KASHMR OBSERVER OF PUBLICATION

Sunday 13 March 2022 | 09 Shaban | 1443 Hijri | Vol:25 | Issue: 61 | Pages:08 | Price: ₹ 3

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



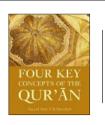
P7 STATE

5 DETAINED FOR SACRILEGIOUS ACT IN RAJOURI, CASE FILED: POLICE

Five people suspected of committing a sacrilegious act disturbing communal harmony and hurting religious sentiments have been detained in the Rajouri district of



THE WRITINGS ON THE QUR'AN-and more significantly in the area of Qur'anic Studies—is an interesting and exciting academic discipline, spread over a number of branches, to which Muslims (from



P8 SPORTS

RCB APPOINTS FAF DU PLESSIS AS NEW CAPTAIN

The Royal Challengers Bangalore on Saturday appointed former South Africa national team skipper Faf du Plessis as their new captain for the upcoming edition of Indian



C Quote!

There is no charm equal to tenderness of the heart

- Jane Austen

NEWS DIGEST

Tanvir Sadiq Named NC Chief Spokesperson

SRINAGAR: The National Conference (NC) on Saturday revamped its media and communication cell, and nominated party leader Tanvir Sadiq as its chief spokesperson and in-charge of communications. Sadiq was the advisor to former chief minister More on P6

6 Gamblers Arrested In Bandipora

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested six gamblers in a raid in Hajin area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Acting on specific information, a police team led by SHO Hajin raided a gambling site at village Check Chandergeer Hajin and arrested More on P6

Leopard Captured In Budgam

SRINAGAR: The wildlife department officials on Saturday captured a leopard from a house in Beerwah area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. According to the reports, a leopard was spotted in the house of Abdul Rasheed Mir son at Watalpora village More on P6

IAF Airlifts 111 Stranded Passengers

JAMMU: The Indian Air Force (IAF) carried 111 passengers in its aircraft between Ladakh and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in view of the closure of the Srinagar Leh national highway owing to heavy snowfall, an official said. The IAF's AN-32 aircraft, also

known as Kargil More on P6



If Not

Contact Circulation Incharge: Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927

4 Militants Killed In 3 **Separate Encounters: Police**

Pakistani Militant Among The Slain, One Caught Alive

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Four militants, including a Pakistani commander of Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) were killed on Saturday in three separate encounters with government forces across the Valley, while one militant was captured alive, police said.

According to a police spokesperson, police, army's 50RR and the personnel of CRPF 182 battalion launched a cordon and search operation in Chewaklan village of Pulwama on Friday night after receiving specific information about the presence of militants.

As the search team started moving towards a local Darul Uloom, he said, the militants hiding inside fired indiscriminately upon them in which a civilian Zahoor Ahmad Shergojri was injured. He said that the injured man was later shifted to hospital where his condition is said to be stable.

"The joint party retaliated the fire leading to an encounter. Keeping the sanctity of the institution into mind, operation was carried out with all due precautions and deliberations," the spokesperson said.

In the ensuing encounter, he

Off-Duty CRPF Man Shot Dead

CRPF man identified as Mukhtar Ahmad was shot

and critically wounded by unknown militants in his

native village Check Chotipora on Saturday evening,

Doodh Ganga Pollution

SRINAGAR: Five days after the

National Green Tribunal (NGT)

slapped an unprecedented

penalty of Rs 3 crore on the

Jammu and Kashmir govern-

ment for its acknowledged

failure in preventing pollu-

tion in Doodh Ganga River, the

Union Territory administration

has called a meeting of senior

officers on Monday to discuss

In a notice issued by

the Housing and Urban Development Department on

Saturday, eleven senior of-ficers of the J&K Government have been asked to attend the

meeting in Jammu on Monday.

the future course of action.

Zaid Bin Shabir

nidentified militants on Saturday shot dead an

off-duty Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

man in south Kashmir's Shopian district. The

High Level Meet To Discuss NGT Penalty



A soldier displays victory sign after a militant was killed in an encounter in Ganderbal district on Saturday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

said, 2 militants were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter.

The police identified the duo as JeM's Pakistani militant commander Kamaal Bhai alias Jatt, active since 2018 in Shopian-Pulwama areas, and Aqib Mushtaq alias Usman Hyder of Karimabad, Pulwama.

The spokesperson also claimed to have arrested an active militant during an operation in

As per the notice, Principal Secretary to Govt HUDD shall

chair a meeting on 14.03.2022

Monday at 4pm in the meeting

hall first floor civil secretariat

Jammu. "To discuss the action re-

quired to be taken in light of the

directions of the Hon'ble NGT in

the case titled Raja Muzaffar Bhat

said that Secretary PCB,

DCs of Srinagar & Budgam , Commissioner SMC , Director

Soil Conservation J&K, Director

ULB Kashmir, Director Geology

& Mining, Chief Engineers I&FC,

UEED and Special Secretary le-

gal (HUDD) have been invited

to attend the meeting.

IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE STATE to

recover the amount from the polluters or

erring officers in accordance with law."

Notably, on More on P6

The notice has further

v/s Union of India and others."

Ahmad's killing

Wahibugh area of the district. He has been identified as Rouf Ahmad Mir of Parigam.

"Incriminating material, arms & ammunition including a pistol, 2 magazines, 26 rounds, 3 grenades and 1 pouch were recov-

ered from his possession," he said. According to the spokesperson, two more militants were killed in twin encounters in

Handwara and Ganderbal. Following specific More on P6

reports said. The injured CRPF man was removed

there declared him dead. According to reports,

government forces launched a search operation

in the village and its adjoining areas shortly after

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Buoyed by the elec-

toral success of the BJP in four

states, Ravinder Raina, the

president of the party's Jammu

and Kashmir unit, on Saturday

said the "lotus" will bloom

across the Union Territory in

Lotus is the poll symbol of

Raina said the party is con-

the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

fident of achieving its target of

winning over 50 seats to form

the next government in Jammu

the leadership of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi reached out to

all sections of the society, ir-

respective of their religion and

region. People love and support

the BJP and we are confident

that the lotus will bloom in

both the regions (Kashmir and

Jammu) in the next Assembly

polls," he told reporters at the

The BJP government under

the next Assembly polls.

and Kashmir.

to the hospital for treatment. However, the doctors

Pak Seeks Joint Probe Into Missile 'Misfire'

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Saturday said it was not satisfied with India's "simplistic explanation" on the "accidental firing" of a missile that landed in Pakistan's Punjab province and demanded a joint probe to accurately establish the facts surrounding the incident.

Foreign Office spokesperson said Pakistan has taken note of the Press Statement by India's Press Information Bureau's Defence Wing regretting the accidental firing of the Indianorigin missile into Pakistani territory on March 9 due to technical malfunction and the decision to hold a high-level Court of Inquiry. More on P6

HM Shah, LG **To Attend CRPF** Parade In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha are scheduled to attend the CRPF's annual raising day parade, being held here next week instead of its usual venue Delhi-NCR.

The CRPF is celebrating its 83rd raising day on March 19 and the Ground Centre, Jammu, has been entrusted the task of conducting the celebration, a spokesperson of the force said.

A splendid parade will be organised at Jammu's More on P6

Lotus Set To Bloom Across

J&K, Says BJP's Raina

Panchayat Members Soft Targets: IGP

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Panches and sarpanches are soft targets for militants as around 90 per cent of them do not have personal security officers but the police are taking steps to ensure their safety, Kashmir's IGP Vijay Kumar said on Saturday.

His remarks came a day after a sarpanch was shot dead by militants in Adoura in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. This was the third killing of a local elected representative in the union territory this month.

"Panches and sarpanches are a soft target as about 90 per cent of them do not have a PSO (personal security officer). We have provided secure accommodation in Srinagar to those who face a threat. Some have been put up in district headquarters,"



Kumar told reporters here. Referring to Friday's killing in Kulgam, the inspector general of police said the sarpanch was given secure accommodation at a hotel here but he left without informing the police.

"We regret it. I went to Kulgam and took a (review) meeting there, discussed the preventive measures and dos and don'ts. More on P6

Sarpanch Escapes Unhurt In Militant Attack

pistol-borne suspected militant fired upon a Sarpanch in presence of some of the officers from the Rural Development Department in South Kashmir's Pulwama district. The fire missed the target and Sarpanch escaped unhurt. The incident More on P6

Panchayat Body Seeks NIA Probe Into Killings

he All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) on Saturday demanded a probe by the premier National Investigation Agency (NIA) into the killing of three local elected representatives by terrorists in Kashmir Valley this month. More on P6

WE REGRET IT. I WENT TO KULGAM and took a (review) meeting there,

discussed the preventive measures and dos and don'ts. We will try our best to keep all the PRIs or PPs (protected persons) safe so that they can work in a safe environment."

Will Support India With **Equipment Along LAC: US**

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: The US will continue to support India with equipment and other things it needs along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, a top American admiral has told lawmakers, asserting that Washington and New Delhi share a "tremendous partnership".

Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Military Posture in the Indo-Pacific Region' this week, Admiral John Aquilino, Commander of US Indo-Pacific Command, said that the military-to-military relationship between the two countries is probably at its highest point. He was responding to a ques-

tion from Senator Gary Peters. My question for you, Admiral, is can you speak to the relationship you have with our Indian counterparts and what more can we do to strengthen our security relationship between our two countries? Peters asked.

Senator, to start, I have no concerns. Our partners in India are tremendous partners, and the military-tomilitary relationship is probably at its highest point. We continue to do more together, Admiral More on P6

How Kashmiris In Delhi Came Together To Trace A Missing Mother

Auqib Javeed

y the time she decided B to make it public, Nusrat Razaq had already spent "the darkest and the longest night of her life" on Delhi's 'cold and clueless' streets, searching for her mother.

After exhausting all the means to bring back her beloved lost in the capital's commotion, the lawyer decided to advocate her own case.

"My mother ing from Jamia Milia Islamia Metro Station from yesterday (Wednesday) evening," Nusrat, practicing law in Delhi, wrote on her twitter handle.

Her mother Khadija was wearing a purple cotton suit and white print dupatta at the time of her disappearance.

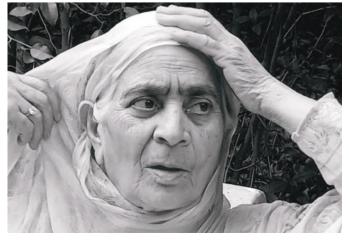
As soon as the appeal went viral on social media, the daughter received non stop calls.

The callers were mostly her own Kashmiri brethren – studying and working in different parts of Delhi.

"I received calls from hundreds of Kashmiris, especially from Jamia Milia students," Nusrat told Kashmir Observer.

'The callers assured me that they were doing their best to locate my mother. That brethrenboost gave me hope amid despair and made me believe that I wasn't alone in Delhi."

But before those solidarity calls, Nusrat had lost touch with her mother in the most shocking manner.



At around 8 pm on March9, Khadija, a resident of Shopian, slipped out of her Batla House

flat, locking the main door. "By the time I managed to break the lock, she had gone out of our reach," Mir Safdar, Nusrat's husband, told Kashmir Observer. Battling Alzheimer's since 2021, Khadija was recently shifted to Delhi by Nusrat for the treatment of the dementia-causing disease. Apart from lodging a missing report in the Zakir

party office here.

Several leaders,

Sanjeev Bali, the son of promi-

nent National Conference (NC)

leader and former minister Bodh

Raj Bali, and Other Backward

Class (OBC) leader Raju Ram,

joined the saffron party in the

presence of Raina on Saturday.

rainbow coalition led by the

Samajwadi Party (SP), the BJP

stormed back More on P6

Bulldozing a resurgent

including

Nagar Police Station, Nusrat went to trace her mother in all the streets and stores, where she thought Khadija could be, but she was nowhere to be found.

"We didn't return to our flat that night," she recounted the harrowing time of her life.

"We were devastated. Our world had turned upside down sending all of us in different directions on Delhi's dark roads for the sake of our mother."

But just before she went

missing, Khadija had grown uneasy with Delhi's "dingy dwellings".

"We've an open lawn in Kashmir where our mother used to have a daily walk." the daughter said. "But in this congested place, she was apparently growing uncomfortable—but not to an extent that it would drive her out."

While thinking about this, Nusrat finally received the call she was eagerly waiting for. The call

came 24 hours after her appeal. And the caller was a Kashmiri in Delhi.

The man had seen the pictures of the missing mother on social media. And after spotting her on a street, he quickly informed Nusrat that Khadija was being taken to Lajpat Nagar Police Station.

police station where we were told that our mother had been taken to AIIMS for a medical check-up," Nusrat said. The family then rushed to the

"We immediately went to the

hospital, where they finally saw their mother.

"We hugged her and cried for hours," the daughter recalled."My brother kissed her feet and I hugged her like I had met her after decades."

Khadija couldn't tell where she was for 24 hours. Her children couldn't insist as they were happy enough to see her again.

After completing all the legal formalities, Delhi Police handed over the mother to her family members who brought her home.

"But I've no More on P6

To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Kashmir Observer Sunday | 13-03-2022 |

These Are The 20 Most Common Passwords Leaked On The Dark Web

Make Sure None Of Them Are Yours

Tom Huddleston Jr. | CNBC

Your go-to password might be easier to guess than you think.

That's according to a new report from mobile security firm Lookout, which recently published a list of the 20 passwords most commonly found in leaked account information on the dark web. The list ranges from simple number and letter sequences like "123456" and "Qwerty" to easily typed phrases like "Iloveyou."

