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On the eve of his controversial visit to Russia, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in an interview to a Russian Television channel offered a televised debate to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to resolve their issues ..

UDHAMPUR INFANTS DEATH NHRC CLOSES CASE AFTER GOVT **COMPENSATES KIN**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has closed the case pertaining to the death of 12 infants due to spurious drugs in Udhampur district after government.



P5 PANORAMA **WORLD HEARING DAY**

TO HEAR, LISTEN WITH CARE! World Hearing Day is held on 3rd March each year to raise awareness on how to prevent deafness and hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care across the world. The first event was held in 2007.

baffled."

passport num-



G Quote

Everything is ceremony in the wild garden of childhood

> Pablo Neruda. "

NEWS DIGEST

CRPF Constable **Shoots Self Dead**

SRINAGAR: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) constable on Wednesday allegedly committed suicide inside his camp in Sanat Nagar area of this capital city. Constable Anand Lal shot himself dead using his AK-47 rifle at a camp of CRPF 29 battalion in Sanat Nagar area of the city, reports said Wednesday. The deceased • P06

Retired Teacher Falls From Tree, Dies

SRINAGAR: A retired school teacher died on Wednesday after falling from a poplar tree in Uri area of Baramulla district. 65-year-old Mohammad Ismail Paswal was pruning a tree for firewood in Jabla village of Uri when he lost balance and fell down on the ground, reports said. Paswal, reports said, was shifted to the Sub-District hospital Uri where doctors declared him dead.

Panchayat Ghar Gutted In Blaze

SRINAGAR: A Panchayat Ghar was gutted in a mysterious blaze on Wednesday in Damhal Hanjipora area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district. According to official sources, fire broke out in a Panchayat Ghar at Hariweth village of the district on Wednesday evening and engulfed the building. They said fire • P06

Ladakh Logs 29 New **Covid Cases**

LEH: Ladakh reported 29 fresh Covid cases that took the infection tally to 28.045. officials said on Wednesday. le number of active case stands at 144, they said. The Union Territory has recorded 228 Covidrelated deaths -- 168 in Leh and 60 in Kargil, they said, adding no death was reported on Tuesday. • P06

'You'll Be Expelled': How Colleges Held Kashmiri Students 'Hostage' In Ukraine "It's like a death trap here. "In the second week of Zaid Bin Shabir January, the Indian embassy

SRINAGAR- The killing of an Indian student in Ukraine on Tuesday has heightened fears of families of more than 100 Kashmiri students still stuck in war ravaged Ukraine. With major cities of Ukraine already on the

'no flight mode' stranded Kashmiri students are finding it hard to find an exit route from the war zone. "It's getting tough by the day," a Kashmiri student told Kashmir Observer minutes

before his phone went off.

You fear missiles inside shelters and fret over the bloody asked students to submit a form with their contact war on the streets.

Amid this dreadful situdetails, ation, these Kashmiris–for ber, temporary address in Ukraine, university's name, the very first time-sent home a detailed account about their failure to leave Kashmiri student.

the country on time. Why Couldn't They Leave Several Kashmiri students that Kashmir Observer reached out said they chose to stav back in the country due to campus compulsions,

fake normalcy by the citizenry and false assurances by the embassy.

who were putting up in the country, to stay alert.

The advisory had come in reaction to the Russian armed fortification on the Ukrainian border.

Later, on February 24, when Russians invaded Ukraine, course name and year of admission," said Mir Asif, a other foreign embassies including the United States, Britain, "The embassy issued no Canada, European Union, specific reasons behind this Australia and Israel issued an sudden activity leaving us all emergency advisory.

All of these countries had At the fag-end of January 2022, several foreign embasasked their respective embassy staff to "leave immedisies in Ukraine's capital city, ately" and had also advised Kyiv had already issued an citizens "to consider departadvisory for their citizens, ing now using **PAGE 06**

Panch Shot Dead In Kulgam

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Unidentified milia Panch in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, officials said.

The Panch Mohammad Yaqoob Dar of Sundoo village was critically injured after suspected militants fired upon him in Kolpora village of the district on Wednesday evening, they said. Dar, who sustained multiple bullet injuries in the attack, was removed to the hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him dead.

Medical Superintendent of the district hospital Kulgam Dr Muzaffar Zargar said that the Panch had bullet injuries in chest and neck and was brought dead to the hospital.

Meanwhile, in a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that preliminary investigation has revealed that militants had fired upon the independent Panch Mohammad Yaqoob Dar at Kolpora Srundoo

Schools Reopen In Kashmir After 31 Month Hiatus

Smiles, Excitement As Students Return To Classrooms

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: All the government and private schools across Kashmir Valley reopened on Wednesday after a gap of 31 months in wake of back to back lockdowns.

In the first phase, the govern-ment reopened most of the high and higher secondary schools across Kashmir on February 14 and 15. Universities, colleges and other institutions were also re-opened for offline classes last month.

The yellow-coloured school buses could be seen filled with students on the way to their respective schools across the city and other parts of the valley. Due to the



Heavy Snow Spell Predicted Between March 6-7

Observer News Service



SRINAGAR: The meteorological department on Wednesday predicted widespread rainfall in plains of Kashmir on Thursday followed by a heavy snow spell between March 6 and 7 across the Valley.

Deputy Director, Meteorological Department, Mukhtar Ahmed told Kashmir Observer, on Wednesday that a widespread rainfall is expected in lower regions of Kashmir on Thursday.

However, in higher reaches, snowfall with light intensity is expected," Ahmed said.

"In the first ten days of March, a heavy spell of snowfall is expected between 6 and 7 March." he added

area of Kulgam.

"In this terror incident, he had sustained critical gunshot injuries and was immediately shifted to nearby **PO6**

reopening of schools, many parts of the city witnessed traffic snarls. However, in most of **▶ PAGE 06**

A TEACHER OFFERS CANDIES TO A GIRL STUDENT on the reopening of schools in Srinagar and other parts of the Valley on Wednesday after a 31- month break. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

The MeT Deputy Director further added that the early prediction for the month of March has revealed that the temperature may slightly increase • P06

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...Ukraine War First Batch Of Kashmiri Students Arrive In Delhi were brought back to Delhi in the

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: After being caught up in the middle of air raids and barrages of missiles in Ukraine for five consecutive days, the first batch of 18 students from Kashmir region on Wednesday arrived in New Delhi in the Government of India's "special evacuation" flight.

According to the officials, the I&K Administration has set up a help desk at Delhi Airport for the assistance of these students and has also arranged their accommodation at J&K House in New Delhi. Notably, 13 of these students

who were waiting at Budapest airport since Tuesday evening

IndiGo 6E aircraft that had reached Budapest from Delhi at 06.35 pm Tuesday under Government of India's Operation Ganga. The five students were brought back to Delhi in another aircraft that had

taken off from Delhi to Poland Tuesday night. Talking to Kashmir Observer, National spokesman of Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA), Nasir Khuehami said that all these students have landed safely in Delhi and will be provided free accommodation by J&K Administration's officials in Delhi. "13 of these students were brought back to **PAGE 06**

J&K Opens Help Desk At New Delhi Airport

he Jammu and Kashmir government has estab-lished a help desk at the New Delhi Airport to provide assistance to the evacuees from Ukraine. The help desk established by the Resident Commission (RC) at the New Delhi Airport welcomed the students of J&K arriving in the capital from Ukraine, an official spokesperson said. • P06

Indian Mission Issues **New Advisorv 'Leave Kharkiv**

Immediately'

n an urgent advisory, the India embassy in Ukraine on Wednesday asked all Indians stranded in Kharkiv to leave the conflict zone immediately. The embassy asked Indians to proceed to settlements in Pesochin. Babave and Bezlyudovka as soon as possible. "For their safety and security, they must leave Kharkiv immediately repeat • P06

Govt Rejigs Admin, 26 **Officers Shifted**

on

Observer News Service SRINAGAR: The Jammu and

government

Kashmir

Wednesday reshuf-

fled the adminis-

tration by ordering

transfer of 26 of-

ficers, 25 among them

Jammu and Kashmir

with immediate effect.

Department

Administrative Service (JKAS),

in the interest of administration

According to an order issued

(GAD)

by the General Administration

Wednesday, Vikar Ahmad Giri, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Udhampur, Revenue, has been transferred and posted Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ramsoo, against an available vacancy. "He shall also hold the

charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Ramsoo, in addition to his own duties, till further orders," reads the order, issued by Principal Secretary to the government, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi. **→ PAGE 06**

J&K Sees 36 Corona Cases, 123 Recoveries

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The daily Coronavirus and Kupwara 2 each and one cases witnessed a significant de- new case in Baramulla cline in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday as 36 more people Pulwama, tested positive for the virus while Kulgam, no fresh fatality was reported in Bandipora the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to the officials, 18 Covid-19. fresh cases of novel Coronavirus were reported from the Valley and tal, officials said, Jammu reas many from the Jammu division on Wednesday, taking the number cases of infection, Doda 5 and of people infected since the onset of pandemic in J&K to 453088.

Srinagar detected the highest 13 new cases of virus, Budgam The six districts of Anantnag, Shopian, and Ganderbal registered no new cases of

In the winter capiported a maximum of 11 new one each in Rajouri and Reasi. No fresh cases were reported from In the Valley, officials said, the remaining six **PAGE 06**

MHA Orders Constitution Of VDGs In J&K

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: A day after Jammu BJP leaders called on Home Minister Amit Shah and demanded revival of the village defence committees (VDCs), the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Wednesday ordered the constitution of Village Defence Groups (VDGs) in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to an order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the Under Secretary to the Government of India (MHA) has been taken. written a communication to Chief Secretary of J&K, informing him that the issue regarding revised scheme of village defence groups the order reads. (VDGs) has been examined in the



Ministry and a few decisions have vulnerable areas, persons (VI category) who shall be leading/ coor-"The members of the Village dinating the VDG would be paid of Defence Group shall be designated Rs. 4500 per month and other peras Village Defence Guard (VDG)," sons (V2 category) who are members of these VDGs on voluntary It further reads that in more basis will be paid a **PAGE 06**

Govt Forms Panel For Promotion Of 'One Nation One Ration Card'

on

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Union Territory administration on Wednesday ordered constitution of a Committee headed by Chief Secretary for promotion of "One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)" in the Jammu and Kashmir.

The six member committee has been tasked with to quarterly review the trends and innovations in implementation of the One Nation One Ration Card Plan. The committee is also tasked to review incorporation

of Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and other data driven Technologies and tools for advancement of the ONORC driven PDS reforms in the Jammu and Kashmir, according to the order issued by the government. The committee has been tasked to carry "any other matter as

may be considered by the Core Committee for deliberations."

Its members include Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Finance Department; Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), **▶ PAGE 06**



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مضمون درخواست منجانب: _ ندیم علی حجام ولدعلی محد حجام ساکنه برده شوره

Walk Slower To Burn More Fat And Lose Weight Sustainably, Finds New Research

Taking a slow daily walk can promote gradual fat loss, and help you pick up other fitness habits

James Frew | Fit & Well

you want to lose weight, the key is to train harder, lift heavier, run longer, and walk faster, right? Well, maybe not, according to a new study. In fact, walking slowly might be the best way to burn fat and drop pounds. When training at home, it's still worth using the best exercise machines for weight loss to hit your goals and tone up. Particularly as the rowing machine and multigym offer full-body workouts and

promote muscle development. But in a break from traditional wisdom, research published in the journal Nutrients has found that slower walking speeds could be the key to burning fat quickly but safely and help you lose weight sustainably.

The team looked at the effect of walking speed on weight loss. And while many of us would imagine walking faster would be best, they found that "total body fat is lost ... at all speeds, but the change is more rapid, clear, and initially greater with slow walk-

Across the 30-week study, the 16 participants were asked to walk 4.8km per day, four times a week. They were split into two groups, and the only difference between them was the walking speed; either 6.6km/h or 5.5km/h.

Meanwhile, the researchers also recruited another 25 participants to do the same activity for only 15 weeks. Interestingly, the study's authors found that "fast walkers did not lose any significant amount of total body fat" in the 15-week group.

Even more surprisingly, the fast walkers in the 30-week trial had



actually gained 1.24% body fat by the fifteenth week. However, they had lost 2.75% body fat by the end of the study, so the fat loss only began after the halfway point. It was a different story for the slow walking group, which expe-rienced more gradual fat loss over 30 weeks. After 15 weeks, they had lost 4.2% body fat, which increased to 7.5% by the end of the trial.

The researchers had a few ideas to explain these seemingly unusual outcomes when discussing the results. On average, the slowwalking group had 20% more

body fat than the faster walkers at the start, so they had more to

lose. It also seems that how long, rather than how hard you exercise, plays a role. The authors point to an independent study published in JAMA, which found that "greater body fat loss was observed with increasing duration of exercise." These ideas help explain why the slower walkers lost body fat more sustainably across the experiment. Still, they don't help us understand why the faster walkers initially gained body fat before a more modest drop in the second

half. The answer may lay in how your body adapts to higher-intensity exercise. The researchers noted that training intensely increases your overall fitness level, causing your body to shift to burning fat for energy rather than relying on

dietary carbohydrates. Whether you're into faster walks or prefer a calmer stroll, it seems walking is a free and effective way to lose weight sustainably. There are other benefits, too, as researchers have also found that regular walkers are more likely to stick to other fitness activities.

times a week. They were split into two groups, and the only difference between them was the walking speed; either 6.6km/h or

Once you've made a habit of tak-

ing some time outdoors, you might want to add some of the

best exercises for weight loss into

your routine too. These comple-

ment your walking by helping

you burn calories and tone up si-

Of course, you can head outside in

any shoes and get moving, but it's

still worth lacing up a set of the

best shoes for walking. These are more comfortable than sneakers

and offer more support and cush-

ioning with less rubbing.

