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P7 STATE

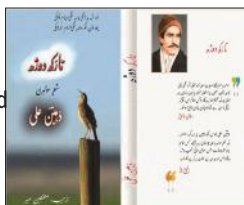
NIA FILES SUPPLEMENTARY CHARGE SHEET AGAINST 2 SRINAGAR YOUTH

The NIA on Friday filed a supplementary charge sheet against two people for their alleged involvement in a conspiracy by the ISIS terrorist group to radicalise and

P5

AN UNSUNG HERO: ZAHREEN ALI

A poetry collection of the Late Zaheen Ali, a Kashmiri poet known for his individual style and diction, was published last month. The book titled Tarakh Duachh, "Stars in the Cupped Hands" brought out by Meezan Publishers & Distributors, comprises Hamud, Naat, Ghazals,



P8 SPORTS

PINK-BALL TEST: INDIA EYE CLEAN SWEEP AGAINST SRI LANKA

After winning the first match convincingly, India will look for a 2-0 sweep against Sri Lanka, when the two sides meet in the second and final Test, which will be



Quote!

If you tell the truth you do not need a good memory!

- Mark Twain

NEWS DIGEST

Govt Transfers 2 JKAS Officers

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday ordered transfer of two Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers in the interest of administration. Ghanshyam Singh (JKAS), awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has [More on P6](#)

Shooting Stone Kills Labourer

SRINAGAR: A labourer was killed on Friday after being hit by a shooting stone near Zojila Tunnel in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. 35-year-old Jahangeer Ahmed Wani of Banihal suffered serious injuries on Friday when he was hit by a shooting stone while at work near [More on P6](#)

Govt Employee Held With Brown Sugar

SRINAGAR: Police have arrested a government employee after recovering brown sugar from his possession in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, police said Friday. Village Level Worker (VLW) Gulzar Ahmad Baba of Awoora was intercepted at a checkpoint by [More on P6](#)

Search Operation Conducted In Budgam

SRINAGAR: The government forces on Friday carried out a cordon and search operation in Pakharpora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. Acting on the inputs about the movement of militants, a team of police and army laid a siege around Mohindpora village of Pakharpora [More on P6](#)

India 'Accidentally' Fires Missile Into Pak, Orders Probe

Islamabad Summons Indian Diplomat Over Airspace Violation

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: India on Friday regretted the accidental firing of a missile into Pakistan, barely hours after Islamabad summoned India's Charge d'Affaires and conveyed its strong protest over the alleged unprovoked violation of its airspace and sought a thorough and transparent investigation into the incident that could have resulted in a serious aviation accident.

The Indian diplomat who was summoned to the Foreign Office was told about the alleged violation of its airspace by an Indian-origin super-sonic flying object which entered into Pakistan from Suratgarh in India at 6:43 PM (local time) on March 9, the Foreign Office said in a statement.

The object later fell on the ground near Mian Chunnui city in Pakistan's Punjab province at around 6:50 PM on the same day, causing damage to civilian property.

In New Delhi, India's defence ministry on Friday said a technical malfunction in the course of a routine maintenance led to the accidental firing of a missile on March 9.

The ministry said the missile



Representation Photo

landed in an area of Pakistan and noted that the "incident is deeply regrettable".

The Defence Ministry said the Government of India has taken a serious view of the incident and ordered a high-level Court of Enquiry into it.

In Islamabad, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi also voiced concern over the incident.

In a statement, Qureshi alleged that India had endangered innocent lives by violating Pakistan's airspace as flights of Saudi and Qatar airlines, as well as domestic flights, could have been hit.

He said Pakistan would decide its next step after receiving India's explanation, adding that envoys of P-5 countries (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) will be called to the Foreign Office and briefed about the incident.

"India will have to be answerable for this," he said.

Air Vice Marshall Tariq Zia, who addressed a press conference on Thursday, said that at the time the projectile was picked up by the Pakistani military, there were two active airway routes and several commercial airlines were in

the area.

"If you look at the speed and height of the projectile, it was 40,000 feet high, and the air-lines were between 35,000 to 42,000 feet. This could have been very detrimental to the safety of passengers."

The projectile travelled 124 kilometres inside Pakistani territory in three minutes and 44 seconds, he added.

The FO also said the flight path of the flying object endangered several domestic/international flights within the Pakistani airspace and could have resulted in a serious aviation accident as well as civilian casualties, it said.

The Indian Cd'A was told to convey to the Government of India Pakistan's strong condemnation of this blatant violation of Pakistani airspace in contravention of the established international norms and aviation safety protocols, the FO said.

Pakistan also asked India for a thorough and transparent investigation of the incident, the outcome of which must be shared with it.

Moreover, the Government of India is [More on P6](#)

15th Round Of Sino-India Talks Inconclusive

India and China on Friday are holding another round of high-level military dialogue to resolve the 22-month-long standoff in some friction points in eastern Ladakh, two months after the last round of such talks failed to yield any significant outcome. The 15th round of Corps-Commander level talks was scheduled to begin at 10 am at the Chushul-Moldo border point on the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, people familiar with the dialogue said.

11 IPS Officers Promoted, Tiwari New IGP, CID

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday appointed Mahendra Nath Tiwari as the new Inspector General of Police (IGP) of the CID wing, besides ordering promotion of eleven police officers, five of them elevated to the grade of Super Time Scale.

"Sh. Mahendra Nath Tiwari IPS (AGMUT: 04) awaiting orders of posting, is posted as IGP CID, J&K, against an available vacancy" reads an order issued by the Home Department on Friday.

Tiwari, an expert in Cyber Security and Cyber Law, has served in Mizoram police before shifted to New Delhi as additional CP PHQ, Delhi police. He was also DIG in Mizoram Police and was involved in various international assignments by the United Nations.

Meanwhile, in a separate order



issued on Friday, the government ordered promotion of 11 Indian Police Service (IPS) officers.

According to the order, those promoted to Super Time Scale- (ii)-IG (Level-14) of the Pay Matrix include Uttam Chand (IPS) with effect from 01.01.2020, on proforma basis, on reversion to the parent cadre; Vidhi Kumar Birdi (IPS) with effect from 01.01.2021 - on proforma [More on P6](#)

Army Chopper Crashes Near LoC, Pilot Killed

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: An Army helicopter on its way to pick up sick BSF personnel crashed near the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir's Gurez Sector on Friday, killing its co-pilot and critically injuring the pilot, officials said.

It crashed around 11:30 am with officials saying that it drifted away while descending and tumbled into a 'nallah' flowing nearby.

The 'Cheetah' helicopter was undertaking a rescue sortie to evacuate a sick Border Security Force (BSF) jawan deployed in the forward area in the mountainous region.

"An Army Cheetah helicopter crashed in the Baraub area of Gurez in Bandipora district this afternoon while on a routine mission to evacuate an ailing soldier from a forward post,"



Srinagar-based defence spokesman Col Emron Musavi said.

He said the helicopter lost communication with the forward post at Gujran in Baraub before airlifting the trooper.

The slain co-pilot has been identified as Major Sankalp Yadav (29), while the injured pilot, a Lieutenant Colonel-rank officer, was rescued from the crash site and rushed to the Command Hospital in Udhampur. [More on P6](#)

Sarpanch Shot Dead By Militants In Kulgam

3 Panchayat Members Slain In 9 Days



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a second killing of a Panchayat member in the last two days, unidentified militants on Friday shot dead a Sarpanch in Adoor area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

According to officials, unknown militants fired upon the Sarpanch Shabir Ahmad Mir from a close range near his home in Adoor village on Friday evening. Mir, who

collapsed on the ground after receiving gunshots, was removed to the district hospital Kulgam for treatment.

However, the doctors there declared him dead.

"He had bullet injuries in abdomen and was brought dead to the hospital," Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr Muzaffar said.

Mir is the third Panchayat member to be killed by militants in the last 9 days.

Earlier on [More on P6](#)

Militants Trapped In Pulwama

Unknown militants are believed to be trapped in south Kashmir's Pulwama district where government forces launched a search operation on Friday night triggering an encounter. According to reports, police, army and CRPF launched a joint cordon and search operation in Chewaklan village of the district on Friday night on the basis of specific [More on P6](#)

Northern Army Command Reviews Situation

The Northern Army Commander, Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Friday took stock of the overall security scenario in the Kashmir Valley. Dwivedi, who is on a [More on P6](#)

HE HAD BULLET INJURIES in abdomen and was brought dead to the hospital."

Pvt Schools Get Govt Nod For 12% Bus Fee Hike

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: A committee for fixation and regulation of school fees in Jammu and Kashmir has allowed private institutions to hike transportation fees by 12 per cent, officials said on Friday.

The increase was allowed after the committee received complaints that private schools had hiked transportation fees significantly following their reopening.

"It is also al-

transport fees either for the full session or 50 per cent of the total fees. The schools also seek an undertaking from the parents regarding the advance payment of fees," the committee said in an order.

As a temporary measure and till such time that a final decision is taken, school managements shall hike the transportation fees that was being paid by the students who were availing the transport facility in October 2019 in the winter zone and in February 2020 in the summer zone by 12 per cent, it said. It was also resolved [More on P6](#)



Tourism Players Upbeat As Pandemic Ebbs, Spring Sets In

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: With the onset of spring season coinciding with the Coronavirus endemic, the tourism players in the Valley are upbeat and expecting an important turnaround in Jammu & Kashmir's summer tourism that suffered brutally in the first and second wave of the pandemic.

Pertinently, as the devastating influence of COVID-19 has somehow ebbed away, Kashmir's economy has finally found an encouragement to fully open up for the globe, especially after a steady rise in tourist footfall shimmered a glimpse of hope in Kashmir's Tourism industry during the winter months.

But many businesses that depend on tourism, including



tour operators and hoteliers, see signs that even more tourists, compared to the winter footfall, could start streaming in as the summer season nears, providing a badly needed boost for the

valley's tourism stakeholders.

"The tourism stakeholders earned a relatively better profit in the last four months than they did during the two brutal waves of Covid," says Kamran Habib, a

trainee pilot who relocated to Srinagar and started working as a tour operator during the first wave of Covid.

"The early bookings have jam packed the months of March and April. All the rooms are sold out in Gulmarg, Gurez, Lolab, Pahalgam and other parts of the Valley."

As per Kamran, the total percentage of bookings has increased by 80% compared to the summer months of 2020 and 2021. "Our fraternity was the worst hit in the last two years. But, if the bookings keep on growing at the same rate, then the Tourism industry can retain its original shape in terms of economy."

As per the data available with Kashmir Observer, for the first time since 2015, the number of tourist arrivals for [More on P6](#)

....Amarnath Yatra

Govt Expects Large Scale Pilgrimage As Covid-19 Ebbs

Div Com Directs Officers To Complete Tendering Process, Start Work In 1st Week Of April

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government is expecting large numbers of pilgrims in the upcoming annual Amarnath Yatra owing to pandemic restrictions in previous years, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir Pandurang K Pole said Friday.

The Div Com made this assessment while chairing a meeting to review the status for Amarnath Yatra, 2022 arrangements by various departments,



an official spokesperson said. Pole, he said, directed officers to take slew of measures in advance for smooth conduct of the Yatra and [More on P6](#)

Kashmir Reports 9 Corona Cases

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As many as 21 more people tested positive for Coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, the lowest single day cases during the third wave of pandemic, while no fresh fatality was reported in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, Kashmir Valley detected only nine new cases of Coronavirus while the remaining 12 were reported from different districts of Jammu division.

In the Valley, officials said, Srinagar reported four new cases of virus, Baramulla 3 and Kupwara 2. The remaining seven districts [More on P6](#)



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No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

It's Time to Stop Pre-Rinsing Your Dishes

You might think it helps the dishwasher get them cleaner, but it actually does the opposite.

Sarah Showfety | Life Hacker

I always pre-rinse my dishes. While I'm no nutcase—I don't actually wash them before placing them in the dishwasher racks—leaving the remains of a runny egg, clingy sauce, or (gasp) oatmeal on my crockery simply feels wrong. But it turns out there's good reason to avoid the temptation to rinse away lingering food particles before using your dishwasher. Most appliance and dishwasher soap manufacturers recommend against rinsing every remnant of food off your dishes, saying doing so can actually inhibit proper cleaning. Here's why.

Why your dishes need to be dirty to get clean
Perhaps the reason so many of us pre-rinse is because that's how our mothers did it. But dishwashers have come a long way from the ones our parents used. According to Consumer Reports, "pre-rinsing isn't necessary with modern dishwashers because they have sensors that adjust the wash cycle based on how dirty the dishes are." They don't need our help, and by pre-rinsing "you could be making matters worse by causing the built-in soil sensor to misread the amount of dirt in the water." Additionally, as reported by the Wall Street Journal, many Whirlpool dishwashers have a "Target-Clean" setting equipped with sensors to determine whether food remains on dishes; as many as 40 focused spray jets are set to attack baked-on food. Skip that step and your dishes won't wind up as clean. And that's just how water func-



Consumer Reports estimates we use 2 to 6 gallons of water per minute we rinse our dishes. Cascade estimates pre-rinsing wastes up to 15 gallons of water per load. With the average household running 215 loads of dishes per year, that's 3,225 gallons of water per year that could be saved.

tions in your appliance. When it comes to detergent, the WSJ reports, "Cascade, made by Procter & Gamble Co., warns against pre-washing, except for removing large pieces of food. Enzymes in Cascade detergent are designed to attach themselves to food particles. Without food, the enzymes have nothing to latch on to." Pre-rinsing wastes a lot of water

(and energy)
Consumer Reports estimates we use 2 to 6 gallons of water per minute we rinse our dishes. Cascade estimates pre-rinsing wastes up to 15 gallons of water per load. With the average household running 215 loads of dishes per year, that's 3,225 gallons of water per year that could be saved.
According to CNET, dishwashers

built before 1994 use 10 gallons or more of water per cycle, while newer models are far more efficient. "In 2013, new standards were put in place that required dishwashers to use...5 gallons per load." And an Energy Star certified model can use as little as 3 gallons. Not to mention the energy it takes to heat all those gallons. As CNET reports, "most newer dishwashers

have heaters inside that warm up water more efficiently than your water heater. Overall, if it is Energy Star certified, it can use less than half the energy of washing dishes by hand." In the words of the National Resource Defense Council, "if you have a dishwasher, put down the sponge." Experts advise we should scrape large food scraps off our dishes rather than rinsing each one before loading.