Choosing easy-to-remember passwords is understandable: The average person has more than 100 different online accounts requiring passwords, according to online password manager NordPass. But simple passwords can be extremely easy for hackers to figure out, allowing them stress-free access to your personal data and accounts. It's a timely concern. Cybersecurity experts say the current Russian-Ukrainian conflict could result in an uptick in cyberattacks around the world, with U.S. banks expressing concern this week that they could be targeted. That's on top of a record number of data breaches in the U.S. last year - 1,862, up 68% from 2020 - according to a January report from the nonprofit Identity Theft Resource Center.

Lookout, which makes cloud security apps for mobile devices, noted in a December blog post that, on average, 80% of consumers have had their emails leaked onto the dark web. You could easily be among that majority without even knowing it.

Those leaked emails often lead hackers directly to your passwords for other online accounts and identity theft, Lookout said. Here's the company's list of the 20 passwords most commonly found on the dark web, due to data breaches:

- 123456
- 123456789
- Owerty Password
- 12345 12345678
- 111111 1234567



- 123123 Qwerty123
- 1234567890
- **DEFAULT**
- Abc123 654321
- 123321
- Qwertyuiop Iloveyou

If you use any of the above passwords for any of your online accounts, you'd be wise

mend picking something longer than the minimum number of recommended characters, and using uncommon characters - like punctuation marks or other sym-

to swap them out for something more se-

cure. Cybersecurity experts often recom-

It's a timely concern. Cybersecurity experts say the current Russian-Ukrainian conflict could result in an uptick in cyberattacks around the world, with U.S. banks expressing concern this week that they could be targeted. That's on top of a record number of data breaches in the U.S. last year - 1,862, up 68% from 2020 - according to a January report from the nonprofit Identity Theft Resource Center.

Public Notice

My Date Of Birth has been wrongly writeen

as 12-02-2009 While the correct DOB is 10-11-

2011 which needs immediate correction. If any

body having any objection in this regard he/

she may file his/her objection in the concerned

office within a period of seven days from the

late of publication of this notice. After that no

objection shall be enterained.

Tajamul Gulzar Ganie

S/o Gulzar Ahmad Ganie

bols - in place of letters and numbers, to make your password harder to guess. Lookout also noted that the majority of people reuse passwords for multiple accounts, which is a practice you should avoid whenever possible. If hackers can get into one of your accounts, you can at least make it harder for them to get into the rest of them.

You should also figure out which pieces of information about you and your family are publicly available, and avoid using passwords that include that information - including birthdays, anniversaries, names of loved ones and even your hometown.

The U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology also recommends screening your passwords against online lists of compromised passwords and using multifactor authentication, among other security tactics.

Public Notice

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2011 which needs immediate correction. If any

body having any objection in this regard he/

she may file his/her objection in the concerned

office within a period of seven days from the

University Engineer, IUST Awantipora

date of publication of this notice.

objection shall be enterained.

Imran Hussain Ganie

S/o Fayaz Ahamd Ganie

ازنيابت مثن بااجلاس ايكز يكثومجسريث درجهاول ضمون درخواست منجانيب مهره انساء وختر عبدالرشيدشاه ساكنه كرفكسو مخصيل مثن ضلع انت ناگ بغرض حصول : ـ RBA سر تفكيك

عامله مندرجه عنوان الصدرمين سا'ئله نے ايک درخواست بغرض حصول بيک وارڈ ارياسرفظيٺ دفتر زامیں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے بٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سےعیاں ہے کہ

آمدانی	عر	پیثه	نام وولديت	نمبرشار
5000/=	63سال	زمینداری	عبدالرشيدشاه ولدغلام محمرشاه	01
	55سال	گھر بلو کام	ساره بانوز وهه عبدالرشيد شاه	02
15,000/=	30سال	دوکا نداری	تنويراحمه شاه ولدعبدالرشيد شاه	03
	20سال	گھریلو کام	سمى جان زوجه تنويرا حمد شاه	04
	4سال	زرتعليم	دائيم تنوبر ولد تنوبر احمد شاه	05
	6اه	بچ.	آ فان تنویر ولد تنویراحمه شاه	06
	25سال	زرتعليم	روميه جان دختر عبدالرشيدشاه	07
	21سال	زرتعليم	مزمل احمد شاه ولدعبدالرشيد شاه	80
	19سال	زرتعليم	مهرهانساء دختر عبدالرشيدشاه	09
	90سال	عمررسيده	ساجده بیگم بیوه غلام محمد شاه	10

سکےعلاوہ اورکوئی افراد کبنہ میں موجوز نہیں ہے۔ سائلہ کے کنبہ کی سالانہ آمدنی تقریبا تین لاکھ یں ہزاررو پیہے۔سائلہ کے کنبہ کے پاس دھذامیں 14 کنال زرعی رقبہ موجود ہے۔ لہذا سر ٹفکیٹ مذکورہ کو حاصل کرنے میں اگر کسی کوکوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ ایک ہفتہ کے دوراندفتری اوقات میں اپنااعتر اض پیش کریں _معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتر اض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ (تح الصدرا بگزیکٹیومجسٹریٹ درجہاول

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the Number Plate of my vehicle bearing Regd No: JK03H 9863. 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.

Zubair Ahmad Mir S/O Mohd Shafi Mir

R/O Mirpora Monghall

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 : Mohammad Ashraf Dar S/o Abdul Salam Dar R/o Peth Makhama Magam Budgam

Details of Marks Certificate lost Secondary School Examination (class 10th)

Roll No 266291 Higher Secondary School Examination Part-II (class 12th) Roll No 2408270 Session / Year Annual Reg. 2014-15

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

The Jammu And Kashmir **Board Of School Education Sub-Office Anantnag**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The candidate whose photograph is published in the daily newspaper is claiming to have lost his original marks card of class 12th issued by board of school education with the following particulars.

NAME:- NISAR AHMAD TEELI PARANTAGE:- ASSADULLAH TEELI MOTHERS NAME: - RAJA BANOO R/O:- BADASGAM

ROLL NO:-106404 SESSION Annual 2012 YEAR 2012

Now the candidate has applied for its duplicate Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before the office of the undersigned within seven days (07) from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card of the candidates is treated as cancelled

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER E-NIT No: -IUST/EW/ELE/22/TEND/SS/01. Dated: 11-03-2022 For and on behalf of Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, J&K State, E-Tenders

(in Two cover system) are invited on percentage basis, from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K

Class "A' 2 Months

11-03-2022

11-03-2022

Available

Available

On-line

120 Days

28-03-2022 Up to 5:00 Pm

State Govt. / CPWD / Railways or other State / Central Govt. Departments for the following work.

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.

Shifting of 630KVA Substation along with Control Room and

(Non-refundable) Rs. 2,000/- (Rupees Two Thousand Five

Bids shall be opened at Islamic University of Science and

To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

As per time specified in SBD. (Standard Bidding Document

Tender document can be downloaded from website

Sd/-

University Engineer, IUST Awantipora.

DIPK-NB-7676/21

all allied material to the Receiving Station IUST.

Hundred Only) in shape of Demand Draft Only.

Rs. 25,120.00/= in shape of CDR/FDR only

Technology, Awantipora on 29 -02-2022.

rna

Name of work

Advertised Cost of Work

Earnest Money Deposit (2% of advertised Cost)

Time, Date & Address of opening of Technical Bids

Time, Date & Address of opening of Financial Bids

The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount

equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of FINANCE OFFICER IUST Valid For 45 Days Beyond DLP (DLP

Time Allowed for Completion of Work Date Of Issuance of Tender

Date of Submission of DD (Hard Copy)

Document Download Start Date Bid submission Start Date

Bid submission End Date

Period Shall be 01 Year) Availability of Tender document

Position of Funds

Bidding process

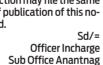
Bid Validity

The site for the work

DIPK-NB-7677/21

Cost of document

Class of Contract





ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-NIT No: -IUST/EW/22/TEND/RWH/05 Dated: - 11-03-2022

For and on behalf of Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, J&K State, E-Tenders (in Two cover system) are invited on percentage basis, from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. / CPWD / Railways or other State / Central Govt. Departments for the following work.

TENDER DETAILS	Table A	
Name of work	Providing of RAIN WATER HARVESTING Facilities in	
Name of work	various buildings at IUST Campus.	
Advertised Cost of Construction	Rs. 19,57,521.00/=	
Cost of document	(Non-refundable) Rs. 2,000/- (Rupees Two	
Cost of document	Thousand Only) in shape of Demand Draft Only.	
Earnest Money Deposit (2% of advertised	De 20 150 00/e in shape of CDB/EDB/BC	
Cost)	Rs. 39,150.00/= in shape of CDR/FDR/BG	
Class of Contract	Class "B"	
Time Allowed for Completion of Work	01 Calendar Months	
Date Of Issuance Of Tender	11-03-2022	
Document Download Start Date	11-03-2022	
Bid submission Start Date	11-03-2022	
Bid submission End Date	26-03-2022 Up to 6:00 Pm	
Date of Submission of DD (Hard Copy)	28-03-2022 From 10:00 Am Up to 4:00 Pm	
Time & Date of opening of Technical Bids	Bids shall be opened at IUST on 29-03-2022 at 2 pm	
Time, Date & Address of opening of	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is	
Financial Bids	completed	
The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an		
amount equal to 5% of contract as		
Performance Security in the shape of	As per time specified in SBD.	
CDR/FDR/BG in favour of FINANCE	As per time specified in 300.	
OFFICER IUST Valid For 45 Days Beyond		
DLP (DLP Period Shall be 02 Years)		
Availability of Tender document	Tender document can be downloaded from website	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(https://jktenders.gov.in.)	
Position of AAA	Accorded	
Position of Technical Sanction	Committed	
Position of funds	Available	
The site for the work	Available	
Bidding process	On-line	
Bid Validity	120 Days	

The Jammu and Kashmir **State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under S.No/s 011647 pertaining to HSE -II (12th) respecively, as per below mentioned details:

Roll no: 266291 Class: 10th Session 2012-13 Regd No; N12341430130 Name: Mohammad Ashraf Dar Father's Name: Abdul Salam Dar Mother's Name: Fatima

Date of Birth: 08-04-1999 Residenc:- Peth Makhama Magam Budgam

According the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification Certificate/s" bearing no: 13ARKAM 1008360 be treated as "CANCELLED")

No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)B/KD/22 Dated **Assistant Secretary** bmg

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MISERIES

CITY'S TRAFFIC PROBLEM

PEOPLE SPEAK

he volume of vehicles on roads has increased manifold in the last few decades but roads remain the same. Stray animals on roads also adds to the traffic mess in the city. Government should step in and widen city roads so that city dwellers get rid of traffic mess in the city.

> Taiamul Anwar Businessman

uthorities have installed traffic lights at many places in Srinagar but traffic signals are yet to be made operational. Government should prioritize operationalizing traffic lights. I think it will play an important role in reducing traffic jams.

After March 20

Syed Mehran Student B.Ed.

he road infrastructure in Srinagar is not up to the mark. People use their personal vehicles for covering small distances. There is a problem with traffic management as well. Proper traffic management and upgrading road infrastructure are keys to manage the ever increasing vehicles on city roads.

Naveed Wani

eople should travel more by public transport than private vehicles. This will lessen the number of vehicles on roads and help in reducing traffic jams. The administration can try old even mechanism which helps in reducing

> Nighat Afzal Student



DIAL-EMMA

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883



PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS



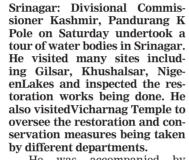
Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open) Mughal Road - (Open) Srinagar-Leh-(Closed)

CALENDAR 09 Shaban 1443

PRAYERS FAJR 5: 22 **ZUHR** 12:41 **ASR** 4:55 Magrib 6:39 **ISHA** 8:00

Div Com Inspects Restoration Tulip Garden Likely To Be Thrown Open **Of Water Bodies In City**

Observer News Service



He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad AijazAsad, Commissioner SMC, Athar Amir, VC LC&MA, Dr Bashir Ahmad and other officials.

Div Com inspected the ongoing restoration works and directed the I&FC and SMC to take measures for beautification of the surroundings along the Gilsar, Khushalsar Lakes to enhance the scenic beauty.

He said one of the purposes of the restoration measures of these water bodies is not only enhance the picturesque beauty and environment of the areas but also generate ample opportunities of employment for local youth.

Later, the Div Com also visited Vicharnag Temple and inspected the cleanliness and resto-

The Div Com directed the officers of all the line departments to speed up the pace of restoration and rejuvenation works under-





taken to restore historical water bodies in Srinagar to achieve visible impact on ground.

During the visit, the Div Com interacted with the local people and is must for restoring the pristine glory of these water bodies.

He said local communities are actual guardians and have a vital role in identification of encroachments and conservation of these historical water bodies.