Across the

the 16 participants

were asked to walk

4.8km per day, four

30-week study.

multaneously.

بغرض حصول SC سرتفيكيث تحت ايس آراً و126 اشتہار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام۔ بعاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سامل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول SC سرٹفیکیٹ دفتر ہذامیں پیش کیا ہے۔اس بارے میںعملہ فیلڈ سےریورٹ طلب کیا گیاجس سے عیاں ہے کہ سایل کا کنبہ دھ ھذامیں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے سائل کی مہانہ أمدنى 10600 ہے اور سايل کا کنبہ بذيل ہے۔ آمدنى نام افراد کنبه على محد حجام ولدغلام احمد حجام زمينداري 52 سال كهريلوكام محموده ببيكم زوهعلى محمد 50 سال بلال احد حجام يسر على محمد مزدوري 32 سال شابهينه بيجمز وهبلال احمد گھریلوکام 30 زرتعليم 07 ريحان بلال يسربلال احمد زرتعليم ساہرہ بلال دختر بلال احمہ 05 گھریلوکام 20 ياسمينه اختر دخترعلى محمد مبشراحمد حجام ولدغلام احمد حجام 40 مزدوري س کےعلاہ اورکوئی افراد کنم پنہیں بتلایا گیاہے یہ لہذاز پر بحث سرٹفکیٹ اجراء کرنے

ہیں اگرکسی پخص کوکوئی عذریا اعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کے اندرا ندرا پنااعتراض معہ جوہات پیش کرے۔میعاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر پااعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ msk

از نیابت اچویل بااجلاسا یگز یکیٹو مجسٹریٹ درجداول تضمون درخواست منجانب:۔ ریاض احمدو گولد عبدالرزاق ساکنہ صاحب آباد آچویل اعت ناگ بغرض حصول: ڈپنیڈلس سرفنکیپ						
			ماص دعام۔	تھار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخ	/	0).
وگے	معاملہ کی نسبت پٹواری حلقہ ہے رپورٹ طلّب کی گئی ہے جبکی روہے سائل کا بھائی غلام محمد وگے					
Ι.	مورخہا 22/03/202 کوفوت 'ہواہے ۔ متوفی کےڈپنڈنٹ تفصیل بذیل ہیں۔					
	آمدنی	عمر	پیشہ	رشته بمراه متوفى	نام وولديت	نمبرشار
		5 سال	شيرخوار	بيڻا	سالمحمد	01
		03 مال	شيرخوار	بىي	طيبه جان	02
متوفی کا کنبہ 02 افراد پرمشتمل ہے۔سرلفکیٹ اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوکوئی اعتراض ہوتو وہ دفتر						
ہذامیں سات دن کے اندراندر پیش کریں ۔ بعداز معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں						
זעל_						
rna (تحرالصدرا ميكزيكيو مجسطريث درجداول)						
از نیابت دیدگام بااجلاس نایب تخصیلداردیدگام مضمون درخواست منجانیب :عمران مقبول رانقر ولد محمد مقبول رانقرسا کنه لالن مخصیل وضلع ایست ناگ						

بغرض حصول RBA سر تفكيك اشتھار بمرادآگاہی ہرخاص دعام۔ معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول (R B A) بیک سالملکہ مسروبہ والی مسرور یہ کا میں چی ہے۔ وارڈ اسرفنگیف دفتر نہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

آمدنی	پيشه	عمر	نام وولديت	نمبرشار
	گھریلوکام	62 مال	عطيقه بيكم بيوه محمد مقبول رائفر	01
LPC	ملازم	35 سال	بلال احمد ولدمحمد مقبول رائفر	02
	گھریلوکام	34 سال	مسرت بلال زوجه بلال احمدراتهر	03
LPC	ملازم	33 سال	عمران مقبول ولدمحد مقبول راتقر	04
	گھریلوکام	32 سال	ميمهاختر زوجه عمران مقبول رائقر	05
8000/=	كارچنثر	40 سال	كلزار احمدولد محد مقبول رائفر	06



Where a application for transfer of has been received from one. Shri : Manzoor Ahmad Shora S/O Haziir Mohammad Shora R/O Madina Colony Bemina Srinagar (Transferor)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Kulgam (Mini Secretariat Kulgam)

DASTI OUOTATION

5.5km/h.

of Santro bearing registration number JK04A- 2545 . Chasis number 387327 Engine no. 66133 Model 2005 in favour of Shri. Ghulam Rasool Gujoo S/o Noor Mohammad Gujjoo R/o Aali Masjid Eidgah Sriangar (Transferee). Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM/5914 Sd/ Assistant Regional Transport officer Dated: 02-03-2022 mcb 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 : Asrar Ahmad Malik S/o: Ghulam

Mohammad Malik R/o: Budina Budgam (Transferor) of M/Cycle. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04C

- 3445. Chasis number 22185 Engine no. 22185 Model 2013. in favour of Shri., Mohammad Irfan Mir S/o, Mohammad Shaban Mir R/o Trahpoo Achabal (Tranferee). As well as Duplicate RC is 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 filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer. No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5926

Assistant Regional Transport officer Dated 02-03-2022 mcb Budgam Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Fayaz Ahmad Mir S/o: Mohammad Magbool Mir R/o: Chewdara Beerwah Budgam owner of vehicle bearing

Registration No: JK04D 8134 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Beerwah Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general

public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper . No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5821

Dated 02/03/2022

mcb

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Sealed short term quotation affixed with revenue stamps of Rs.2/- are invited from dealers / Band saw owners for supply of Saw Dust which should reach the office of undersigned within 03 days from the date of its issuance. The quotations will be opened on the same date by the committee of officers constituted for the purpose and the dealers / Band saw owners who wish to participate can attend the meeting of opening of quotations.

S.No	Name of the Item	Specification
01.	SAWDUST	Dry (Per Truck)

Terms and conditions :-

1.

2.

Phone No: - 01931-295587

- The rate quoted should be FOR at Poultry Rearing Space Kounsarbal DH Pora Kulgam
- The rate quoted should be inclusive of all Taxes.

DIPK-18865/21

3. The Approved dealer /Band saw Owner have to supply of whole guota of Saw Dust in one go within two days of receipt of supply order.

Undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject any quotation without assigning any reason thereof. Further queries and information can be had from the office of undersigned on working day during office hours.

No:-CAHO/Acctt/Kul/10152-57 Dated:- 28/02/2022

(Dr. Nisar Ahmad Khan) Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Kulgam

Email ID:-cahok.ash@jk.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION SRINAGAR,

NEAR J&K BANK(ZALDAGAR

Telefax No. 0194-2503195 e.mail Id: xenmidsrinagar@gmail.com

Sub:- Extension in bidding time for this office Short Term e-NIT No. 47 OF 2021-22, Dated: 22-02-2022 for below mentioned work:-

"Providing, installation and commissioning of Video conferencing system for Conference / meeting hall at Mechanical Circle (I&FC Deptt)".

JK Government official e-Procurement portal Tender ID No's .:- 2022_IFC_161723_1 Ref:-

|S|(0)|

Due to poor response to this office above referred e-NIT for the subject work, the critical dates are extended as under: -

Bid submission/ Document download / sale end Date	07/03/2022 at 1400 hrs
Date and time of Bid opening	08/03/2022 at 1400 hrs

DIPK-18873/21

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT.

No. MIDS/Ts/ 5612-17 Dated:- 28-02-2022

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Srinaga

نصرت جان زوجه كلزاراحمد راتهم مريكوكام 36 سال 07 فراءكلزاردختر كلزاراحدراتهر زريعليم 06 سال 08 س کےعلاوہ اورکوئی افراد کبنہ میں موجودنہیں ہےاور کبنہ کی سالا ن**ہامد کی 7,07676 ہے**اب *م* غَلَيك مزكورہ کی اجرائی میں اگر کسی شخص کوکوئی عذر یااعتر اض ہوتو ایک ہفتے کے اندراندر دفتر مذا یں پیش کریں۔معیادگذارنے کے بعدکوئی عذرقابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تحرير الصدونائب تخصيلدار rna

Public Notice

I have lost my 8th calss Marks certficate bearing Regd no: DIET-BND-021-3151, Roll No: 8002013218069. Now I am applying for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt HSS Shadipora within a period fo seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Asmat Hlal D/o Hilal Ahmad Hajam aj-ko

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DIAL-EMMA

Casual Laborers Stage Protest, Seek Regularization

Agencies

rinagar: Daily-rated workers engaged in different government departments Wednesday staged a massive protest demonstration in Srinagar, to seek regularization of their services.

The protest was organized under the banner of 'Jammu and Kashmir Casual Laborers United Front'.

The protestors demanded the regularization of their services. "We have been serving the departments for the past 14 years now. Despite all assurances and promises. we are still waiting for the regularization of our services," the protesters said.

Holding placards in their hands, the protestors raised pro-justice slogans. They urged the authorities to implement the Minimum Wages Act in Jammu and Kashmir.

They said they have been engaged under rule 7 of SRO 64 after proper procedure and completion of all formalities," said the protestors. The protestors said they had been working honestly in their respective departments.

Talking to media persons, President JKCLUF Imran Parrey said the demand for regularization of casual laborers, daily wagers and all casual workers is a genuine demand and the government should prioritize their regularization.

Police detained a number of protesters after they tried to proceed towards city-centre from Press Enclave.

Cultural Unit DIPR Organizes SufiyanaSazina

Observer News Service

rinagar: As part of 'AazadiKaAmritMahotsav', initiative of the government, Uthe Cultural Unit Srinagar of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) today organised a mesmerizing SufiyanaSazina program at Cultural Unit Hall of Joint Director Information Kashmir, here.

On the occasion, the artists of the Cultural Unit presented a mesmerizing collection which was appreciated by the audience. Mushtaq Ahmad Saznawaz performed

Sazeena on santoor, Music Composer Ghulam Mohammad Bhat Anzwali sung a popular kashmiriChakri and was ably accompanied by G.M Khanday on Gadda.

Officers and employees of the department present at the event applauded the artists for their beautiful rendition.



imposed to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic. KO photo Abid Bhat

As City Schools Open, DC Srinagar **Inspects Academic Institutions**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad AijazAsad today visited various Schools of the City to inspect the smooth reopening as physical class work resumes today after the pandemic.

Accompanied by Chief Education Officer, Manzoor Ahmad Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner visited Government Girls Higher Secondary, School, Raj Bagh, Boys Higher Secondary School, Jawahar Nagar, Middle School, Jawahar Nagar and other various Schools.

The Deputy Commissioner welcomed the students by presenting bouquets and interacted with the students and staff.

He asked the staff and students to follow Covid-19 Appropriate Behaviour in letter and spirit to ensure safety of students and their families.

He also interacted with the school staff asking them to give their focus on learning outcomes.

Teachers Welcome Students, Exchange Greetings

Observer News Service

rinagar: After a long epoch of home stay, students across Kashmir were today seen flocking in uniforms to schools with excitement while wearing masks to follow CAB

As gates of schools were opened today to welcome students, they felt ecstatic for beginning of normal functioning of schools.

Students while taking steps in the school premises, the instant movement witnessed was students hug their friends and classmates while exchanging greetings.

The ambience of every institution echoed and reverberated again with chattering of students, which

Workshop On 'Research

Methodology In Literary Studies,

students

Humanities' Begins At NIT Srinagar

brought life to closed building and class rooms.

Parents accompanying their wards to schools said that they are glad for the new dawn and hoped for normal academic calendar and activities from henceforth.

Many students while expressing their feelings said that they have been waiting for a long time for opening of schools to continue their education. They said that although teachers were conducting online classes for the period of pandemic but offline education has its advantages which help students to have face to face interaction with teachers besides a smooth learning and evaluation process

PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200 AIRPORTS SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 × RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153 **HIGHWAY STATUS** Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open) Mughal Road - (Closed) Srinagar-Leh-(Closed) **PRAYERS** FAJR 5:36 HIJRI **ZUHR** 12:43 CALENDAR ASR 4:48 Magrib 29-Rajab 6:29

This Day In History

1443

1969 - Apollo 9 launched for 151 Earth orbits (10 days) 1974 - Turkish Airlines Flight 981 crashes in the Ermenonville

ISHA

7:51

- Forest outside Paris, killing all 346 people onboard
- 1977 Libyan Socialist Arabs People's Republic forms
- 1980 France performs nuclear test at Mururoa atoll 1980 - 1st nuclear submarine, USS Nautilus is decommissioned
- 1980 Pierre Trudeau sworn in, for the second time, as the 17th Prime Minister of Canada
- 1989 Robert McFarlane gets \$20,000 fine, 2 yrs probation for Iran-Contra.
- 1991 Iraqi generals and US general "Stormin' Norman" Schwarzkopf meet to discuss Gulf War cease fire
- 1991 Latvia & Estonia vote to become independent of the USSF

1991 - Switzerland votes on lowering voting age from 20 to 18 1991 - United Airlines 737 crashes near Colorado Springs, kills 25

1992 - Gas explodes in coal mine at Zonguldak Turkey, 263 die 1992 - Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina established.

1997 - The tallest free-standing structure in the Southern Hemisphere, Sky Tower in downtown Auckland, New Zealand, opens after two-and-a-half years of construction.