Don't overload the machine (but make sure it's full)
Of course, getting the best functionality out of your dishwasher is predicated on proper use. All those high-tech sensors and spray jets need adequate space to do their job. After checking your owner's manual for loading instructions specific to your washer, place cups, glasses, small bowls, and plastic items in the top rack, and plates, serving pieces, and larger bowls in the bottom rack. Make sure cutlery is mixed among the baskets to avoid "nesting." Leave space for water and soap to flow properly, but be sure your washer is full enough to merit being run. According to the EPA, "Running the dishwasher only when it's full can eliminate one load of dishes per week and save the average family nearly 320 gallons of water annually." Of course, there are some more delicate items that should never go in the dishwasher. For these, we have little choice but to hand-wash. For everything else, you can safely stop pre-rinsing and let your dishwasher do the work from here on out.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the Number Plate of my motor cycle bearing Regd No: JK03L 5179. Now I have applied 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 ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
YASIR YOUSUF BHAT
S/o MOHD YOUSUF BHAT
R/o BON DIALGAM

ma

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Mohammad Ashraf Dar S/o Mohamad Jamal Dar R/o Sheeshgari Bagh Hyderpora (Transferor) and Shri Suhail Ahmad Dar S/o Gh Ahmad Dar R/o Hubbi



Colony Sikh Bagh Lal Bazar (Transferee) for transfer of Tata Sumo carriage route Permit No 4051/MC Covering Vehicle No JK01J- 0949

Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir.

Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer. Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S. _STW Co Namely Bagh Hussain

NOJK-RTOK 2129
Dated: 11/03/2022
fko

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 11th under Below mentioned particulars

Name : Aamir Suhail
S/o Ali Mohd Pandith
R/o Kandhama Beerwah



Details of Marks Certificate lost
Secondary School Examination (class 11th)
Roll No 2150500 Session /Year Annual Reg. 2015

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

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam

bmg

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Riyaz Ahamd Dar S/o Abdul Salam Dar R/o Munawarabad Khayam (Transferor) and Shri Gulham Mohi-u-din Guroo S/o Ab Salam Guroo R/o Buchwara



Dalgate Sgr (Transferee) for transfer of ECO carriage route Permit No 7327/MC Covering Vehicle No JK01R- 6921 .

Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir.

Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer. Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S. _STW Co Namely Bagh Hussain

NOJK-RTOK 2174
Dated: 11/03/2022
fko

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE SOPORE

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

Name: Yawar Ashgar
Father's name: Nazir Ahamd Naikoo
Mother Name : Rafeeqa Begum
Roll No: 3208445 Year 2020 Session BI-Annual



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

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Sopore

fko_r

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION Ganderbal
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Single Cover System upto Rs.2.50 crores EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl-E-tendering NIT No.372 of 2021-22 under endorsement No.24304-13 Dated:10-03-2022

Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Ganderbal on behalf of Governor of J&K State, invites Percentage Basis in electronic tendering system for the following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Bid Security Declaration	Time of completion	Class of Contractor
1.	Restoration of road surface b.w.o construction of cement concrete R/Wall and R.R Masonary Wall at Wussan. Name of Scheme-Improvement/Upgradation of inner links of wussan Under NABARD (RIDF-XIII).	Rs.13.92 Lacs	Rs.600/=	As per format	15-Days	DEE/CEE/BEE

M.H Account:- NABARD
Position of funds:- Available.

Position of AAA:- Accorded
Technical Sanction. Accorded

	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	Period of downloading of bidding documents
1	10/03/2022	10/03/2022 from 04:30 PM.
2		
3	Bid submission Start Date	10/03/2022 from 04.30 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	16/03/2022 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	17/03/2022 at 10:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal (tender inviting authority) and Bid security Declaration as per format given in SBD. The EMD has to be submitted by the lowest bidder L1 (3% of quoted cost) within the period as specified in SBD.
- Note:- All bidders shall submit the uploaded Treasury Challan in Original before issuance allotment.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
c. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.
- to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
- AAY Class Civil contractor shall have to produce agreement deed with HMPO before issuance of Allotment, if found to be L-1.
- Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal and Bid Security Declaration must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), CDR/FDR/BG (earnest money/bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
- For item rate method the unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
- Price escalation and Taxes:- Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B E-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- For the NABARD project, the NABARD guidelines shall be strictly followed.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
- All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-
a. Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
b. Treasury Challan & CDR/FDR/BG
c. Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.
d. Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the Latest Quarter/ Qualifying Month i.e. January.
e. All bidders shall mandatorily upload Verification Certificate from Concerned Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of Enlistment registration card. Non submission of the same shall render the bid Non-Responsive.
- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
- Non attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

Sd/-
(Er Zaffar Qureshi)
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderbal

No.24304-13
Dated: 10/03/2022

DIPK-19374/21

اطلاع عام

میری پانچویں جماعت پاس سرٹیفکیٹ زیر ایڈمیشن نمبر 310/22 سیشن 1986 کئی پم ہوئی ہے اب اس کی ڈیٹلیٹ نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر پمپل کورٹنٹ بائریٹیڈری اسکول لیو برنڈ کے دفتر میں پیش کریں میعاد گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
اشفہر

محمد جمیل سیدی ولد غلام محمد میری
سائیکو۔ لیو برنڈ لارڈ ٹاونٹ ناگ

RNA

از نیات شائکس با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو بحیرت و دجاو ل شائکس
درخواست منجانب: نجمہ اقبال پھول بکروال ولد بو پھول بکروال سا کھنچوہ تحصیل شائکس
بغرض حصول STC مرقفیت

اشتیہار بربراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔

معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول STC مرقفیت دفتر مذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کراؤنی ہے۔ پکاری ملتق سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈہ ذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	محمد اقبال ولد بو پھول بکروال	61 سال	مزدوری	5000/=
2	نہجتن ولد نجمہ اقبال پھول بکروال	59 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	نذاکت ولد نجمہ اقبال پھول بکروال	29 سال	مزدوری	5000/=
4	رشیدہ بانو نجمہ اقبال پھول بکروال	27 سال	گھریلو کام	
5	عرفان احمد ولد نذاکت پھول بکروال	08 سال	زیر تعلیم	
6	رونی جان دختر نذاکت پھول بکروال	06 سال	زیر تعلیم	
7	عادل احمد ولد نذاکت پھول بکروال	03 سال	بچہ	

اس طور پر سائل کا کنڈہ 07 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ کنڈہ زیر بحث کو حذا میں رقی تعداد میں 8 کنال موجود ہے۔ جس سے کنڈہ زیر بحث کی سالانہ آمدنی 25000/= ہزار روپیہ تک ہے۔ اس طور سے کنڈہ زیر بحث کی سالانہ آمدنی اڑھم زری 250000 ہزار روپیہ تک ہے۔ تاہم بغیر زرعی بخش کی سالانہ آمدنی 620,000 ہزار روپیہ تک ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیاہ گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار۔

از نیات شائکس با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو بحیرت و دجاو ل شائکس
درخواست منجانب: نسار احمد غلام رسول بخاری سا کھنچوہ تحصیل شائکس
بغرض حصول STC مرقفیت

اشتیہار بربراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔

معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول STC مرقفیت دفتر مذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کراؤنی ہے۔ پکاری ملتق سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈہ ذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	نسار احمد غلام رسول بخاری	44 سال	ملازم	LPC
2	نگلیہ بانو نجمہ نسار احمد بخاری	42 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	فیضان احمد ولد نسار احمد بخاری	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	
4	نویدا احمد ولد نسار احمد بخاری	16 سال	زیر تعلیم	
5	سادیہ جان دختر نسار احمد بخاری	10 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اس طور پر سائل کا کنڈہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ سائل کے پاس حذا میں 4 کنال آبی و خشکی موجود ہے۔ جب کہ سالانہ آمدنی تقریباً 15000 ہزار تک ہے۔ سائل کی زرعی و غیر زرعی سالانہ آمدنہ LPC سے معلوم ہوتی ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیاہ گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار۔



Nusrat Shafi Felicitated For Her Services During Covid Pandemic

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of Director General Family Welfare MCH & Immunization J&K, DrSaleemur-Rehman, the Directorate of Family Welfare MCH & Immunization Kashmir today felicitated NusratShafi FMPHW during a ceremony held at conference Hall Barzulla, here.

NusratShafi received the Best Vaccinator Award for her services rendered during Covid Pandemic by Union Health Minister, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya at New Delhi on 8 March 2022.

The ceremony today was attended by Assistant Director FW, MCH and Immunization Kashmir Division,

DrMasaratJabeen, Dy CMO Srinagar; DrNighatMajeed, DIO Srinagar; DrNighat, Dy CMO Ganderbal; DrNighat, Audio Visual Officer JK; Ms-Rehila Noor, Administrative officer JK and other officials the department.

The objective of the event was to encourage NusratShafi to ensure that she remains motivated throughout her services.

Nusrat has conducted around 96 sessions and has administered 107856 doses of covid vaccination.

The department also felicitated BismaZargar, Vaccine & Cold Chain Manager District Ganderbal Who was felicitated by UNDPA for her services rendered on 8 March, 2022.

ACB Arrests Sales Tax Inspector For Accepting Bribe

Agencies

Srinagar: The Anti-Corruption Bureau had received a written complaint wherein the complainant alleged that Khalid Bashir-Tantray, Sales Tax Inspector was demanding Rs 3 lakh as bribe.

The complainant alleged he was demanding bribe for setting right records pertaining to Internal Audit Report of the Sales Tax Department Srinagar. The complainant who is running a business unit, was facing penalty of Rs 14 lakh from Sales Tax Department.

On receipt of the complaint, Case FIR No. 09/2022 U/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered in this

Bureau and investigation was taken up.

During the course of investigation a trap team was constituted. The team laid a successful trap. Khalid Bashir Inspector, Sales Tax Department, Srinagar was caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs. 3 Lakh from the complainant. He was arrested on the spot by the ACB team. The bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses. Immediately after the trap, search was conducted in residential house of the accused. Further investigation into the case has been started.



SAFETY SIGNAL: For school children's sake, locals have urged authorities to install traffic lights near Presentation Convent School.

Div Com Inaugurates Jan Aushadhi Kendra At Red Cross Office

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole today inaugurated the Jan Aushadhi Kendra under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya JanAushadiPariyojana (PMBJP) within the premises of Regional Red Cross Society Kashmir at Kothibagh, Srinagar.

Nodal Officer, PMBJP J&K, RifatNazir, Deputy Drug Controller, Irfana Ahmad, Secretary, Regional Red Cross Society Kashmir, and other officers were present on the occasion.

Div Com directed concerned officers to issue advertisement notice for appointment of pharmacist so



that the Jan Aushadhi Kendra shall function regularly and benefit the general public.

He also directed Nodal Officer, PMBJAP, J&K to launch at least ten Kendras in offices of Red Cross Society in Kashmir Division.

On the occasion, Div Com was briefed about the different types of affordable medicine available in Kendras which helps people to save money.

Meanwhile, Div Com also inspected ongoing construction work of Red Cross Bhawan which is being constructed at the cost of Rs 472 lakhs and is expected to be completed by May, 2022.

On the occasion, he directed concerned officers to expedite the construction work and complete the project in stipulated time.

Chairman DDMA De-Notifies 239 Micro Containment Zones

Observer News Services

Srinagar: As the number of Covid-19 positive cases show a visible decline in Srinagar, the District Administration has de-notified 239 Micro Containment Zones which were earlier declared as Red Zones.

According to the order issued by Chairman District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Srinagar, Mohammad AijazAsad it has been informed that as many as 239 Micro Containment Zones were eligible for complete de notification as recommended by Zonal Medical Officers of Batamalo, Zadibal, Khanyar, S.R Gunj and Block Medical Officer Hazratbal as the prescribed time limit of 30 days has elapsed since the reporting of last positive case in these areas. Earlier, "In exercise of powers vested under the Disaster Management Act 2005, with section 144 CrPC the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 various Micro Containment Zones were notified by this Office once in order to contain the spread of Covid-19 Infection in the District", further read the order.

Conference On Unani Medicine Concludes At SKICC



Observer news Service

Srinagar: The two day International conference on Unani medicine, organized by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), concluded today at SKICC. Eminent speakers emphasized to work collectively for promotion and propagation of AYUSH systems.

The concluding day of the conference was addressed by Professor Akbar Masood, Vice Chancellor, Baba Gulam Shah Badshah University Rajouri, Professor Asim Ali Khan; DG CCRUM Ministry of Ayush, Dr Seema Akbar; Assistant Director Incharge RRIUM Srinagar, Union Ministry of Ayush among others.

The speakers stressed on the need to adopt modern technology for development of indigenous system of medicines and integration of all medical systems to address the health

challenges we are facing today. They emphasized that with the largest infrastructure for teaching, research and practice, India is undoubtedly the world leader in the traditional form of medicines.

The theme of the two-day international conference was "Diet and Nutrition in Unani Medicine for Good Health & Well-being".

A panel discussion and eight scientific sessions on the sub-themes including "Diet and Nutrition-An Important Branch in the Health Sector", "Unani Medicine for Global Health", "Diet and Nutrition-An Important Component for Improving Immunity in Unani Medicine", "Lessons Learned during Pandemic", "Achieving Good Health and Wellbeing- SDG-3", "Traditional Systems of Medicine for Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)" and "Health and Wellness" were held during the two day event.

