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### P3 CITY

**RAINS LASH KASHMIR** 

### SIYASI MUSLIMS

In his book Siyasi Muslims: A story of Political Islams in India, 2019, Hilal Ahmed analyses the Muslim politics in India through contemporary debates. The first thing that the book does is that it challenges the homogeneity of Indian Muslims. As a result, it achieves separation



### P7 STATE



A battle royale is on the cards when Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans take on the Sanju Samson led Raiasthan Rovals, two line-ups armed with



12<sup>τη</sup> RAM7AN Iftar Sehri 16 % Teens In Kashmir Battling Coronavirus Triggered Depression FIQAH HANAFIYA 7:04 4:34 FIQAH

4:31

7:14

JAFARIYA

### Zaid Bin Shabir

doctors has revealed that the SRINAGAR: With the Covid-19 threats finally subsiding,

J&K **DELIMITATION** EXERCISE

**HEATWAVE CONTINUES IN JAMMU, LIGHT** 

Heatwave conditions continued to prevail over the Jammu

region on Wednesday, while light rains in Kashmir brought

down the day temperature to normal after almost a month,

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

Coronavirus pandemic has left scores of Kashmiris in the grip of worsening mental health issues in the Valley as 16 percent of adolescents have been found battling depression. The report, authored doctorsfour

a new report by four Kashmiri

Asif Jeelani, Sabira Aalia Dkhar, Ruqia Quansar & S. M. Salim Khan—from GMC Srinagar's

Department of Community Medicine is based on the prevalence of depression and anxiety among school-going adolescents in Kashmir valley during Covid-19 pandemic. As per the research, the over-

all prevalence of depression among adolescents in Kashmir was recorded at 16 percent and was associated with a past history of Covid infection.

"The prevalence ranged from 14.5 percent in adolescent boys to 18 percent for girls. The

THE PREVALENCE WAS 14% FOR BOYS AND 27.5% FOR GIRLS. On logistic regression, anxiety was associated with female gender, past history of personal COVID-19 infection, history of COVID-19 diagnosis in family and hospital admission due to COVID-19 in family."

highest mean score achieved in the PHQ-9A scale was obtained for question-related to sleep disruption (question no 3), whereas the question related to self-harm had the lowest mean score (question no 9)."

reveals the research. Besides depression, the research has also noted that 20 percent of adolescents in

Kashmir were battling anxiety. "The prevalence was 14% for boys and 27.5% for girls. On

logistic regression, anxiety was associated with female gender, past history of personal COVID-19 infection, history of COVID-19 diagnosis in family and hospital admission due to COVID-19 in family." reads the report.

Notably, the researchers have used World Health Organization standard's methods besides using Patient Health Questionnaire for Adolescents and Generalized Anxiety Disorder questionnaire to screen More on P6

**Civilian Shot** 

### Quote One great use of words is to hide our thoughts

- Voltaire

77

### NEWS DIGEST

### **JCO Dies As Army Vehicle Rolls Into Gorge**

SRINAGAR: A junior Commissioned Officer was killed and two soldiers injured on Wednesday when an army vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident near Baloni forward area in Mankote sector of Poonch, official sources said. They said that an More on P6

### J&K Logs 12 New **Corona Cases**

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 12 fresh Covid cases on Wednesday that took the infection tally to 4.53,909, officials said. Of the new cases, two were reported from the Jammu division while the rest were from Kashmir division, they said. More on P6

### **Electric Shock**

# Panel Likely To Submit Report By April End

### **Observer News Service**

NEW DELHI: The Jammu Delimitation Kashmir and Commission is likely to submit its report to the government by the end of April, a media report said on Wednesday. News agency IANS quoting sources reported that once the commission submits its report, the Centre may take a call on holding the Assembly elections in J&K. The report also said that the will re-Kashmir region. Centre

The commission has proposed six new assembly constituencies in the Jammu region which would be carved out from Udhampur, Rajouri, Doda, Kathua, Samba and Kishtwar districts, the sources said. This will increase the number of Assembly seats from 37 to 43 in the Jammu region.