1998 - Bill Gates testifies at Senate Judiciary Committee about Microsoft's dominant position in the software industry 2002 - Citizens of Switzerland narrowly vote in favor of their country becoming a member of the United Nations.

2002 - 33rd NAACP Image Awards: "Ali" wins Outstanding Motion Picture

2005 - Steve Fossett becomes the first person to fly an airplane around the world solo without any stops without refueling - a journey of 40,234 km/25,000 mi completed in 67 hours and 2 minutes.

2009 - The Sri Lankan cricket team is attacked while on their way to the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore for a Test match 2013 - 45 people are killed by a bomb blast in Karachi, Pakistan From KO Archives Earthquakes: A Monster Is Lurking Beneath Kashmir, Say Experts

To Eradicate Drug Menace, Society Needs To Come Forward: DC Srinagar

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad AijazAsad on Wednesday called for community participation to eradicate drug addiction in the summer capital, underlining that administration alone cannot fight the growing menace.

"Given the gravity of the problem, I believe that instead of brushing it under the carpet, there is a need to expose it. Our youth needs to know that this path is wrong and this thing must be in the mind of the youth," he said addressing a presser here.

He said a digital platform is being created which will have scope for both volunteers and victims.

'It is important to note that for drug addiction to be eradicated, administration cannot do it alone. Society has to come forward. Community participation is a must." he said

This is the reason, he said that the administration was creating a digital platform wherein volunteers can come forward and play their role in eradicating the menace.

'We want volunteers. I want to appeal through media to all the people, youth and respectable denizens of Srinagar to come forward voluntarily and together will fight to eradicate it," he said, adding, "the victims need attention for rehabilitation and work is afoot on providing them medical intervention. Besides, the victims will be pro-



vided skill development and benefits under various employment schemes so that they can start their life afresh ?

Speaking at the presser, SSP Srinagar Rakesh Balwal said that in 2021, 70 FIRs were registered in connection with the drug related incidents while the number so far is 41 this year. "24 persons have been arrested and more than 100 people have been warned that they are under watch and cannot escape the writ of law.

Besides, we have raided a number of hotspots," he said, adding, "those indulging in drug trade cannot escape and they will have to face the law." He said that "big sharks" lure the youth into consuming drugs as well into the trade. "We know the whole chain. There is a lot more to be done and it will not stop till we make successful inroads and eradicate this menace." He said that there are already social repercussions and most of the burglaries are linked to it.

tual worl shop on 'Research Methodology in Literary Studies and Humanities' began Wednesday at Department of Humanities, Social Sciences & Management (HSS&M), National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar

Srinagar: A week-long vir-

Observer News Service

The inaugural session of the workshop was presided over by the Director NIT Srinagar, Prof.(Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, who is also the chief patron of the workshop, while Prof. MF Wani Dean R&C and Prof.Najeeb-ud-Din, Dean Academic Affairs are the patrons of the program.

On the occasion, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr) Rakesh Sehgal appreciated the HSS&M department for organizing the workshop on a relevant theme. He said such workshops are highly motivating and informative for the all-round development of

Bhatt from the HSS&M department, who is the brain behind organizing the workshop for the betterment of students and faculty. "No doubt NIT is a profes-

Prof. Sehgal also appreci-

ed the efforts of Dr. Nasir

sional institution imparting technical and science education at all levels. Our aim is not only to produce technically and skilled professionals but also to go for holistic development of these professionals," he said. Prof. Sehgal stated that

the department of HSS&M has taken lead in organizing such kind of workshops. It is a great opportunity for all of us to interact and know about each other.

He said all sessions of the workshop were an eye-opener for all participants and NIT Srinagar will be organizing such workshops in the future also so that students can get benefited head of the program while Dr. Nasir F. Butt is the main convener and organizer of the workshop. Dr. Jaya Srivastava, Dr.Sumaira Jan, Dr.Mohd. RafiqTeli and Dr.NufazilAhangar are the coordinators of the workshop.

HoD HSS&M, Prof. Ab-

ul Liman is the organizing

from their initiatives.

In his message, Registrar NIT, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari appreciated the organizers for conducting a workshop on a relevant theme. He said these sessions are the need of the hour and will explore more in-depth knowledge to the participants.

Earlier Head Department of HSS&M Prof. Abdul Liman in his welcome address said it is the 5th workshop that department is organizing during the last 2 years. "We are also planning to host 2nd edition of the international conference in May this year,' he said.

Shafa'at Rasool

RINAGAR - Kash¬mir may not always be a spectator to the angers of the Earth, as meteorologi¬cal experts believe that e may witness a massive earthquake, registering above 8 on the Richter scale, in future, Nobody knows when- it can be to¬morrow or after a hundred years. But contrary to the locally held belief that Koh-i-Sulaiman and other hills of volcanic origin may erupt, the danger is mainly due to the tectonic activity in the entire Himalayan re¬gion; from the Hindukush in the west to Sadiya hills in the east

Iwrlian Meteorological De¬partment has already placed central and south Kashmir in the high risk Zone 6 of the seismic map of India. This sig-nifies an extremely high probability of earthquakes of very high magnitudes. These dangers arise from the fact that the Indian peninsular plate is pushing itself in to the Eurasian plate at a rate of 6 cm per year and this is build¬ing up pressure in the entire Himalayan region, thus pro-voking tectonic activity. Earthquakes in this region are primarily the release of this pressure caused by the movement of plates deep within.

The point of worry is that the entire Himalavan region bar¬ring Kashmir and western Nepal has experienced major earthquakes, thus releasing some of the tension. Experts say that an earthquake measuring 8 on the Richter scale is due in these two legions. Seismologists call an earth¬quake of above 8 magnitudes as 'great'

But no one knows when this will happen as there is absolutely no reliable forecasting method available at this time. "Although we have minor earthquakes here, as the one last year of 6.2 magni-tude whose epicentre was in the Hindukush, but we have not experienced any great one in the last 160 to 900 years. By hypothesis and statistical prediction we can say mat Kashmir may witnesses a severe earth¬quake. But nobody knows when", says Surinder Paul, senior meteorologist and Deputy Director Indian Me-teorological Department, Srinagar.

Experts dismiss as myths the views about cur¬rent volcanic activity in Kohi-Sulaiman and other hills in the valley. Prof. Muhammad Ismail Bhat, headof the geology and geo¬physics department in Uni¬versity of Kashmir clarifies: These public fears have no basis, we do not face any danger from these hills nor is there any question of some volcanic activity going on inside them". Studies have revealed that these hills came into being some 280 million years ago because of volcanic eruptions, and remained active for another 100 million years. They have shown no activity for the past 180 million years

The extensive media treatment of the causes behind earthquakes (after the Gujarat quake) has made terms like 'tectonic plates and 'Richter Scale' almost household words, and public awarenes about earth's temperament has increase substantially. The fact that earthquakes cannot be predicted with pinpoint accuracy, leave alone prevented, is being accepted with philosophical stoicism. One point of comfort has emerged from this deluge of specialised information, and experts have put it across with admirable clarity: 'Earthquakes do not kill people, buildings do.' There lies the hope for people in regions prone to earthquakes, if governments wake up in time, that is. (Kashmir Observer, 03 March, 2001)

Public Notice

The DOB of my daughter has been wrongly written in school records as 25-04-2016 while her correct DOB is 25-01-2016 Which needs to be rectified . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Model Institute Of Educaton Akura within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. FAYAZ AHMAD MALIK F/o HURAN JAN R/o SEER HAMDAN rna

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E-NIT S.No	Written As		Read As	
4 (Science Block)	Rs. 27,11,709.00/= in sh	hape of CDR/FDR only	Rs. 27,11,709.00/= in shape of	
			CDR/FDR/BG only	
4 (Admin Block)	Rs. 20,75,032.00/= in shape of CDR/FDR only		Rs. 20,75,032.00/= in shape of	
			CDR/FDR/BG only	
The Dates are also	extended as Follows:			
Bid submission End	d Date	05-03-2022 Up to 6:00 Pm		
Date of Submission	n of DD (Hard Copy)	07-03-2022 From 10:00 Am Up to 4:00 Pm		
Time & Date of ope	ening of Technical Bids	Bids shall be opened at IUST on 08-03-2022 AT 2 PM		
Time, Date & Addr	ess of opening of	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed		
Financial Bids				
Note: All the other to	erms and conditions rema	in same.		
No: IUST/EW/22/TEND/SCBLK&ADBLK/COR/01 S				
Dated: 28-02-2022	DIPK-N	B-7463/21	University Engineer, IUST Awantipora	

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Not black and white

President Joe Biden in his first State of the Union address has warned Russian President Vladimir Putin that "he has no idea what's coming" in retaliation for the latter's invasion of Ukraine. He said that while Putin "may make gains on the battlefield, he will pay a continuing high price over the long run." US lawmakers in the audience applauded and roared with many of them waving Ukrainian flags and wearing the country's blue and yellow colours. West has already imposed severe sanctions on Russia. Even the west's leading corporate behemoths are pulling out of Russia or breaking their partnerships with their Russian counterparts. Biden in his address further ratcheted up sanctions, joining the European Union and Canada in banning Russian planes from US airspace announcing that the US Justice Department would seize the yachts, luxury apartments and private jets of wealthy Russians with ties to Putin.

Meanwhile, the human tragedy is unfolding in Ukraine on a vast scale in terms of the deaths of civilians. More than 450,000 people have fled Ukraine to Poland, and a further 113,000 to Romania.

The war has rallied western nations and many other countries from around the world behind the US. And suddenly all we are hearing is a predominantly western narrative on the war. Social media companies have censored Russian statesponsored media so there is little in the public domain that can be called an alternative discourse. And this is creating a situation we are all so familiar with. West has again put on a moralistic lens on the war: a conflict between flawless virtue and pure evil. Putin is being projected as a reincarnation of Hitler. In fact, Time magazine's latest cover page shows Hitler's face lurking under that of Putin.

It is a familiar script that has earlier played out in US-led wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, and in the case of the US-backed Saudi war in Yemen. In the case of war in Iraq, it was the cooked up intelligence about the then Iraqi president Saddam Hussain possessing the Weapons of Mass Destruction that became the basis for war. And western media acted as cheerleaders for the destruction of Iraq. The point is that it is not the reality on the ground but the west's core interests that determine what is good and what is evil. Otherwise, the reality of Russian invasion of Ukraine is very complex. It is rooted in Russia's legitimate fears of being encircled by the west and the NATO military bases reaching its doorstep. Many of the Eastern European countries which were once a part of the USSR-led Warsaw Pact have become a part of the NATO, heightening Russia's insecurity. Now the growing likelihood of Ukraine also joining NATO became the last straw for Putin. While it is nobody's case to countenance the invasion of a sovereign smaller country by its powerful neighbour, the solution to the evolving fraught situation can be resolved if the US-led West and Russia sit down and work towards addressing each other's grievances and fears

Why India, Pak Can't Talk

Today old equations between New Delhi and Islamabad and also between Kashmiri separatists and New Delhi no longer apply

RIYAZ WANI

n the eve of his controversial visit to Russia, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in an interview to a Russian Television channel offered a televised debate to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to resolve their issues. The offer which came amidst his usual railing at the BJP's "racist ideology," hasn't received any response from New Delhi. India's position remains that the talks with India will go ahead if Pakistan ceases support to terrorism in India.

On the other hand, Islamabad has its condition: And this has been explained in detail earlier in an interview to Karan Thapar by Pakistan's National Security Advisor Moeed Yusuf. Pakistan, he clarified, wasn't interested in the nomenclature of the revoked Article 370 but what the constitutional provision guaranteed to Kashmiris. He wanted New Delhi to promise a permanent halt to any demographic change in Kashmir, restore the rights of Kashmiris and give these concessions whatever name it wanted.

But would New Delhi make these concessions in the first place? Very unlikely as this would effectively mean restoration of Article 370 in disguise or something close to it. And this should normally rule out a fresh engagement between the two countries. But if that were the case, the two neighbors wouldn't have established a contact early last year and agreed to reinstate the 2003 ceasefire along the Line of Control. The agreement caught people on both sides of the border by surprise. More so, the people of Kashmir who were expecting Pakistan to escalate matters for India for its withdrawal of the semi-autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir. On the contrary, Pakistan now appeared to play down New Delhi's far-reaching action. And by agreeing to the LoC ceasefire, New Delhi agreed to respect the sanctity of the LoC, which otherwise it had threatened to breach to take back Pakistan Administered Kashmir.

The ceasefire has since been held, completing its first anniversary on February 25. According to Army, not a single bullet was fired along the LoC over the last year which is quite an achievement considering in 2020, 4,645 violations were reported between the two neighbours which equates to nearly 12.7 violations a day.

There are several geopolitical factors at play. One is the unfolding geopolitics of the region. Since April 2020, India has been engaged in a tense stand-off with China along the Line of Actual Control. China staged incursions at four points - forcing India to mass its troops along the border to deter further intrusions.

Similarly, India and Pakistan have also been at daggers drawn despite the ceasefire. Given the tense state of affairs, it is unlikely that the ceasefire will last. It doesn't seem to be undergirded by any mutual understanding between them.

