took a pledge that they would utilise this opportunity in shaping up their personality.

On the flag off, Director YSS advised the students to enjoy their life to the fullest in nature's beautiful destinations of

Pahalgam and Sonmarg.

Director Sports impressed upon the students to avoid much mobile usage and to go through the history of these naturally rich and ecstatic beautiful places.

He advised the student trekkers that while trekking they should keep their surroundings clean and litter free.

While addressing the students Director YSS said that the Department of Youth Services & Sports will continue to organise such trekking camps for the students and non-students of other districts as well.

Keeping in view COVID-19 pandemic, Director YSS directed the escorting officials to ensure that enough sanitisers and other medicines for tackling emergencies are kept available for the trekkers.

Others who were present at the flag-off ceremony included DYSSO Srinagar Balbir Singh Sodhi and other senior officers and officials of the Department.

The camp is organised by Youth Services and Sports office Srinagar.



Super Division: Two Matches Played On Wednesday

RKFC (R) defeat Bank Academy, Iqbal Sports draw 0-0 with Novelty

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The JKFA Khyber Super Division Football League witnessed two matches on Wednesday at the Synthetic Turf, TRC here.

First match between Real Kashmir FC (Reserves) and J&K Bank Academy ended in 2-0 victory for the Snow Leopards. Saqib scored the first goal of the match in the 30th minute, while Neeraj scored RKFC's second goal in the 47th minute. The youngsters of J&K Bank Academy played well but couldn't capitalise on their chances. Zahid of Real Kashmir FC (R) was awarded the man of the match award.

The second match Super League match of the day between Iqbal Sports and Novelty FC ended in a 0-0 draw. Both teams were well matched on paper and played two halves of attacking football. However, neither could take any of the chances created and shared the spoils in a match that both



teams were desperate to win.

Over in DFA Srinagar A-Division Football League, two matches were played on Wednesday at Gindun Ground, Rajbagh. Flying Kashmir FC defeated Al-Ahlah FC 2-0 in the first match. While in the second, Real Cosmos FC defeated Al-Rashid FC 3-1.

'Pele Of Kashmir' KO League 2021

The 7th match of the 'Pele of

Kashmir' Knockout League was played on Tuesday at Downton Idgah Playfield, Idgah. In the match, Qamarwari FC defeated Hamdaniya FC by 2 goals to 0. Imran and Azain were the scorers for Qamarwari FC.

Held in memory of late Farooq Ahmad Bhat, a veteran footballer of the erstwhile J&K State, the tournament is being organized by Player Welfare Forum Idgah in collaboration with JKFA.

Thakur Replaces Patel In India's T20 World Cup Squad

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Fast bowling all-rounder Shardul Thakur on Wednesday replaced Axar Patel in India's squad for the T20 World Cup to be held in the UAE and Oman from October 17.

The 29-year-old Thakur has impressed with his 18 wickets in the ongoing IPL for Chennai Super Kings. With this, India completed the announcement of its final squad for the marquee tournament. Teams are allowed time till October 15 to finalise changes.

"The All-India Senior Selection Committee after a discussion with the team management has added Shardul Thakur to the main squad. All-rounder Axar Patel, who was part of the 15-member squad will now be on the list of stand-by players," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

With pace all-rounder Hardik Pandya not bowling during the IPL because of fitness issues, the selectors wanted a cover for him. The Mumbai Indians star's workload management is a major concern for the team management.

"The selectors felt that they were one pacer short and also with Hardik Pandya not bowling, they needed an all-rounder in the main squad," a source close to the selection committee told PTI.

"Axar remains in stand by and if Ravindra Jadeja gets injured, he will again be back in main team. Till Jaddu (Jadeja) plays, Axar won't be required."



As reported by PTI, the selectors also included Harshal Patel among the net bowlers for the Indian team.

"The following cricketers will join the team bubble in Dubai and assist Team India in their preparations: Avesh Khan, Umran Malik, Harshal Patel, Lukman Meriwala, Venkatesh Iyer, Karn Sharma, Shahbaz Ahmed and K. Gowtham," the statement said.

Among the stand-by players, Railways leg-spinner Karn Sharma, who is part of the CSK right now, was a surprise inclusion.

Considered a close confidante of Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who has been roped in as mentor of the national side for the World Cup, Sharma is retained year after year by CSK without playing too many matches as it is believed that he has been the franchise's "Lucky Mascot"

Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal could not find a place despite an impressive IPL with Royal Challengers Bangalore. He claimed 18 wickets in 15 matches.

India will open their campaign on October 24 against Pakistan.

Srinagar Judo Championship From October 20

Players asked to register before October 19

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Judo Association of Jammu & Kashmir is all set to organise Srinagar District Judo Championship from October 20 to 21, 2021 at Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground here.