Div Com also appealed to people living adjacent to water hodies not to pollute these water resources with liquid and solid waste. He advised them to safeguard water bodies is their re-

SS

This Day In History

- 1567 Battle at Oosterweel: Spanish troops destroy Geuzenleger
- 1569 Battle of Jarnac, Count of Anjou defeats Huguenots 1591 - Battle at Tondibi: Moroccan army under Judar defeats Sultan Askia Ishaq II of Songhai
- 1865 Confederate President Jefferson Davis signs bill authorizing use of slaves as soldiers (US Civil War)
- 1881 Alexander II of Russia is assassinated by members of far-left terror group 'People's Will' who throw a bomb at him in the city of St. Petersburg
- 1884 Siege of Khartoum, Sudan begins by Mahdist forces. lasts 10 months
- 1900 British troops occupy Bloemfontein, capital of the Orange Free State (Boer War)
- 1911 The Colonial-Born and Settlers Indian Association is formed at a meeting in Durban, South Africa, and has at its aim to fight the infamous 3 poll tax
- 1912 Bulgaria and Serbia conclude an alliance pact ostensibly against Austria, but it secretly provides for a possible war against Turkey
- 1918 Trotsky gains control of the Red Army
- 1920 After the German government is forced to cut its army to 10,000 men, military groups plot an unsuccessful coup - a revolt ended by a general strike
- 1921 Mongolia (formerly Outer Mongolia) declares independence from China . 1922 - George Bernard Shaw's "Back to Methusaleh V" pre-
- mieres in NYC
- 1935 Driving tests introduced in Great Britain 1938 -In a process known as Anschluss, Austria is annexed
- into Nazi Germany
- 1938 World News Roundup is broadcast for the first time on CBS Radio in the United States.
- 1943 Failed assassin attempt on Hitler during Smolensk Rastenburg flight 1963 - Indonesia & Netherlands reinstate diplomatic rela-
- 1964 Turkey threatens Cyprus with armed attack 1969 - Apollo 9 returns to Earth
- 1970 Digital Equipment Corp introduces PDP-11 minicom-1973 - Syria adopts constitution
- 1986 Soyuz T-15 carries 2 cosmonauts to Soviet space sta-
- tion Mir
- 1986 -Microsoft has its Initial public offering.
- 1989 27th shuttle, Discovery 8, launched, 1st woman to do the countdown
- 1989 FDA orders recall of all Chilean fruit in US 1991 - Saudi Arabia and Iran say OPEC oil production cuts
- will take effect April 1 1992 - An earthquake registering 6.8 on the Richter scale
- kills over 500 in Erzincan, eastern Turkey. 1995 - Anti-fascist Kazakhstan anti-parliament forms
- 1997 India's Missionaries of Charity chooses Sister Nir-
- mala to succeed Mother Teresa as its leader
- 1997 Phoenix lights seen at night over Phoenix, Arizona
- by hundreds of people, and by millions on television. Now a hotly debated controversy. 2003 - The journal Nature reports that 350,000-year-old
- footprints of an upright-walking human have been found 2012 - 19 people are shot dead in a bus attack in Ethiopia
- 2012 Encyclopaedia Britannica announces that it will no
- longer publish printed versions of its encyclopaedia 2012 - 110 people are killed and 63 are missing after a ferry
- collides with an oil tanker near Dhaka, Bangladesh 2012 - 28 people, including 22 children, are killed in a mo-
- torway bus crash near Sierre, Switzerland

From KO Archives

Musharraf Accepts Cricket Invitation

SLAMABAD - Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has accepted an offer to travel to India to watch the cricket series between the two countries.

A Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman said Gen Musharraf had yet to decide which matches he would be attend-

It will be his first trip to India since a tense summit meeting between the two countries in Agra in 2001.

"We are looking at the schedule of the president," foreign office spokesman Jalil Abbas Jiiani told foreign news agency.

"It depends on the convenience of the president." he added. Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told parliament he hoped the president and his family would enjoy their visit. (Kashmir Observer, 13 March, 2005)

District Admin Conducts Inspection Of Chemist Shops

dates for opening the Tu-

lip garden in coming days.

They said the tulips are not

in bloom at present and it

would take some more time

to see tulips bloom in the

also said that the reopening

of Tulip garden depends

upon the weather condi-

tions, but it is likely that

the garden will be thrown

open for the visitors after

ments like tulip festival

and others will be made

once the date for reopening

of the garden is decided.

oriculture Faroon

mad Rather said that the

exact date for opening the

garden has not been decid-

The other arrange-

Meanwhile, Director

However, the officials

garden.

March 20.

ed yet. (KNO)

Observer News Service

Agencies

Srinagar: The Asia's

open after March 20

while the authorities in-

formed that no date has

been decided so far with

regard to reopening the

picturesque garden as

Commissioner Secretary,

Parks Gardens and Flori-

culture, Sheikh Fayaz Ah-

mad held a meeting today

in which the Director Flo-

riculture Farooq Ahmad

Rather and other officers

park today to take neces-

sary steps, they said, add-

ing that the officers have

decided to announce the

were present.

The officers

Officials revealed that

deliberations are on.

largest tulip largest tulip garden would likely be thrown

Srinagar: The officials of the Drug Control department headed by Assistant Drug Control Srinagar inspected over two dozen chemists/drug sale establishments in various areas of the district. They conducted inspections on the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad AijazAsad The inspecting teams vis-

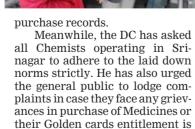
ited JVC Bemina, Batmaloo, Lal

Chowk, Natipora, Karanagar and

other areas and checked sale, pur-

chase records of addictive drugs

and other parameters preserved in drugs and cosmetics. During the inspection, the sale operation of 10 drug sale establishments were suspended for not maintaining proper sale and



Further all the license holders of Srinagar have been asked to maintain sale, purchase records of addictive drugs properly and dispense drugs only on valid prescription from registered practitioner otherwise strict action warranted under law shall be taken against the violators.

City To Get Upgraded Infrastructure Under SCM

not entertained.

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The government of Jammu and Kashmir, in order to make cities of the UT hub of modern infrastructural edifice and to enhance quality of life, has initially took up Jammu and Srinagar cities for development into smart cities under Smart City Mission. For Srinagar city, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), a Special Purpose Vehicle, has been created under Smart City Mission which envisions transforming Srinagar into an eco-friendly, resilient and socio-economically vibrant city that celebrates its natural and cultural heritage creating harmony and opportunities for all.

Under Srinagar Smart project, City aspires to leverage its natural and cultural heritage and tourism through innovative and inclusive solutions and enhance the quality of life for its citizens.

Many projects including EV charging stations, smart

street lighting, multi-level parking, sports infrastructure, water transport system in Jhelum River, installation of ornamental LED lighting around Dal-lake, pedestrian walkways and footpath, riverbank development have been started under smart city mission

The Administration says the goal behind launching Smart City Mission is to create a city for its people which possess their chosen pursuits.

I want to make certain corrections in the passport of my Son issued under number T0876201 on 5-4-2019 from Passport Office Srinagar. In Place of Mohammad , the correct spelling is Muhammad as per School records while as parentage name is also to be corrected as Shoiab in place of Shoaib and mothers name as Fajar Firdous Malik in place of Fajar Firdous as per records. If any one has any objection in this regard may submit the same to the Passport office Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mohammad Shoiab Malik Father of Muhammad Abban Malik R/o Kahwaja Pora Nowshehra, Srinagar

Press Release



Nehru YUVA Kendra Anantnag under ministry youth affairs and sports Govt. of India in calibration with Friends Youth club organized District Level Neighborhood Youth Parliament w.e.f 11-03-2022 at HSS Devalgam. In which different youth clubs and Mahal Mendals present the programme among the peoples near about 401 youth leader and local villagers from nearby area attended the programme. the resource persons from different Govt. Departments deliver their speech about the programme .The peoples of this area appreciated the NYKS from organized such type of pro-

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the

Kashmir Observer LLP

Published from: #5-Boulevard, Srinagar-190001

Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.

RNI Registration No: 69503/98

Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16

Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja Switchboard: (0194) 2106304 Editorial: (0194) 2502327

Email editorial: editor@kashmirobserver.net

Twitter Talks



"J&K is losing its irrigated fertile land. Even the rivers are being leased out, big contractors are excavating sand, stones and other material by mutilating the streams and rivers. We will face food crises after a decade"

@rtimuzaffar

"Russia bombing a hospital is a war crime, but when the US does it it's a "mistake". Iraq was a "foreign policy gaffe". Afghanistan was a "blunder". The US/UK/NATO are always innocent, and given the benefit of the doubt, and the Russians, Chinese, Syrians etc are always evil"

@richimedhurst

" Please be EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS of using false eye lashes, cosmetic contact lenses & eye lash extensions.. Saw a 24 yr old young girl recently married who has developed perforating corneal ulcer post improper usage of false eyelashes. She has lost her eyesight!"

@shaziashafi5

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Roots Of Pay Crisis

tate employees have raised the stakes in their attrition with the government to a perilous level in threatening an indefinite lock-out should their demands on the implementation of the 6th Pay Commission report and other issues not be conceded. Even as we go to press, government functioning in the state has been paralyzed by a two-day strike, with a secretariat gherao planned for Wednesday. Employee unions are in no mood to give the government more time, dismayed as they are by the recent cabinet meeting sideling the issue totally.

Commentators have, perhaps with good reason, described the unfolding scenario as a grave crisis in the making, and indeed, the situation does show the signs of a showdown. The recently inducted National Conference-led coalition in Jammu and Kashmir would have been wishing for this particular hornet's nest not to be stirred, but couldn't have been unaware of the restive ranks of the employees who have been pursuing this issue aggressively for some time. The pay panel's recommendations have come as an additional boost to the agitation-prone employee unions who say that many of their genuine grievances have been left unaddressed for too long. What they decide on Wednesday during the secretariat gherao will determine what the Omar Abdullah government will have to face.

In any case, the state dispensation is confronted with its first majo challenge where its avowedly good intentions clash with the reality of a serious resource crunch.

The state finance minister, Abdul Rahim Rathar, has already outlined the huge financial implications of implementing the 6th Pay Commission report, and tacitly admitted the state's limitations by stressing that the issue would have to be taken up with the center.

Remarkably, the demands about the Commission's recommendations took center stage when the agitation over the Shrine Board land transfer had taken on a much broader dimension. The governor, then ruling the state, himself gave audience to employees' delegations, notably to a hastily cob-

bled group of KAS officers who had actively begun to champion the cause. These senior officers could not have been unaware of the shaky state of government finances and the protracted top-level wrangling it would take to make the center cough up the thousands of crores of rupees needed to meet the liability. The employees have been on the agitation path on a number of diverse issues, but the pay commission report has given their stir a cutting edge, turning the governmentemployee tussle into an affair of keen public interest. Bent on giving the government no further quarter by threatening an indefinite strike, attention is bound to be focused on developments concerning an estimated four-an-a-half lakh individuals. If carried out, the threat has wider ramifications, involve as it does the society in general which is heavily dependent on government functioning.

If the National Conference-led coalition government finds itself painted into a corner because of an indefinite pen-down strike by employees, the party has partly to answer to itself with respect to the weak state economy. The National Conference has been in power for long decades, and its sins of omission and commission have a direct bearing on the present state of affairs. It cannot absolve itself of responsibility of having giving the state no direction in the economic and social spheres to meet the demands of coming years. The state cannot even generate finances to meet its own salary bills, and has been kept dependent on outside injections in more ways than one. Right from the everyday necessities of life, including the food front where Jammu and Kashmir should have been self-sufficient, the state has to rely on imports, and can be brought to its knees in a matter of days as evidenced in the economic blockade by communal fanatics in the Jammu region.

The connection between salary issues and the self-sufficiency of the state is not far-fetched, as Kashmir's vulnerability comes to the fore every time the Srinagar-Jammu highway gets blocked for a matter of days. It bears repeating that the National Conference, which has been in power at what could have been a defining stage in Kashmir's development, has failed abysmally in providing the leadership nd vision required to put a people on the path of sustainable progress. What has been cultivated instead is a pervasive cult of consumerism and ostentation under which even the last remnants of producers, the peasantry and the farming community, are selling off their land to finance bribes for government jobs for their younger generation. The National Conference had lost no time in granting land to the tiller, but failed to give a sound agrarian philosophy that would have sustained the state as agriculture does states like the Punjab.

The credit for the state's perennial begging bowl image, even for employees' salaries, goes fair and square to the National Conference which has been content with flowing with the drift, and seldom lifted up a hand to address the state's decline.

> The article is an editorial from KO Archives and was originally published on Jun 10, 2010

Peanuts Per Lecture

Ugly Tale Of Being A Private School Teacher In Kashmir



Gowher Ahmad Bhat

oo often, as the government fails to accommodate all into the government sector, educated youth throng the private sector. In Jammu and Kashmir, one of the largest private sector employers are the private schools. Thousands of teachers are working in these schools. Every school tries to hire those among the best qualified youth to make the teaching learning process in their institutions a success, They look for teachers who will cater and mutate according to the modern trends in the education sector and address the challenges of the ever growing competition. They look for those teachers who will satiate the knowledge thirst of the modern day students.

However, their quest is too often unethical. Job advertisements in Private schools are a symbolic fest that often tell the story in a glance. The "Qualifications" and "Experience" column against each teaching opening is written in bold letters, whereas, the "Salary" column is left ambiguous with an apparently generous "Pay is Negotiable". Honestly, the Ad reads like a PR of the school, hirding the salary than the school of the scho ing only the best. However, for the wise, it is a manifesto of exploitation.

All of us know the untold story of this "negotiable pay". The teachers have to undergo rounds of interviews and have to take oaths to follow terms and conditions of the institution to the T. However, god forbid, if the aspirant wants to discuss the specifics of the salary arrangement! They are told that they shall be put on probation for a month or

more for a meager salary, until they prove their worth. A "suitable" salary is promised afterwards. What is the suitable pay for a teacher who is to join a private school? A skilled labour earns at least Rs 25000-30000 per month and a non skilled labour earns a monthly sum of Rs 15000-20000 Skilled Jahours who have their own machinery and equipment earn more than the already stated figures. It is a known fact that the salary in most of the private schools does not even touch Rs 15000. There are many private schools where the salary of teachers is below Rs

G G JOB advertisements in Private schools are a symbolic fest that often tell the story in a glance. The "Qualifications" and "Experience" column against each teaching opening is written in bold letters, whereas, the "Salary" column is left ambiguous with an apparently generous "Pay is Negotiable". Honestly, the Ad reads like a PR of the school, hiring only the best. However, for the wise, it is a manifesto of exploitation

5000. Many reputed schools are paying a salary to their teachers that puts a question mark on their name and fame. Despite having huge earnings and emptying the pockets of parents they

pay only peanuts to the teachers. These helpless teachers neither have the provision of yearly increments nor are they provided any considerable hike on account of good performance. It is a sisyphean loop of hard work for empty appreciation. If anyone objects, they're deemed disposable and dismissed at the first instance of protest.