Before The Hon'ble Court Of Principal District And Sessions Judge Pulwama

FROM THE OFFICE OF: ZAHID HUSSAIN DAR AND ASSOCIATES (ADVOCATES AND LEGAL CONSULTANTS) LIC. No. JK-484-2014.

IN THE CASE OF:
BUILDTECH INDUSTRIES through its proprietor Safdar Ali Wani S/o Mukhtar Ahmad Wani R/o Sazgaripora, Hawal, Srinagar (Caveator)

Counsel for the Caveator
Zahid Hussain Dar

VERSUS

Public at Large (Caveatee)

In the matter of: Caveat application under sec 148-A of C.P.C on behalf of Caveator.
May it please your Honour,
The application is submitted as under.
1. That the Caveator is running a steel manufacturing unit under the name and style of M/S BuildTech Industries at IGC Lassipora.
2. Those in the past many malicious cases have been filed against the caveator for no justifiable reasons by the enemies of the caveator with their ill intentions to harass the caveator.
3. That the Caveator is apprehensive that the enemies of the caveator may either themselves or through their agents file a suit against the Caveator and may succeed in getting an ex-parte order against the Caveator in order to harass the caveator.
4. That in case the Caveatee succeeds in getting an ex-parte Order against the Caveator, the same may cause great hardship and irreparable loss to the Caveator as well as the employees of the caveator.
5. That the copy of this application has been published in a local newspaper for notice to the public at large (Copy of newspaper is annexed herewith)
In the premises it is therefore prayed that in the interests of Justice, the Caveator may be given an opportunity of being heard before an ex-parte injunction/Order is passed by The Hon'ble Court on the presentation of suit by the Caveatee against the Caveator.
Caveator

Through Counsel
Zahid Hussain Dar & Associates

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my driving license bearing DL No: JK0320180008696 . Now I have applied 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 ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Peer Sajad Hussain
S/O Peer Qamar Din
R/O Magraypora Nanil Arto Anantnag rna

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



**HIJRI
CALENDAR**
08 Shaban
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 23
ZUHR	12:41
ASR	4:54
Magrib	6:38
ISHA	7: 59

This Day In History

- 1917 - Stalin, Kamenev & Muranov arrives in Petrograd/St Petersburg
- 1917 - A German submarine sinks an unnamed US merchant ship, the 'Algonquin' on the same day that US President Woodrow Wilson gives executive order to arm US merchant ships
- 1925 - British government of Stanley Baldwin refuses to ratify Geneva agreement.
- 1928 - In California, the St. Francis Dam fails, killing over 600 people.
- 1930 - Mohandas Gandhi begins 200m (300km) march protesting British salt tax
- 1935 - Britain establishes 30 MPH speed limit for towns & villages
- 1938 - Nazi Germany invades Austria (Anschluss)
- 1941 - German occupiers confiscate AVRO studios in Netherlands
- 1942 - British troops vacate the Andaman Islands in Gulf of Bengal
- 1943 - Soviet troops liberate Wjasma
- 1945 - Italy's Communist Party (CPI) calls for armed uprising in Italy
- 1945 - USSR returns Transylvania to Romania
- 1947 - US President Harry Truman introduces Truman doctrine to fight communism
- 1951 - Communist troops driven out of Seoul
- 1957 - German DR accepts 22 Russian divisions
- 1959 - US House joins Senate approving Hawaii statehood
- 1967 - Indonesian congress strips president Sukarno of authority and names General Suharto as acting President
- 1968 - Mauritius gains independence from Britain (National Day)
- 1968 - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1969 - 120 cannabis joints found at George & Patti Harrison's home
- 1970 - US lowers voting age from 21 to 18
- 1971 - Hafez al-Assad elected President of Syria
- 1971 - Turkish Government of Demirel forced to resign by Army
- 1971 - Thousands of Belfast shipyard workers march demanding the introduction of Interment for members of the Irish Republican Army
- 1975 - Vietcong conquer Ban me Thuot South Vietnam
- 1976 - South African troops leave Angola
- 1977 - Chile president Pinochet bans Christian-Democratic Party

From KO Archives

Mufti Stages A Come Back In Kashmir Politics

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Former union home minister and senior Congress leader Mufti Mohammad Syed turned tables on ruling National Conference, when he defeated the party nominee, Mohammed Yusuf Taing, with a convincing margin of over 48, 000 votes. Mufti who succeeded in establishing lead over his rival, from the very beginning of the vote count, on Monday afternoon, maintained the same till he was officially declared elected in the wee hours of Tuesday morning. Mufti polled 1,17, 152 of 2,12,337 total valid votes polled, while Taing could manage just 68,447 votes. Union state minister for home affairs, Mohammad Maqbool Dar, a Janata Dal candidate finished a poor third by securing 11,063 votes while BJP, which admitted political front of surrendered militant group JK Ikhwan into its fold, on poll eve, got 6861 votes. All the 13 candidates in the fray, excepting Taint of the National Conference, lost their security deposits.

Mufti's victory is seen as his comeback in Kashmir politics, after remaining out of it for quite a long time. In the wake of 1987 Rajiv-Farooq accord, Mufti was relieved as state Congress chief by Rajiv Gandhi and in turn inducted into union council of ministers with a cabinet rank. From that day, Mufti virtually remained aloof from Kashmir politics, especially after he joined Janata Dal and rose to become the chief of party's central parliamentary board, besides holding sensitive portfolio of home affairs. It was only in mid-1996, when Mufti left Janata Dal to join back the Congress, that he started taking keen interest in Kashmir affairs again. He played an important role in finalising the list of party candidates for 1996 assembly elections. Though Congress performed very badly in those elections, it was more because of factionalism within the party with a section of Congress owing allegiance to Ghulam Nabi Azad, openly canvassing for National Conference candidates.

Now with having won the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat with a comfortable margin, Mufti is all set to give sleepless nights to his political opponents especially National Conference, which left no stone unturned to stop him from marching to Delhi.

(Kashmir Observer, 12 March, 1998)

**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Tel: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

WRITTEN APTITUDE TEST NOTICE

It is notified for information of all the concerned applicants who have applied for the Internships (Apprenticeship) at Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) in response to the Advertisement Notice No.1 of 2022 issued vide No. IUST/CCPC/ Internships_IUST/22/70, Dated: 03/01/2022, that the Written Aptitude Test of the provisionally eligible applicants is scheduled to be held on **26th of March, 2022 (Saturday)** at 11:30 am in the University Campus, Awantipora. The provisional list of eligible/in-eligible applicants is available on the IUST website www.iust.ac.in, the applicants who are provisionally eligible must clear their discrepancies by submitting their requisite documents on all working days by or before **15th of March, 2022 (Tuesday)** upto 2:00 pm.

The eligible applicants are advised to download their Admit Cards from the University website www.iust.ac.in w.e.f 17th of March, 2022 (Thursday). In order to appear in the Written Aptitude Test, the applicants must bring the printout of their respective Admit cards and reach the University campus half an hour before the scheduled time.

The applicants must ensure the COVID appropriate behavior in the Examination Hall as per the guidelines issued by the Government from time to time.

No: IUST/CCP/Written_Test/Internships/22/80
Dated:09-03-2022 **DIPK-NB-7642/21** **Sd/-**
Dy. Registrar, Trainings & Placements

SAD DEMISE

We inform you the sad demise of Sheikh Abdul Hamid
S/o: Sheikh Ghulam Ahmad R/o: Bar Bar Shah Srinagar who
left for heavenly abode on dated: 10-03-2022. Taziyat will be
only for 3 days. No fateh khawni will be held

BEREAVED FAMILY
Contact: 9906157983 / 7006812625

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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Twitter Talks

twitter

"Locals from adjoining areas came and literally put their life on line to save the people in Barzulla hospital. Hats off to them"

@rjnasirkashmir

" Airbnb's cofounder and CEO Brian Chesky says his company was suspending all operations in Russia and Belarus. Airbnb still allows Israeli settlers to rent out rooms and homes to foreigners in the occupied Palestinian territories"

@azadessa

" Never again let anyone tell you the foreign occupation and bombing of a people is "too complicated" or "too political" to take a stance. #Ukraine"

@hodakatebi

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Callous We

For decades, Kashmiris have been holidaying on nature's capacity to absorb abuse, unmindful of the explosive backlash sure to come once the ever-indulgent mother's limits are crossed. It would be hard to find a people so blessed with divine bounty and yet so criminally callous and heedless of their duty to protect and preserve it.

A more conscientious society would have guarded its priceless gifts with a fanatic zeal, but not so the Kashmiris, who not only appear to have taken the blessings for granted but also appear to be absolutely unaware that they posses something special. The collective will of a society ought to be reflected in the leaders it chooses, the governments it forms and the institutions it creates. But all these several levels of organized social action in Kashmir - if they deserve such a name at all - are only a reflection of the public apathy to issues concerning nature and environment. The transitory mushrooming of NGOs who grab attention with their short-lived, if well-meaning, bursts of activity is no answer to the chronic and dire problems they wish to address.

For instance, the dying Dal and other city lakes cannot be saved by a hyped day-long drive alone even if it pulls in the high and the mighty of the valley's officialdom for laudatory speeches. Even two decade after the Dal's sickness became public, it continues to be a receptacle of sewage, waste and trash, much of the latter in the form of the scourge of polythene. And as the High Court recently observed, encroachments in the blighted water-body continue apace right under the watch of agencies that have spent hundreds of crores of rupees in an ostensible bid to save the lake.

Horrible as their plight is, the Dal, its sister Nigeen, and the by now past-redemption Anchar and Khush-haal Sar Lakes are only the tip of the collective culpability of Kashmiris

miris - the rot has spread far and wide, right from the civic disaster in the city and the disasters-in-the-making in rural Kashmir, where, among other things, villagers erect latrines on streams and rivulets.

The assaults on Kashmir's natural assets have been, and continue to be, a willful, criminal public enterprise marked by an equally criminal complicity of successive governments which have failed to put their foot down in the face of this large-scale vandalism. Even today, when the waters - highly polluted, in this case - have gone well over the heads, the bright sparks in the government blunder about blindly without a clue on what course to take. Now that the High Court has taken the city's lakes into its own custody, some remedial action can be expected. Any government and civic authority worth the name would have forcibly banned polythene and other plastic waste from Kashmir over a decade ago. But as things stand here, the officialdom experiences brief spells of wakefulness in which it issues pious appeals to desist from the use of polythene, and then lapses back into its customary stupor. Mere appeals will not serve the purpose; what is required is tough action, and aggressive promotion of alternative mean.

Given the dismal record of successive governments over the relatively simple polythene issue, it is not clear how the powers-that-be can tackle the more complex matters of scientific treatment and disposal of garbage, rampant commercialization of residential areas, copy-cat urbanization of rural Kashmir and the degradation of the valley's ecological wealth in the countryside.

In more enlightened societies it is the leaderships that set a benign agenda, mode and trend of development, and sell it to the public who cooperate willingly and wholeheartedly in what they rightly perceive to be in their ultimate interest. But Kashmir is a study in contrast. Here a remiss leadership is more than matched by an unthinking public who see the stark face of their deprecations every day but don't lift a finger to arrest it.

The article is an editorial from
KO Archives and was originally published on 17 December, 2010

Up In Flames
Revisiting Safety Norms

BONE AND JOINT HOSPITAL IN BARZULLA area of Srinagar caught fire on March 4, Friday throwing into question the safety norms in public buildings

Amir Suhail Wani

What shall one make of the assessment which describes the recent accident of humongous fire at Barzulla bone and joint hospital as a "wake - up call"? Shall it be assumed as a hint and clue pointing the negligence and state of slumber of concerned agencies and authorities towards the comprehensive safety of hospitals and by analogy to public buildings like schools, colleges, universities, malls, shrines, mosques? This is what has been hinted at, at least partially by some of the agencies entrusted with overall evaluation and estimation of safety parameters of hospitals. A statement from fire and emergency department reads that "Around 70 percent Government as well as private hospitals in the UT do not have basic fire safety measures in place. They lack smoke & fire management system and in many health institutions, unreliable fire management systems have been noticed". That is the scenario of hospital safety for you, for me and for all of us. This is how poorly our hospitals are assessed to perform when weighed against the scale of safety and security. It needs to be borne in mind that hospitals aren't picnic sports or holiday resorts, where one ventures in pursuit of joy, adventure or thrill. It is a place to which we rush in hours of health crisis, medical emergency and state of utter helplessness. The very idea of hospital invokes in us a sense of reliance, relief and escape from the suffering we are caught in. Stated in other words, hospitals are meant to be niches of safety, security, dependence, reliability and care of supreme order. But shall the thought not pause us to think for a while that the places we rush to in search of shield and safety, are themselves unsecured and susceptible and vulnerable to various natural and man-made disasters.

The recent episode of fire at Bone and Joint hospital awakened us to one of the dozens of safety lapses which our hospitals might be harbouring and which might culminate in disaster's of unforeseen and unaffordable magnitude if not given due attention and plugged the earliest.

One lacuna of unforgivable proportion which underlies human response is our proclivity for reactive instead of proactive measures. Because the fire engulfed Bone and Joint Hospital recently, now all attention seems to be diverted to the fire audit and fire fighting systems in place at hospitals. And this reaction usually comes at the cost of ignoring other safety parameters or considering them less hazardous till they cause a damage and destruction of higher proportions, some other day. So let us expand our canvas and try to identify the broader contours of "Safe Hospitals", and this description shall, by extension and little customization apply to all the buildings of public usage, as alluded to above. But before we can proceed with suggestions to ensure proper safety measures, our first task is to define hospital safety in most comprehensive and inclusive way possible. Hospital safety can be defined as the sum total of all procedures adopted and measures taken to ensure the safety and security of Pa-

tients, Staff, Attendants and visitors. This safety implicitly assumes in definition its extension both to tangible and intangible aspects of safety and security. When we try to conceptualise the tangible vectors of hospital safety, we come across three broad categories: the structural safety of hospital, the safety of patients, staff and attendants and the safety of equipment installed inside a hospital.