All those players desirous to take part in the championship have been asked to report to their concerned coaches along with Date of Birth certificate/ Adhaar proof on or before October 19.

The Championship will be held under the aegis of J&K Sports Council and J&K Olympic Association.

According to the statement issued by Judo Association of J&K, the Srinagar District Judo Championship is open for Sub-Junior, Cadet, Junior and Senior judokas both boys and girls. One Gold, One Silver, two Bronze medals in each category along with merit certificates will be awarded to winners, participation certificates will be awarded



to rest of the participants.

Further, the selected judokas will take part in the JK UT Judo Championship and forthcoming final trials for Sub-Junior and Cadet National Judo Championship which is going to be held at Kharar, Punjab from November

7 to November 13, 2021.

For more information players can contact Abdul Hamid Khan (Vice President JAJK) 9419094155, Gowhar Khan (Jt. Secretary JAJK) 9419059950 or Shaikat Shafi (Judo Coach JKSC) 7006617816.

Billion Cheers: Team India Unveil Jersey For T20 World Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Claiming to be inspired by the fans, the Indian cricket team's jersey for the upcoming T20 World Cup was unveiled on Wednesday, days before the country opens its campaign with a much-awaited clash against arch-rivals Pakistan in Dubai.

The tournament will be held from October 17 to November 14 in the UAE and Oman.

The new shirt, called the 'Billion Cheers Jersey', has been inspired by fans and was unveiled by MPL Sports, the official kit sponsor of the Indian men's, women's, and Under-19 teams.

"This is the first time in the history of Indian cricket that fans have been memorialised on a jersey. It carries their chants and cheers from iconic past matches, transformed into unique sound wave patterns," stated a release from ML Sports. The jersey comes in shades of Prussian blue and royal blue.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly said, "The Indian cricket team enjoys support not just in India but around the world, and there's no better way to celebrate their excitement and energy than through this jersey."

"This will undoubtedly provide the team with the much-needed enthusiastic support in their quest to emerge as the T20 champions of the world. We are also pleased to see that MPL Sports continues to deliver merchandise that is widely affordable and accessible."

The board's secretary Jay Shah echoed the view.

"The story behind the jersey is a story of every Indian cricket fan. We are sure that wearing this will be a matter of great pride for both the team and supporters alike."

The jersey will be available in stores for Rs 1,799. Along with this, over 10 variations, including a player edition jersey and skipper Virat Kohli's signature number 18 jersey, have been launched.

BCCI Extends Deadline For New IPL Teams

Adani, Birla, Kotak, Goenka, among others interested

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The BCCI on Wednesday extended the deadline for purchasing the tender document for the new Indian Premier League (IPL) teams by another 10 days till October 20 and reliable sources said that the two new franchisees would not cost less than Rs 3300 crore each.

The Governing Council of the IPL had issued the 'Invitation to Tender' (ITT) document on payment of the non-refundable tender fee of Rs 10 lakh on August 31. It had earlier extended the date till October 10.

"Pursuant to requests from various interested parties, BCCI has now decided to further extend the date for purchasing the ITT document till October 20, 2021," a BCCI release said.



The BCCI plans to add two teams for the 2022 edition and it is expected that they could be based in Ahmedabad, Lucknow or Pune.

It has been learnt that major business houses such as Kotak Group, Aurobindo Pharma, Torrent Pharma, RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group, Birla Group and Adani Group are interested in joining the IPL bandwagon, which is

an eight-team affair as of now. The BCCI is hoping to earn a minimum Rs 7000 crore though the base price for each team has been set at Rs 2000 crore. The Indian cricket board is allowing three-party consortiums to present the bids.

The new teams are expected to be unveiled on October 25 in Dubai, a day after India's clash against arch-rivals Pakistan in the T20 World Cup.

Narine Won't Be Added To WI WC Squad: Pollard

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard says they will resist the temptation of adding Sunil Narine to their T20 World Cup squad despite the spinner's sublime form in the ongoing IPL, where he played a key role in Kolkata Knight Riders reaching the Qualifier-2.

The 33-year-old Narine reminded the fans of his vintage past with his four-wicket haul and impact batting in the eliminator against Royal Challengers Bangalore on Monday.

He has taken 11 wickets in eight IPL matches since the league's resumption in the UAE. He went wicket-less against Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hy-



derabad and in an earlier match against RCB but took three wickets in the team's two-wicket defeat to Chennai Super Kings.

However, he has not played any international cricket since August 2019, forcing defending champions West Indies to ignore him while announcing their World Cup squad on grounds of fitness.

Fan Unrest As Hungary Draws At England; Poland Walks Off

AGENCIES

LONDON: Crowd trouble marred World Cup qualifiers as Hungary fans clashed with police during a 1-1 draw against England at Wembley Stadium and Poland's players walked off in Albania after bottles were hurled in another Group I match on Tuesday.