Behind every educated and qualified youth there is the blood, sweat and tears of their family. In lower middle class and middle class families, education is considered an investment. It is expected that a saviour is nurtured through quality education, who would grow on to shoulder the burden of the family at the time of need. This is especially true if the family is poor.

However, with all the education, when some end up working in private schools as teachers, they cannot even afford medicines for their ailing parents. Contributing for groceries or spending on personal expenses is a luxury they can't afford. Imagine the plight of turning up all brushed up with knowledge, in well creased clothes. Can they even afford these in the first place? Can they even afford the technology that they're required to be familiar with and teach? These are all dusted under the carpet as "asking-for-too-much" demands. A private school teacher can't even take the liberties to buy resources for the teachinglearning process. Apparently, their "passion" and

"dedication" should pay the school supplies shop.
As though things weren't already worse, during the Covid-19 pandemic, the condition of Private school teachers got worse. Many private school teachers were not paid their salaries for months without any consideration. They were pushed to starvation. The hardships faced by a private school teacher were evident from a video that went viral on social media. The teacher in the video was walking by foot when a cab driver offered him a lift. It is then that he narrated his ordeal to the cab driver and stated that he had visited the school where he works for the very purpose of getting salary but to no avail. His condition was such that he had hoped to pay for a ride back to his home through the salary that never came. This is not the ordeal of only one helpless and poor private school teacher but a

tale of almost all private school teachers.

The paying of low salary to the teachers puts a question mark on the very functioning of private schools. It rips apart the minimum wages guarantee act (MWGA). It is an exploitation of the asset of educated youth who are the life of successful nations. It is an insult to our education system. It is a joke on the literacy mission and its advocates. It falsifies the very purpose of imparting a sincere education.

The School Education Department and the Labour Department should come to the rescue of private school teachers and frame rules and regulations that will govern the basis of hiring of teachers by the private school owners. A salary fixation committee for private school teachers should be constituted and a respectable salary to be paid to private school teachers should be fixed. There should be a provision for a suitable and respect-able yearly increment for the PST. A grievance redressal cell should also be put into place to look into the complaints logged by the private school

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 Teacher and a Core Member of JKGLTF

Hamid Dabashi

hese days, the speed with which globalised calamities hit the news cycle is vertiginous. We were just learning how to cope with the calamities of Donald Trump's presidency when the COVID-19 pandemic hit the ground running. The pandemic was still causing havoc around the globe when environmental calamities peaked to frightful dimensions. We had just watched Adam McKay's apocalyptic black comedy Don't Look Up (2021) to have a full satirical grasp on our pending climate predicament, when suddenly the headlines became thicker and scarier, warning us that Vladimir Putin was about to invade Ukraine.

Believe it or not, just around that time, I was invited to Moscow for the launch of a new Russian translation of Edward Said's Orientalism. In the end, I opted to join the gathering via zoom because of the CO-VID-19 travel restrictions my university had introduced and other obligations that required me to remain in New York, Had I travelled to Moscow, I would likely still be stranded there due to President Joe Biden's decision to close US skies to Russian aircraft in response to the all-out invasion Putin launched on February 24.

Two weeks on, the Russian army is still in Ukraine, fighting its way towards Kyiv. But to what end? What is this war going to achieve amid a looming climate crisis, a still raging pandemic and massive waves of displacement, famine, death and destruction already devastating the world, from Afghanistan and Yemen to Ethiopia and Myanmar? This reigniting of the nineteenth-century Russian imperial anxieties two decades into the environmental calamities of the twenty-first century really does not make any sense.

'A plague on both your houses' So how can we keep our heads above the smoke and breathe an air of sanity? Personally, I always reach for the same

Whom To Believe On Ukraine

Biden, Putin, Or Nikolai Gogol?

masterpieces of world literature and music

security blanket – enduring works of art, restore white supremacy in the US. The key to remaining sane today is being

OVER THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF the Ukraine-Russia war, the propaganda warfare between the United States and Russia has reached a feverish pitch. The habitual liberal Russophobia in the US has been exacerbated by the Trumpian right's growing admiration for Putin

- whenever I feel as if the world is spiralling uncontrollably towards Armageddon.

Indeed, if I have to go under, I would rather do so while listening to Shostakovich and Bach, reading Gogol and Hafez, and looking at El Greco and Behzad, with my worn-out copies of YV Mudimbe's Invention of Africa and Gadamer's Truth and Method by my bedside.

Today, turning to art is perhaps the only way to sustain inner sanity in an insane world. Over the first two weeks of the Ukraine-Russia war, the propaganda warfare between the United States and Russia has reached a feverish pitch. The habitual liberal Russophobia in the US has been exacerbated by the Trumpian right's growing admiration for Putin. As Tucker Carlson of Fox News reached new lows in his efforts to defend Putin and his invasion, and the usual suspects at The New York Times started banging the drums of war, we had to seek cover from both liberal Russophobia and conservative declarations of love for a strongman they think can help them able to condemn Russia's bold and vulgar act of military aggression against Ukraine without being sucked into the Anglo-American world's pathological love-hate relationship with Putin.

It is, of course, not easy to ignore "the West's" obsession with Putin and exaggeration of his villainy.

When people ranging from seasoned American idiot Thomas Friedman to Israeli best-selling author Yuval Noah Harari come together to argue Putin's adventurism in Ukraine is unlike anything we have seen before and is a turning point in human history, it is hard not to bury your head in your pillow and wonder where have these people been over the last two decades of US

military thuggery around the globe. Putin after all is not doing in Ukraine anything the US has not already done in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and so many other places around the globe - he is simply doing what he is doing not in Asia, Africa or Latin America, but in Europe. Same military thuggery, different bucket.

"Plague on both your houses," as the Bard famously put it. Why should innocent people in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, or Yemen pay for imperial arrogance under any flag?

'We all come out from Gogol's 'Overcoat' Back to my survival toolkit. In my teenage years, I feasted on Russian and American literature – and never had any taste for European literature bar a few exceptions. Among the towering luminaries of my youthful fascination with Russian literature was and remains the glorious novelist Nikolai Gogol (1809-52). My fascination with him started when I read the Persian translation of his Dead Souls. I became so fascinated with him that I even translated into Persian one of his masterpieces, The Diary of a Madman (which I never dared to publish because I don't know Russian and felt inadequate doing the translation only from its English translation – in a country where we were blessed with Iranian translators of Russian sources with native fluency over both languages).

For the longest time I had no clue that Gogol was in fact Ukrainian by birth, but Russian by literary culture. And I only remembered this factoid when I found myself listening to Biden and Putin both trying to convince their respective audiences into accepting as fact their own brand of gibberish about the war in Ukraine.

As I watched the two presidents battle for the world's attention, I couldn't help but think an entirely different map of the region would emerge if we were to pay attention not to warmongering politicians but to literary history that reveals the inanity of invasion of one country by another.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Al Jazeera.

Hamid Dabashi is the Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature at Columbia University

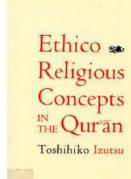
Thematic Studies On The Qur'an: 10 Significant Books

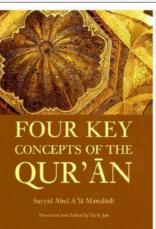


Thematic Study of Qur'an' is a significant and recurring theme in the literature on Qur'an and things Qur'anic

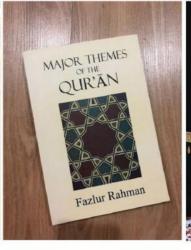
HE WRITINGS ON THE QUR'AN—and more significantly in the area of Qur'anic Studies-is an interesting and exciting academic discipline, spread over a number of branches, to which Muslims (from classical to contemporary era) and non-Muslims (or Western scholars) have contributed extensively. Besides the tafsir literature, 'Ulum al-Qur'an and translations of the Qur'an in various European and Oriental languages (especially Arabic, Urdu, English, etc.), and other inter-related aspects, there have emerged, from the last few decades, many new trends in this field. These new trends range from Qur'anic hermeneutics, contextualist approach to Qur'an/ Qur'anic Text, thematic interpretations of Qur'an, Qur'an for daily recitation, to simple introductions to the Qur'an, and personal wrestling(s) with the Sacred Text. Among these genres, a significant category-more persuasive and dominant than others—is the 'thematic' study and interpretation of the Qur'an.

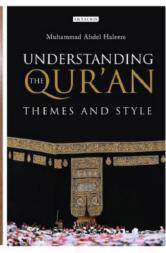
Some of the important works on the 'thematic' study of Qur'an with a focus ranging from key terms or concepts, major themes, to some of the essential/ basic teachings, and major issues and contemporary topics, include: Toshihiko Izutsu, God and Man in the Koran (1964) and Ethico-Religious Concepts in the Qur'an (1966/2004); B. A. Dar, Qur'anic Ethics (1960); Qamaruddin Khan, Political Concepts in the Qur'an (1973); Abu al-'Ala Mawdudi, Four Basic Qura'nic Terms: Ilah, Rabb, 'Ibadah, Deen (1977); Fazlur Rahman, Major Themes of the Qur'an (1980); T. B. (Taleem 'Ali) Irving et. al., The Qur'an: Basic Teachings (1992); Muhammad Abdel Haleem, Understanding the Qur'an: Themes and Style (1999/ 2001); Abdur Raheem Kidwai, The Qur'an: Essential Teachings (2005); Farid Esack, The Qur'an: A User's Guide (2005 & 2007); Massimo Campanini, The Qur'an: The Basics (2007/ 2016); Ziauddin Sardar, Reading the Qur'an (2011/ 2015); Abdel Haleem, Exploring the Qur'an: Con-





concepts and contemporary topics/issues altogether.







text and Impact (2016); Tauseef Ahmad Parray, Towards Understanding the Qur'anic Terms, Concepts, and Themes (2017)/ Exploring the Qur'an: Concepts and Themes (2019), etc.

A passing look at the titles of these works on the

A passing look at the titles of these works on the 'thematic' study of the Qur'an, gives an impression that they (collectively) highlight major themes or basic terms, some essential teachings or main/ key concepts, ethico-religious concepts, or themes,

and things Qur'anic. Thus, in this context, below is presented an assessment of some important works in this genre of last and present century.

1. Toshihiko Izutsu, a Japanese scholar, dealt primarily with religious ethics and attitude and on the general Qur'anic worldview, in his two books, God and Man in the Koran (1964), and Ethico-Religious Concepts in the Qur'an (1966/

A PASSING LOOK AT THE TITLES OF THESE works on the 'thematic' study of the Qur'an, gives an impression that they (collectively) highlight major themes or basic terms, some essential teachings or main/key concepts, ethico-religious concepts, or themes,

concepts and contemporary topics/ issues altogether. It also gives the impression that it depends on the author's choice and the expertise, as well as on the circumstances and requirements (or more specifically on the need of the hour) which topics (terms, concepts, and themes) he selects, prefers, and highlights, and which he drops.

As indicated above, the writings in the area of the Qur'anic Studies are spread over a number of branches and one such significant category, in the modern period, is the 'thematic' study of the Qur'an, with the aim to highlight some key concepts and important terms, vital and vibrant themes, occurring in the Diving Book. The 'Thematic Study of Qur'an' is a significant and recurring theme in the literature on Qur'an

2002). Following a 'semantic approach', each of these works tries to define broadly a semantic range of vocabulary central to religious discussion, and the two works in combination provide 'a significant view of the religious and cognitive structures of the Qur'an' through the 'semantic method' that 'has had a lasting effect on the discipline' of the Qur'anic Studies.

2. Syed Abu 'Ala Mawdudi (d. 1979) specifically focused on the Four Basic Qura'nic Terms: Ilah, Rabb, 'Ibadah, Deen (God, the Lord, Religious Observance, and Faith; 1977), because they are, in his opinion, 'basic to the whole teaching of the Qur'an' and that the 'entire contents' of the whole Our'an, 'revolve around these four terms only'.

3. Fazlur Rahman's Major Themes of the Qur'an (1980) explores the theological, moral and social teachings and principles of Islam, by engaging in a systematic study of the Sacred Text according to specific themes, instead of individual verses. Following a 'synthetic exposition' and thematic approach, Rahman provides 'an introduction to major themes of the Qur'an' which gives the reader 'a genuine taste of the Qur'an'.

4. Abdel Haleem's Understanding the Qur'an: Themes and Styles (2001) discusses—in an easy-to-understand manner and providing the reader with useful insights—some major themes of the Qur'an that are pertinent to modern debates on Qur'anic interpretation, including, the concept of life, marriage, war and peace, tolerance, paradise, etc. It is 'intended to help the general reader, and also the scholar, to understand the Qur'an by combining a number of approaches: thematic, stylistic and comparative'.

5. The Qur'an: Essential Teachings by Abdur Raheem Kidwai (2005) deals, in a lucid and coherent manner, with the articles of faith, basic Islamic Pillars, and with social ethics. Addressed to 'the English-speaking reading public interested in grasping the meaning and message of the Qur'an', Kidwai's work is 'intended to help readers get an idea of the Qur'anic worldview': and thus contains and covers topics on the articles of Islamic faith, God-man relationship, religious duties, and the Islamic value system [a detailed review on this book was published in KO on 5th March 2022, p. 5]. (Contd.)

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The article is for informational purposes only and is not meant to endorse or dismiss any ideology or group or people. Views expressed are author's own and do not represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

Obituary

The Hardest Goodbye

"We Surely Belong To Allah And To Him We Shall Return"

Nusrat Badyari

3th March was the day when our beloved father bid a goodbye to this world. I still remember the day as if it happened just moments ago. Today, yet again, I am remembering him and sharing a bit of our pain with you all . They say, "Let's take a walk. You can show me some of your memories and I'll show you some of mine."