Then there in Afghanistan. The unfolding situation in Kabul, where the Taliban are now back in power has reduced India's capacity to influence the events in that country. Accordingly, Pakistan is suddenly in a greater position of leverage. Pakistan would also benefit from a friendly India to ensure continued stability on its eastern flank. The LoC agreement is also traced to the US nudging the two countries from behind the scenes. The US involvement in the relationship between India and Pakistan is a fairly complex affair. New Delhi wants the US to intervene to sort out the terror problem in Pakistan, but it brooks no meddling in Kashmir. Similarly, Is-



For Representational Purposes only

The US involvement in the relationship between India and Pakistan is a fairly complex affair. New Delhi wants the US to intervene to sort out the terror problem in Pakistan, but it brooks no meddling in Kashmir. Similarly, Islamabad wants US intervention on Kashmir but wouldn't like Washington to speak on behalf of India on terror

lamabad wants US intervention on Kashmir but wouldn't like Washington to speak on behalf of India on terror. More so, at a time when the US is seen as partial towards India. This contradiction hardly makes the US an ideal mediator between the two countries. The starkness of this reality leaves India and Pakistan no choice but to engage and confront their problems themselves. And confront they must.

But here again, the two countries have exhibited a singular inability to talk sustainably. The suspension of the dialogue over the last decade is enlightening on this score. Following the attack on Mumbai that killed 166 people, the two nations have struggled to get back to a durable engagement. Today old equations between New Delhi and Islamabad and also between Kashmiri separatists and New Delhi no longer apply. Following the withdrawal of Article 370, Hurriyat has been obliterated from the scene. In theory, at least, Pakistan is once again bolstered by the strategic depth of Afghanistan. But it has not only continued with the truce on the LoC but also stopped well short of exacerbating militan-

cy in Kashmir, a behavior that should be to the liking of India. But as things stand, this hasn't brought the two countries closer to dialogue. India isn't amenable to talk about Kashmir let alone concede to Islamabad's demands to restore constitutional protections to Kashmiris, even in some milder form. One factor in this is the considerable power gap that has come into play between the two countries in recent years, something which no amount of rhetoric in Kashmir and Islamabad can hide. India's GDP is now ten times larger than that of Pakistan. And this inequality is likely to leave a deep imprint on the content of a future bilateral dialogue. And of course, on the outcome of it too, if it is sustainably held. It would be an outcome that might not be completely satisfying of the expectations of the weaker parties. Or else, the logjam that has persisted for the past seven decades would linger on.

Former Pakistan president Musharraf was the first to recognize new realities. His fourpoint proposals on Kashmir envisaged a solution that would be a drastic climbdown from Islamabad's traditional stand on J&K. This solution was about some minor political and administrative adjustments in Kashmir. With moderate Hurriyat playing along, these proposals almost got the two countries to agree to a radical new solution for Kashmir. If the lawyers' agitation in Pakistan hadn't forced the sudden exit of Musharraf, this solution potentially could have resolved Kashmir.

There's a possibility that the two countries could return to the formula sometime in the future. And the fresh effort will have to be guided by the realization that ultimately India and Pakistan would have to resolve their problems themselves for a peaceful sub-continent. Only such a dialogue could be hoped to lead us towards a positive outcome. At the end of the day, the sub-continent needs the two countries to resolve their issues to usher in a true era of peace.

OTHER OPINON

A cautionary tale: On warning of the IPCC report

midst global turmoil, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change — the largest international consortium of scientists analysing and reviewing ■the evidence on the present and future man-made impacts of climate change — has a message that is predictably dire. The world faces unavoidable multiple climate hazards over the next two decades with global warming of 1.5°C; even temporarily exceeding this warming level would mean additional severe impacts, some of which will be irreversible. The report points out that the rise in weather and climate extremes has led to some irreversible impacts as natural and human systems are pushed beyond their ability to adapt. Alluding to the Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, in November 2021, the report notes that most of the targets that countries have set for themselves are too far in the future to have an impact in the short term at meaningfully reducing the climate impact.

India will achieve net zero emissions latest by 2070, that is, there will be no net carbon emissions, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared at the COP26 summit. By 2030, India would also ensure 50% of its energy will be from renewable energy sources. However, none of this can help the $1.5^\circ\mathrm{C}$ mark from being breached. A major point of emphasis of the report, particularly for South Asia, is the trend in the 'wet bulb' temperature - an index of the impact of heat and humidity combined - and its effect on health. Lucknow and Patna, according to one of several studies cited in the report, were among the cities predicted to reach wet-bulb temperatures of 35°C if emissions continued to rise, while Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Mumbai, Indore, and Ahmedabad are 'at risk' of reaching wet-bulb temperatures of 32°C-34°C with continued emissions. This will have consequences such as a rise in heat-wave linked deaths or reduced productivity. Global sea levels will likely rise 44cm-76cm this century if governments meet their current emission-cutting pledges. But with higher emissions, and if ice sheets collapse more quickly than expected, sea levels could rise as much as 2 metres this century and 5m by 2150. India is one of the most vulnerable countries in terms of the population that will be affected by sea-level rise. By the middle of the century, around 35 million of its people could face annual coastal flooding, with 45 million-50 million at risk by the end of the century if emissions are high. Experience has shown that partisan economic calculations trump climate considerations, but India must shore up its adaptation measures and urgently move to secure the futures of its many vulnerable who have the most to lose.

The Hindu

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

The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir Observer

MAIL YOUR LETTERS



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

letter does P.O. Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 EDITOR email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Ukrainian Conflict and Western Oil Cartels

he conflict in Ukraine is not about national sovereignty, aggression but it's ultimately about oil cartels establishing monopoly over setting oil prices. Let me explain: right now Germany and Russia have already built the Nordstream2 pipeline. Germany only needs to initiate it, but it won't. Why?

In order to understand Germany's decision not to initiate Nordstream2 yet, we need to understand the current global capitalist order that we call "imperialism". It is when large scale banks and massive cartels (or corporations) privately own much of the global capitalist economy.

The U.S Empire's economic hegemony is based on Western oil cartels having a collective monopoly over oil and its prices determine the value of the U.S dollar. Anything that breaks this collective monopoly undermines the economic hegemony of the U.S Empire. Moreover, economic aggression against Iran by U.S and allies is a living example of what the U.S can do to someone who denies the hegemony of "Petrodollar". But what does this have to do with Nordstream2?

If Germany sets up the Nordstream2 pipeline, the western Oil cartels based in the U.S and Britain no longer have the collective monopolistic power to fix the price of oil worldwide. If they don't collectively control the price of oil worldwide, they can't maintain/enhance the value of the U.S dollar. Furthermore, Germany and Russia breaking this monopoly could potentially undermine the value of the US dollar. This gives them a new found leverage.

The U.S Empire and the western oil cartels don't want this new arrangement, where Germany and Russia have this new leverage, so they're giving Germany an ultimatum: Either you stay in NATO with us by giving up Nordstream2 or you're on Russia's side and face dire consequences like Iran.

The U.S Empire and western oil cartels are pushing for the war on Ukraine because they want to cancel Nordstream2 pipeline and force Russia to become reliant on Ukraine to transport its oil. This maintains western oil cartel's monopoly over the price of oil.

Furthermore, as long as Russia owns its own oil, the western oil cartels and the U.S Empire's monopoly over the price of oil is potentially vulnerable because Russia has so much oil, so they want to expand NATO into Ukraine as a first step towards

colonising Russia.

They want to privatize all of Russia's natural resources including and especially oil in order to guarantee that western oil cartels based in the U.S and U.K maintain their monopoly over oil and control prices to maintain/ augment the value of the U.S dollar.

Doing this meant that they've to get rid of the Russian Federal Government, where much of the natural resources including oil are state owned assets that are used for economic stability. This means privatizing State-Owned assets and reducing Russia to its 1991 state.

If we look through the prism of Islam on this matter as we should, we oppose this global capitalist order that we call "imperialism", based on Lenin's writings "imperialism is the highest stage of capitalism".We wish to undermine the monopoly of western oil cartels that is the economic basis of U.S hegemony.

The reason why Ukraine is so important to Oil cartels is that since oil from Russia to Europe is currently delivered through Ukraine, controlling Ukraine means controlling the land pipelines in Ukraine. All the oil that passes through can be taxed to match the global oil prices set by western oil cartels. As long as oil cartels don't own oil in Russia, they can only control the amount of oil that Russia can deliver to the world and at what price and this is the reason why this system is called "Petrodollar".

It's pretty simple that even a common man in any country can't buy oil without and unless it's purchased with U.S dollar, this is the reason why the U.S dollar has any value in the first place. Countries that wish to purchase oil must convert their currency to U.S dollars to buy oil, this gives a ton of value to the U.S dollar.

In effect, controlling Oil prices and the supply of oil is essential to the strength and survival of the U.S dollar hegemony. Similar is the case in many middle eastern countries and African countries, where the U.S is spending billions of dollars to maintain the hegemony of "Petrodollar", by creating proxies and fake enemies to enter any state and exploit the resources of any resourceful country.

In Conclusion, it's the duty of every free human to understand the oppression of U.S and western Oil cartels and fight against it.

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Think Opinion Analysis Essays

 $\frac{\text{KashmirObserver}^{\text{M}}}{\text{Thursday} | 03.03.2022} \text{O5}$

World Hearing Day: To hear, listen with care!

M Ahmad

orld Hearing Day is held on 3rd March each year to raise awareness on how to prevent deafness and hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care across the world. The first event was held in 2007. Before 2016 it was known as International Ear Care Day. According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are more than 70 million deaf people worldwide. Over 5% of the world's population - 360 million people – has disabling hearing loss (328 million adults and 32 million children). Russia tops the list of countries with the highest rate of hearing loss. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 5% of the world's population suffers from disabling hearing loss. Five percent may seem like a small number, but that totals over 360 million people across the globe. The National Association of the Deaf (affiliated with the World Federation of the Deaf) puts the number of Indians affected with hearing loss at 18 million.

On World Hearing Day 2022, focus is laid on the importance of safe listening as a means of maintaining good hearing across the life course. In 2021, WHO launched the World report on hearing that highlighted the increasing number of people living with and at risk of hearing loss. It highlighted noise control as one of the seven key H.E.A.R.I.N.G. interventions and stressed the importance of mitigating exposure to loud sounds. World Hearing Day promotes ear and hearing care across the world and raises awareness of how to prevent deafness and hearing loss.

A person who is not able to hear as well as someone with normal hearing – hearing thresholds of 20 dB or better in both ears - is said to have hearing loss. Hearing loss may be mild, moderate, severe, or profound. It can affect one ear or both ears, and leads to difficulty in hearing conversational speech or loud sounds. It is possible to have good hearing across the life course through ear and hearing care. Many common causes of hearing loss can be prevented, including hearing loss caused by exposure to loud sounds.'Safe listening' can mitigate the risk of hearing loss associated with recreational sound exposure. Hearing loss (and related ear diseases) can be avoided through preventative actions such as: protection against loud sounds; good ear care practices and immunization. Hearing loss (and related ear diseases) can be addressed



It highlighted noise control as one of the seven key H.E.A.R.I.N.G. interventions and stressed the importance of mitigating exposure to loud sounds. World Hearing Day promotes ear and hearing care across the world and raises awareness of how to prevent deafness and hearing loss

when it is identified in a timely manner and appropriate care sought. People at risk of hearing loss should check their hearing regularly. People having hearing loss (or related ear diseases) should seek care from a health care provider. 'Hard of hearing' refers to

people with hearing loss ranging from mild to severe. People who are hard of hearing usually communicate through spoken language and can benefit from hearing aids, cochlear implants, and other assistive devices as well as captioning. 'Deaf' people mostly have profound hearing loss, which implies very little or no hearing. They often use sign language for communication.

The very first World Report on Hearing was released in 2021 to commemorate World Hearing Day. WHO hopes to reach out to national governments, global N.G.O.s, and development organizations, along with players in the hearing care sector, to raise awareness and organize action through the global release of the report. The World Report on Hearing and World Hearing Day presents a global call to action to alleviate hearing loss and ear illnesses.

We believe this is the perfect opportunity to highlight our shared responsibility to educate young people about noiseinduced hearing loss in order to help prevent it. We know that young people may not be aware of the risk of spending too much time around loud noises — so this World Hearing Day, we ask that you join us in our efforts to spread the word.