Karol Swiderski had just scored for Poland in the 77th minute when he was struck by a bottle thrown from the stands. It led to the game being suspended for around 20 minutes before Poland returned to the field and held on to win 1-0.

Euro 2020 finalist England is now three points clear of Poland, with games against Albania and San Marino remaining next month

in the pursuit of automatic qualification for the World Cup in Qatar next year.

The disorder in London happened around kickoff after England players taking a knee had been booed by the visiting fans.

"Officers entered the stand to arrest a spectator for a racially aggravated public order offence following comments made towards a steward," the Metropolitan Police said in a statement. "As the officers made the arrest, minor disorder broke out involving other spectators."

Police were seen wielding batons to hold back the visiting fans. The remainder of the game passed off largely peacefully.

Luke Shaw's foul on Loic Nego led to Roland Sal-

lai putting Hungary ahead from the penalty spot in the 24th minute.

England equalized in the 37th when John Stones turned in a free kick from Manchester City teammate Phil Foden.

England coach Gareth Southgate even took captain Harry Kane and Raheem Sterling off with 15 minutes to go for Jordan Henderson and Tammy Abraham.

But England couldn't produce a winner, dropping points in a home qualifier for the first time since a draw against Ukraine in September 2012.

"Disappointing performance," Southgate said. "Full credit to Hungary. I thought they caused us a tactical problem and I don't think we played at the level

we needed to play.

"We'll go away and think about the balance of the team but individually we can do better as well. We shouldn't just judge things on one game, right across the board we weren't sharp with our play, gave the ball away."

Disorder by Hungary fans — including racism — during the home match against England in Budapest last month led to Hungary having to play Saturday's game against Albania in an empty stadium.

FIFA put Hungary on probation with the threat of another game being played without fans if there was further disorder at games.

England defender Tyrone Mings said he hopes "the punishment this time fits what happened."

Ronaldo Hat Trick Keeps Portugal Near Top Of Group A

AGENCIES

FARO: Cristiano Ronaldo scored his 10th international hat trick as Portugal cruised past Luxembourg 5-0 in World Cup qualifying on Tuesday to stay close to group leader Serbia.

Serbia kept a one-point cushion at the top of Group A by defeating last-place Azerbaijan 3-1 at home. It has 17 points, one more than Portugal, which has a game in hand.

Serbia's last game is at Portugal in November. Portugal, which has won four in a row in qualifying, will play at Ireland before the decisive match against the Serbians.

It was the 58th career hat trick for club and country for Ronaldo, who took his record scoring tally to 115 international goals by converting two early penalty kicks and finding the net again near the end. Bruno Fernandes and João Palhinha also scored for Portugal.

"We had three final lefts and we succeeded in this one," said Portugal goalkeeper Rui Patrício, who made



his 100th appearance with the national team. "Two to go now."

Bernardo Silva was fouled to prompt the first penalty in the eighth minute, while Ronaldo himself was brought down inside the area before converting the second penalty in the 13th. He had to retake it, though, after André Silva entered the area too early.

Ronaldo also struck the post a few

minutes later, and in the 18th Fernandes added to the lead after being set up by Bernardo Silva.

Palhinha scored the fourth in the 69th, moments after Ronaldo came close with a bicycle kick that was saved by Luxembourg goalkeeper Anthony Moris.

Ronaldo completed his hat trick in the 87th to reach 25 goals in his last 16 World Cup qualifying matches.

Manmohan Singh Admitted To AIIMS Cardio-Neuro Unit After Fever, Weakness



Agenceis

New Delhi; Former prime minister Manmohan Singh was admitted to the cardio-neuro unit at the dedicated cardio neuro tower at AIIMS New Delhi at 6.15 pm on Wednesday after he complained of weakness and fever.

Singh, 89, is under observation and care of a team of cardiologists led by Dr Nitish Naik of AIIMS.

Dr Naik, a professor of cardiology at AIIMS, has been a personal physician to Singh for years and was part of the panel that looked after Singh when he was prime minister under the Congress-led UPA regime from 2004 to 2014.

AIIMS sources confirmed Singh's admission.

Sources in Singh's office said the former PM had contracted fever day before yesterday and was unable to eat properly affecting his energy levels.

"Dr Singh would be administered fluids for energy and he did not have fever today," a source in Singh's office said, adding Singh was stable.

The Congress, meanwhile, officially reacted to some social media reports of concern over Singh's health saying the senior leader was doing fine.

AICC media secretary Pranav Jha took to Twitter to dismiss speculation about Singh's health.

"There are some unsubstantiated rumours with regards to former PM, Dr Manmohan Singh ji's health. His condition is stable. He is undergoing routine treatment. We will share any updates as needed. We thank our friends in media for their concern," said Jha.