We call our father "Daediya" or "Daddy". Daediya was the most wonderful person. I don't say it because he was my father but he was truly an exemplary human being.

He was never the one with unnecessary lectures on good behaviour. However, he showed us how to be a good person in this world and ensured how that was necessary for the hereafter.

Daddy would never argue for the heck of it. He would listen patiently and arrive at a fair conclusion. He had a great vision. He could actually see the future of a person just by talking to them.

He was extremely friendly and was loved by all his acquaintances. He braved a kind hearted and a humble soul. A humility that was unmatched. Always grateful — sporting a smile through pain. He was a great host and would treat all equally. I remember him ensuring food to the drivers who accompanied his friends on Dawats. He was so humble & kind with every person in his life be it the helpers at home or in his office. Daddy was kind to animals also. He would make sure he fed the birds everyday and would always have some head for the street dogs too.

have some bread for the street dogs too. Watching him treat all equally has inspired me to this day. It has taught me to value all. In his behaviour, he was unparalleled. He would never complain that the food wasn't good. He would make us trust the process of living and teach us, "whatever happens, happens for the best". I remember during his last days in this world he said to me, "Let's see what Allah will do, you don't worry". His trust in Allah was so strong I never saw Him doubting any situation of his. He was always

thankful to Almighty.

He was a trustworthy companion to his friends, perhaps that's why he managed to make friends around the globe. Daddy's friends were from many parts of the world, his friends were Entrepreneurs from MNCs, Business men from local and international levels, Judges, lawyers, Policemen (DIGs, SSPs), Doctors, Engineers, Islamic Scholars, Teachers, professors etc. Many of daddy's friends are still in touch with us and miss him equally as we do. I'm grateful for their support and will always be.

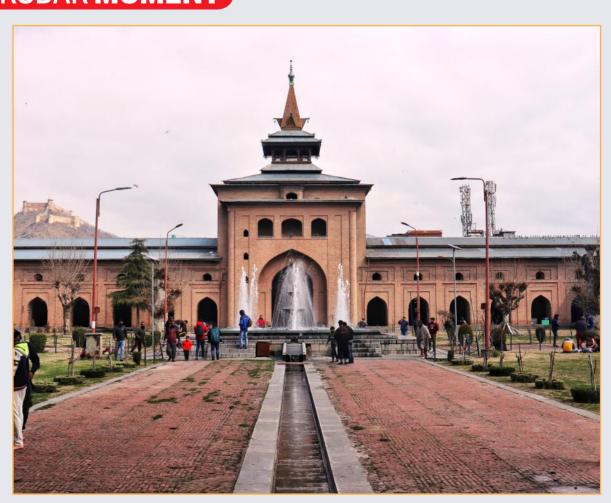
Daddy was an intelligent person and was interested in world politics. He also loved sports; Cricket and Football were his favorites.

Daddy, I don't know if by writing the above article, if I could do justice to my feelings. But I know for sure, in simple words, We all miss you — every single second of our existence and we always pray for your Magfirath.

We all are proud of you, for giving us the best life, giving us the freedom to live and always believing in us. Praying for your Magfirath and thanks for

being in our lives. I'm proud to be Nusrat Badyari, the daughter of the great Haji Ali Mohammad Badyari

KODAK **MOMENT**



A MESMERIZING VIEW OF KASHMIR'S LARGEST MOSQUE Jamia masjid situated in the old city at Nowhatta. Picture Credits: Shaizan Nadaf

7 Killed In Massive Fire In Northeast Delhi, Several Shanties Gutted

New Delhi: Three children and a pregnant woman were among the seven killed in a massive blaze that gutted shanties in northeast Delhi early Saturday, with preliminary probe suggesting that the fire could have started from a burning cigarette butt or a bidi.

There were some cardboards behind one of the shanties and it is suspected that someone could have thrown a burning cigarette or bidi there, causing the fire, forensic officials said.

Roshan (13) and his sister Dipika (9) and five of a family -- Babloo (32), Ranjit (25), Reshma (18), Priyanka (20) and Shahansha (10) -- were killed in the blaze in Gokulpuri village, information about which was received at 1:03 am, an official of the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) said. Relatives of Priyanka said that she was five months pregnant. Those injured in the incident

are being treated, police said. President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra condoled the deaths, while Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh for the kin of the adults killed in the incident and Rs 5

lakh in case of the deaths of

the children. The Delhi government will give Rs 25,000 as financial assistance to those whose shanties were gutted. Thirteen fire tenders were rushed to the spot, the DFS official said, adding that the blaze was brought

under control around 4 am. "Our world turned upside down within a few minutes. Not only did we lose our loved ones but also money and jewellery that we had saved," said one of the deceased's family

Roshan and Dipika's grandfather Santu said, "We went to sleep around 10.30 pm and the incident took place around 12.30 am on Saturday. We have no idea how and from where the fire started."

"Though family members managed to escape, Roshan and Dipika got trapped in the blaze," the 58-year-old said.

Seven charred bodies have been recovered from the site, the DFS official said, adding that of about 60 shanties, 30 were completely gutted.

The reason behind the fire is yet to be ascertained, Additional Deputy Commissioner Police (Northeast) Devesh Kumar Mahla said, adding that a team from the Rohini-based Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) has examined the spot.

Police said a case under Indian Penal Code sections 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) and 304A (causing death by negligence) has been registered at the Gokulpuri Police Station.

Further sections will be added after reports of the fire department and the FSL team, a senior police officer said.

Residents claimed that the fire first engulfed 19 shanties on a plot of land and then spread to another 13 shanties on another plot across a wall.

The details of the plot owners are being ascertained, police said. FSL Director Deepa Verma

said, "When we received information regarding the blaze, a team led by the head of the forensic science division, Sanjeev Gupta, was immediately dispatched. The exhibits (collected from the spot) have been preserved and handed over to police. When it will come for laboratory testing, the case will be a top priority." Information was received

around 4.15 am and a sevenmember forensic team reached the spot around 5.15 am, a senior FSL official said.

"Evidence has been handed over to the investigating officer (police). It seems like the fire broke out from behind the shanties where there were some cardboards. It is possible that someone left a burning cigarette or bidi, which caused the fire. However, laboratory testing will ascertain the exact cause of fire," he said.

Preliminary findings suggest that people got trapped as the fire engulfed shanties rapidly even those at the main entry gate, the official said.

Police said bodies were handed over to family members for last rites after postmortem at the GTB hospital.

Expressing grief over the incident, President Kovind said

of many casualties in the fire accident in Gokulpuri, Delhi, is extremely sad. I express my condolences to all the bereaved families and wish the

injured a speedy recovery." In a tweet, Prime Minister Modi described the incident as heart-rending while conveying his condolences to the families of the victims.

Kejriwal visited the site of the incident and took stock of the situation and interacted with the affected people.

"When I woke up this morning, I came to know that a fire here killed seven people and many shanties were burnt. I am deeply saddened with this incident. I pray to God that the deceased rest in peace," he

The chief minister said he has issued orders for swift release of the compensation amounts.

RBI lifts restrictions on business activities under HDFC Bank's **Digital Program**

MUMBAI: HDFC Bank Saturday informed that the Reserve Bank of India has lifted the restriction on the business generating activities planned under the Bank's Digital 2.0 program, vide its letter dated March 11, 2022. The same has been notified to the Stock Exchanges on March 12, 2022.

"We would like to extend our gratitude to the regulator for this action. We are fully committed to ensuring continued adherence to the highest standards of compliance with RBI recommendations," the bank said.

"We also take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks to our customers for the trust and faith they have reposed in us. We have utilized this time to draw up short, medium, and long-term plans to meet the evolving digital requirements of our customers and we will roll out these initiatives in the days to come," the bank said in a statement. (KNT)

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

4 Militants Killed

information, he said, police, army's 21 RR and Para commandoes launched a cordon and search operation in village Nechama Rajwar area of Handwara.

He said a Lashkar-e-Taiba militant Suhail Ahmad Ganie of Terigam Kulgam was killed in the encounter that broke out the search team came under fire.

Similarly, he said, another militant identified as Adil Ahmad Khan was killed in a gunfight with a joint team of police, 24RR & 115 CRPF in Serch village of Ganderbal.

As per police records, the spokesperson said, the killed militants were categorized and part of group involved in several "terror crime cases including attacks on Police/SFs and civilian atrocities".

Besides involved in motivating youth to join militant ranks, the spokesperson said that Khan was also involved in attack on Vice president of BJP of district Ganderbal on October, 6 2020, besides civilian killings in Srinagar and facilitating grenade attack at Towheed Chowk & Chappargund in the central Kashmir district.

"From the three encounter sites, incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 02 AK-56 rifles, 01 AK short barrel rifle, 01 Pistol, 09 AK-magazines, 01 Grenade, 08 Pistol rounds and 32 AK rounds have been recovered." he said.

The spokesperson quoted IGP Kashmir terming the killing of wanted Pakistani militant as a big success and congratulated the joint forces for conducting successful operations without any collateral damage.

"Besides, stressed on the officers to speed up the anti-terrorist operations so as to make the valley terror free," he

Panchavat Members

We will try our best to keep all the PRIs or PPs (protected persons) safe so that they can work in a safe environment," he said.

According to officials, terrorists fired upon the sarpanch, Shabir Ahmad Mir, near his residence in Adoura around 8.50 pm on Friday.

On March 9, an Independent sarpanch, Sameer Bhat, was shot dead by militants on the outskirts of Srinagar. On March 2, militants shot dead an Independent panchayat member, Mohammad Yaqub Dar, in Kulgam's Srandoo area.

Kumar said in every encounter, there is at least one Pakistani militant. Pakistan has instructed militants to carry out attacks near religious places so that they suffer some damage and people's religious sentiments are

"Pakistan wants to create law and order problems. The militants are carrying out such activities on the directions of Pakistan. We are taking preventive measures and carrying out operations without any loss (damage) to religious places or any collateral damage," he said.

A Pakistani militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba was killed in a brief shootout with police near the Hazratbal shrine here on Thursday.

His aim was to attack the shrine guard and snatch his weapon, Kumar had said.

Sarpanch Escapes

occurred near 'Laar Kul' in Aarihal area of the district when R&D Department officers and the Sarpanch were inspecting the construction work being executed by the Sarpanch.

Divulging information about the incident, an associate of the Sarpanch who was present on the spot told news agency Kashmir News Trust that Sarpanch

Ghulam Nabi Kumar of Panchayat Halqa Aarihal-B was busy in showing the progress of construction work at 'Lar Kul', when a man appeared from a district and fired from his pistol.

we fled away from the spot. The Sarpanch is safe," he said adding that it was apparently a bid on the life of the

'The bullet missed the target and

Police rushed to the spot to assess Joint Committee—that was constituted

the situation. (KNT)

Panchayat Body

Independent sarpanch Ahmad Mir was shot dead by militants near his residence in Adoura in south

Kashmir's Kulgam district on Friday. Another independent sarpanch, Sameer Bhat, was shot dead by terrorists on the outskirts of Srinagar on March 9, while independent panchayat member Mohammad Yaqub Dar was killed in Kulgam on March 2.

AJKPC president Anil Sharma said over two dozen members of panchayat raj institution (PRI), including panch, sarpanch and block development council chairpersons, were killed in terrorist attacks between 2011 and 2022, but "it is unfortunate that till date not even a single terrorist responsible for these killings have been arrested or neutralised".

"The family members of elected PRI members are worried over these killings and even compelling the elected members to resign from the post fearing risk to their lives," he said.

Sharma requested the central government to order a probe by the NIA into the killing of PRI members and bring the culprits to book.

He also demanded immediate release of ex-gratia amount of Rs 25 lakh for the family of every deceased PRI member and a government job to a kin. The AJKPC is an organisation of elected panchayat representatives.

Meanwhile, BJP national general secretary and in-charge of party affairs in ammu and Kashmir Tarun Chugh on Saturday condemned the killing of a sarpanch in Kulgam.

Chugh termed the incident highly condemnable and deplorable and demanded that the perpetrators of this heinous act should be brought to justice.

"Such mindless attacks shall achieve nothing except for more miseries to the common people, he said in a statement.

The BJP leader said there is no justification to kill an innocent and violence in all its manifestation has no place in any civilised society. (PTI)

High Level

Tuesday, NGT's principal bench had held the J&K Administration responsible for its failure to prevent illegal mining, discharge of sewage and dumping of solid waste into river Doodh Ganga and Mamath Kull.

The order was issued by NGT's three member Principal bench. While hearing the case, the bench had imposed fine of 3 crore under three heads---Solid waste, liquid waste and illegal mining. The bench had also said that "it will be open to the State to recover the amount from the polluters or erring officers in accordance with law."

Pertinently, the principal bench's decision came against allegations levelled against several departments by an applicant. The applicant in this case had alleged that the administration had failed to prevent illegal mining, discharge of sewage and dumping of solid waste into river Doodh Ganga and Mamath Kull in violation of provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

The applicant had also alleged that The Srinagar Municipal Corporation was continuously discharging untreated sewage in river Doodh Ganga from 13 dewatering pumping stations installed at various locations on the banks of river Doodh Ganga.

"Till date no STPs has been established by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation or any other Government Body in the entire stretch around river Doodh Ganga as a result of which all the untreated sewage from residential, commercial establishments, shopping malls, butcher houses, poultry shops, laboratories, diagnostic centers and domestic sewage are directly discharged into the river without any scientific treatment." the applicant had

On 14th January, a five-member

by NGT-of CPCB, J&K PCC, Deputy Commissioners, Srinagar and Budgam and the Director, Urban Local Bodies, I&K had filed its report acknowledging the violations but without any meaningful remedial action.