The structural safety of hospitals in turn involves making hospitals cope-up and mitigate the unforeseen calamities like earthquakes, ensuring proper fire fighting mechanism in place and foreseeing any possible future floods and to design hospitals such that they withstand these contingencies. Let's see how earthquakes influence the structure of hospitals and how can various structural features be added or subtracted to ensure that in any case of earthquake occurrence, damage to life and property is reduced to the minimum. The first point of departure is to consult structural engineers and seismic resistant structure experts before any structure is raised on ground. Their opinions and expert advices need to be incorporated into the weaving of building at each step. Well, this is a routine standard process and these things are scrupulously observed while a structure like hospital, college etc is under construction. But what happens later is that

LET'S NOT GET STUCK IN BLAME games, mudslinging and passing on the buck but rise up to the challenges which hospital safety posits in its multifarious forms and dimensions

these buildings are left in a state that can be described as "seismic ignorance". It is not enough to have a seismic resistant place in building, but it calls for frequent timely inspections, evaluations, assessments and identification of faults and flaws, if any. Living in earthquake-prone region as we are, and given the unpredictable nature of earthquakes, all necessary measures ought to have taken to avoid any mishap. But as we get to know from experts, though our hospitals and constructed with the hindsight of meeting any earthquake related emergency, but there are many flaws like emergency exists do not function properly or remain blocked, even in events of earthquake. In similar vein, the absence of ample emergency exits and multi-flooring of hospitals multiplies the magnitude of damage in event of earthquake. A professor in Structural Engineering and specialist in Seismic Micro-zoning said

on conditions of anonymity that most of our hospitals constructed in past, including the main three-storied main building of government SMHS hospital lack the necessary structural features necessary to provide them a degree of resistance in instances of earthquake.

This applies more radically to colleges, shrines, mosques and malls too, which house a large number of people at any instant of time.

Fire safety of hospitals has caught our imagination once again, with the eruption of fire at Bone and Joint Hospital, Barzulla. Earlier, the fire safety and safety audit became talk of the town when the famous Shrine of Dastgeer Sahib, Khanyar was gutted down in massive fire. But the fervour decayed and even on this date, the holy shrines, which consist of entirely wooden structures are ill equipped to fight any fire related emergency. The fire extinguishers installed therein have usually been found dysfunctional and even if they happen to function, where are the people who know how to use these devices, if the need arises. Same holds true about schools, colleges, universities and other places where people in large numbers assemble together. But there's some topicality about fire safety of hospitals and that is associated with the fact that whereas students in schools and people in mosques can move on their own, run and rush and save themselves, the patients in hospitals aren't usually able to move on their own and rely entirely on the mercy of others to move and escape them in any event of fire emergency, lest they be charred and marred by fire. This brings us to the crucial question that do we have smoke detectors, fire alarms and proper fire fighting equipments in place in hospitals? When you see a fire extinguisher hanging by wall in any hospital draped by a sheath of dust, that shall alarm you and all of us that the magnitude of negligence is beyond forgiveness. What do experts say on the resilience of our hospitals to meet the emergency situation of fire.

A statement from the fire and emergency department in the wake of the recent incident reads "there are no fire-fighting measures, no emergency power supply and the public address system is also dysfunctional. Time and again, we use to advise the hospital authorities to install adequate fire safety equipment in their premises and conduct mock drills at regular intervals, but least interest is shown on their part to conduct mock drills which are necessary to prepare the hospital staff to control fire". Let's not get stuck in blame games, mudslinging and passing on the buck but rise up to the challenges which hospital safety posits in its multifarious forms and dimensions.

There are other equally important, but less talked about parameters of hospital safety. How often do we speak of the awkward and at times rudimentary behaviour of hospital staff towards attendants? Gripped in stress and anxiety, as these attendants usually are, their distress multiplies manifold while they withstand the rude behaviour of hospital staff. But the coin has other side too and that seems much darker. The incidents of attendants beating doctors have been on the rise and no civilised society shall leave any space for these gore episodes. A single patient is accompanied by multiple attendants and that has a cascading effect in setting problems on roller coasters in any eventuality and in otherwise normal situations too. The highly disproportionate doctor-patient ratio, the safety and security of equipment installed in a hospital, the frequent incidents of theft at hospitals, the oft-reported medical negligence all come under the ambit of hospital safety and there are many other aspects that call for separate space for discussion.

Let it be reiterated that safe hospitals do not imply only safety against fires, for we have witnessed a fire in one of our hospitals recently, but it calls for comprehensive inclusion of all the parameters discussed above. And while we talk about safety, it shall not be restricted to hospitals, but shall include in its scope all structures of public importance.

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

The author is a writer and columnist

Family Trouble

Ramachandra Guha

and won even fewer seats than it had in the last assembly elections.

In Uttar Pradesh, Priyanka Gandhi at least got some marks for effort, if none for impact. In Punjab, where the Congress was in power, her brother, Rahul, threw away his party's chances of re-election through the capricious replacement of the incumbent chief minister less than a year before the polls. Although he was not popular with a section of the MLAs, Amarinder Singh had wide experience in politics, and, more importantly, had taken a strong stand in favour of the farmers' movement. A year ago, the Congress and the AAP both had equal chances of winning Punjab. But then Amarinder's replacement by the relatively unknown Charanjit Singh Channi, and Channi's undermining by Rahul Gandhi's indulgence of the destructive Navjot Singh Sidhu, threw the entire state unit in disarray. In the event, the Congress was comprehensively defeated by the AAP in Punjab.

Turn next to Goa and Uttarakhand. In both states, the BJP was in power but its governments were deeply unpopular, seen as corrupt and unfeeling. In Uttarakhand, the BJP changed two chief ministers in a bid to stem discontent. In both states, the Congress was the principal Opposition party; yet in each case, it was not able to mount a strong enough challenge to regain power. Nor, finally, could the Congress make a significant impact in Manipur, once a state where it was the natural party of governance, and where (as I send this column to press) it appears to

have won twenty fewer seats than last time.

The latest round of elections confirms, yet again, what some of us have known for a long time - that at least under its current leadership, the Congress is incapable of ever again becoming a major player in national politics. After leading the party to a humiliating loss in the 2019 general election, Rahul Gandhi resigned as Congress president. His mother, Sonia Gandhi, then became 'acting' president of the party; two-and-a-half-years on, the party still hasn't taken any steps to choose a successor. The Congress has remained under the de facto control of the Family; with the results that we are now seeing.

Back in 2019, the Congress had a chance to reinvent itself; it threw it away. What might it do now? I believe that for the good of the party, as well as for the good of Indian democracy, the Gandhis must not just exit from the party's leadership but retire from politics altogether. For it is not merely that Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi have shown themselves markedly incapable of making the party a competitive force in state and national elections. It is also that their very presence in the Congress makes it easy for Narendra Modi and the BJP to deflect attention from the government's failures in the present by resorting to debates about the past. Thus, charges of corruption in defence deals are answered with reference to Rajiv Gandhi and Bofors; charges of suppressing the media and incarcerating activists are met with references to Indira

Gandhi and the Emergency; charges of losing Indian land and soldiers to the Chinese army with reference to Jawaharlal Nehru and the war of 1962 and so on.

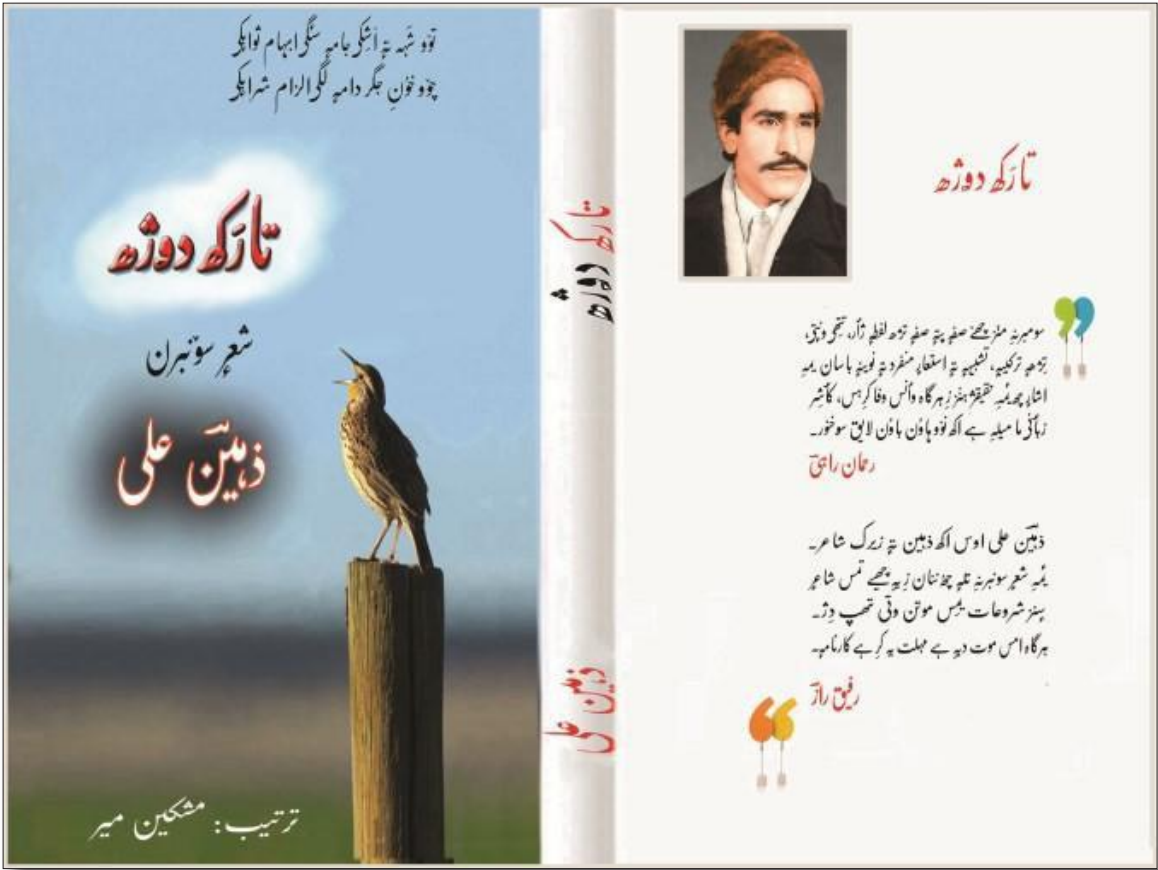
Despite all these failures, if Narendra Modi and the BJP remain in pole position to win re-election in 2024, a key reason is that it still has as its principal 'national' Opposition the Congress under the Nehru-Gandhis. Parties such as the TMC, the BJD, the YSRC, the TRS, the DMK, the CPI(M) and the AAP can mount an effective electoral challenge to the BJP in areas where they are the main Opposition to it. This the Congress cannot really do - as the latest results from Goa, Manipur, and Uttarakhand once again show. The weaknesses of a Congress led by the Nehru-Gandhis are particularly visible during general elections. For instance, in the 191 seats in the 2019 elections when they were in a head-to-head fight with the BJP, the Congress won just sixteen. With Rahul Gandhi posited as its prime ministerial alternative to Narendra Modi, the Congress's strike rate was a mere 8 per cent.

So far as the BJP is concerned, the Gandhis are a gift that keeps on giving. On the one hand, they do not remotely represent an effective electoral challenge to it. On the other hand, the Gandhis allow and encourage the BJP to dictate the terms of the national political debate - by locating it in the past rather than in the present.

Views expressed in the article are the
author's own and do not necessarily
represent the editorial stance of Kashmir
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An Unsung Hero: Zaheen Ali



A poetry collection of the Late Zaheen Ali, a Kashmiri poet known for his individual style and diction, was published last month. The book titled Tarakh Duachh, “Stars in the Cupped Hands” brought out by Meezan Publishers & Distributors, comprises Hamud, Naat, Ghazals, Sonnets, Tercets, Quatrains, Free Verses, Marsiya, Vatsun and also a narrative poem (Shaitan namah - which remained unfinished because of his death).

The prefaces to Taarak Duachh are written by two most renowned and loved eminent writers of the Kashmiri language Professor Rah- man Rahi and Mr. Rafiq Raaz. Their reviews about Taarak Duachh are almost identical. Rahi, in his preface, says that the choice of words, idioms, similes, meta- phors, uniqueness and newness page after page in the collection indicate that if life had been kind to the poet, the Kashmiri lan- guage would have got an illustri- ous poet. In his review, Raaz says that the poems are a sure sign

of the fact that if the poet had lived on, he would have attained great distinction in the literary circles.

A few verses from Taarak Duachh translated into English by Moham- mad Amin, formerly Reader in English University of Kashmir are quoted before closing the review.