The author is Incharge Abhedananda Home-Higher Secondary Institution for Speciallyabled Children, Solina, Srinagar

COAL GASIFICATION: A Platform for Meeting India's Energy Independence and Self-Reliance Targets



Dev Gavaskar

ndia's vision, towards becoming a global economic super-power rests on the solutions to the challenges of self-reliance (AtmaNirbhar-Abhiyaan), monetization of domestic reserves, transformative innovation (Make in India vision), reduction of imports and jobs' creation, while simultaneously aiming for a decarbonized & sustainable economy in the coming decades. India has been blessed with three scalable and abundant natural resources in the forms of solar energy, biomass reserves and coal. While India can be bullish on the awesome advancements made in the field of solar installations, and a significant amount of research and development work has always been undertaken in case of biomassbased technologies, currently, these resources are challenged by limitations, like the state of downstream technologies for utilizing solar generated electricity and feedstock scalability issues for biomass. However, India does have reserves of 307 billion tonnes of coal: 80 percent of which has historically been consumed in thermal power plants and represents 55% of the total fuel source for power in India along with lignite. However, as India, being a signatory of the Paris agreement, aims at moving to cleaner forms of energy, an urgent need as arisen to explore alternative avenues for building a bridge from the energy

intensive "dirty" present to a cleaner, greener, and sustainable future without compromising on the demands of an ever-growing economy. At this socio-economic stage, India's most abundant natural resource, Coal, is in urgent need of diversification. To make this a possibility, India can look to utilize a commercially proven platform that 'extracts' the stored chemical energy from coal instead of burning it. Coal gasification is the process of producing syngas – a mixture consisting of carbon monoxide (CO), hydrogen (H2) and carbon dioxide (CO2) – by chemically reacting coal with steam and oxygen (or air), in ratios that results in gasifying the elements of the coal instead of burning them. This syngas can then be used to produce Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG), energy fuels (methanol & ethanol), ammonia for fertilizers and chemicals, and other chemicals and even plastics. Coal gasification plants have been widely deployed around the world, with countries using the technology to produce fuels and chemicals. Unlike coal combustion, the carbon dioxide stream from a coal gasification plant is highly concentrated, making carbon capture and utilization more practical and economical, especially when coupled with a source of green hydrogen or other means of CO2 sequestration. In line with the objectives and visions mentioned above, it is no surprise that the Ministry of Coal has taken 66 In a nutshell, the coal to ethanol route provides a promising and economically compelling pathway to achieve the dual objectives of India's self-reliance and energy independence vision, by helping to achieve the E20 targets

an initiative for utilizing coal through coal gasification with a target of gasifying 100 million tonnes of coal by the end of this decade. To underline the government's seriousness towards this mission, the Ministry of Coal has also formed a new coal-linkage policy for coal gasification projects, under 'Sub-Sectors under Auction of linkages of Non-Regulated Sectors'

India's other major aim is that of self-reliance, through becoming an energy independent nation; as was categorically mentioned in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech on the 75thIndependence Day, with a pledge of achieving this in the next 25 years. It is obvious, that the first step towards achieving self-reliance and energy independence, will hence have to involve the reduction of imports - primarily petroleum. To put things in perspective, India's annual net import of petroleum (used primarily in the transportation sector) stood at 185 million metric tons, which cost approximately USD 55 billion. To reduce these imports, and hence save foreign exchange, the national policy on biofuels of 2018 was launched. Under the first phase, the Government of India had resolved to supply 5% ethanol blended petrol under its First-Generation Ethanol blended petrol (EBP). Progressively, the Government also advanced the target for 20% ethanol blending in petrol (also called E20) to 2025 from 2030.

As is well known, the traditional paths to make ethanol have been via sugar and biomass-based routes, which are limited and disadvantaged due to various reasons including cost, scale, and land requirement constraints and/or food chain diversion issues. Second generation ethanol feedstock have also emerged using feed such as energy crops, municipal wastes, forest & agricultural residues and wasted foodgrains, which have also been primarily plagued by low efficiency and conversion. Additionally, the feedstock scalability challenges also put an upper limit on the scale of the 2G-ethanol plants, with one plant expected to produce ethanol in the range of 3 crore liters annually. While there is no doubt, that India has made rapid progress in ethanol blending, reaching approximately 8-9% blending via these routes, solutions must be sought for the significant demand-supply gap to meet the E20 targets, which will not be met via traditional methods. This solution must also be efficient, scalable and result in compelling economics. This is where coal – via gasification and conversion of syngas to ethanol - can help bridge the gap.

Historically the conversion of syngas to ethanol has been challenged by poor conversions & selectivity issues and multi-step reaction schemes, resulting in unacceptable economics. However, novel, disruptive, and transformational technologies, with compelling economics due to highly efficient and selective conversion of syngas to ethanol have been developed and are ready for commercialization. Furthermore, combining these technologies with coal-gasification can help build plants that are highly scalable, with one commercial coal-to-ethanol plant capable of producing more than 40 crore liters of ethanol annually - at significantly lower capital intensities. Companies have already been in discussions with potential stakeholders and parties, for building commercial and demonstration plants. For example, technology providers like Synata Bio are com-

mercializing an on-purpose syngas to ethanol technology and a demonstration 'coal- toethanol' project, which will alone produce about 2.5 crore liters of ethanol annually from coal-derived syngas, is being developed at the Sonepur-Bazari coal complex via a partnership between Synata Bio and Thermax – a project that will bring in approximately USD 100 million in the form of foreign direct investment. Coal-to ethanol technologies hence provide an effective means of not only solving the demand-supply gap for fuelethanol (and meet E20 target) but catalyze the acceleration of the development of coal gasification projects and syngas infrastructure in general, within India, as well as opening possibilities of bringing in foreign direct investments to the country.

However, there are several steps that are still required to incentivize such projects and the associated investments. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is already in the process of modifying National Policy on Biofuels 2018, to include coal-gasification based ethanol. Acceleration of this will give confidence to the potential investors for investing in these projects. However, in addition to this, clarity is required for the pricing that such 'synthetic' ethanol will fetch in the market. While subsequent projects based on these technologies will undoubtedly have reductions in the cost of production (expected to compete with petroleum gasoline), the first of its kind plant will rely on incentivized pricing, necessary to balance the trade-offs between the plant size (expected to be substantially smaller than optimum to moderate the project capital investments) and the required project returns for the investors.

In a nutshell, the coal to ethanol route provides a promising and economically compelling pathway to achieve the dual objectives of India's self-reliance and energy independence vision, by helping to achieve the E20 targets. Furthermore, as electrification of the transportation sector picks up, these technologies can also provide a unique 'carbon capture and utilization' solution, by reacting the currently vented CO2 stream with green hydrogen, to produce a wide range of key chemical products, including ethylene and other olefins. This holistic approach will, therefore, not only help in achieving India's goal of self-reliance and energy independence but also provide a true solution for the future inevitable target of decarbonization and even exceed India's commitments to the Paris accord agreement for climate change goals.

Dev Gavaskar, is a Partner with True North Venture Partners and also Vice President: Business Development with Synata Bio

FROM FRONT PAGE

'You'll Be Expelled': How Colleges... commercial or other privately available transportation op-

tions.'

But while these foreign students were allowed to leave after their embassies requested the university authorities, Indian students were left to fend for themselves in the battleground.

As war reached their doorsteps, Kashmiri students study-ing in medical universities in Kharkiv, Sumy, Odessa, Kyiv and Oblast contacted their universities to allow them to leave the country.

"While the road to Kyiv was gradually lining with additional military checkpoints three main medical universities of Ukraine, Uzgordu University, Kharkiv Medical Na-tional University and Kyiv Novkova University were trying to downplay the reports of an imminent war," said Arsilan Ahmad, a medical student in Ukraine.

While apprehensions of war were slowly taking over these young doctors, the universities continued to reject their requests of campus closure—stating two main rea-sons: Indian embassy hasn't issued any advisory for its citizens in Ukraine and Ukrainian Government has denied reports about any Russian invasion.

"This was exactly at a time when the outskirts of the city were being fortified with an improvised construction of cement blocks and sand bags," Arsilan said. While Ukrainians were making military preparedness

amid ominous signs of looming war these students were desperately looking for an advisory from their embassy in Kviv.

An official at the Indian embassy responded to an SOS from a Kashmiri student: "The officials at the Indian embassy are staying put in Ukraine and you don't have to worry. Don't create unnecessary panic. Russia won't attack," Arsilan disclosed. Meanwhile Ukrainian universities had turned down students'

requests to attend classes online from home, leaving them with no choice but to stay put despite palpable fears of war. Was University's Nod Necessary?

Ukrainian Universities have some already laid down rules. After almost every class in the medical universities, the students have to sit for a work-up-an exam which they're mandated to qualify for.

If somehow, these students fail to attend that exam, they'll have to pay a fine and request the subject head to allow them to appear again.

If the head of the subject accepts the students request then the student has to submit an application to the uni-

versity seeking a re-appear. "But if somehow we fail to submit the necessary applica-tion in one month, then a hefty fine is imposed on us," said Shahid Habib, another Kashmiri student in Ukraine.

"And if the same continues for two months from the date of commencement of original exams then the University can expel the liable student, that too, without giving any specific reasons."

The second laid down rule in Ukraine's medical University is that a third year to fourth year student is mandated to qualify the KROK exam-a Licensing examination in Ukraine and an obligatory part of state certification for awarding the qualification of doctor or pharmacist.

If anyhow these students fail to appear for the exam, they're directly considered to fail and subsequently their whole one year of degree is disbanded.

Notably, almost 50 percent of the Kashmiri students currently studying in Ukraine's Government Medical Universities are either in third year or the fourth year. And that's exactly what had forced these students to stay behind in absence of any official advisory to the contrary and despite repeated pleas by families back home.

"On February 14, when Ukranians were preparing for war Kashmiri students were forced to attend classes to present a fake facade of normalcy," Shahid said.

The Indian embassy issued its first advisory on February 16, two days after White House announced that Russia was about to invade Ukraine.

"In view of the uncertainties of the current situation in Ukraine, Indian nationals in Ukraine, particularly students whose stay is not essential may consider leaving temporarily," the Embassy had said in a public notice.

Students felt relieved that finally they had a formal advisory to convince the universities to revise their decision. But universities refused with the pretext that the advisory was for those engaged in 'non-essential' work but their "education was essential".



STUDENTS WERE SUBJECTED to thermal scanning on their return to schools after a 31-month hiatus on Wednesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

schools and pandemic situation has severely affected school children and apart from education they need emotional heal-

"These two years have been very tough for the entire society. We have to deal with so many problems and children are often the silent sufferers. So we have to keep in mind the psychological status of these children. They have to be gently made part of the school system again without over-whelming them," said President PSAJK G N Var.

Binish Nisar, a student at the Presentation Convent Hr. Sec. School, Srinagar told Kashmir Observer that he missed his friends, school and teachers who would teach them with "full dedication"

"It's like a new world today. We get to interact more in offline classes rather than online classes," he said.

Another student from Walden School said being at home for so long was taking a toll on her mental health as they were unable to interact with others.

"While sitting at home for three years I came to realise

that we should interact with other people," she said. The state executive committee (SEC) headed by Chief Secretary A K Mehta, in an order had said the heads of Institutions will be responsible for adherence of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) in their respective schools and prepare proper plans for the same.

"Symptomatic students should not be allowed to attend school. No student should be allowed to attend school without a mask," the order issued ahead of reopening of lower classes had stated.

Panch Shot Dead In Kulgam...

hospital for the treatment where he succumbed to his injuries," he said.

Police, the spokesperson said, has registered a case in this regard under relevant sections of law.

Investigation is in progress and officers continue to work to establish the circumstances which lead to this terror crime. Area has been cordoned off and search in the area is going on," he added. (With agency inputs)

Heavy Snow Spell Predicted... after the 15th of the month.

"Till 10th March, the temperature will stay as it is. There may be a slight relief in the temperature after 10th March," he said. However, he quickly added that the weather forecast may change in the coming days subsequently changing the temperature predictions.

mania.

J&K Opens Help Desk At... The students, he said, were received by the officers of the Resident Commission.

The spokesperson said that the staff of Resident Commission J&K assisted them by all possible means on their arrival.

"Boarding and lodging arrangements have also been made for those staying over in New Delhi," he said.

"Moreover, Air Tickets were provided to the evacuees as per their requirements for their onward journey to Jammu and Srinagar by the J&K Government," he added.

'Leave Kharkiv Immediately'... immediately in the light of the deteriorating situation. They should proceed to Pesochin, Babaye and Bezlyudovka as soon as possible for their safety," the embassy said.

"Under all circumstances, they must reach these settlements by 1800 hours (Ukrainian time) today," it said.

The advisory did not specify where these places are but according to Google Maps, they appear to be on the outskirts of Kharkiv.

The advisory came amid raging fighting between Russian and Ukrainian forces in Kharkiv.

Naveen Shekarappa Gyanagoudar, a fourth-year medical student at the Kharkiv National Medical University, was killed in intense shelling in Kharkiv on Tuesday. (PTI)

Govt Rejigs Admin, 26 Officers... The order further reads that Kulraj Singh, JKAS, Collector, 220 KV, Power Development Department, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Dudu, against an available vacancy. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Dudu, in addition to his own duties, till further orders, it said.

Similarly, the order says that Pawan Kumar, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jammu (North), holding additional charge of Sub Registrar, Jammu (North), has been transferred and posted as Administrative Officer in the office of Financial Commissioner, Revenue, J&K, against an available vacancy.

Mazahir Hussain Shah, JKAS, Block Development Officer, Mandi, Poonch, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mahore, against an available vacancy. "He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar,

KASHMIR OBSERVER Thursday | 03-03-2022

has been transferred and posted as Sub Registrar, Jammu (North)

Imran Rashid, JKAS, Youth Information Officer, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rajouri, against an available vacancy.

Abdul Khabir, JKAS, OSD, Mission Youth, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Tribal Affairs, Jam-

mu, against an available vacancy. Mirza Shahid Ali Beigh, Private Secretary with Admin-istrative Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, has transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Handicrafts, Kash-

mir, against an available vacancy. Kanwal Krishan Ganjoo, JKAS, Private Secretary in the La-bour and Employment Department, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Samba, against an available vacancy.

Dharam Paul, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Samba, has binaram Paul, JKAS, Functional Manager, Dic, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Project Officer, Wage Em-ployment (ACD), Udhampur, vice Mushtaq Ahmad Chow-dhary, JKAS, who has been asked to report to the General Administration Department for further posting. Sunil Kumar, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Ramban, has

been transferred and posted as Project Manager, WMP, Samba, against an available vacancy. Vijay Kumar, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Doda, has

been transferred and posted as Project Officer, Wage Em-ployment (ACD), Rajouri, vice Sushil Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, who has been asked to report to the General Administration Department for further posting.

J&K Sees 36 Corona Cases, 123...

districts of the region, including Udhampur, Kathua, Samba, Kishtwar, Poonch and Ramban. "Moreover, 123 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and

been discharged from various hospitals including 87 from Jammu Division and 36 from Kashmir Division," they said.