The violations that were found by the five member joint committee included dumping of waste on the banks of the river, discharge of untreated sewage into the river, unregulated illegal mining activities and failure to protect the embankments of the river.

While mentioning the State's failure in preventing pollution in Doodh Ganga river, The NGT's three bench panel had directed the Chief Secretary, J&K to take immediate remedial action to remedy the situation by "ensuring clean environment and also taking coercive measures against the erring irresponsible officers, acting in contempt of directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal and causing detriment to the environment and public health."

The panel had also ordered the Chief Secretary to personally file an action taken report before the Tribunal after interaction with the concerned officers within three months.

Pertinently, while referring to the Doodh Ganga violations as "large scale continuing violations", the bench had directed the Principal Secretary, Urban Development, J&K to remain present in person on the next date of hearing.

last Observer, in its weekly Inkishaf program titled, "TROUBLED WATERS OF DOODHGANGA" had highlighted how Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) was violating the Water (prevention & control of pollution) Act 1974; Section 24 (b), by draining untreated sewage waste into Doodh Ganga and destroy-

Lotus Set To

to power in Uttar Pradesh and also retained Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa, while Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) scripted a stellar victory in Punjab, winning a threefourths majority.

Welcoming the new entrants into the BJP-fold, Raina said, "People from all communities are joining the party every day, influenced by the welfare and development schemes of the government and the prime minister's slogan of 'sabka sath, sabka vikas aur sabka vishwas'."

"The BJP is confident of achieving its target of winning over 50 seats to form the next government with its own chief minister for the first time in the history of Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Raina said Jammu has been a stronghold of the BJP and he is confident that the "lotus" will bloom across the valley in the next Assembly polls.

"There is no one who can fight the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir. The Congress is finished across the country and you need a pair of binoculars to look for Congressmen.... People have witnessed the rule of the NC and the PDP and they are annoyed with these parties. Dogras, Kashmiris, Paharis, Bakerwals, Gujjars and everyone else is joining the BJP," he said, when asked what does he make of the challenge posed by the AAP.

Raina said the results in the justconcluded Assembly polls in five states show that people support the policies of the BJP.

"If you look at Punjab, where the party contested the election on its own strength, its vote share has increased manifold," he added. The BJP leader said the Muslims of

Deoband in Uttar Pradesh, by voting for the BIP, have broken a myth as people know whom to vote for their welfare. "Deoband is a religious and political centre and they voted for progress and development. Likewise, I am confident that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will

vote for the bright future of their children in the next Assembly polls," he added. Bali said he was inspired by the BJP's "It is the only party that is keeping wagers are being regularised after waiting for long and it was possible only because of the party," he said.

Ram, the president of the "Baazigar" sect, said he decided to join the BIP along with his supporters as it is the only party that is working for the welfare of the poor.

"We were always exploited and used as a vote bank by other parties. The BJP is doing a lot for us and we are sure that we will get reservation at par with our community members in the rest of the country under the leadership of Modi," he said.

Will Support India

Aquilino said in response. But when you talk about tremendous partnership, it's there. What more can we do? Continue the information sharing, continue to support them with the equipment they need upon the Line of Actual Control, and continue to partner and operate together throughout the

His remarks assume importance as India and China on Friday held another round of high-level military dialogue to resolve the 22-month-long standoff in certain remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh. The eastern Ladakh border standoff

between the Indian and Chinese militaries erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake

Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Admiral Aquilino also mentioned military exercises between the US and India.

The Malabar exercise with Japan, Australia, the United States, and India is critical. Increased mini lateral and multilateral engagements with the Indians, and ultimately continue to sell them equipment so we can interoperable and more effective together in the military sphere, he said.

On Wednesday, Ely Ratner, Assistant Secretary of Defence for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, told members of the House Armed Services Committee during a Congressional hearing on the Indo-Pacific region that he perceives the US-India defence relationship as one with incredible momentum.

He also said that the much awaited 2+2 dialogue between the two countries will take place here in early April. The last meeting of the 2+2 dialogue was held in New Delhi in 2020 and the next meeting is to be hosted by the US in Washington. The 2+2 ministerial dialogue takes place between foreign and defence ministers of both sides.

India and the United States held a bilateral 2+2 Inter-sessional meeting at the official level on 1 September 2021 in Washington DC. They reviewed progress made since the last 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in October 2020.

The Malabar exercise started in 1992 as a bilateral drill between the Indian Navy and the US Navy in the Indian Ocean. Japan became a permanent member of the exercise in 2015. This annual exercise was conducted off the coast of Guam in 2018 and off the coast of Japan in 2019.

The exercise was hosted in two phases in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea in 2020. There have been mounting global

concerns over China's growing military assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. India, the US, Australia, Japan and many other like-minded countries are working towards ensuring a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

The US recognised India as a "Major Defence Partner" in 2016, a designation that allows India to buy more advanced and sensitive technologies from America at par with that of the US' closest allies and partners, and ensures enduring cooperation into the future.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. Beijing is also involved in a maritime dispute with Japan over the East China Sea.

How Kashmiris its promises. As many as 12,000 daily

words to thank the people of Kashmir staying in New Delhi who made it possible and supported us in the time of grief," Nusrat said.

"I was amazed to see the way our people were helping us away from home. Kashmiris can't see their brethren in trouble. We share each other's pain and that is the best thing about us Kashmiris.'

Pak Seeks Joint

Pakistan summoned India's Charge d'Affaires here on Friday and conveyed its strong protest over the unprovoked violation of its airspace by an Indian missile.

Pakistan's National Security Advisor Moeed Yusuf on Friday questioned India's ability to handle sensitive technologies and said the Indian government did not bother to inform Pakistan about the accidental missile firing incident. The Foreign Office said the incident

raises several fundamental questions regarding security protocols and technical safeguards against accidental or unauthorised missile launch in a nuclearised environment. "Such a serious matter cannot be

addressed with the simplistic explanation proffered by the Indian authorities, it said, adding that some of the questions should be answered. Indian decision to hold an internal

court of inquiry is not sufficient since the missile ended up in Pakistani territory. Pakistan demands a joint probe to accurately establish the facts surrounding the incident, it said. India must explain the measures and procedures in place to prevent acciden-

tal missile launches and the particular circumstances of this incident, the FO said, adding that India must clearly explain the type and specifications of the missile that fell in Pakistani territory. The Indian missile landed near Mian Chunnu city in Pakistan's Punjab prov-

ince on Wednesday evening without causing damage to civilian property. "It is learnt that the missile landed in an area of Pakistan. While the incident is deeply regrettable, it is also a matter of relief that there has been no loss of life due to the accident," India's

on Friday. Pakistan also sought the flight path/ trajectory of the accidentally launched missile and how it ultimately turned and entered into Pakistan.

Ministry of Defence said in a statement

with a self-destruct mechanism and why it failed to actualise. It further asked India if its missiles were kept primed for launch even un-

It asked if the missile was equipped

der routine maintenance. Why did India fail to immediately inform Pakistan about the accidental launch of the missile and waited to acknowledge till after Pakistan announced the incident and sought clari-

fication? the FO asked. It also said that India needs to explain if the missile was indeed handled by its armed forces or some rogue elements.

The incident happened at a time when there is a chill in bilateral relations between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir issue. Pakistan had downgraded diplomatic ties with India after India revoked the special status of

Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan said the whole incident indicates many loopholes and technical lapses of serious nature in India's handling of strategic weapons.

Given the short distances and response times, any misinterpretation by the other side could lead to counter measures in self-defence with grave consequences, the Foreign Office noted.

Pakistan also called upon the international community to take serious notice of this incident of grave nature in a nuclearised environment and play its due role in promoting strategic stability in the region, the FO concluded.

HM Shah, LG

Maulana Azad Stadium on March 19 in which troops from different sectors of CRPF across India will participate.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah and J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha will grace the occasion, the spokesperson said.

He said at present 247 battalions of the force are deployed in different parts of the country and this force is the largest paramilitary force not only in India but in the world.

As a keeper of the backbone of the internal security of the country, the CRPF is involved in dealing effectively with the insurgency in North East region and left wing-extremism in other parts of the country besides fighting terrorist activities in J&K, the spokesperson said.

During the function, he said medals for gallantry services and exceptional achievements too will be given to the CRPF personnel by the Home Minister. He said the celebration would also

include enthralling demonstrations by the CRPF sports team, the Mallakhamb team and Motorbike stunts by the renowned 'Mahila' (women) dare- devils teams of the CRPF.

A musical performance comprising themes of national unity and patriotism will also be presented, the spokesman

Tanvir Sadiq

Omar Abdullah in his government and also the party spokesperson a de-

A spokesperson of the party said the changes were made in the interest of strengthening the media and the communication wing of the party, and the order was issued by the party president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah.

Former MLA from RS Pura and senior leader Gagan Bhagat was nominated as the deputy chief spokesperson and incharge, capacity building and training.

Imran Nabi Dar, who was the spokeserson of Kashmir province, has been elevated to the post of the party's state spokesperson and Ifra Jan, who was the additional spokeswoman, has taken over his position.

NC youth leaders Zeeshan Rana and Thakur Yashu Vardhan Singh have been nominated as the additional spokespersons of Jammu, the party said.

In addition, Mudassir Shahmiri has been nominated as the deputy political secretary to the party vice president.

6 Gamblers

six gamblers, a police spokesperson said Saturday. Besides playing cards, he said, stake money was also seized from the spot.

The police identified the accused as Imtiyaz Ahmad Dar, Imtiyaz Ahmad Mir, Noor Mohmad Mir, Mohmad Rafiq Mir, Mohammad Ramzan Mir and Gulzar Ahmad , all residents of Banyari Sharki Haiin.

' In this regard, case FIR No. 15/2022 under relevant sections stands registered in Police Station Hajin and further investigation has been taken up," the

spokesperson said. **Leopard Captured**

following which a wildlife officials team reached the village and captured the beast with the assistance of locals.

An official told a local news agency KNT that they were looking for this leopard for the past six months and today they managed to capture it successfully. The official said the leopard will be

shifted to a safe location where it will be set free. **IAF Airlifts 111**

Courier, was operated to airlift 53 passengers between Jammu and Kargil and 58 more between Srinagar and Kargil, chief coordinator for the service Aamir Ali said.

He said 44 passengers were airlifted from Jammu to Kargil and nine from Kargil to Jammu, while 46 passengers were airlifted from Srinagar to Kargil and 12 from Kargil to Srinagar.

The IAF operates C-17, C-130 and AN-32 aircraft regularly to airlift stranded passengers between Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in view of the closure of 434km Srinagar-Leh national highway since January owing to heavy snowfall. (PTI)

Cong Fought Lone Battle Against BJP, ED, CBI: Rajani

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Congress' fight in the assembly elections in the five states was not just against the BJP but also against the central agencies like the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the CBI, party MP and incharge Jammu and Kashmir affairs Rajani Patil said here on Saturday.

The fight was not just against BJP, it was also against the ED, CBI, and other agencies. We fought alone with all. Priyanka Gandhi or Rahul Gandhi fought with bravery. We are all ready to take the responsibility for the defeat. We will look for the reasons and prepare again, Patil told reporters here.

a meeting of its central working committee to discuss the party's performance in the elections in the five states.

Asked about the meeting of the 'G-23' leaders, the Congress MP said, they are also CWC members, so the issues can be discussed there.

To a question about the reported infighting in the party's J-K unit with a group being led by Ghulam Nabi Azad, Patil said the party was united.

Every state has its own issues. Azad has said that he will not go that way (part ways). We have arguments, but we are together in this fight, she said.

She said the party was ready for polls in J-K, but "want statehood She said the party has called be announced first, then polls.

J&K Reports 19 Fresh Covid-19 Cases, No Death

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 19 fresh Covid-19 cases even as there was no death Jammu and 2423 in Kashmir. due to the virus in the last 24 hours, officials said on Sat-

They said 10 of the fresh cases were reported from Jammu Division and nine from Kashmir Valley, taking the overall tally to 453422

Giving district wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 5 cases, Baramulla 0, Budgam 1, Pulwama 1, Kupwara 0, Anantnag 0, Bandipora 1, Ganderbal 0, Kulgam 1, Shopian 0, Jammu 6, Udhampur 0, Rajouri 0, Doda 0, Kathua 2, Samba 0, Kishtwar 1, covid-19 vaccine were adminis-Poonch 1, Ramban 0 and Reasi 0. tered during the time in J&K.

There was no death reported in the last 24 hours, they said. So far 4749 persons have succumbed to the virus-2326 in

Besides, they said, 48 Covid-19 patients-22 from Jammu and 26 from recovered Vallev-🖣 during the time. So far 448421 people have recovered, leaving the active case tally at 252- 107 in Jammu and 145 in Kashmir.

They said there was no new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today. So far 51 black fungus cases have been confirmed in I&K, the officials said. They also informed that 14278 doses of

15 Day Training Programme **On Production Of Low Cost Biopesticides Begins**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A 15 days training programme on "Production of Low Cost Biopesticides" was inaugurated on Saturday at Mountain

and unemployed rural youth on the ment opportunities. practical aspects of biopesticides production. Thirty PG students and five unemployed rural youth have been registered as participants in the training programme.

The training programme is sponsored by ICAR-National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP). Prof. Sarfaraz A. Wani, Director Research SKUAST-Kashmir, chief guest on the occasion emphasised the role of organic and natural farming in building soil, plant and human health. He urged all the stake holders and the particides was also released on the ticipants to promote entrepreneur- occasion.

ship development in organic input production and popularise organic farming for enhancing income of

Prof. Azmat Alam, OSD to Hon'ble Vice Chancellor urged Research Centre for Field Crops the organisers to widen the scope (MRCFC) SKUAST-Kashmir, Khud- of such trainings to students of other academic institutions that The training programme is help in developing trained human imed at familiarising PG students—resource and generating employ-

> Prof. Najeeb R. Sofi, Assoc. Director Research MRCFC, Khudwani highlighted the role and mandate of MRCFC in developing high yielding varieties of rice, rapeseed, wheat and maize in achieving the food security for the region.