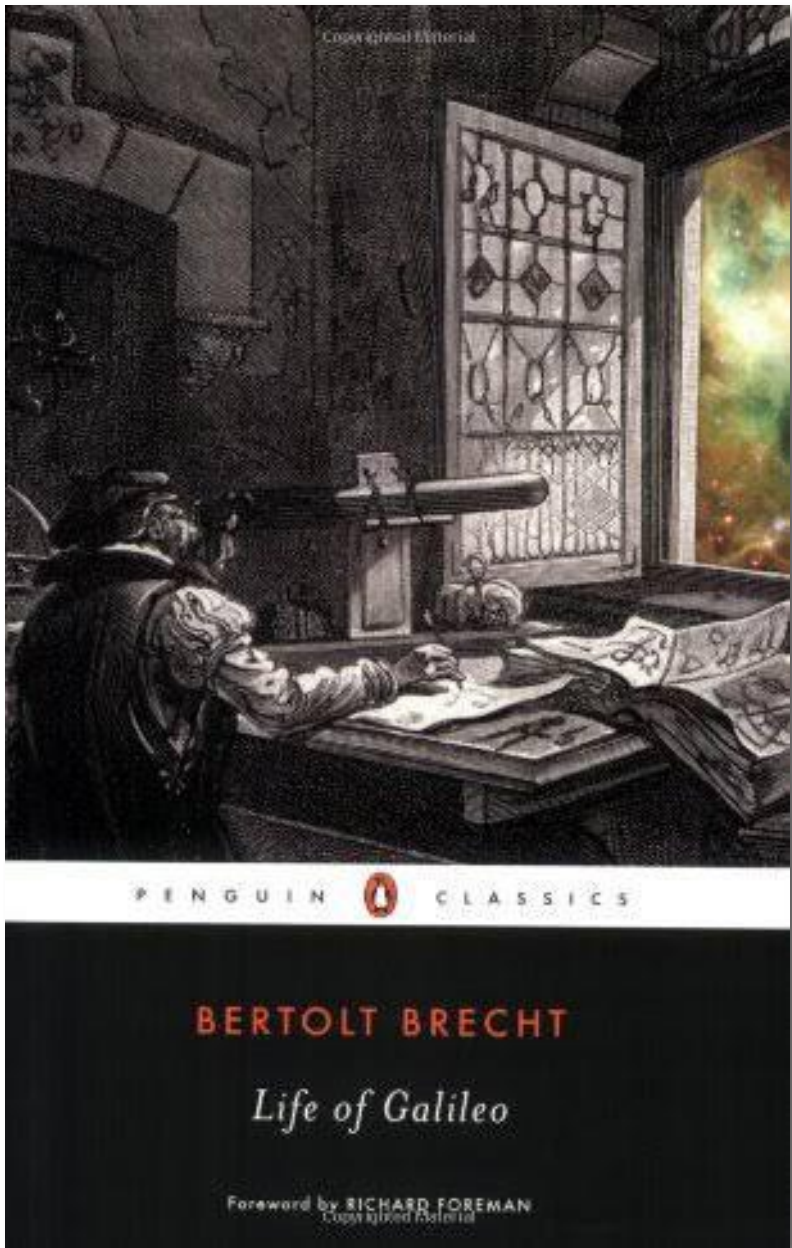
Carrying my corpse on my shoulder, I keep trudging along
I said, didn't I ? That I often get weary
Time is flying and the destina- tion is far away
What you say is fine but it is me who is not ready.
walls the behind do we as Dwell Seeing one another is just a mere dream
Enter we the raindrops, mingle with the brook and then flow on. Emerge we shall from the clouds and perform a miracle:

The theme is new, I will narrate it in my own way
Hurry not, wait ! I will express it in my own way.

A FEW VERSES FROM TAARAK DUACHH translated into English by Moham- mad Amin, formerly Reader in English University of Kashmir are quoted before closing the review.

Read With KO

“Life Of Galileo” By Bertolt Brecht



Tooba Towfiq

The Russia-Ukraine war and the process of eulogising one side and demonising the other is all out in the open. The racist tirades that have followed have also thrown into question how the labels of “heroic” and “villainous” have all been manufactured and are accorded to certain people on account of their identity. The white west and its allies are always invariably seen in the positive light and all others are seen as vile and degraded.

Additionally, in times where populist right wing leaders rule the roost, one wonders whether the possibility of “hero” exists.

This reminds us of political theatre that questioned the very idea of the possibility of heroes. In this context, Brechtian theatre was strongly political. It was a creative praxis of Brecht's politics which was typically anti-capitalistic. Brecht was against Romantic, Naturalist and Expressionist theatre which were largely

bourgeois. The thrust of each of these lay in the subjectivity and individuality of their protagonist. Brecht disapproved of the idea of this “free” individual, which appeared at the centre of most bourgeois literature.

Galileo from “The Life of Galileo” exemplifies his Marxist belief of a socially and economically constructed individual as opposed to an infallible and heroic protagonist of the bourgeois novels. He explores the impossibility of a “hero” in an authoritarian system which incapacitates individuals to maintain the status quo. Additionally, the play also stands in stark opposition to the popular culture of the Third Reich with the hero and the heroic corresponding to either Hitler's persona or a Hitler like persona. It is also pertinent to mention that the absence of a conventional hero in Brecht's theatre reiterated the presence of the Captain Americas who could thrive in the American mass culture.

At the beginning, the play invites the faith of the spectators/readers in Galileo's quest for scientific truth. Yet, unlike the conventional, eccen-

GALILEO FROM “THE Life of Galileo” exemplifies his Marxist belief of a socially and economically constructed individual as opposed to an infallible and heroic protagonist of the bourgeois novels.

tric ethical truth-seeker; Galileo is shown to be gluttonous, deceptive and inconsiderate. His quest is intercepted by the indulgent pursuit of life and pleasure. This holds his status as a Knowledge seeker in tandem with his corporeality. However, the hurdles which he faces are not an outcome of his lack of heroism. His circumstances are determined by the social, political and economic conditions of his times and the authority which limits and dictates his actions. This is a quintessential instance of Brechtian Gestus which affirms that it is social relations and not ones psychology which dictates our actions.

Galileo's recantation is best suited to explain the purpose of this deflation of the heroic and is a significant catch to understand Brecht's politics. It was an obvious comment on the fascist Nazi Germany from which Brecht sought a voluntary exile. Galileo's desire to seek knowledge was agential and revolutionary, but his discoveries could not be established as truth in an era with its own “regimes of truth” which buttressed the ruling ideology. Hence, he could not evolve as a hero who would single-handedly vindicate the system that systematically coerced everyone.

Additionally, Brecht had only two tangents to place his hero in accordance to the norms of his times. In Germany, being “heroisch” or heroic was closely related to Hitler's violent individualism, “it had always worn a uniform, three different uniforms, but had never been seen in civilian clothes” (Klemperer). Hitler thrived in propagandist literature like “Triumph of Will” which projected him as a divine and likeable ruler. On the other hand, American mass culture especially the comics industry showed Supermans and Captain Americas fighting the system by virtue of their idealised selves and national identity. Brecht was against any of such violent, vile and idealised notions of heroism.

His characters are not romantic heroes, whose triumphs conceal the underlying play of power .They are agential in so far as they are constantly regurgitating the politics of the “obvious” and are fighters in their endeavours to critique.

Newly Devised Human Family Tree Reveals The 'Genealogy Of Everyone'

Will Dunham

WASHINGTON:- From bustling Tokyo to the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea, from Novosibirsk in Siberia to the equatorial city of Quito, from congested Cairo to the desert town of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, people everywhere comprise a single family.

Researchers on Thursday underscored that point, unveiling the most comprehensive family tree for Homo sapiens ever devised, based upon both modern and ancient genome data from more than 3,600 people from around the world. They dubbed the results the “genealogy of everyone.”

The study helps delineate human genetic diversity and map out how people globally are related to one another, with our species arising in Africa before fanning out worldwide.

The oldest roots of present-day human genetic variation reach back to northeastern Africa at a time before our species originated, according to Anthony Wilder Wohns, a postdoctoral researcher in genetics at the Broad Institute of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University and lead author of the study published in the journal Science.

“The very earliest ancestors we identify trace back in time to a geographic location that is in modern Sudan. These ancestors lived up to and over one million years ago - which is much older than current estimates for the age of Homo sapiens - 250,000 to 300,000 years ago. So bits of our genome have been inherited from individuals who we wouldn't recognize as modern humans,” Wohns said.

This million-year-old genetic contribution likely came from the species Homo erectus, Wohns said. Homo erectus, which lived from about 1.9 million years ago to 110,000 years ago, was the first species in the human evolutionary lineage with body proportions resembling our own.

The study, spearheaded by the University of Oxford's Big Data Institute, also documented how extinct human species such as the Denisovans and Neanderthals left genetic descendants among modern-day people around the world, though not in Africa.

“For example, people in Papua New Guinea and Oceania have quite large amounts of Denisovan ancestry, but even people living in Europe have some ancestry that looks like these ancient people,” Wohns said.

The study helped shed light on when and where major population developments unfolded, such as the large-scale “out of Africa” migration that led our species to distant locales and occasional interbreeding with Denisovans and Neanderthals.

“Our method uses DNA sequences to learn about the ancestral relationships between individuals. Informally,

what we try to do is to trace how genetic mutations, which occurred in our ancestors, and the bits of genome in which they occur have been passed down through the generations to the present day,” Wohns said.

“Moreover, we can estimate the date and approximate geographic location of ancestors,” Wohns added.

Other studies have indicated that groups of Homo sapiens departed Africa at various times in the ancient past. The new study suggests that the timing of the most significant departures occurred roughly 72,000 years ago.

The study raises the possibility that our species populated the Americas and Oceania well before the earliest archaeological evidence of human presence in those regions.

“Our method estimated that there were ancestors in the Americas by 56,000 years ago. We also estimated significant numbers of human ancestors in Oceania - specifically Papua New Guinea - by 140,000 years ago,” Wohns

THE VERY earliest ancestors we identify trace back in time to a geographic location that is in modern Sudan. These ancestors lived up to and over one million years ago - which is much older than current estimates for the age of Homo sapiens - 250,000 to 300,000 years ago. So bits of our genome have been inherited from individuals who we wouldn't recognize as modern humans,”

added. “But this is not firm evidence like a radiocarbon-dated tool or fossil.”

The researchers built the genealogy using 3,601 genetic samples from people around the world and eight ancient samples, the oldest coming from Neanderthal remains about 110,000 years old from a Siberian cave. They examined genome fragments from 3,500 ancient humans but did not directly incorporate these into the genealogy.

“The story of humanity is written in our genes,” Wohns said, “and reconstructing our genealogy allows us to read that history.”

Reuters

Nothing Wrong In Judges Being Pro-Govt Or Against Govt, Says Delhi HC CJ

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: There is nothing wrong with judges being pro-government or against the government as they may have different outlooks and approaches towards the issues before them and it leads to the development of law, said Delhi High Court Chief Justice DN Patel on Friday.

Some judges are pro-labour, pro-employer, pro revenue, against revenue. Nothing is wrong. You see people are criticising... There is nothing wrong that you are pro-labour, pro-employer, pro-tenant, pro-landlord, pro-government, against the government. There is always the development of law by these types of judgement, said Justice Patel, who will demit the office of Delhi High Court Chief Justice after attaining the superannuation age of 62 years on March 12.

The Chief Justice, while speaking at the farewell reference organised by the high court, said that judges are only interpreters and are not here to make the law or to evolve a policy and a balance has to be maintained between judicial activism and restraint.

Whenever there is a gap between law and justice, as an exception, there is bound to be judicial activism and the same cannot be a matter of role, he added.

It is for Parliament (to enact laws) and in the absence of law, for the executive to draft the policy... One has to maintain the



balance between judicial activism and judicial restraint, said the judge.

And if there is any gap (between justice and law), a judge has to fill up the gap and that is known as judicial activism. That is inevitable. But as a matter of exception and not as a matter of role. We are not here, this is what I believe personally, to make the law, nor to evolve a policy brand new but we are the only interpreter of the law. But as an exception, as I have said, whenever there is a gap between law and justice, there is bound to be judicial activism, the Chief Justice added.

The judge said that the primary task of judges is to render justice

through judicial orders and that both the members of the Bar and the Bench owe a responsibility to the citizens and that each one of us is bound by mandate of the Constitution to dispense justice to the last man in the queue.

He also said that the quality of Bar in the Delhi High Court is par excellence and acknowledged the monumental efforts made by the members of the Delhi judiciary to keep the judicial system running during the pandemic.

During the farewell event, Justice Vipin Sanghi said that it was because of Justice Patel's dynamic approach that virtual hearings and hybrid hearings before the Delhi High Court were applauded by other high

courts and the Supreme Court.

While Supreme Court judges retire at the age of 65 years, the retirement age for high court judges is 62.

Justice Patel was appointed as the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on June 7, 2019, and authored several landmark judgements and orders.

On November 24, 2021, a bench headed by Justice Patel passed a slew of directions on the safety and security at court complexes following the September 24 shootout that killed three persons in a courtroom in Rohini Court and directed the city Police Commissioner to undertake a periodical review of security arrangements in courts, based on

security audit by an expert team, for the deployment of the requisite number of personnel and installation of gadgets.

On October 12, 2021, a bench headed by Justice Patel upheld the Centre's decision to appoint senior IPS officer Rakesh Asthana as Delhi Police Commissioner four days before his superannuation on July 31, saying there was no irregularity, illegality in his selection and apex court's directions such as involving UPSC's panel in the process was intended to apply only to appointment of a state DGP.

On May 31, 2021, describing the Central Vista project as "vital and essential", his bench had allowed construction work on the project to continue and imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh on the petitioners for their "motivated" plea.

On November 3, 2020, a bench headed by Justice Patel took suo motu cognizance of the clash between lawyers and police at Tis Hazari court and ordered a judicial inquiry by one of its retired judges into the incident.

Born on March 13, 1960, Justice Patel enrolled as an advocate on July 28, 1984, and practiced at the Gujarat High Court.

He was appointed as Additional Central Government Standing Counsel in 1999 and as Senior Central Government Standing Counsel in July 2001.

Justice Patel was elevated as an Additional Judge of the Gujarat High Court on March 7, 2004, and took oath as its permanent Judge on January 25, 2006.

Direct confrontation between NATO and Russia is World War III: Biden

Agenceis

WASHINGTON: Russia will pay a severe price for the use of chemical weapons, US President Joe Biden said on Friday, stressing that Washington will not fight Moscow in Ukraine as a direct confrontation between NATO and Kremlin would trigger World War III.

On February 24, Russian forces launched military operations in Ukraine, three days after Moscow recognised Ukraine's breakout regions - Donetsk and Luhansk - as independent entities.