Similarly, one new seat has been proposed in Kashmir valley, to be carved out from the existing Kupwara thus district. making the assembly seats to 7 from 46 in the

AN ARTIST DRAWS LAL CHOWK'S CLOCK TOWER on his canvas, in the city centre here on Wednesday, KO Photo, Abid Bhat

### **Govt Gives Addl Charge To**

### J&K Slips To 32nd Slot In NITI 10 Police Officers Aayog's Energy & Climate Index

It is worthwhile to mention

that the states and UTs have

been classified as larger states,

smaller states and union terri-

The data of Jammu & Kashmir

UT includes Ladakh which is

functioning as a separate UT

"Due to non-availability of

separate data for two UTs (J&K

and Ladakh), Ladakh is not

from October 31, 2019.

tories for better comparison.



here said. The man had gunshot injury to the head, the doctor said. "He was brought to hospital in unconscious state. He had no central pulse or peripheral pulses," the doctor added. More on P6

Valley's tertiary care hospital

#### Kills PDD Worker

SRINAGAR: A casual labourer in the Power Development Department (PDD) was electrocuted to death on Wednesday in south Kashmir's Anantnag district 28-year-old Shabir Ahmad Khan of Check Ishardas, Mattan got electrocuted while repairing More on P6

#### **Govt Transfers** Five ARTOs

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday ordered transfers and postings of five transport officers. In an order issued by Commissioner/Secretary to the government, Transport department. Hirdesh Kumar on Wednesday ARTO Ganderbal Basharat Mahmood has been posted as ARTO Poonch, incharge ARTO BOI More on P6

including the security facets. The draft roll will be published, following which a 'door to door' verification of the electoral roll will be done. Centre will discuss the same during an all party meeting, the government sources elaborated.

sne

view

ed by the former Supreme Court Justice Ranjana Desai, and comprises Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and State Election Commissioner K.K. Sharma. The commission was established on March 6, More on P6

The

### **11 People Booked Under PSA In Bandipora**

**SRINAGAR:** Police have booked at least eleven persons including a senior separatist leader Abdul Samad Inquilabi under stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Official sources said that

the eleven people, who were allegedly involved in

"unlawful and subversive" activities, were slapped with PSA and were subsequently shifted to different jails. Those booked include-Abdul Samad Malla alias Inqulabi, son of Abdul Rehman Malla, a resident of Ganastan village, Kaiser Ahmad Parray, More on P6

#### **Observer News Service**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday assigned additional charge to 10 police officers for the period of over one month w.e.f. April 04, 2022.

According to an order issued under number 101-Home of 2022, dated 13-04-2022, the additional charge to 10 police officers was assigned in wake of the deputation of recently inducted IPS officers to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVP NPA), Hyderabad.

Sanction is hereby accorded to the assignment of additional charge to the officers as indicated against each, during the period of deputation of recently inducted IPS officers to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National More on P6

#### Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory figures at the bottom in the NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index (SECI), which was released on Monday.

A cursory look at the report titled- State Energy and Climate Index- reveals that with an overall score of 29.3, Jammu & Kashmir is placed at 32nd spot among states and UTs.

In the category of UTs, the report reveals that J&K figures at 6th rank. "Among Union Territories Chandigarh, Delhi and Daman & Diu/Darda & Nagar Haveli(both combined) are the top three performers, and Andaman & Nicobar, J&K and Lakshadweep are the bottom three performers," reads

shown as a separate UT in this index. However, from the next round of the index, the data for J&K and Ladakh will be collected and shown separately," the report states.

CLIMATE INDEX

ENERGY &

STATE

The SECI ranks states and UTs on six parameters -- discoms' performance; access affordability and reliability of energy; clean energy initiatives; energy efficiency; environmental sustainability; and More on P6

### **Indian Troops In Full Control of LoC: Army**

Says Change Of Guard Pakistan's Internal Matter

### **Press Trust Of India**

**JAMMU:** A senior army officer on Wednesday said that the change of guard in Pakistan is an internal matter of that country, asserting that the Indian troops are in full control to ensure no infiltration takes place.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function in Rajouri district, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of army's Jammu-based 16 Corps, also known as White Knight Corps, Lt General Manjinder Singh also said that the army is fully prepared to tackle any type of situation along the Line of Control (LoC) as Pakistan is continuously making attempts to disturb peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

Change of guard in Pakistan is its internal matter, while the situation along the LoC is

a different thing, he said, while responding to a question on the recent change of guard in Pakistan where Shahbaz Shareef has replaced Imran Khan, who was removed from office through a no-confidence vote, as new prime minister.