> Dr. Fayaz A. Mohiddin, co-ordinator of the training programme discussed about the course contents and role of biopesticides in plant disease management. A training brochure on the production technology of low cost biopes-

Bandipora-Gurez Road Reopens After 3 Months



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Bandipora-Gurez road was thrown open for traffic on Saturday after remaining closed for more than three months following snowfall. The traffic on the 85 kilometer road stretch will be allowed in a controlled manner and the decision came as Border Roads Organisation (BRO) completed the snow clearance operation in a re-

cord time this year, officials said. "On tomorrow (13-03-2022) subject to fair weather traffic will be allowed from Gurez towards Bandipora and no vehicle will be allowed to move from Bandipora towards Gurez," official said, adding, "Vehicles should cross TCP Kanzalwan before 0830 hours," they said, adding, "Only LMVs with proper anti-skid chains shall be allowed."

Officials said that the first convoy of vehicles was allowed as trial run towards their destination with proper precautionary measures, including the use of chains.

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Dr Owais Ahmad said traffic will be allowed in a restricted and regulated manner and for restrict-

The road remains closed owing to heavy snowfall in Gurez Valley. "The road usually opens in April but this year, the road was opened early." The Deputy Commissioner lauded the efforts of BRO and MED for overtime to ensure earlier

opening the road. Earlier this morning, the trial run of vehicles was witnessed by Sub Divisional Magistrate Gurez Dr Mudassir and Officer Commanding BRO 56 RCC Lt Col Abhishek at the spot Zadkhusi. (GNS)

5 Detained For Sacrilegious Act In Rajouri, Case Filed: Police

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Five people suspected of committing a sacrilegious act disturbing communal harmony and hurting religious sentiments have been detained in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said.

The five were detained after an FIR was lodged for the alleged commission of the act at a place

lice post area of the district.

tion of the commission of the sacrilegious act, a team headed by tghe police post in-charge, Sub-Inspector Sahil Chowdhary, reached the spot followed by Additional Superintendent of Police Vivek Shekhar, Deputy SP Headquarters, Rajouri) Vinod Sharma and Station House Officer Fareed Ahmed.

Police did not disclose what under the Chatyar Chingus po- sacrilegious act was committed.

A police spokesperson said After the receipt of informa- all legal formalities were completed in the matter and a case under section 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) has been registered at Rajouri police station.

Five suspects have been rounded up for questioning so far and further detailed investigation is going on, the spokes-

North India's First Centre For Space Sciences Inaugurated In Jammu Central University

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday inaugurated the Satish Dhawan Centre for Space Sciences at the Central Ûniversity of Jammu here. saying the first course, B.Tech in Aviation and Aeronautics, with an intake capacity of 60 students, will start this year.

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office termed the inauguration of the centre a historic day for north India.

In October 2018, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central University of Jammu to set up the centre with facilities for geo-spatial data analysis that will help in sustainable use of natural resources and plan land-use patterns.

The centre has ground-based studies, research lab for astrophysics, atmospheric sensing and glacier studies laboratory for better use of large quantities of water stored in the form of seasonal snow, ice and glaciers in the rivers of north India.

This is a historic day not only for Jammu but for the entire north India because space technology was restricted to south India. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on one hand, the unlocking of space for private players was ensured, and tions in other parts of the country, the minister told reporters.

Singh, who also inaugurated tions for Humanity', said that at technology not only in India but tific and Industrial Research.



chairman as he was a resident of Jammu and Kashmir, and a real pride of the Dogra community.

He (Satish Dhawan) went to Bangalore (now Bengaluru) from here and it was because of him that the headquarters of the space research organisation was set up in Bangalore and not Delhi observations for atmospheric as he was working on several important projects, Singh said.

> The minister said most of the space technology institutes were in the past confined to southern states, and the Indian Institute of Space and Technology imparting engineering, aeronautics and other streams, the only-of-its-kind, was located in Thiruvananthapuram.

We will start the first course of B.Tech in Aviation and Aeronautics this year and the intake capacity will be 60 students. The selection criteria will be on the other, a decision was taken IIT-JEE so that there will be no to open space technology institu- allegations of discrimination or anything else, he said.

The students, after studying aviation and aeronautics from the conference 'Frontiers of the new institute, would be Space Technology and Applica- able to make a career in space through the Council of Scien-

named after the former ISRO tional Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), he said. He said the opening of the

space centre and India's only second-of-its-kind institute in Jammu and Kashmir in the 75th year of Independence marks the march of space journey from Kerala to Kashmir under Modi . The new avenues provided

by PM Modi are more lucrative than government jobs and we need to reach out to the people, the minister said, adding the newer avenues such as drones and space technology have made inroads in every sector, including housing, smart cities, railways and highways.

Asking the youth to become self-reliant, he said, the purple revolution started by IIIM Jammu (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Indian Institute Of Integrative Medicine) is spreading fast across the country. Purple Revolution is Jam-

mu and Kashmir's contribution to start-ups in India. Also called Aroma Mission', it was launched by the Union Ministry of Science and Technology

Amarnath Yatra

20,000-Capacity Lodgements Being **Set Up For Pilgrims In Jammu**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration is making arrangements to create a major boost to the lodgment 20,000-capacity in the Jammu division for the upcoming annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, a senior official has said.

Jammu Divisional Commis-2020 and 2021 Yatras to the shrine situated at an altitude of the 3,880 metre were conducted on symbolic basis due to Conumber of pilgrims is expected to be very high

The expected huge footfall will definitely promote tourism activities in the region which witnessed a lean period over the past two years due to CO-VID-19, Langer said, chairing a joint meeting of government functionaries and civil society members here on Friday to discuss and review the arrangements for the pilgrimage which usually takes place in the month of 'Shravan' (July-August).

The Divisional Commissioner said the administration is making arrangements to create Jammu and Kashmir bordering developed in Jammu and pe-20,000-capacity lodgments.

A 3000-bedded yatri niwas has been constructed at Chanderkote in Ramban district by the shrine board and it will give lodgements capacity for pilgrims along the Yatra route, he said.

He said Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) has introduced IT interventions to ensure the safety of intending pilgrims.

The board has decided to use sioner Raghav Langer said the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for tracking movement of vehicles and pilgrims during this year's pilgrimage to the revered shrine, housing the natuvid pandemic, and this year the rally formed ice-shivlingam, the officer said.

He said the RFID tag cards will be issued to all the pilgrims.

During the meeting, the participants suggested laying special focus on cleanliness of market areas, religious places and the city besides better lighting arrangements, more lodgment centres, and better control room services, an official spokesman said.

They suggested distributing pamphlets with information regarding tourist destinations in the districts of Jammu division at Lakhanpur the gateway to Punjab, the spokesman said.

To make Yatra more comfortable for the pilgrims, he said the participants also suggested conducting the checking and tagging of vehicles only at Lakhanpur if the documents are complete and said there should be no further checking at any other checkpoint.

The participants advised for starting the chopper service from Jammu, permitting tourists to visit destinations of other districts and easing of the langer (community kitchen) permission process, the spokesman said.

They also suggested starting special vehicle services for Yatris to visit local tourist places like Suchetgarh border, Bahu Fort and Peer Kho, the spokesman said.

He said all the participants assured full cooperation to the administration for making the Yatra successful.

The Divisional Commissioner said the Yatra also pushes business activities in the region which have suffered a lot during the Covid lockdown. "The tourism activities will

also be promoted as many new tourist destinations have been ripheral districts, Langer said.

Admin Orders Seizure Of Brick Kiln In Budgam

KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner, Budgam on Saturday ordered Tehsildar, Budgam to seize and close a brick kiln after it was found that the owner had sold the bricks on exorbitant gam)," the order reads. rates and has also sold low quality bricks to the person.

lies with Kashmir Observer, the found that M/S Star BDB Brick Kiln (Brick No. Star 255) Chandapora, Budgam has sold the low quality bricks to Sakib Altaf of Pratap Park, Srinagar to exorbitant rates.

Subsequently, both the parties were called to appear before the Chair on 12 March to record their statements.

"Whereas, it has been found

low quality material to the complainant. Now, therefore, in view of the above facts: The Tehsildar, Budgam is directed to seize and close the brick kiln (M/S Star BDB Brick Kiln (Brick No. Star 255) Chandapora, Bud-

Pertinent to mention here that DC Budgam vide his office order In an order copy of which No. DCB/Brick Kilns/2020/54, dated 21.08.2020 has fixed rate Deputy Commissioner, Budgam of bricks as 21000 per 3000 bricks including all taxes except transportation.

The DC has also directed the Station House Officer of police Station Budgam to lodge an FIR under section 21 of the Jammu & Kashmir Brick Kilns (Regulation) Act, 2010 against the Brick Kiln owner.

"The Brick Kiln owner are directed to deposit extra charged that the brick kiln owners) amount in the office of the Dephave sold the bricks at exorbi- uty Commissioner, Budgam," tant rates and have supplied the order reads.

CS Asks For Increased Skilling Of Unemployed Youth



addressed.

within timelines.

Directs to make every village a swacch gram by 15th August

Observer News Service

SAMBA: Chief Secretary, Dr. and is expected to be completed Arun Kumar Mehta on Saturday chaired a meeting to review functioning of the district administration, Samba, where he of uneducated youth and development of aspiritual tourism circuit in the district for creating livelihood opportunities for the

The Chief Secretary said there has been a paradigm shift in the match their requirements with execution of the developmental schemes following introduction on offer in the private sector. of a rule based financial order

Dr Mehta informed that nocompleted during the year,

istration is expected to complete 1500 works during the year, which is nearly 30 times the previous best performance in the district by June 30 and shown by the district during the last five years.'

Dr Mehta hailed the efforts of the district administration, saying that the district officers deserve the appreciation for their

Anuradha Gupta, while giving a detailed overview of the physical and financial achievements of the various sectors informed that although 998 projects have been completed under district capex so far during the current financial year,1500 works will be completed by the time the financial year draws to a close.

Anuradha said 112 schemes have been identified under Jal Jeevan Mission, out of which83 schemes have been contracted out and work on 53 is underway.

She said all schools, anganwadi centres and hospitals in the district have been provided with water facility.

It was further informed that all habitations have been connected with fair weather roads clubs as champions of sanitation. although some roads remain to be blacktopped.

schemes have been largely saturated in the district and perforbatted for stepping up execution of works, increased skilling schemes have vastly improved schemes have vastly improved

Ramgarh sector, which is being

DC, Samba said that several

mega projects are being ex-

ecuted in the district including

AIIMS and Ring Road and their

execution is continuing apace

said social security

since the last review. Anuradha said the process of mapping/profiling of uneducated youth in the district is presently underway and once it the employment opportunities

She also gave details of other ongoing projects including commissioning of 160 MVA grid stawhere is it more evident than tion, 5 Common Effluent Treatin the number of works likely to ment Plants with 4.50 MLD capacity, Green Samba initiative, He said around 50000 works HAR GHAR Champion, AMULYA are likely to be completed dur- NIDHI, Panchayat Darpan Portal 100% switch over to e-office He said, "the district admin- augmentation and moderniza-

tion of health sector etc. The Chief Secretary directed for connecting all habitations insisted upon strengthening enforcement in power sector for efficient energy supply/management.

He said all jal jeevan mission works will be completed by 15th August in line with the Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of har ghar nal.

Dr Mehta asked for operationalizing a Nari Niketan in Samba district by 15th April.

He said that effort should be made to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries under PMAY(G) are covered and added that performance under MGNREGA should be upped to atleast 50 % of the actual potential inherent in the programme.

Dr Mehta directed for making every village a swacch gram by 15th August and said that SBM 2.0 should be implemented in real earnest for all around cleanliness in the district.

He said youth clubs should be involved in the cleanliness effort by branding members of youth

The Chief Secretary urged for enhancing the membership CE, PDD informed that the of women SHGs in the district situation on peak power de- to more than 50000and giving mand and peak power avail- them marketing opportunities ability in the district remains for showcasing their products/ largely under control except in wares.

Transforming J&K Jammu, Srinagar Cities Fast Marching Towards Enhanced Growth, Development

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In India, the Smart City Mission (SCM) has been initiated with an aim to drive economic growth and improve the quality of life of people by enabling local area development and harnessing technology that leads to smart outcomes. Smart city mission mainly focuses on four things; Social Infrastructure, Physical Infrastructure, Institutional Infrastructure (including Governance)

and Economic Infrastructure.

Cities are mainly the places of confluences of people: places where people live, come to meet, exchange ideas, earn livelihoods, access education, health and other services and enjoy a life of good quality. People are at the core of the city and in that sense cities should work for their people. Cities that work for their people will continuously become better versions of themselves

with each passing day. We need to understand the reasons

which make a city attractive to people in the first place. These reasons would be, to a large extent, different for different cities and different for different sets of people and therefore cannot be generalized. Some cities attract people for the opportunities that exist therein as markets and centres for manufacturing, some others due to the greatness of their cultures or their cosmopolitan vibes and others for their ability to provide better education and health facilities or a combina-

The government of Jammu and

tion of factors and so on.

Kashmir, in its endeavor to make cities of the UT hub of modern infrastructural edifice to enhance quality of life here, has initially took up Jammu and Srinagar cities for development into smart cities under Smart City Mission. The vision for Jammu city is "Transforming Jammu into a sustainable and economically vibrant city focusing on veraging its heritage and location." Pro-

moting Jammu's identity, sustainable and liveable Jammu and promoting inclusion are the three main action areas which have been identified to make the vision implementable. Besides, city chowk multi-level parking, renovation of MA stadium, construction of musical fountain at Bagh e Bahu, improvement of street lighting by LED bulbs, multilevel parking at bus-stand, 100 bedded emergency block at GMC-Jammu, Jamtourism, quality of life and trade by le- mu ropeway project are some notable projects completed under smart city

RCB Appoints Faf du **Plessis As New Captain**



Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: The Royal Challengers Bangalore on Saturday appointed former South Africa national team skipper Faf du Plessis as their new captain for the upcoming edition of Indian Premier League.