Also, the officials said that the death toll due to the pandemic remained unchanged at 4748 in J&K as no fresh fatality was reported in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

The officials further said that no new cases of mucormycosis were reported today, thus the total number of confirmed cases remains 51 across J&K.

MHA Orders Constitution Of VDGs...

uniform rate Rs. 4000 per month. "VDGs will function under the direction of SP/SSP of the concerned District," the communication reads.

The revised scheme will, however, be made effective only after apprising the High Court, the order reads.

"In case of vacancy, the decision to fill up the same will be taken later," the communication reads underlining that competent authority has approved it. Previously known as VDCs, the state-run militia was set up in the authority has approved it.

in the mid-90s in remote hilly villages of militancy-hit districts of Jammu province including Kishtwar, Doda, Reasi, Ramban, Poonch and Rajouri for self-defence and tacking militancy.

The group armed with weapons used to help the government forces in fighting militancy. However, some of the VDC members were also involved in a number of criminal cases soon after the graph of militancy came down in Jammu.

In 2016, the PDP-BJP coalition government informed the erstwhile state's legislative assembly that 221 cases were registered against VDC members including 23 cases of murder, seven cases of rape and 15 cases of rioting. "Three cases were not admitted by the courts while two

were declared "untraced". In 205 cases, chargesheet has been filed before the competent court of law while seven cases are "under investigation", the Government had said. "While 37 cases were settled through compromise, 42 VDC members were acquitted of the charges by the courts. Only five members were convicted," J&K's last legislative assembly was told.

Govt Forms Panel For...

Home Department; Administrative Secretary, Labour & Employment Department; Administrative Secretary, Labour & Employment Department; Administrative Secretary Social Welfare Department and Administrative Secretary Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs. (GNS) **CRPF Constable Shoots Self Dead...**

was a resident of Bihar.

According to a police official, a case has been registered and further investigation started to ascertain the cause of alleged suicide by the CRPF man

See, your Government has clearly written that only those whose stay isn't essential should leave. Your stay in this country is essential," a University official had told a Kashmiri student. "But, if you still want to leave, go! No one is stopping you. But remember you'll be expelled," Shahid disclosed.

With the same fear enforced upon these doctors, they kept on attending their classes ignoring fervent pleas of their families in Kashmir to leave Ukraine.

"But how could we," asked Shahid."The reason was quite clear. It was a hostage situation for us."

The Ukrainian Government had clearly instructed the universities to not allow these students from leaving the country, knowing that closure would spark panic among the public.

"It was never about expensive air tickets, but it was all the Ukrainian government's decision to somehow maintain a facade of normalcy and infuse sense of calm among its citizens and we were made scapegoats," Shahid said

Schools Reopen In Kashmir After 31...

the parts the traffic was smooth and the cops could be seen regulating the traffic.

SSP Traffic City Muzaffar Ahmad Shah told Kashmir Observer that they had already communicated with the school administration regarding the streamlining of school buses during the peak hours.

In almost all schools, the students could be seen queued up for screening of body temperature as part of the standard operating procedure (SOPs). The schools had made all the arrangements for reopening by ensuring cleanliness and sanitisation of the premises.

government had earlier ordered students above the age of 15 years to get fully vaccinated as to be allowed to attend in-person classes.

The students were excited and expressed their happiness to be back in their schools after a long time. They were neatly dressed in their school uniforms.

"It feels good to be in school after almost three years. I am very excited. I missed my teachers and being in the classroom," said Mahila Qadri, a student of Walden School, Natipora, Srinagar.

Another student, Zainab Farooq told Kashmir Observer that they couldn't study properly through online classes because of the poor internet connections usually.

"It feels nice to see our teachers teaching us face to face," she said.

Apart from studying, I missed extra co-curricular activities that we used to do in school," she added.

Many school buildings in the city were decorated with balloons and the teachers at many schools welcomed students by offering sweets to them.

Last week, the Director School Education in Kashmir (DSEK) conveyed to the staff to ensure that children are made to celebrate their return to schools.

Earlier, the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK) had stated that the first week of re-opening of schools will be celebrated as a week of happiness and sharing of experiences to enable students to start the session in a stress free environment.

The Association said that the last two years of closure of

Meanwhile, barring the two tourist resorts of Pahalgam and Gulmarg, night temperature continued to stay above sub-zero level in Kashmir on Wednesday.

A meteorological department official said that Srinagar recorded a rise by 1.4 degree Celsius with mercury settling at 4.8 degree Celsius against last night's 3.4 degree Celsius. Qazigund recorded a low of 2.0 degree Celsius against minus 1.2 on the previous night, he said.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, had a low of 1.4 degree Celsius against minus 0.5 degree Celsius on the previous night, the official said.

Pahalgam, the famous resort in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 0.8 degree Celsius against minus 3.5 degree Celsius last night, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 5.4 degree Celsius against minus 4.5 degree Celsius on the previous night, he said.

The temperature was 0.9 degree Celsius below normal for this time of the year in the famous resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of 3.5 degree Celsius against 3.3 degree Celsius on the previous night, the official said. (With GNS inputs)

First Batch Of Kashmiri Students...

India today morning after GOI's special flight took off from Delhi airport for Romania last evening. Five other students were evacuated from Poland in another special flight that landed in Delhi a few minutes ago." Nasir told Kashmir Observer.

On Tuesday, Kashmir Observer had reported that 49 Kashmiri students who were staying in underground shelters in different regions-Kharkiv, Odessa, Kiev and Sumyof Ukraine had managed to cross into Moldova and were on their way to Romanian capital, Budapest.

As per Nasir, J&K Administration has decided to provide free tickets to these 18 students who are currently putting up at J&K House. "All of these 18 students will leave for Srinagar tomorrow." Nasir said.

Earlier, six students from Samba and 2 students from Udhampur district of J&K had landed at Jammu airport and headed for their homes.

It is pertinent to mention here that three more aircrafts including one C-17 Globemaster of the Indian Air Force under Operation Ganga are on their way to Poland, Hungary and Romania, respectively. Many Kashmiri students are expected to arrive at New Delhi airport in these special evacuation flights. A Kashmiri student who has been able to get a ticket for a special flight from Romania to Delhi said that the situation in Ukraine is grim, particularly in the main cities and in neighboring countries including Romania there's a sense of panic.

"War is destructive where one does not know what will happen next. But, at the same time we were confident enough to leave Ukraine, make it to Romania and leave for Kashmir at the earliest, to stay alive." Shahid Habib told Kashmir Observer.

Pertinently, as per reports, in next two days all the Kashmiri students are expected to be evacuated by the Indian Government and flown back to Delhi from Poland, Hungary and RoMahore, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Abid Iqbal Malik, JKAS, Block Development Officer, Wavoora, Kupwara, has been transferred and posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Ganderbal, relieving Zahid Rashid Khan, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Ganderbal of the additional charge of the post.

Rachna Sharma, JKAS, Assistant Transport Commissioner, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Collector, 220 KV. Power Development Department, Jammu.

Masood Ahmad Wani, JKAS, Block Development Officer, Kakapora, Pulwama, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary to the Government, School Education Department. Primroze Bashir, JKAS, Block Development Officer, Manzgam, Kulgam, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional

Magistrate, Srinagar (West), against an available vacancy. He has been asked to hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Srinagar (West), in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Sona Gupta, JKAS, Block Development Officer (Hgr), Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner, State Taxes Department, Jammu, vice Ajeet Singh, JKAS, who has been asked to the General Administration Department for further posting.

Israr Ahmed, JKAS, Block Development Officer, Lassana. has been transferred and posted as Project Manager, IWMP, Poonch, against an available vacancy.

Rafiq Ahmad, JKAS, Tehsildar HQA, Budgam, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Udhampur

Mohd. Farooq, JKAS, Tehsildar, Rohama, Baramulla, has been transferred and posted as Sub Divisional Magistrate, Jammu (North).

Sheetal Pandita, JKAS, Technical Officer in the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, has been posted as Deputy Secretary to the Government, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj.

Seema Parihar, JKAS, Stores and Supply Officer, Handicraft Department, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Tariq Aziz, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Rajouri, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Dharmari, against an available vacancy.

"He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub Registrar, Dharmari, in addition to his own duties, till further orders," reads the order.

Angrej Singh, JKAS, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Ramban, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Katra, against an available vacancy. "He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Katra, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Mustaq Ahmad, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Rajouri, has been transferred and posted as Collector, J&K Housing Board, Jammu, vice Ms. Avleen Kour Bali, JKAS, has been asked to report to the General Administration Department for further posting.

Rajesh Kumar, JKAS, Block Development officer, Marheen, has been transferred and posted as Personnel officer in the Directorate of School Education, Jammu, against an available vacancy. Savita Chauhan, JKAS, State Taxes Officer, Circle-K, Jammu,

Panchayat Ghar Gutted In Blaze...

tenders were immediately rushed to the spot from different parts to douse the flames.

Meanwhile, a police team also rushed to the spot, sources said, adding that the cause of the fire was not known. (KNO)

Ladakh Logs 29 New Covid Cases...

As many as 35 patients -- 32 in Leh and three in Kargil -- were cured and discharged from hospitals, taking the overall recoveries to 27,673, they said.

All the new cases were reported from Leh district, officials said. A total of 623 sample reports were found negative in Ladakh. they said.

All the 144 active cases are from Leh district, they added. (PTI)

Comm Secy Revenue Visits Kulgam, Reviews Developmental Scenario

Observer News Service Ahmad Rather and other se-

Kulgam: Commissioner Secretary, Revenue, Vijav Kumar Bidhuri who is also Incharge Secretary for Kulgam District on Wednes- able there for tourists and day visited the district and as well as other visitors. reviews overall developmental scenario here. During his visit, the Com- about the new Developmenmissioner Secretary inspect- tal and beautification plan of

the officers to ensure com-

timeline of June 2022.

nior officers of the district. The Commissioner Secretary also visited famous tourist place Aharbal and took stock of facilities avail-

The Deputy Commissioner on the occasion briefed him season tourist destination.

retary also chaired a meetbriefed that the bridge is of the district and reviewed its functioning.

Speaking during the meeting, the Commissioner Secretary instructed the officers to While reviewing its complete the pending Jama-While reviewing the progress made in removal of encroachments in the retary was accompanied by Secretary directed the offi-Deputy Commissioner Kul- cers to ensure the removal gam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din of encroachments from all

ed Chambagund bridge and the Aharbal to make it an all took stock of pace and progress of the bridge.

Bhat; ADC, Kulgam, Showkat state and kahchari lands.

Later, Commissioner Sec-On the occasion, the Commissioner Secretary was ing of Revenue Department

being constructed at an estimated cost of 32.40 crore by R&B and 75% physical work on the bridge is complete.

progress, he stressed upon bandies by 20th of this month. pletion of bridge within set The Commissioner Sec- district, the Commissioner

STATE

Kansal Launches Learning Management System In Colleges

Says Target To Introduce LMS In 100 J&K Colleges This Year



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal on Wednesday launched Learning Management System (LMS) on pilot basis in eleven colleges here.

The launch of the online system was held through virtual mode students' learning through continfrom Civil Secretariat Jammu. A live demonstration of the LMS was also given by three degree colleges during the launch event.

cation, Bishwajit Kumar Singh was also present at the launch.

LMS involves on boarding of teaching, learning, evaluation, inspection and administration among a host of other activities of education institutes on an online platform. The system helps bring transparency in the system and helps better collaboration through technology.

The Principal Secretary congratulated the pioneering colleges and lauded the efforts of all the concerned colleges for timely implementation of the online system. The Islamia College of Science & Commerce was specially lauded for taking the lead and mentoring other colleges in this regard.

Kansal said that LMS intends to improve both, learning and teaching outcomes. He said that colleges would be progressively shifting of a complete suite of Enterprise year, he added. Colleges would Resource Planning (ERP) solutions and the introduction of the LMS was only the first step in this direction. All modules would eventually be made digital through ERP solutions, he informed.

The Principal Secretary directed mentation of LMS by the colleges. the colleges to streamline their LMS and consider both online as and urged them to strive for imwell as offline mode of education proving quality of education. He in implementation. He directed

ties, staff and student attendance and other parameters. He directed that provision for

feedback by students ne incorporated so that they could give give feedback on the quality of instruction on a on weekly basis. Similarly, the teachers should

also be enabled to evaluate the uous evaluation including quizzes and tests. Elucidating on the benefits of LMS, the Principal Secretary informed that it would evolve as Principal Secretary School Edu- a peer-to-peer system that would help colleges bring consonance among them and eliminate geographical barriers.

On implementation of the National Education Policy from the upcoming academic session, the Principal Secretary said that under the new policy all colleges would be transformed into centres of re-

search and innovation. "All our colleges would obtain NAAC accreditation. They would also progressively offer flexible learning under the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) system," he added. He further said that with the new policy, colleges would start providing Bachelor of Skills (B.Voc.) degrees. 3-year degree courses would be transformed into 4-year ones, with option to enter either research or completing it with Honours in the last also be linked with the National Skill Development Corporation

(NSDC) for providing skill courses to its students, he informed. The Principal Secretary expressed satisfaction with imple-He assured them financial support

also informed them that all colthat the colleges ensure successful leges of the UT would be evaluated use of LMS and enable real time and ranked, the best performers monitoring of all academic activi- amongst them would be rewarded.