I would not like to comment what is happening inside Pakistan but as far as the LoC is concerned, it is our duty to guard it and the army is fully in control to ensure that no infiltration takes place, the GOC said. Asserting that there are no inputs suggesting presence of a large number of militants on

launching pads across the LoC, the army officer said that the dropping of weapons by drones from Pakistan is more a threat along the International Border (IB) rather than LoC and the Border Security Force More on P6

### War Prisoners In Pak **SC Agrees To Hear Plea Seeking Repatriation Of Soldiers**

#### Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to hear a plea of the wife of an Indian Army officer seeking repatriation of her husband and other Army officers believed to be held under illegal detention as Prisoners of War (POWs) by Pakistan since the 1971 war. A bench of justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant is-

sued notice to the Centre on the plea of Jasbir Kaur, wife of Major Kanwaljit Singh who is said to be among the POWs, and sought its response in three weeks. The plea sought a direction

to the Centre to approach the International Court of Justice against Pakistan with appropriate judicial remedies, which are coercive and binding in nature



for the release of all the Indian POWs held under the "torturous custody of Pakistan in violation of the Geneva Convention for Treatment of Prisoners of War". The plea also sought a direc-

tion to the Centre to produce the court of inquiry proceedings, if held under the mandatory provisions of Army Rules, into the circumstances leading to the capture, torture and murder of Captain Saurabh Kalia by Pakistan during the Kargil war.

pearing for petitioner Jasbir Kaur, contended that very little has been done on the issue of the POWs over the past 50 years.

The plea sought a direction to the Centre for taking initiative aimed at setting up a domestic as well as an international mechanism for effectively enforcing the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution, the universal declaration of human rights and the Geneva Convention for treatment of Prisoners of War.

Petitioner herself is the wife of IC-14590 Major Kanwaljit Singh who has been evidenced and heard to be More on P6

### **SIA To Probe Hawala Case Involving Ex-J&K Minister**

#### **Press Trust Of India**

the report.

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir's State Investigation Agency will probe the high profile hawala money case in which former minister Jatinder Singh alias 'Babu Singh' is the main accused, officials said on Wednesday.

Singh, the main accused in the case related to the recent recovery of hawala money meant for subversive activities, was arrested from Kathua district on April 9, a police officer said.

He was at large since March 31 after the police busted the hawala racket here and issued a lookout notice for him on April 6.

"The State Investigation Agency (SIA) will be investigating the case," a senior officer told PTI.

Singh was a minister in the PDP-Congress government in 2002-2005 and now is the chairman of an organisation 'Nature-Mankind



Friendly Global Party'.

Mohammad Shareef Shah, a resident of south Kashmir's Kokernag, was arrested with the hawala money on March 31 from the Gandhi Nagar area of Jammu and his questioning revealed that he was tasked by Singh, a resident of Kathua district, to collect the money from Srinagar.

Three persons -- Sidhant Sharma of Kathua and S Gurdev Singh and More on P6

Advocate Namit Saxena, ap-



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### **Key Particle Weighs In A Bit Heavy, Confounding Physicists**

#### Associated Press

The grand explanation physicists use to describe how the universe works may have some major new flaws to patch after a fundamental particle was found to have more mass than scientists thought.

"It's not just something is wrong," said Dave Toback, a particle physicist at Texas A&M University and a spokesperson for the U.S. government's Fermi National Accelerator Lab, which conducted the experiments. If replicated by other labs, "it literally means something fundamental in our understanding of nature is wrong."

The physicists at the lab crashed particles together over ten years and measured the mass of 4 million W bosons. These subatomic particles are responsible for a fundamental force at the center of atoms, and they exist for only a fraction of a second before they decay into other particles.