This is Singh's third admission to AIIMS this year. He was first admitted in April after testing positive for Covid 19 and later again in May after complaining of uneasiness in the chest.

Earlier in 2009, Singh had undergone a coronary artery bypass surgery under a team of surgeons led by cardio-thoracic surgeon Ramakant Panda at AIIMS. Singh is a senior leader of the opposition Congress and currently represents Rajasthan in the Upper House of Parliament.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI CASE

Ashish Mishra Denied Bail, Two More Arrested

LUCKNOW: Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra, was denied bail by a court here on Wednesday in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence case. Meanwhile, two more persons were on Wednesday arrested in connection with the violence.

Meanwhile, two more persons -- Ankit Das, one of the close associates of Ashish Mishra, and Ankit's bodyguard Latif alias Kale were arrested in connection with October 3 violence after they surrendered before DIG Upendra Agarwal, heading the SIT, at crime branch office in Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday.

Ashish Mishra's friend Ankit Das, accompanied by his lawyer Razi Ahmad, had reached the crime branch office on Wednesday morning. Besides, the Lakhimpur Kheri police also arrested Ankit Das's bodyguard Latif alias Kale.

On Tuesday, Ankit Das's driver Shekhar Bharti was held by the police. Shekhar Bharti was driving the black Fortuner behind the Thar Mahindra which ploughed into the crowd of protesting farmers on October 3.

Shekhar Bharti, arrested on Tuesday, was also sent to three-day police remand.

Thus, the number of accused arrested so far in connection with Lakhimpur violence case goes to six. The other accused nabbed in the case so far include Ashish Mishra, Luvkush and Ashish Pandey.

However, Ashish Mishra and his alleged accomplice Ashish



Pandey moved bail applications on Wednesday but they were rejected by Chief Judicial Magistrate Chinta Ram.

Later in the day, Ankit Das, who appeared before the SIT at crime branch office in response to the summon notice pasted at his residence on Tuesday, was interrogated by the SIT before being produced in the CJM court along with his bodyguard Kale.

Ankit Das's advocate, had on Tuesday, filed a surrender application in the Chief Judicial Magistrate court. Ankit Das is a relative of former Congress MP, the late Akhilesh Das.

According to prosecution advocate SP Yadav, the court sent both Das and Kale to judicial custody till October 22 and gave

each on three-day remand to SIT for custodial interrogation.

The black Fortuner SUV which was behind the Thar Mahindra that knocked down the four farmers is said to be owned by Ankit Das.

Meanwhile, UP law minister Brijesh Pathak went to Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday to meet the bereaved families of BJP workers who were lynched by the protesting farmers after four of them were crushed by the SUV of Ashish Mishra on October 3.

The minister met the families of Shubham Mishra and driver Hari Om Tiwari, who allegedly was driving the killer Thar Mahindra. He assured both the bereaved families all help.

Congress Delegation Meets President, Demands Sacking Of MoS Ajay Mishra

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: A delegation of Congress leaders, including former party president Rahul Gandhi, on Wednesday met President Ram Nath Kovind demanding the immediate dismissal of Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra over the Lakhimpur Kheri violence.

The delegation of senior Congress leaders also presented a memorandum of facts about the Lakhimpur Kheri incident to the President.

Four farmers were among eight people killed in the violence on October 3.

The Congress has been demanding the immediate dismissal of the Union Minister of State for Home whose son Ashish has been named in the FIR and is accused of mowing down farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri on October 3, and strict action against the accused in the killing of farmers.

Ashish was arrested on Saturday by the Uttar Pradesh Police in connection with the violence.

Maths, History, Science Now Compulsory In UP Madrasas

Agenceis

In order to bring madrasa education at par with education in other schools, the students of recognised madrasas in Uttar Pradesh will be taught elementary mathematics, history, elementary sciences and civics as mandatory subjects as per the NCERT syllabus from the next academic session.

The decision has been taken by the UP Board of Madrasa Education (UPBME).

These subjects are currently optional, but henceforth, students will be taught these subjects on the pattern followed by the CBSE till the senior secondary level.

The board also decided to hold the final year examination of Kamil (graduation) and Fazil (post graduation) students in offline mode from October 25 to October 30.

According to R.P. Singh, registrar of the newly constituted UP Board of Madrasa Education, "There was a recurring demand to include modern subjects in the syllabus to fulfil the basic requirements of present times. All students, right from the beginning to senior secondary level, will be taught these subjects now on the CBSE pattern and NCERT books."

The examinations of third year Kamil students and second year Fazil students, whose number is around 14,000 to 15,000, will be conducted in offline mode amid Covid protocols, including social distancing, sanitization and wearing masks.

The UP Board of Madrasa Education (UPBME) has also decided on establishment of a dedicated IT cell for document digitization, passport verification and other digital tasks.

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