We're going to continue to stand together with our allies in Europe and send an unmistakable message. We'll defend every single inch of NATO territory with the full might of the United States and galvanise NATO. We will not fight a war against Russia in Ukraine. Direct confrontation between NATO and Russia is World War III. Something we must strive to prevent, Biden told reporters at the White House.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) is a group of 30 North American and European nations. According to NATO, its purpose "is to guarantee the freedom and security of its members through political and military means."

Biden said Russia would never be able to gain victory in Ukraine. He (Russian President Vladimir Putin) hoped to dominate Ukraine without

a fight, he failed, Biden said, adding that Putin also failed in his alleged attempt to fracture and weaken the transatlantic alliance.

The American people and the world are united on the issue of Ukraine, he said. We stand with the people of Ukraine. We will not let autocrats and would-be emperors dictate the direction of the world. Democracies are rising to meet this moment, rallying the world to the side of peace... We're showing our strength and we will not falter, he said.

Biden said he will ask Congress to strip Russia of its most-favoured-nation status.

As Putin continues this merciless assault, the United States and our allies and partners continue to work in lockstep to ramp up their economic pressure on Putin and to further isolate Russia on the global stage, he said.

Revoking (this status) for Russia is going to make it harder for Russia to do business with the United States. And doing it in unison with other nations that make up half of the global economy will be another crushing blow to the Russian economy. It's already suffering very badly, Biden said.

Responding to a question, Biden said that Russia will pay a heavy price for use of chemical weapons. I am not going to speak about intelligence (matters). But Russia will pay a severe price for use of chemical weapons, he said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

India 'Accidentally'

cautioned to be mindful of the unpleasant consequences of such negligence and take effective measures to avoid the recurrence of such violations in future, said the FO.

Separately, Pakistan Army spokesman Major General Babar Iftikhar said that on March 9, a hi-speed flying object was picked up inside the Indian territory by the Air Defence Operations Center of the Pakistan Air Force.

Pakistan strongly protests this flagrant violation and cautions against recurrence of any such incident in future, he said.

Pakistan Air Force continuously monitored the complete flight path of the flying object from its point of origin Sirsa in India till its point of impact near Mian Channu and initiated requisite tactical actions in accordance with standard operating procedures, he said.

Ties between India and Pakistan nose-dived after militants attacked the Pathankot Air Force base in 2016 by groups based in the neighbouring country. Subsequent attacks, including one on an Indian Army camp in Uri, further deteriorated the relationship.

The relationship deteriorated further after India announced withdrawing the special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of the state into two union territories in August, 2019.

India's move to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019 outraged Pakistan, which downgraded diplomatic ties and expelled the Indian High Commissioner in Islamabad. It also snapped all air and land links with India and suspended trade and railway services.

15th Round Of

The 14th round of talks had taken place on January 12 and did not result in any significant headway in resolving the row in remaining friction points.

"The two sides agreed to stay in close contact and maintain dialogue via military and diplomatic channels and work out a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest," a joint statement issued after the 14th round of talks said.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff between the Indian and Chinese militaries erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas.

Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers as well as heavy weaponry.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process last year in the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area.

Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the LAC in the sensitive sector.

Sarpanch Shot

Wednesday, militants shot dead a Sarpanch Sameer Ahmad Bhat after barging into his house in Khonmoh area of the Srinagar outskirts.

Prior to that, Mohammad Yaqoob Dar, a Panch from Sundoo village of Kulgam district was shot dead by militants on March 2.

Militants Trapped

information about the presence of militants. When the joint team started advances, the militants hiding in the village opened fire upon them in a bid to escape from their dragnet.

The joint forces, according to the reports, returned the fire setting off a fierce encounter.

A local news agency KDC quoting sources said that one to two militants are believed to be hiding in the village.

"#Encounter has started at Chewaklan area of #Pulwama. Police and security forces are on the job. Further details shall follow," Kashmir Police posted on its official Twitter handle.

Northern Army

3-day trip, visited Rashtriya Rifles formations in the hinterland to review the overall security scenario in the Kashmir Valley, a defence spokesperson said Friday.

The Army Commander, he said, also visited a Rashtriya Rifles unit conducting counter militancy operations and appreciated the recent success in operations where the troops successfully eliminated some hard-core militants including Pakistani militants with minimal collateral damage and no loss of any civilian life.

"He reiterated the credo of use of minimum force and just conduct by the soldiers involved in Counter Terrorist operations," the spokesperson said.

Dwivedi, he said, also appreciated the efforts at breaking the cycle of violence for sustainable peace and stability in Kashmir.

According to the spokesperson, the Army Commander was briefed by Lt Gen DP Pandey, GOC Chinara Corps on the prevalent security situation and measures instituted to counter adversaries' design.

"He lauded the strong counter infiltration grid along the Line of Control. For the hinterland, the Army Commander complimented Chinara Corps for the conduct of just operations," he said.

The Army Commander, he said, was also appreciative of the excellent soldier - citizen connect activities, which have resulted in overall reduction in the "terrorist recruitments".

"The Army Commander also commended Chinara Corps for the various activities being conducted with the citizens in fields of education, sports, culture and skilling," the spokesperson added.

11 IPS Officers

basis; Keshav Ram Chaurasia (IPS) with effect from 01.01.2021 on proforma basis; Atul Kumar Goel (IPS) with effect from 01.01.2022 and Bhim Sen Tuti (IPS) with effect from 01.01.2022 with "drawl of officiating pay from the date".

Three IPS officers of 2008 batch have been promoted to the grade of

Super Time Scale-(i) DIG (Level-13A in the Pay Matrix), with effect from 01.01.2022. They include Tejinder Singh (on proforma basis), Abdul Jabbar and Udayabhaskar Billa, as per the order.

Three officers of 2009 batch have been placed in the Selection Grade of IPS (Level-13 in the Pay Matrix) with effect from 01.01.2022.

They include Imtiaz Ismail Parry, Shailendra Kumar Mishra (on proforma basis) and Rahul Malik (on proforma basis.)

Separately, the government ordered that Reyaz Ahmad Darzi, incharge Deputy Director Prosecution Anantnag/Kulgam/Shopian shall also hold the charge of the post of Deputy Director Prosecution Pulwama and Budgam in addition to his own duties till further orders.

Army Chopper

"The pilots were responding to a medical emergency of the force. I am pained beyond words and I salute the dedication and bravery of the pilots who undertake such difficult evacuation operations," BSF Inspector General (Kashmir Frontier) Raja Babu Singh said.

Officials said immediately after the 'Cheetah' crashed, the Army launched a rescue operation and pressed into service an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) and soldiers on foot.

The two pilots were evacuated but Major Yadav was declared dead upon arrival at the hospital.

"Major Yadav was commissioned into the army in 2015 and he hailed from Jaipur, Rajasthan. He is survived by his father," the spokesman said.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi condoled the demise of Major Yadav.

"I salute the courage and supreme sacrifice of our braveheart Army officer Maj Sankalp Yadav who laid down his life in the line of duty in Gurez sector. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family in this hour of grief. I wish for speedy recovery of the injured," Sinha said.

Lt Gen Dwivedi also saluted the braveheart who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty in Gurez Sector.

He also offered his deepest condolences to the bereaved family.

Pvt Schools

that no private school shall seek any undertaking from parents or students for advance tuition fees and transportation fees, "the practice being illegal and shall not be allowed," the order stated.

It directed that the hike will be operative from the date of reopening of schools.

Tourism Players

the month of November in 2021 had reached a record 1, 25,605 and in January and February 2022, over 1.5 lakh tourists had visited Gulmarg with over 80,000 domestic tourists.

Khursheed, a hotelier and houseboat owner told Kashmir Observer that the

Government's decision to organize various "tourism boost" programmes and open Mughal gardens at full capacity has led to a massive increase in bookings for the upcoming months.

"Even though we received more than 1 lakh tourists in January and February this year, I'm sure that the number of tourists arriving in Kashmir will witness a massive boost in the summer months. Since January, the tourist footfall is gradually increasing and if the same continues, the numbers will increase in April, May and June," he said.

As per the tour operators, hundreds of high-end domestic tourists are arriving in Kashmir in choppers and chartered flights, which is boosting the tourism economy a lot compared to the other domestic tourist arrivals.

The tour operators have also said that besides Gulmarg, the domestic tourists who wish to explore Kashmir are booking their stay for Gurez valley in the months of April, May and June.

"The Government has decided to open Tulip garden from the first week of April and because of it, the bookings have also increased. Most of these bookings are coming from the Domestic customers," says Kamran.

Mohammed Ashraf, a Shikara owner, told Kashmir Observer that Tourism Department's plan to promote Jammu & Kashmir at national and international level is a commendable job as hundreds of tourists are thronging the Dal Lake every day.

"And since floating Cinema was introduced in Dal, more and more customers are willing to take a Shikara ride," says Ashraf.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Secretary Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez said that because of the various programmes and festivals organized last year by the Tourism department along with local stakeholders, has made Kashmir's tourism the highest in the country.

"For summer tourism, the department will intensify its attempts to organize various programmes and events in various parts of the country to attract more and more tourists towards Kashmir valley," Hafeez said.

The Tourism Secretary said that his department will be organizing many spring festivals in the next one month.

"We will be having Badamwari Spring festival, spring festival in Yusmarg, Gurez and Tulip Garden. We are spreading Kashmir's tourism to every corner of J&K. The department will organize road shows and other programmes in 21 cities across India in an attempt to attract more tourists to J&K," Hafeez adds.

Notably, this is for the first time in the past several years that the J&K Tourism Department has rechristened the status of several tourist destinations as "all season" places, in an attempt, to boost the tourism industry and provide a relief to the stakeholders whose work had suffered brutally since 2019.

"We've asked the tourism stakeholders to brace up in terms of facilities and logistics being provided to tourists as we're pragmatic that the coming

months would bring a good footfall of tourists in Kashmir," Hafeez told Kashmir Observer.

Notably, the Government has also decided to promote the tourism potential at maximum capacity on a bigger scale in collaboration with the stakeholders.

"As the Covid situation in the country improves, the Department would again undertake promotional activities across various tourism markets of the country. We are endeavouring to enhance the experiences of tourists by introducing new and more concepts like floating theatre in Dal Lake. The department has also decided to start paragliding services in Jammu. Besides paragliding, we'll have parasliding and mountain bike services available in J&K," The Tourism Secretary said.

The tourism department has also asked stakeholders to help the department in promoting the 75 offbeat destinations identified by the Department across J&K.

"We've asked all the stakeholders to come up with attractive and competitive packages so that more and more tourists are persuaded to visit J&K," Hafeez said

"And we're hopeful that the tourists thronging Kashmir during the summer months will be higher than past several years." He added.

Govt Expects

directed them to complete the tendering process and start works from 1st week of April.

"Besides, he directed them to prepare specific progress report of work achieved by them. Div Com directed for augmentation of infrastructure as the yatra is expected to take place at large scale owing to pandemic restrictions in previous years," he said.

According to the spokesperson, the Div Com also issued directions to the Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ganderbal to visit sites and take stock of the facilities, including accommodation, drinking water, electricity and sanitation for the pilgrims.

Pole, he said, was briefed by ADCs about the augmentation of facilities compared to the previous years to cater to the maximum number of Yatris.

"He was informed by CEOs Pahalgam Development Authority and Sonmarg Development Authorities that the tendering process for sanitation, solid waste management, renovation of bridges has already been initiated besides additional number of mobile toilets have also been procured," he said.

According to the spokesperson, the Div Com enjoined on concerned officers to carry sustained sanitation activity throughout the Yatra period.

"Div Com also directed GM, BSNL to provide communication service twenty days before the beginning of yatra so the engineers, staff and workers don't face any difficulty during working," he added.

Kashmir Reports

in the Valley, including Budgam,

Pulwama, Anantnag, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Kulgam and Shopian witnessed no new cases of Covid-19.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu detected five new cases of Coronavirus, Kishtwar 3, Doda 2 and one each in Rajouri and Ramban. No cases of infection were detected in the five districts of Udhampur, Kathua, Samba, Poonch and Reasi.

"Moreover, 33more COVID-19 patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 22 from Jammu Division and 11 from Kashmir Division," they said.

Also, the officials said that the death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4749 in J&K-2326 in Jammu and 2423 in Kashmir, as no fresh fatality was reported across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

Govt Transfers

been posted as Regional Transport Officer, Jammu.

Dhananter Singh, JKAS, Regional Transport Officer, Jammu, is transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, reads a government order.

Shooting Stone

Zojila Tunnel, reports said. The injured labourer, reports said, was removed to the Sub-District Hospital, Kangan for treatment. However, the doctors there referred him to the SKIMS, Srinagar for advanced treatment.

However, Wani succumbed to his injuries at the hospital, reports said.

Govt Employee

a team of policemen led by SHO Kupwara Mohammad Rafiq at Rigipora area of the district around 8:30 pm Thursday, a police spokesperson said. Baba, he said, had tried to evade the police checkpoint but was caught tactfully. During his search, the spokesperson said, 21 grams of Brown Sugar was recovered from his possession.

During preliminary investigations, he said, Baba revealed that he was on way to sell the narcotics in small quantities among the youth of Kupwara.

"Further investigations in the case to unearth this drugs syndicate is in progress. Gulzar is a known peddler who in the garb of government employment is stealthily involved in drugs peddling in the area. Strong legal action has been initiated against him," the spokesperson said.

Search Operation

on Friday morning and launched a search operation, reports said. The joint team, reports said, carried out house-to-house searches for several hours. However, the search operation did not yield any results.

The search operation in the village that separates Budgam with Pulwama district comes a day after two militants were killed by government forces while militants shot at and injured a bank guard.

Gupta, Pole Inspect Beautification Work Of Manasbal Lake



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department (H&UDD), Dheeraj Gupta and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole, Friday took an exhaustive visit of Manasbal Lake to inspect progress on various beautification works being executed there.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Kritika Jyotsna, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Farooq Ahmad Baba besides other officials of Manasbal Development Authority accompanied them during the visit.