Du Plessis, one of the consistent performers for Chennai Super Kings, was an obvious choice after Virat Kohli decided to call time on his leadership role for the franchise after a decade during which their trophy draught didn't end. He was bought for Rs 7 crore by RCB and is available for the whole season.

the cap by team's chairman winning campaign.

Prathmesh Mishra and director cricket operations Mike Hesson in a virtual event here.

"I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity. I have played a lot of IPL and understand the dynamics of the game. It's no small thing to trust an overseas player," Du Plessis, who gave up South African captaincy across all formats in 2020, said.

"I would rely heavily on the amazing experience of domestic players. We have got great leader of the game in Virat Kohli," Du Plessis said.

The 37-year-old Du Plessis has so far played 100 games in IPL, scoring 2935 runs at a strikerate of 131-plus. He scored 633 Du Plessis was handed over runs for CSK in last year's IPL-

Delhi Capitals Unveils New Jersey Ahead Of 2022 IPL Season



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Delhi Capitals on Saturday unveiled their new official jersey for the upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League, beginning March 26.

According to a statement issued by the franchise, the first few jerseys were given to select DC fans at the team's home ground-the Arun Jaitley Stadium here.

Additionally, select children cle of the IPL, and we can't wait.

to see our players in this brand new jersey," said Vinod Bisht, Interim CEO, Delhi Capitals.

"Supporting this team in its quest for glory is our fan army, so it's only fitting for us to make them a part of our journey in every step."

Delhi Capitals will start their season on March 27 against Mumbai Indians at the Brabourne Stadium.

The IPL 15 will be held across four venues-Wankhede Stafrom the city, the DC Cubs, were dium and Brabourne Stadium given official jerseys too, as part in Mumbai, DY Patil Stadium in of a surprise activity curated Navi Mumbai and MCA Interspecially for them. "It's a new cy-national Stadium in Pune-from March 26 to May 29

Indian Wells: Murray Outlasts Daniel For 700th Career Win



Agencies

CALIFORNIA: Andy Murray outlasted qualifier Taro Daniel 1-6, 6-2, 6-4 on Friday in the first round of the BNP Paribas Open for his 700th career victory.

"It does mean a lot to me because I know how difficult it's been, certainly the last few years," Murray said, referring to numerous injuries and a bout with COVID-19. "When you look at the players that have done it, most of the players that are up there and have won that many matches are certainly the best players of the last sort of 30, 40

Murray, who received a wild card into the desert tournament, twice came from behind in the nearly two-hour match. He overcame a 1-3 deficit in the third set, winning five of the final six

"There were points in the match where I did play pretty well," Murray said. "But there's also times in the match where it was poor. I really need to try and

find that consistency." Murray broke Daniel to tie the set 3-all. The 34-year-old Scottish star led 40-love in the last dropped just one game.

game before closing it out on his third match point.

It was their third meeting this year. Ranked 106th, Daniel won at the Australian Open. Murray, who is 88th in the world, won in Doha last month.

Murray has never won at Indian Wells. His best finish came in 2009, when he lost to Rafael Nadel in the final. He was a semifinalist in 2007 and 2015, losing to Novak Djokovic both times.

Emma Raducanu followed Murray on the stadium court 1 and beat Caroline Garcia 6-1, 3-6, 6-1. Murray has been supportive of the 19-year-old Brit who won the U.S. Open last year.

They shared a fist bump when Murray exited the court and Raducanu was waiting to go on.

"It's always like a weird one when you're following someone who has just won," she said. You're like, `I really want to do the same.' It kind of gives you the extra fuel. I was really happy for him."

In other women's action, No. 3 Iga Swiatek beat Anhelina Kalinina 5-7, 6-0, 6-1. The first set featured seven combined service breaks. From there, Swiatek

India Bowled Out For 252 By Sri Lanka In First Innings



Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: India were bowled out for 252 in the first innings on day one of the day-night test in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Shreyas Iyer produced a counter-attacking 92 to put In-shots in the day/night game. dia in position of strength on a track that is offering extensive scored 252 after Sri Lankan bowlers made early inroads on the opening day of the second Test, here on Saturday.

for five at one stage but Rishabh Pant (39 off 26 balls) turned it around with his aggressive yet effective batting.

when he was on four and he

made the Lankans pay heavily for the mistake.

Iver then changed the narrative with his controlled aggression, the result of which was a gritty knock under pressure that will enable India to call the

Iyer made batting look easy after sharp turn and uneven help to spinners as the hosts bounce at the M Chinnaswamy track made the Indians dance to Lankan spinners' tunes.

His entertaining knock that came off 98-balls had 10 fours India were struggling at 126 and four sixes, negated all the good work done by the visiting bowlers in the first session when they had taken four wickets, including that of skipper Rohit The left-hander was dropped Sharma (15) and Virat Kohli (23). He missed out on his sec-

ond Test hundred as he was stumped off Praveen Jayawickrama (3/81) going for a big shot.

The bowler who had grabbed the momentum for Sri Lanka was left-arm spinner Lasith Embuldeniya (3/94), who also dismissed three batters but was later taken to cleaners by Iyer.

The track at M Chinnaswamy stadium was devoid of any grass, India expectedly opted to bat even as Rohit, who looked fluent, and Agarwal also could not utilise the opportunity to score big.

Kohli, who is chasing a long overdue Test hundred, grew in confidence but low-bounce did not allow him stretch his stay.

Sri Lanka were tottering at 71/5 after 24 overs when re-

Mithali Raj Breaks World Cup **Captaincy Record**

India beat West Indies in Women's World Cup

Press Trust of India

HAMILTON: India's ODI skipper Mithali Raj on Saturday broke the record for most matches captained in the ICC Women's World Cup, surpassing former Australian counterpart Belinda

Mithali, 39, led the country in 24 World Cup games, claiming 14 victories, 8 losses and one no result. Clark had captained her side in 23 matches.

The India skipper achieved the

Clark are the only two cricket-

ers to have led their country at more than two World Cups. Last Sunday, Mithali became

great Javed Miandad. tons as India register massive win over West Indies

Sachin Tendulkar and Pakistani

feat when she stepped out to lead manpreet Kaur slammed twin The duo forged a 184-run the country against the West In- centuries as India produced stand for the fourth wicket, dies in a crucial match in the on- a splendid batting display to India's highest partnership notch up a comprehensive 155-Interestingly, Mithali and run win over West Indies and World Cup, to help the team bring their campaign back on track at the ICC Women's ODI

World Cup here on Saturday. While Mandhana smashed only the third cricketer and the her fifth ODI hundred, a sensafirst woman to appear in six tional 123 off 119 balls studded World Cups, joining the iconic with 13 fours and two sixes, Kaur had 10 hits to the fence and two maximums in her 107-Mandhana, Harmanpreet hit ball 109, which was her fourth ton and the first since hitting 171 not out against Australia in

for any wicket at post its highest total in the history of the showpiece event, a challenging 317 for eight after skipper Mithali Raj won the toss and elected to bat.

The 2017 edition finalists then returned to dismiss West Indies for 162 in 40.3 overs to keep themselves in contention for the knockout stage.

By virtue of this win, India now lead the eight-team standings with four points from three

Smriti Mandhana and Harthe 2017 World Cup. Jhulan Goswami Becomes Highest

Wicket Taker In Women's WC History



Press Trust of India

HAMILTON: Veteran India pacer Jhulan Goswami on Saturday surpassed yet another milestone in her illustrious 22-yearold career by becoming the the history of the ICC Women's World Cup.

With 40 scalps in her kitty, Goswami has surpassed Australia's Lynette Fullston, who took 39 wickets during her career span-

ning six year from 1982 to 1988. Goswami achieved the feat by dismissing Anisa Mohammed in the 36th over of the innings with West Indies chasing a mammoth

target of 318 set by India. Goswami, thus, lead the chart all-time highest wicket-taker in ahead of Fullston, England duo of Carole Hodges (37 wickets) and Claire Taylor (36) and another Australian in Cathryn

Fitzpatrick (33). 39-yeal-old The veteran

played in five women's Cricket World Cups since 2005.

India rode on brilliant centuries from Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet Kaur to comprehensively beat West Indies by 155 runs and bring their World Cup campaign back on track.

India are currently leading the eight-team standings with four points from three games ahead of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa by virtue right-arm fast bowler has of a better net-run rate.

Khawaja Ton Leads Australia To 251-3 In 2nd Test Vs Pakistan



Agencies

KARACHI: Opening batter Usman Khawaja didn't miss out on a second chance to score a century in the country of his birth and led Australia to 251-3 at stumps on the first day of the second test against Pakistan on Saturday.

Khawaja made an unbeaten 127 off 266 balls on another flat wicket after narrowly missing out on a hundred in the first test at Rawalpindi which ended in a tame draw. Later the docile pitch of the Pindi Cricket Stadium was declared "below average" by the ICC.

"It (century) meant a lot to me," said Khawaja, who moved to Australia with his family when he was 4 years old. "Obviously my family is from Karachi, I was born in Islamabad and I would have loved

to score a hundred in Pakistan." Khawaja and Steve Smith (72) shared a 159-run third-wicket stand before Pakistan broke it with the second new ball when Faheem Ashraf took a brilliant one-handed low catch in the slips to dismiss Smith off Hasan Ali (1-31).

Nightwatchman Nathan Lyon was yet to score and survived a dropped catch when Imam-ul-Haq couldn't hold on to a tough chance

at forward short leg off Shaheen Afridi's last ball of the day.

Pakistan also went for an unsuccessful caught behind television review of Khawaja in Afridi's first over with the new ball before Hasan struck in the penultimate over of the day.

Pakistan deployed its spinners for 26 overs in the last session, but their negative tactic of bowling down the legside to both batters did nothing else but to slow down the Australian scoring rate.

Khawaja, who raised his halfcentury off 69 balls in the first session, didn't get frustrated and waited patiently before completing his century in the last session off 193 balls with 12 fours and a six.

Smith hasn't scored a test hundred for the last 27 test innings, but made his second successive half-century in Australia's first tour to Pakistan since 1998 off 214 balls with seven fours before Ashraf plucked an impressive catch.

Earlier, leg-spinner Mitchell Swepson was awarded a test debut as the 28-year-old Queenslander replaced fast bowler Josh Hazlewood in the only change Australia made from the first test which ended in a draw on a docile wicket

Premier League Disqualifies Abramovich From Running Chelsea



Agencies

LONDON: The Premier League banned Roman Abramovich from running Chelsea on Saturday after the club owner was sanctioned by the British government over Russia's war on Ukraine.

The league board's decision to disqualify the Russian oligarch not go to the sanctioned individual from being a director ends his 19 while he is subject to sanctions," years in control of the west London—the government has said club but does not directly impact the players.

The board's decision does not impact on the club's ability to train and play its fixtures," the Premier League said in a statement.

The team is able to continue operating under a license issued by the British government when it froze Abramovich's assets on Thursday while imposing sanctions against him over ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin, including restrictions on spending. Chelsea had company credit cards from Barclaycard frozen as a result of the sanctions.

Bowing to pressure against his ongoing ownership, Abramovich had already announced last week before being sanctioned that he would put Chelsea up for sale.

The government now has oversight of the sale process which the Raine Group, an investment bank, is working on.

Abramovich originally hoped to divert the proceeds into a new foundation for the victims of the ment since being sanctioned.

war in Ukraine, which he is yet to condemn Putin for launching. But the government will only sanction a sale that does not see Abramovich benefit as the government tightens the screw on influential individuals it views as enabling Putin's regime.

"Proceeds from any sale could

Some Chelsea fans have continued to stand by Abramovich during the opening two weeks of the war, even chanting his name at a game last weekend that the league hoped to use to show solidarity to Ukraine and the victims of Russia's invasion.

Abramovich's disqualification by the Premier League halts the reign of the competition's first billionaire foreign owner, whose fortune turned Chelsea into one of the biggest-spending clubs in Europe and one of the game's most successful. His investment ended Chelsea's 50-year domestic title drought when the league was won in 2005 and the trophy has been collected another four times.

The team is the reigning European and world champion thanks to spending on players that has seen Abramovich inject more than 1.5 billion pounds (\$2 billion) into Chelsea through loans he said he will not ask to be repaid.

Abramovich has made no com-

EPL: Liverpool Sink Brighton

BRIGHTON: Liverpool forward Luis Diaz scored in the first half before Mohamed Salah struck from the penalty spot after the hour mark as the team comfortably beat Brighton & Hove Albion 2-0 in the Premier League on Saturdav.

Liverpool's win at Brighton's his heavy challenge. Amex Stadium was their eighth straight victory in the competition as Juergen Klopp's secondplaced side cut the gap between themselves and league leaders

Manchester City to three points. City, who have 69 points, can restore their advantage when they travel to Crystal Palace on Monday.

Diaz put the visitors in front by heading in a lofted pass from Joel Matip, but collided with Brighton goalkeeper Robert San-



Salah scored from the spot in the 61st minute, following a handball by midfielder Yves Bissouma, for Liverpool's 2,000th Premier League goal.

It was the Egyptian international's 20th league goal of the season but he was substituted four minutes after scoring due to an apparent foot injury.

Liverpool endured some nervy moments towards the end of the match, but goalkeeper Alisson kept out efforts from substitutes chez, who avoided a booking for Danny Welbeck and Solly March.