A WOMAN DISTRIBUTES TURMERIC RICE, locally known as Tehri, while seeing off her children on the reopening of schools in Kashmir Valley. KO Photo/Abid Bhat

UDHAMPUR INFANTS DEATH

NHRC Closes Case After Govt Compensates Parents

SRINAGAR: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has closed the case pertaining to the death of 12 infants due to spurious drugs in Udhampur district after government granted compensation to kin of victims.

According to reports, the NHRC closed the case of 12 infant deaths at Ramnagar, Udhampur after government transferred a compensation of Rs 3 lakh each

to the parents of the deceased. The commission in its proceedings on February 28observed that since the monetary compensation to the parents of

the infant victims has been paid by the government as demanded by the petitioner, the case has been closed.

the Commission, after consider- sumption of adulterated oral of the case, had found that there man rights have been infringed. was a procedural lapse on the part of the Drug Department of thority had duly failed to keep a the delinquent officials, on action and contents of medicines sold within its jurisdiction and thus held that the state is vicari- to their strict vigil. ously liable for said negligence.

Mehta Reviews Planning

Monitoring & Development Dept



of PHR Act, 1993, the Commission had directed the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir to show cause within four weeks as to why the Commission should not recommend payment of compensation of Rs 3L to the next of kin (NoK) of each deceased in the present Earlier in September 2020, case, who died due to the conation of facts & circumstances syrup/medicine and whose hu-The authority was further directed to also file report with the government wherein the au- regard to action taken against regular vigil on the contamina- count of whose negligence such incident had occurred, which could otherwise be averted due Interestingly, The Health and

of 2021 issued on November 16 , 2021 said in compliance to order passed by NHRC in case No. 80/09/14/2020, a sanction was being accorded to the release of Rs.36 lakh for 12 deceased infant in Ramnagar area of District Udhampur, as a special and exceptional infant mortality case and its placement with the State drugs Controller, J&K

, as compensation to Nok of each deceased ,subject to the outcome of SLP pending before the Supreme Court of India, following approval by the Administrative Council Decision No. 90/14/2021 headed by Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha in a meeting held on October 07,2021.

The compensation of Rs 3L each has been paid to the NOK of the 12 deceased infants by way of digital transfer into their accounts after NHRC issue final reminder to the Chief Secretary Govt. of UT of J&K as well as Additional Chief Secretary, department of health & medical monetary composition at ₹25 education, UT of J&K, to submit ₹30 lakh in Delhi & other state/ weeks positively falling which Kashmir" Khajuria said.

departments that J&K secures

The chief secretary directed

Mehta said the performance

the department to develop SDG

dashboard in consultation with

of aspirational districts, name-

ly, Kupwara and Baramulla has

been good, however, they need

to strive towards securing delta

ranking in the next two months.

aspirational blocks will en-

hance developmental equity,

the chief secretary said, the ini-

tiative needs to be expanded to

cover Panchayats and asked the

secretaries and asked them to

fully utilise the CSS funds and

submit the UCs to the relevant

ance budgeted CSS funds can be

obtained before the close of the

tives into campaigns for sensi-

tising the people and said that

ceived and facilitate cooperation

Mehta asked the departments

financial year.

within three months.

Saying that the initiative of

dex in next three months.

NIC within a week.

Medical Education Department this commission (NHRC) conin its order No.:-711 – JK(HME) strained to invoke its coercive powers u/s 13 of PHR Act 1993 calling for the personal appearance of the authority concerned before the commission.

Sukesh .C.Khajuria, an eminent social activist had knocked at the NHRC to highlight the plight of the poor families of the deceased infants and alleged highhanded attitude of the drug authorities and the state government in hushing up the case without taking responsibility of the tragedy.

"Although, money cannot replace a human life but still can give some solace to the bereaved families who mostly are poor and I'm confident that Apex Court will also provide complete Justice to the victims under Article 142 of the Constitution of India. In all such deaths, punishment and compensation should be on the pattern of the tragedies of the Bhopal gas leak and Uphaar Cinema fire tragedy. We can't fix the the proof of payment within six UT's and ₹3 Lakh in Jammu and Herd Of Endangered Hangul Sighted In Kashmir's Dachigam **National Park**

Kashmir Observer[™] Thursday | 03.03.2022



Press trust of india

SRINAGAR: A video showing a large herd of Kashmir Stag, known locally as Hangul, an endangered species, has given hope that the conservation efforts of Jammu and Kashmir government have started yielding positive results.

The video, uploaded on Twit-ter by a senior official of the Wildlife Department, shows around 50-strong Hangul herd on the snow-covered slopes of Dachigam national park in the Zabarwan mountain range.

"When I see a Hangul herd like this in Dachigam, future seems bright!" Raashid Naqash, Wildlife Warden, posted alongside the video.

The size of the herd is very significant as authorities hope that there will be at least several more herds like these in other parts of the national park, which are inaccessible to humans as of now due to snow. The Hangul was widely found in the hilly and mountainous regions of Kashmir val-

ley in early 20th century with their numbers estimated to be around 5000.

However, due to hunting and encroachment of their natural habitat, the number fell to just around 150 in 1970.

The Jammu and Kashmir government, along with the IUCN and WWF, started a conserva-tion plan titled Project Hangul. The Hangul population has since increased, albeit slowly.

The last census held in 2019 revealed the number of the Kashmir Stag to have risen to 237.

3 Injured In 'Gram Sabha' Scuffle

Agencies

SUMBAL: Police registered backto-back FIRs after 3 persons sus- leged that the Sarpanch is misustained injuries in a scuffle during

injuries who were hospitalized at Sub-District Hospital Sumbal. The kins of injured persons al-

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Vivek Bhardwaj on Wednesday inaugurated Distribution House-cum-Jan Aushadi Kendra here as part of the weeklong celebrations of the Janaushadhi Diwas being celebrated across the Country.

The aim of the weeklong celebrations that commenced from March 01 and will conclude on March 07 is to create awareness about the benefits of Jan Aushadhi Medicines available under the national flagship scheme of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana.

Principal Government Medical College Jammu, Director General Health & Family Welfare Jammu, Shashi Sudan and Director Gen-State Drugs Controller J&K, Assistant Drugs Controller Jammu, Dr Saleem ur Rehman spelled Nodal Officer, PMBI (Pharmaceu- out the benefits of the PMBJAY ticals & Medical Devices, Bureau scheme.

spective have been initiated.

PWD Computer Operator Falls In ACB Net

Ganderbal for demanding and accepting bribe for issuing card to a contractor.

"ACB received a complaint wherein the complaint alleged that in order to release the Contractor Card-D in favour of the complainant, Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh, Computer Operator of Public Works Department (R&B), Ganderbal is demanding Rs. 8000/- as bribe," ACB said in a statement issued here.

The statement further said that after negotiations the matter was settled at Rs. 4000/- to be paid as 2nd instalment, while, Rs. 3000/has already been taken by the accused as 1st installment.'

Upon receiving the instant the ACB added.

of India), various prominent citizens & stakeholders were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Additional Chief Secretary emphasized that the main objective of this flagship scheme is that poor and the common people shall have access to affordable quality medicines at the lowest prices.

Bhardwaj added that the Government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) across J&K in public health institutions to provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all and all the necessary steps in this per-

Principal, GMC, Jammu, Dr. eral Health & Family Welfare,

SRINAGAR: The anti-corruption complaint, ACB said prima facie bureau (ACB) on Wednesday ar- offence U/S 7 of the Prevention rested a computer operator of of Corruption Act 1988 was found Public Works Department (R&B), made out. Consequently, it said, a case (FIR No. 07/2022) was registered at police station ACB Srinagar and investigation taken up.

"During the course of investigation a trap team constituted. The team laid a successful trap and caught red-handed Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh, Computer Operator of Public Works Department (R&B), Ganderbal while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs. 4000/- from the complainant," the bureau ACB said

"He was arrested and taken into custody by ACB Team. The bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses." Further investigation into the case is on,"

JAMMU: The Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday said that planning monitoring and development department needs to strengthen its capabilities to do plan assessment, gap analysis and critical outcome reviews to improve the implementation of the developmental schemes in J&K. He said although J&K has

Observer News Service

begun improving on all developmental indicators, its developmental story still remains a work in progress.

He underscored the pivotal role of the department and said that 'planning department is essentially the eyes and ears of the government, and if it is amiss in its duties, it will have impact on the growth story of I&K'.

The Chief Secretary made these remarks in the review solidated plan shall be immedimeeting of planning depart- ately submitted to MHA. ment, which was attended by secretary planning and other senior officers of the department. Earlier, Secretary Planning,

Sushma Chauhan informed that correction. under PMDP, 25 projects have been completed and another 4 projects will be completed by the end of the ongoing fiscal year.

Sushma said union territory indicator framework on SDGs has been finalised with NITI Aayog covering 206 indicators

indicators. She said districts indicator framework covering 15 goals, improve expenditure outcome/

62 targets and 166 indicators efficiencies," he said. has also been finalised and the districts have been asked to prepare district SDG progress reports annually.

It was further informed that J&K has shown improvement on 11 goals and has moved from being a performer to frontrunner in SDG index.

been considerable progress un- tion with the line departments from the people in the fulfilder e-samiksha, as out of 360 to prepare an actionable time ment of larger policy objectives.



issues to be addressed; only 28 bound framework for improving on SDG index. remain to be resolved. He advised the department to

She said the remaining issues are also being addressed on an ensure in concert with the line ongoing basis. the achiever status on SDG in-

Sushma informed that plan under BADP for the year 2022-23 for Rs. 228 cr has been uploaded on MHA portal.

She further added that savings accruing in the ongoing plan shall be aggregated with

the next year's plan and a con-

Mehta asked the department to assess all ongoing developmental projects/schemes in the UT, independent of the departments, and identify gaps for

He said J&K has lot of distance to cover on meeting sustainable

developmental goals and asked planning department to coordinate with the line departments in measuring the performance

under various indicators on regular basis.

"The regular monitor- from J&K. and 81 targets. These 206 in- ing of various developmental dicators include 23 UT specific schemes in districts/UT level will speed up the implementation of the schemes and help

Mehta asked the department ministries in GoI so that balto do sample survey of the as-

sets built on the ground out of CSS funds to see if the quality

parameters/intended service level objectives have been met. to convert their scheme objec-He said the achievement of SDGs remains the top prior-

ity and asked the department these campaigns will be well re-Sushma said that there has to take measures in collaboraa 'Gram Sabha' meeting in Nesbal Sumbal area of North Kashmir's Bandipora district. Local sources said that a 'Gram dents of Nesbal.

Sabha' meeting was held today in Nesbal area that was presided by protected Sarpanch Mehrajuddin Rather. Panchs and other respectable citizens were also part of the meeting.

They said heated arguments were exchanged between the Sarpanch and some members of the Gram Sabha over some incomplete allotted works. The situation turned ugly when the Sarpanch, his supporters, and the other

the injured as Ghulam Mustafa Rather, Abdul Majeed Bhat and Muhammad Shafi Rather, all resi-

ing his security. They identified

SHO Police Station Sumbal Muhammad Saleem told a local news agency KNT that a party approached the police station accusing Sarpanch of assault and they

registered a formal case in this regard. He added that after some time, they registered a counter FIR when the opposite party leveled the same allegations against the previous party.

"Investigation has been taken members started hitting one an- up and arrests if any will be made other. At least 3 persons sustained in the case," the police officer said.

'Har Ghar Dastak' **Govt Campaign Aims To Vaccinate Entire Eligible Population In J&K**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration left no stone unturned in its endeavour to vaccinate the eligible population with COVID-19 vaccines across J&K

department to prepare for roll In that direction, the governout of aspirational Panchayats ment initiated house to house campaign- 'Har Ghar Dastak' He advised the department to to inoculate the entire eligible population of the Union Terrilaunch a massive campaign for elimination of single use plastic tory. The 'Har Ghar Dastak' Cam-The chief secretary also reviewed the implementation of CSSs in the J&K with the ensuring sensitization regarding

importance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and masks.

is to saturate all eligible beneficiaries with 1st dose of COVID the teams of healthcare workvaccination and devising targeted plans in context of doses door-to-door to vaccinate peogiven in August and September, ple eligible for the second dose. 2021 to ensure coverage of all by exponentially increasing the from rural background and ento raise awareness and high- facilities during health emerlight the flagship government gencies.

schemes being implemented at the grassroots level.

Under this campaign, specific focus has also been laid to step up the targeted delivery of healthcare schemes for the poor and ensure 100% saturation of eligible beneficiaries in a mission mode. The campaign comes handy while administering second dose

of COVID vaccination in the Union Territory as J&K administration is among the forerunners of inpaign launched in November oculating its population with 1st last year focuses on coverage of dose of COVID-19 vaccine when all unvaccinated cases, besides this campaign was launched.

The district administrations aggressively worked on this initiative and launched campaigns The main aim of the campaign to cover all unvaccinated people in convergence with ICDS where ers, CSEs, VLEs and ICDS went The 'Har Ghar Dastak' also beneficiaries due for 2nd dose aims to cover the poor families pace of vaccination. In addi- sure greater coverage with easy tion, the campaign also focuses access to affordable healthcare

SPORTS

Muhammad Yousuf, Noted Adventurer, Is No More

Tourism Dept., NTTA, NLCO condole demise

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Department Tourism, along with various adventure associations, have condoled the demise of well-known adventurer, Muhammad Yousuf, who passed away here on Wednesday after a brief illness. In a condolence message,

the Tourism Secretary Sarmad Hafeez recalled his contribution and prayed for his eternal solace. Director, Tourism, Kashmir, Dr. G N Itoo has also expressed grief over the demise of late Muhammad Yousuf and conveyed his sympathies with bereaved family.