ADC, who is holding charge of Chief Executive Officer Manasbal Development Authority, briefed the Principal Secretary regarding the works undertaken for beautification of Manasbal Lake and its adjoining areas. He said that efforts are underway to develop Manasbal park into a beautiful recreation area which will add to its tourist influx.

Both Principal Secretary and Divisional Commissioner inspected the progress on development works being executed in Manasbal Lake like pathway construction, construction of septic tanks and waste management pits, dewatering, desilting, installation of boundary walls, re-

moval of encroachments and other related works.

They also visited several proposed development works including car parking site near Manasbal Lake, balance pedestrian pathways besides Bypass road from Patwari Khana Pottermohalla to Engineering College Safapora link road.

While reviewing progress on beautification works, Principal Secretary asked the CEO to install aerators along the periphery of Manasbal Lake for its beautification besides completing de-weeding and dredging works on war footing.

While appreciating the aesthetics of the lake and its adjoining areas, Principal Secretary said that Manasbal Lake being one of the major tourist attractions of the district requires protection. He directed for expediting beautification works on the lake and called for massive awareness generation on the importance of its preservation.

Principal Secretary exhorted upon the concerned to work in tandem and redouble their efforts so that the environment of the lake is preserved and its pristine glory is restored. He also stressed for generating mass awareness among the people especially living along the periphery of the lake regarding intrinsic natural value of water bodies

SED Employees Staying In Govt Accommodations To Pay Rent

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The government on Friday said that the employees of School Education Department (SED) of Kashmir division, who have been provided government accommodation by estates or other departments have to pay rent of that accommodation to the estates department.

An official communiqué issued by the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) reads, "It is enjoined upon all government employees who have been provided government accommodation by estates or other departments have to pay rent of that accommoda-

tion to the estates department."

It states that the attention of all Chief Education Officers (CEOs) and principal DIETs of DSEK is being sought in light of the circular issued by the finance department on March-11-2021 regarding payment of House Rent Allowance (HRA) and recovery of rent thereof.

"In this regard, it is hereby reiterated that no HRA is admissible to any such government employee who is allotted government accommodation," it reads.

The School Education Department also clarified that in case, any amount of HRA has been paid to such government employee who is residing in any

government accommodation, such amount shall be recovered from the concerned employee forthwith.

The communiqué further reads, "As such, all Principal DIETs and Chief Education Officers are accordingly requested to direct the DDOs under their administrative control to ensure the recovery of HRA which has been wrongly paid to Government employees while in possession of Government accommodation in violation of rules."

"The rent of the accommodation is deducted from the salary of the employees in monthly pay bills," the department said—(KNO)

Ladakh UT Allotted 27 IAS, IPS & IFS Posts Of AGMUT Cadre

Agencies

SRINAGAR: As many as 27 posts of the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service and Indian Forest Service of AGMUT cadre will be under the Government of Ladakh Union Territory.

As per details available with news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Government of India has allotted 27 posts of AGMUT cadre to Ladakh UT in the prestigious central services.

Of which, 10 posts each have been allotted to two-district UT in

IAS and IPS and seven posts in IFS.

The posts allotted to Ladakh in IAS include advisor to LG (1), Principal Secretary (1), Commissioner Secretary (2), Secretary/divisional commissioner (1), Secretary (2), Deputy Commissioner (2) and Additional Deputy Commissioner (1).

Similarly, 10 posts of IPS of AGMUT cadre will also under the administration of Ladakh UT.

These posts include Additional Director General of Police (1), Inspector General of Police (1), Deputy Inspector General of Police (2), Superintendent of

Police (level – 12) (3), Superintendent of Police (level – 11) (3).

According to the documents, seven posts of Indian Forest Service (IFS) have also been allotted to Ladakh administration.

The posts include Chief Conservator of Forests (1) Conservator of Forests (General) (1), Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) (1), Deputy Conservator of Forests Leh (Territorial) (1), Deputy Conservator of Forests Kargil (Territorial) (1) Deputy Conservator of Forests (HQ) (1) and Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) (1)—(KNO)

NIA Files Supplementary Charge Sheet Against 2 Srinagar Youth

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The NIA on Friday filed a supplementary charge sheet against two people for their alleged involvement in a conspiracy by the ISIS terrorist group to radicalise and recruit Muslim youths in India to wage violent jihad against the Indian state, an official said.

Afshan Parvaiz Jarabi and Tawheed Latief Sofi, both residents of Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar, have been named in the supplementary charge sheet filed before a special NIA court, Patiala House, New Delhi under sections of the IPC and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the official of the premier investigation agency said.

The case, registered by the NIA in June last year, relates to a conspiracy hatched by the proscribed organisation Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) to radicalise and recruit impressionable Muslim youths in India to wage violent jihad against the Indian state, the NIA official said.

In order to execute its nefarious plans, an organised campaign was launched over the cyberspace supplemented by on-ground terror financing activities, the official said.

The case was registered against cyber entity Qasim Khurasani and his associates.

A charge sheet was filed against four alleged ISIS terrorists in this case in January this year.

Parvaiz is a key ISIS operative and a close associate of charge-sheeted accused Umar Nisar, the NIA official said.

Parvaiz was also associated with ISIS operatives based in Afghanistan and Pakistan and was actively involved in recruitment for ISIS,

the official said.

After the arrest of Umar Nisar, he was appointed as head of ISIS activities in India and was handling media as well as ground activities of ISIS, the NIA official said.

He was actively disseminating ISIS propaganda materials through various online platforms, the official said.

Sofi was also a close associate of previously charge-sheeted accused Umar Nisar and Jufri Jawhar Damudi, the NIA official said.

Sofi was involved in content editing and poster creation for ISIS propaganda magazine, 'Voice of Hind', and had also carried out recte of Hindu temples, government buildings and police stations to carry out subversive acts, the NIA official said, adding that further investigation in the case was underway.

R-DAY PARADE

J&K Receives 3rd Best Tableau Award In Poplar Choice Category

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: Jammu and Kashmir was on Friday awarded the Third best Tableau in the Republic Day Parade amongst the States and UTs in popular choice category.

The award trophy was received by Deputy Labour Commissioner and Deputy Director Information, Veedushi Kapoor on behalf of the J&K Government.

This ranking was decided on the basis of an on-line poll which was conducted through My GOV



App in coordination with Ministry of Defence for the Citizens to vote for their favourite Tableau from various States and UTs which participated in Republic Day 2022 parade celebrations.

The Tableau – 2022 of UT of J&K depicted "Changing face of Jammu and Kashmir in the backdrop of developmental scenario". It showcased the world famous Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan Katra, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). The Tableau also highlighted The World's Highest Railway Bridge on Chenab River and Banihal Qazigund in the backdrop of snow clad mountains of Kashmir.

QR Code-Based GI Tag To Discourage Counterfeit Production Of Kashmiri Carpets



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Implementation of QR-code based Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kashmiri hand-knotted carpets will discourage their counterfeit production and enable buyers to identify authenticity of carpets produced in the union territory, an official said on Friday.

The QR-code based mechanism has recently been introduced for the purpose of testing and certification of hand-knotted carpets manufactured in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, granted GI tag to Kashmiri carpets in June 2016.

"It is an initiative that will go a long way in transforming and preserving the future of carpet industry in Jammu and Kashmir. Customers now could easily differentiate and verify the authenticity and other specific details of hand-knotted Kashmiri carpets made in Jammu and Kashmir," Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) Chairman Umar Hameed said.

He highlighted that the QR code-attached registered logo stamped on the secured fusion label, possessing requisite covert and overt information, is to be

embossed on duly tested/certified carpets so that the label cannot be copied or misused.

"It will discourage the counterfeit productions of carpets that cost the livelihood of weavers' community and the industry as well," Hameed added.

Mehmood Ahmad Shah, director, Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir, Government of J&K, stated, "The QR code attached to the GI Tag will help in reviving the sheen and glory of Kashmiri Carpet Industry by certifying the genuineness of the Hand-knotted Kashmir Carpets with relevant information of the manufacturer, weaver, district, raw material etc."

He said the innovation will go a long way in preserving the quality of hand-knotted carpets.

Eventually, it would boost exports as they would be treated at par with the quality/price of Iranian and Turkish hand-knotted carpets.

Addressing a seminar virtually on introduction of GI tag for the carpets, organised by CEPC, Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary, Government Industries and Commerce, Government of J&K, said the QR code-based mechanism will help in checking the duplicity or fake branding sabotaging the growth of the carpet industry in the valley.

GIAN India CEO Visits IUST

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: A delegation from the Grassroots Innovation Augmentation Network (GIAN) led by its CEO Dr. Anamika Dey visited Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Friday to discuss future possibilities of partnership in the different areas of entrepreneurship with the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED).

During her visit, she interacted with the Vice Chancellor Prof Shakil A. Romshoo who underlined the significance of this collaboration as IUST was planning to make successful innovative interventions in the areas concerning upcoming biodiversity and solar parks at IUST and other important sectors including medical plants.

Later she had a round table meeting with members of the CIED and the meeting was chaired by Dean Research and School of Engineering and Technology IUST

Prof. A H Moon. During the interaction, while congratulating the IUST for making a huge progress in this field in a short span of time, Dr. Dey briefed about the works of GIAN and shared details of some innovative practices being undertaken by GIAN. Prof. Moon discussed about the future plans of the centre in order to support entrepreneurship in the union territory. Earlier Director CIED Dr. Parvez Ahmad Mir made a presentation about the journey of CIED and informed about various student start-ups supported by CIED.

The meeting was attended by the CIED members Dr. Rumaan Bashir, Dr. Aabid Shalla, Dr. Asifa Baba, Dr. Monisa Qadiri, Dr. Assif Assad, Dr. Basharat Nabi, Dr. Muzafer Ahmad Macha, Dr. Mehran Qureshi. Later Dr. Dey also visited various labs and facilities on the Campus. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Parvez Ahmad Mir and CIED staff members Mr. Majid Nisar and Mr. Adnan Khan.

Jammu To Get Palliative & Geriatric Care Facilities In Each District

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The government of Jammu and Kashmir will set up palliative care and geriatric care facilities in each of 10 districts of Jammu region, officials said here on Friday.

To this end, a three-day programme was also launched to train doctors and paramedical staff, they said.

The additional chief secretary health and medical education Vivek Bhardwaj inaugurated the training programme, they said.

The programme is being conducted in collaboration with the Indian Association of Palliative

Care (IAPC), Rohit Lahori, the head of the palliative care unit in Jammu region, told reporters here.

It is being conducted under the supervision of Sushma Bhatnagar, the head of department of pain and palliative care, AIIMS, New Delhi, he said.

Faculty from different parts of the country have joined in the training programme to train two doctors and two nurses from each district of Jammu, Lahori said.

This is the first of its kind of training in J&K, he said.

Bhardwaj appreciated the role of Directorate of Health Services in starting these much-awaited services in the health sector.

Transforming J&K

LG Administration Institutionalizing Good Governance Initiatives In UT

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Good Governance is one of the most important factors in eradicating poverty and promoting development across the world through a more transparent, responsive and accountable dispensation in place, an official spokesperson said Friday.

Keeping pace with its commitment of extending good governance to people of Jammu and Kashmir, he said, the Lieutenant Governor's administration has institutionalized a slew of good governance initiatives in the Union Territory.

"LG administration has adopted a mantra of zero tolerance against corruption, nepotism and discrimination against minorities in J&K so that voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard and given due recognition," he said.

The spokesperson said that in India some remarkable steps were initiated by the government for ensuring good governance in all parts of the country. He said that a multitude of good governance reforms have been initiated in J&K by the Modi Government like Prevention of Corruption Act, Abolition of Interviews for Group C and D posts besides more than 800 Central Laws have been made applicable to J&K after it got the status of Union Territory.

"The long pending cadre review, establishment of CAT benches, Extension of RTI Act, CPGRAMS and conduct of common eligibility test through the National Recruitment Agency at every district headquarter in the UT besides other similar pro-people measures," he said.

"In a significant move, through the Mission Karmayogi, capacity building of 2000 civil servants in

collaboration between National Centre of Good Governance (NCGG) and IMPARD is being undertaken. Remarkably, in a first of its kind initiative, this year around 60 senior officers of JKAS were deputed to LBSNAA, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Gol for capacity building," he added.

Likewise, the spokesperson said that Aspirational District Program has been fruitful in improving the governance in India's under-developed districts.

He said that under the statesmanship of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, India adopted the "Minimum Government Maximum Governance" paradigm which is being cited and commended all over the world with civil servants from across the world visiting India to pursue internships.

In J&K, Lieutenant Governor's administration is institutionalizing several good governance initiatives. J&K has become the first Union Territory in India to implement the District Good Governance Index (DGGI). It is likely to be adopted pan India by DARPG as a replication of the best governance practices. The development of DGGI as a tool to assess the status of governance in the UT of J&K is a path breaking initiative taken up by DARPG as a follow up to declaration of 'Behar Nizami-Hukumat Kashmir Aelamia' adopted recently by J&K in collaboration with DARPG.

Under DGGI, emphasis is being given on incorporating more indicators especially with regard to District Plan and Execution of Works, Self-Employment, Human Resources Development, Sports, etc., keeping in view priorities of the government thus making it a

benchmark and a litmus test for effective public service delivery and good governance.

Moreover, with the adoption of e-office, a simplified, responsive, effective and transparent paperless working culture in most of the government offices of Jammu and Kashmir has been established. The e-Office is aiding government departments to enhance the public service delivery by eliminating the delay of files in offices.

To bring efficiency in work of officers of J&K administration, the GAD also introduced Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window (SPARROW) system to write and track Annual Performance Reports (APRs) of the officers. The UT government has also launched the Electronic Vigilance Clearance System that furnishes vigilance clearance through electronic/

online mode in favour of all the government employees as and when they require it during their service career.

With a vision to establish citizen friendly and corruption free governance, the JKGAD also launched 'Satark Nagrik App' through which any ordinary citizen can lodge complaints with the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) online.

Keeping its commitment of institutionalising corruption free administration, the JKGAD launched an online portal for e-filing of property returns (PRS-Portal). The new portal facilitates access and monitoring of the property details of all the employees besides facilitating the employees in obtaining timely vigilance clearances.

Also, governance has been handed over to elected representatives in Panchayats after more than 13 years. Thus it can be convincingly

said that J&K is coming out of the dark shadows of the past and taking leaps into bright possibilities of the future.

In another remarkable initiative of Good Governance, LG's Mulaqaat Program was launched to facilitate public/complainants who have filed grievances on JKIGRAMS to directly communicate with Lieutenant Governor. It has been successful as almost 100% grievances raised through this platform have been redressed.

Notably, the present administration of J&K is mainly focusing on 'On-The-Spot' grievance redressal, instantaneous delivery of goods and services to the masses and 'On-The-Ground' speedy execution of People-Centric projects, which is being observed through the exceptional development works and projects that are currently going on across the Union territory.

Director Sports Inaugurates UT Level Volleyball Tourney

District Kathua, Kulgam, Poonch dominate on day-1



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Director Youth Services and Sports J&K, Gazanfar Ali inaugurated Under-19 Girls Volleyball Tournament in an impressive function at Khel Gaon, Nagrota, near here on Friday.

The 3-day tournament, in which 17 district teams are taking part, is being organised by the District Youth Services and Sports Office, Jammu, under the overall supervision of Sukhdev Raj Sharma, DYSSO Jammu.

The districts of Poonch, Kathua and Kulgam dominated on day-1 of the tournament today.

District Poonch thrashed District Samba in a one-sided contest by 2-0 (25-02; 25-04) and got the better of District Doda in a close contest by 2-0 (25-20; 25-22), while District Kathua trounced District Kupwara by 2-0 (25-07; 25-02) and beat District Ganderbal by 2-0 (25-21; 25-01), while District Kulgam prevailed over District Budgam by 2-0 (25-20; 25-14) and got walkover against District Kishtwar.

In other matches of the day, District Jammu defeated District Bandipora by 2-0 (25-17; 25-07), District Baramulla drubbed District Pulwama by 2-0 (25-21;

25-01), District Udhampur defeated District Anantnag by 2-0 (25-04; 25-06), District Rajouri best District Shopian by 2-0 (25-19; 29-27), District Shopian got walkover against District Reasi and District Srinagar got walkover against District Ramban.

The matches were organised by a panel of experts drawn from the Department of Youth Services and Sports.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Sports lavished praise on the organisers for holding the event in a befitting manner.

He said that the Government is committed to promote sports in every nook and corner of the Union Territory.

He further said that apart from the routine activities to prepare teams for the SGFI tournaments, the Department organised many snow skiing activities this season.

He lauded the organisers for providing good arrangements regarding technical facilities, Boarding & Lodging and refreshment of the players.

The Director Sports was also accompanied by the Deputy Director Youth Services and Sports, Jitender Mishra and Assistant Director, Mool Raj Uttam.

Secretary Sports Council Launches UT Level Weight Lifting Championship



Observer News Service

JAMMU: J&K Sports Council, in Association with J&K Weight Lifting Association, is conducting two day UT level Weight Lifting Championship 2021-22 in the sub-categories of Youth, Junior, and Senior for both genders in the newly laid Multipurpose Hall of J&K Sports Council at Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu from Friday.

The championship was declared open by Nuzhat Gull, Secretary J&K Sports Council.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary reiterated that the sound mind dwells in the sound body and the best brains are the key to the progress of the country, in fact, they are the assets that need to be preserved and respected. She said, "I am here to offer my respect to all the players and others associated with the sports and to fulfill my promise of taking J&K to new heights when it comes to sports and thus contribute towards making our union territory a vibrant society."

She also assured the participating players and the members of the J&K Weight Lifting Association of full support of the government for the promotion and

expanding sports base in all the districts of the union territory. The Secretary also announced the plan to provide weight lifting sets at all district level centres to attract more and more players toward the game.

She also promised to provide international weight lifting sets for the conduct of the championship in the union territory and also for the promotion of the game and to provide an international standard sports ecosystem to the youth of J&K.

Others who participated in the function included Harbhajan Singh and Yudhvir Singh, President and General Secretary of the newly elected body of J&K Weight Lifting Association. The other prominent faces included current and former Divisional Sports Officers of J&K Sports Council Ashok Singh Jamwal and Ravi Singh; who is also the new Chief Executive Officer of J&K Weightlifting Association. Inderpal Singh, former weight lifting coach also attended the function.

Players and other sports enthusiasts who attended the function in large numbers appreciated the role of J&K Sports Council for keeping the best possible facilities at disposal of the athletes.

Pink-Ball Test: India Eye Clean Sweep Against Sri Lanka

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: After winning the first match convincingly, India will look for a 2-0 sweep against Sri Lanka, when the two sides meet in the second and final Test, which will be played under the lights, here from Saturday.

A dominating win by an innings and 222 runs in the first Test in Mohali consolidated India's fifth position in the World Test Championship standings but they will be looking to move further up with a win in Bengaluru.

It will be India's third day-night pink-ball Test at home, following matches in Kolkata against Bangladesh (November 2019) and Ahmedabad against England (February 2021). India won both those Tests inside three days.

Though India won the last match easily, the pink-ball Test presents a whole different set of challenges and will also keep hosts on their toes. The Rohit-Sharma-led side can't afford a home slip-up at this juncture of the Test Championship cycle and it should motivate them to maintain their intensity.

The likes of Rohit Sharma, Mayank Agarwal, Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer—who all got starts in the previous game but failed to convert them into big innings—will try to make a big impact with their bats. On the other hand, the lower-order trio of Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin, who all had brilliant out with the bat, will look to continue their rich vein of form.

India played three spinners and two pacers in the first Test in Mohali. But it will be interesting to see whether there



could be a change in the team's strategy for the pink-ball game considering the different playing conditions.

Speaking at the pre-match press conference, India vice-captain Jasprit Bumrah mentioned that the team management will take the call about the playing eleven after today's practice session.

"We had a look at the surface yesterday but it's too early to say much because today is the day we access the wicket when we go for the practice session. After that we'll have a clear idea if we want to go into the match with three seamers or three spinners," said Bumrah.

In the first pink-ball Test in Kolkata, Indian spinners came away empty-handed while in the next one (Ahmedabad), the trio of Axar, Ashwin and Washington Sundar took 19 of the 20 wickets to fall.

India have made one change to the squad with Axar Patel replacing Kuldeep Yadav. Patel, who last played against New Zealand in November, has recovered from his shin injury as well as Covid-19 and could slot right into the playing XI in place

of Jayant Yadav.

On the other hand, the struggling Sri Lanka team suffered a massive blow going into the match. Pathum Nissanka, who top-scored for the visitors with an unbeaten 61 in the first innings, has been ruled out of the second Test, due to a back injury.

Meanwhile, Dushmantha Chameera, who sat out the first Test in Mohali, is also not available for selection as he continues his recovery from an ankle injury. As per Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne, Chameera's workload was being managed till the T20 World Cup, which is scheduled for October this year, and the pacer would be available only for limited-over games in the interim period after his recovery.

Given the relative success that Embuldeniya had in the first match, Sri Lanka are set to throw in another left-arm spinner in Praveen Jayawickrama, who has two fifters and 18 wickets from three Tests so far. The Test will be Suranga Lakmal's final game for Sri Lanka and the Islanders will be hoping to give the veteran bowler a farewell to remember.

PAK VS AUS 2nd Test: ICC Rates Rawalpindi Wicket 'Below Average'



Agencies

KARACHI: The International Cricket Council rated the pitch for the first Test between Pakistan and Australia below average after the match ended in a dull draw earlier this week.

There were only 14 wickets taken over the five days of Australia's first Test in Pakistan since 1998. Pakistan scored 476-4 declared and 252 without loss with Australia replying with 449 all out as bowlers toiled and batters dominated on a lifeless flat track.

"The character of the pitch hardly changed over the course of five days and there was no deterioration apart from the bounce getting slightly lower," Ranjan Madugalle, the match referee for the Test, said in a statement issued by the ICC.

"The pitch did not have a great deal of pace and bounce in it for the seamers nor assisted the spinners. In my view this does not represent an even contest between bat and ball. Therefore, in keeping with the ICC guidelines I rate this pitch as below average."

Fans and commentators said

the lifeless pitch spoiled Australia's first Test in Pakistan for 24 years, after the team had previously declined to visit on security grounds.

Under ICC rules, demerit points remain active for a rolling five-year period and if a venue accumulates five it is suspended from hosting international cricket for a year.

Reacting to the ICC's decision, the Pakistan Cricket Board said it is undergoing a prokect to overhaul pitches in the country.

"We note and accept the ICC's decision," a PCB spokesperson said. "This is the first time any Pakistan venue has received a demerit point. The PCB wants to see and prepare pitches that provide even and exciting contest between the bat and the ball."

"In this regard and in line with the PCB Chairman's vision, a massive project to overhaul and relay all pitches in Pakistan is already underway."

"The PCB remains confident and optimistic that we will not only see good contests in the Karachi and Lahore Tests but in all future domestic international matches as well."

Ballon d'Or Award Undergoes Significant Changes



Agencies

PARIS: The Ballon d'Or will now be awarded based on performances over the course of a regular European season, rather than a calendar year, France Football magazine said Friday.

A reduction in the number of voters was among other changes announced, with the goal of streamlining the process. Voters also will no longer consider a player's career accomplishments.

France Football magazine has given out the award to men every year since 1956 and to women each year since 2018, though both were canceled in 2020 because of the pandemic.

"No more January to December," the magazine said on Twitter. "The (Ballon d'Or) will now be awarded on the basis of a classic football season: August to July."

Paris Saint-Germain and Argentina great Lionel Messi won for a record-extending seventh time and Alexia Putellas of Barcelona and Spain became the third winner of the women's award for 2021. Messi edged out prolific Bayern Munich and Poland striker Robert Lewandowski.

The switch means the next Ballon d'Or award will encompass the 2021-22 season, ending with the women's European Championship in July. The next award ceremony will be in October. (AP)

UEFA Opens Disciplinary Case Against PSG Chief Al-Khelaifi

Agencies

PARIS: UEFA opened disciplinary proceedings against Paris Saint-Germain President Nasser Al-Khelaifi on Thursday over heated incidents after the team's Champions League loss at Real Madrid.

The Qatari is also a member of UEFA's executive committee, chairman of the influential European Club Association and head of Doha-based broadcaster beIN Media Group, a key Champions League TV rights holder.

The disciplinary case, which also includes sporting director Leonardo, followed reports that Al-Khelaifi went in search of the match officials to protest refereeing decisions on Wednesday night.



PSG was beaten 3-1 in Madrid to exit the round of 16 with a 3-2 aggregate loss. The French side had led 1-0 from the first leg and Kylian Mbappe scored again in Madrid to give PSG a 2-0 aggregate lead that was wiped out by Karim Benzema scoring a hat trick.

UEFA confirmed the disciplinary cases had been opened without specifying the details. (AP)

Russian Olympic Body Challenges Ban From Winter Sports Event

Agencies

LAUSANNE, Switzerland: The Russian Olympic Committee made an urgent appeal Friday to overturn a ban on its athletes competing at a European winter sports festival in Finland.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport said it was setting a timetable for the case ahead of the Winter European Youth Olympic Festival being held from March 20-25. The ROC appeal challenges a March 2 decision by the executive committee of the European Olympic Committees to exclude Russian and Belarusian athletes because of the war in Ukraine.

In a separate Russian case at CAS, the national soccer federation has appealed against bans on national and club teams by FIFA and UEFA. Those suspensions were imposed March 1 within hours of the International Olympic Committee urging sports bodies to act to isolate Russia after the military invasion. (AP)

ALL INDIA JAMMU & KASHMIR BANK OFFICERS' FEDERATION
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Ref. No: AIJKBOF/2021-22/56

Dated: March 11, 2022

PRESS STATEMENT

"TEAM WORK BEGINS BY BUILDING TRUST"

All India Jammu And Kashmir Bank officers Federation expresses its gratitude to the Management of the bank for initiating Career progression in various scales. We believe that for growth, prosperity and progress of any organization, satisfaction of workforce plays a pivotal role. Immediately after his assuming the charge as MD & CEO of the Bank, the long pending issue of career progression in all scales has been initiated and in a shortest possible period of time, the progression of two scales stands already culminated. Management of the bank has adequately taken care of the elevation out of consideration zone fixed for each scale.

Federation believes that bilateralism plays an important role for industrial peace and harmony and it is obligatory on the part of both the parties to respect and honor each and every bilateral agreement reached at National and local level. Federation expressed its satisfaction over the views of MD & CEO that sanctity of bilateral agreements and policies be maintained and issued on spot directions to HR team that federation be taken on board with regard to all matters concerning the work force.

A delegation of AIJKBOF called upon MD & CEO Mr. Baldev Prakash at Corporate Headquarters and issues pertaining to bank and workforce were discussed in detail. The issue of left out officers in Scale-I and Scale-IV also came up for discussion. While expressing his satisfaction over the capability and talent of the workforce of the bank, MD & CEO assured the team that sympathetic and favorable view will be taken to arrive at an amicable resolution of the issue. Team was assured that the said resolution will be arrived at in a shortest period of time.

Though the entire career progression process is being conducted in a very transparent manner and based on the quota for each scale, yet some unscrupulous elements are bent upon to create chaos among the ranks and files by floating rumors which not only result in confusion and unrest but have also bearing on the reputation of the bank. AIJKBOF denounces and condemns the negative social media campaign launched by some vexed interests during past few weeks. J&K Bank is the premier financial institution of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh and each and every one among us has an obligation to secure its interests. Federation will not hesitate to take any action against such elements who are bent upon to play with the reputation of the bank.

Sd/-
Syed Tasaduq Madni
(PRESIDENT)

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