Late Muhammad Yousuf besides being very active in adventure sports was also the General Secretary of Adventure Tour Operators Association of Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Chairman Nigeen Tourist Traders Association (NTTA) and president Nigeen Lake Conservation Organisation (NLCO), Manzoor Ahmad Wangnoo Wednesday expressed his deep condolences on the sad demise of Muhammad Yousuf.

In a statement, he said that the deceased rendered substan- reaved family to bear this loss. tial contributions in the field of



tourism, especially in adventure tourism.

"He was an extraordinary and legendary sportsman besides being a great adventure professional and his services in the field of adventure sports will be remembered forever,' he added.

He stated that Late Muhammad Yousuf rendered great services towards the environment and has led many ecological initiatives.

The statement further reads that NTTA & NLCO prays that the departed soul rest in eternal peace and may Almighty bestow courage and strength to the be-(With KNS inputs)

Olympian Arif, Wushu Champion Sadia Receive Rousing Welcome In Jammu

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Olympian Arif Mu-hammad and Wushu Champion, Sadia Tariq received a rousing welcome at Jammu on Wednesday by the J&K Sports Council and Wushu Association of J&K.

Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul felicitated Sadia Tariq for her outstanding feat at the Moscow Wushu Stars Championship held in Moscow last month.

Sadia defeated her Russian counterpart in the finals to claim the Gold medal for her country.

Secretary Sports council conveyed her best wishes to both the athletes on behalf of Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Faroog Khan and Principal Secretary Youth Services & Sports, Alok Kumar and assured all possible support for the Youth Asian Games scheduled to be

held in China later this year. She said. "all possible help for the preparation of coveted event shall be extended so that Sadia is able to give her best in the competition". While congratulating Olym-

pian Arif Muhammad, she also will commence on 14th and expressed her gratitude to 15th March by the TIDC memthe athlete for adding another bers of the Sports Authority of feather in cap of J&K by being India.

the lone qualifier for the Games Dronacharya Awardee and from the country and also being National Chief Coach, Kuldeep the first ever flag bearer for the Handoo and President Wushu Association J&K, Vijay Saraf Sadia Tariq will be enrolled in also praised the performance

NCOE Bhopal for the preparaof Sadia. President Hockey J&K, Divi-sional Sports Officer (J), Managtion of the Youth Asian Games 2022 and the selection process er MA Stadium, Manager Indoor and coaches and other officials from J&K Sports Council were also present on the occasion.

Srinagar Win 9-1 In 29th Annual **Football Championship**

Games



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two matches of the ongoing 29th Annual Football Championship 2022 saw a to- kick off, was played between formance of DFA Srinagar was tal of 15 goals between them

Aamir, Junaid and Waris helped Shaik, scored two goals each, DFA Budgam defeat DFA Shop- while Owais and Umair scored while Owais and Umair scored ian by 5 goals to nil. one goal. Saliq scored the lone The second match, a 1:30 PM goal for DFA Sopore. The per-

IPL Teams To Start Training From March 14 Or 15, Five **Practice Venues Identified**

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: All the IPL teams will start training in the city from March 14 or 15 onwards and five practice venues have been identified.

It is understood that the MCA ground in suburban Bandra Kurla Complex, MCA ground in Thane, the Dr DY Patil Univer-sity ground and a football pitch along with the CCI (Cricket Club of India) and the Reliance Corporate Park ground in Ghansoli have been identified by the authorities as practice venues for the cash-rich tournament, which begins on March 26.

Players are likely to start coming into the city from March 8.

The Maharashtra government conducted a meeting with BCCI and Mumbai Cricket Association in South Mumbai for a smooth conduct of the IPL, which is now a 10-team affair.

Ministers of the state government—Aaditya Thackeray and chief Vijay Patil and apex council



the participants will have to undergo RT-PCR test 48 hours prior to their arrival in Mumbai.

While 10 plush hotels have been identified in Mumbai while two hotels have been zeroed in for Pune.

It is also learnt that the players will have to undergo 3-5 days of quarantine before entering their respective bubbles. The league stage of the IPL will be conducted in Mumbai and Pune.

While the Wankhede Stadium and CCI (Brabourne stadium) Eknath Shinde-along with MCA will host 20 matches each, the DY Patil stadium and the Mamembers Ajinkya Naik and Abhay harashtra Cricket Association Hadap were present at the meeting. stadium at Gahunje in Pune will It is also understood that all organise 15 games.

Test Series Between Pakistan & Australia Named As Benaud-Qadir Trophy

Indo-Asian News Service

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and Cricket Australia (CA) on Wednesday announced the introduction of the Benaud-Qadir Trophy for Test series between Pakistan and Australia. The trophy is named in honour of two legendary leg-spinners, Richie Benaud and Abdul Qadir and will be presented at the end of each men's Test series played

between Pakistan and Australia. Pakistan captain Babar Azam and Australia skipper Pat Cummins unveiled the Benaud-Qadir Trophy at the Pindi Cricket Stadium ahead of the first Test starting from Friday. The newlyannounced first edition of the Benaud-Qadir Trophy will be presented to the winning side at Lahore, where the three-Test series will culminate.

"The game is today healthy, wealthy and strong because of such individuals and their legacy, as such, we must always recognise and acknowledge thoroughly enjoy. I am honoured their contributions and servic- that I will be leading the Pakies. We have our sights firmly on stan team in the Benaud-Oadir the Benaud-Qadir Trophy, both Trophy, we will try and give perthe sides will have to bring out formances that will be a tribute their very best during this se- to these two legends who will ries as this promises to be a re- always remain legends of the ally competitive contest," said game," added Azam.



Azam in a statement.

Benaud and Qadir were two skilful, distinguished and immensely respected cricketers of different eras, who served the game with honour, pride and distinction. Benaud got wrist-spin bowling noticed and recognised as an attacking and wicket-taking option, an art that was subsequently taken to the next level by Qadir with some incredible performances against high-quality batters at a time when express fast bowlers were ruling the roost.

"This series will significantly enhance the quality of Test cricket, which cricket fans inside the venues and world-over can



Observer News Service

JAMMU: With an aim to infuse sportsmanship, camaraderie and brotherhood among the Youth, Ju-Jitsu Association of Jammu & Kashmir concluded its two-day long 6th J&K Ju-Jitsu Championship 2021 at J&K Sports Council

Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. The championship was held from 28th February to 1st March 2022. Around 200 students from 10 various districts of J&K participated with great enthusiasm and zeal.

perfect platform to the partici- ficials Danish Sharma (Qualified ants to showcase their performance and hone their skills. The han Raina, Rohit Thakyal, Brijesh main aim of the tournament was Bhau, Farooq Ahmed, Rameshto provide all round fitness and extra ordinary skills in the students.



The championship went off

well and prize distribution ceremony was attended by Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor JMC as chief guest, Suminder Singh Managing Director, IDPS was Guest of Honour and Lalit Kumar Gupta CA, Shuja Zaffar, Gule-Surkhab, Dr. Navneet Gupta, Vikas Dogra, Madhu Abrol Manager IDPS, Shweta Thakur Sharma were Special Guests. The said Championship conducted under the Supervision of Mr. Tarsem Sharma Founder/General Secretary Ju-Jitsu Association of Jam-The Championship provided a mu & Kashmir and Technical Of-National Referee) Harsh Vard-

> war Singh Jamwal, Rajat Bhagat, Rudrakshit Gupta, Ranjeet Singh and Mehul Sharma.

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on Wednesday here at the Syn- The Srinagar side completely tators present. thetic Turf TRC.

outplayed DFA Sopore by 9 In the first match, DFA Shop- goals to 1. Arsalan Parray of DFA ganised by J&K Football Associ-

ian locked horns against DFA Srinagar scored first hat-trick ation in collaboration with J&k Budgam. Goals from Nadeem, of the Championship. Aakib, Sports Council.

DFA Srinagar and DFA Sopore. warmly applauded by the spec

The tournament is being or-

Chelsea For Sale? Doubts Over Abramovich's Ownership Grow

Agencies

Commons why LONDON: Pressure is grow-Abramovich was ing on Roman Abramovich to not facing sancsell Chelsea, and one potentions yet. tial buver claims the Russian

oligarch is already trying to offload the Premier League club.

Chelsea and Abramovich's representatives have not disputed Swiss billionaire Hansjorg Wyss saying he "received an offer on Tuesday to buy Chelsea from Abramovich" along with three other people.

"Abramovich is currently asking far too much," Wyss was quoted as telling Swiss newspaper Blick.

As Russia's war on Ukraine entered a seventh day, the his links to the Russian state British government was yet to and his public association say if Abramovich would be included among the wealthy practices.' Russians to be targeted in sanctions.

Alisher Usmanov, a Russian metals tycoon who is a major sponsor of Everton, has already been sanctioned by the European Union. The Premier successful in Europe. Parliamentary privilege had been used by Labour League club on Wednesday suspended sponsorships with Usmanov's firms, including Party legislator Chris Bry-USM which has the naming ant to claim in the House rights to the training ground of Commons on Tuesday and paid 30 million pounds that Abramovich was al-(\$40 million) for the same ready looking to sell London Abramovich's connections to Skripal and his daughter in rights to a new stadium being properties, speculating that built in Liverpool. "he's terrified of being sanc-

British Prime Minister Botioned. ris Johnson said it was not "appropriate" to comment on is that Mr Abramovich will



of Chelsea Football Club and time we get round to sanc- not "pull the presidential various other high-value as- tioning him."

sets in the United Kingdom. Abramovich tried to dis-He's a person of interest to tance himself from decision- Putin. the Home Office because of making at Chelsea on Saturday by announcing plans to with corrupt activity and care" of the club its founda-Chelsea, the reigning European champion, owes the Chelsea Foundation, has home was last year.

Abramovich more than \$2 received a "serious incident billion in loans after 19 years of injecting cash to elevate the club into one of the most how Abramovich's plan can be enacted.

to condemn Russia's attack when Britain pledged to redone yet.

Bryant added: "The danger individual cases when asked have sold everything by the tin though adding he could not linked to. (AP)

strings". Abramovich has denied taking any orders from

Abramovich was last seen in public on the field in Abu shift the "stewardship and Dhabi last month after Chelsea won the Club World Cup. tion trustees. But the Charity His last public visit to a match Commission, which regulates at the club's Stamford Bridge

Abramovich has not had a report" from the Foundation's British visa since 2018 when trustees amid concerns about a renewal application was taking longer than usual to go through and was with-Abramovich has faced calls drawn. That came at a time on Ukraine which he hasn't view the long-term visas of rich Russians in the after-In 2012, a High Court math of the poisonings of judge in London highlighted Russian former spy Sergei Putin in a ruling related to a the English city of Salisbury. legal battle. Judge Elizabeth Britain blamed Russia for the Gloster said Abramovich had pair's exposure to a nerve "very good relations" and agent, an allegation Moscow "privileged access" to Pu- denies, and Abramovich is

Russians, Belarusians Compete As 'Neutral Athletes' In China

Agencies

BEIJING: Russians and Belarusians at the Winter Paralympics in Beijing will compete as "neutral athletes" because of their countries' roles in the war against Ukraine, the International Paralympic Committee said Wednesday.

Russian athletes had already been slated to compete as RPC, short for Russian Paralympic Committee, as punishment for the state-sponsored doping scandal at the 2014 Sochi Olympics and a subsequent cover-up. The IPC added more restrictions

when the Paralympics open on Friday, but stopped short of expulsion. Belarus was sanctioned for its part in aiding Russia with the invasion and war against Ukraine.

Both delegations will be excluded from the medal table, and the IPC said it would not hold events in either country "while the present situation continues."

stitution and the current IPC rules," IPC President Andrew Parsons said in a statement. "In deciding what short notice. actions the IPC should take, it was fundamental that we worked within the framework of our new constitution to remain politically neutral and and regulations that govern the Paralympic Movement."

mittee on Monday pushed sports Russians, instead allowing them to bodies to exclude Russian athletes compete as neutral athletes. from international events, but it



ing its athletes to compete in the last four Olympics following Sochi.

The IOC said the action was needed now to "protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants" but What we have decided upon is left sports bodies with a way around the harshest possible punishment the exclusion by adding that Ruswe can hand down within our con- sians and Belarusians could compete as neutral athletes or teams if expulsion was not possible because of

The move by the IPC comes as Russia is being barred from competing in a long list of sports including ice skating, skiing, soccer, hockey, within the IPC Handbook, the rules basketball, track and field, and some tennis events. Some sports like swimming haven't followed the rec-The International Olympic Com- ommendation from the IOC to ban

Parsons acknowledged the possileft the final decision to individual bility that some Paralympic athletes governing bodies. The IOC has been might refuse to compete against

slow to crack down on Russia, allow- their counterparts from Russia. He also had said the options for the IPC were "limited" because of the possibility of legal challenges from Russia or elsewhere.

IOC President Thomas Bach will not attend the Paralympics and has designated Parsons - an IOC member – to represent the body. IOC vice president Ser Miang Ng was to attend, but has tested positive for COVID-19. The IOC said Ng had only mild symptoms.

Paralympic officials say 648 athletes and 49 delegations will take part in the Winter Paralympics. There were 2,900 athletes at last month's Winter Olympics with 91 delegations.

Officials say 71 Russian athletes are expected to compete in the Paralympics, joined by 20 from Ukraine. The entire Ukrainian delegation was expected to arrive in time for Friday's opening ceremony. The Paralympics close March 13. (AP)