"They are constantly popping in and out of existence in the quantum froth of the universe," Toback said. The difference in mass from what the prevailing theory of the universe predicts is too big to be a rounding error or anything that could be easily explained away, according to the study by a team of 400 scientists from around the world published Thursday in the journal Science. The result is so extraordinary it must be confirmed by another

experiment, scientists say. If confirmed, it would present one of the biggest problems yet with scientists' detailed rulebook for the cosmos, called the standard model. Duke University physicist Ashutosh

V. Kotwal, the project leader for analysis, said it's like discovering there's a hidden room in your house. Scientists speculated that there may be an undiscovered particle that is interacting with the W boson that could explain the difference. Maybe dark matter, another poorly understood component of the universe, could be playing a role. Or maybe there's just new physics involved that they just don't understand at the moment, researchers said. The standard model says a W boson should measure 80,357,000 electron volts, plus or minus six.

"We found it slightly more than that. Not that much, but it's enough," said Giorgio Chiarelli, another scientist for the Fermi team and research director for the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics. The Fermi team's scale put the W boson at a heftier 80,433,000 electron volts, plus or minus nine.

It doesn't seem like a big difference, but it is a huge one in the subatomic world.

But both the team and experts not involved in the research said such a big claim requires extra proof from a second team, which they don't have yet.

"It's an incredibly delicate measurement, it requires understanding of various calibrations of various little effects," said Claudio Campagnari, a particle physicist at the University of California Santa Barbara, who wasn't part of the Fermi team. "These guys are really good. And I take them very seriously. But I think at the end of the day what we need is a confirmation by another experiment."

Earlier, less precise measurements of the W boson by other teams found it to be lighter than predicted, so "maybe there is just something wonky about this experiment," said Caltech physicist Sean M. Carroll, who wasn't part of the research and

said it is "absolutely worth taking very seriously." The finding is important because of its potential effect on the standard model of physics.

"Nature has facts," Duke's Kotwal said. "The model is the way we understand those facts."

Scientists have long known the standard model isn't perfect. It doesn't explain dark matter or gravity well. If scientists have to go in and tinker with it to explain these findings they have to make sure it doesn't throw out of whack mathematical equations that now explain and predict other particles and forces well, researchers said.

It is a recurring problem with the model. A year ago a different team found another problem with the standard model and how muons react.

### Your Digital Footprints Are More Than A Privacy Risk

### The Conversation

When you use the internet, you leave behind a trail of data, a set of digital footprints. These include your social media activities, web browsing behavior, health information, travel patterns, location maps, information about your mobile device use, photos, audio and video.

This data is collected, collated, stored and analysed by various organisations, from the big social media companies to app makers to data brokers. As you might imagine, your digital footprints put your privacy at risk, but they also affect cybersecurity. sonalized messages, spear phishing emails, to the victim or compose as the victim and target the victim's colleagues, friends and family. Spear phishing attacks can fool even those who are trained to recognize phishing attacks.

One of the most successful forms of phishing attacks has been business email compromise attacks. In these attacks, the attackers pose as people with legitimate business relationships – colleagues, vendors and customers – to initiate fraudulent financial transactions.

A good example is the attack targeting the firm Ubiquity Networks Inc. in 2015. The



**Hackers can use freely available open** source intelligence gathering tools to discover the digital footprints of their targets. An attacker can mine a target's digital footprints, which can include audio and video, to extract information such as contacts, relationships, profession, career, likes, dislikes, interests, hobbies, travel and frequented locations

As a cybersecurity researcher, I track the threat posed by digital footprints on cybersecurity. Hackers are able to use personal information gathered online to suss out answers to security challenge questions like "in what city did you meet your spouse?" or to hone phishing attacks by posing as a colleague or work associate. When phishing attacks are successful, they give the attackers access to networks and systems the victims are authorized to use.

#### Following footprints to better bait

Phishing attacks have doubled from early 2020. The success of phishing attacks depends on how authentic the contents of messages appear to the recipient. All phishing attacks require certain information about the targeted people, and this information can be obtained from their digital footprints.

Hackers can use freely available open source intelligence gathering tools to discover the digital footprints of their targets. An attacker can mine a target's digital footprints, which can include audio and video, to extract information such as contacts, relationships, profession, career, likes, dislikes, interests, hobbies, travel and frequented locations. attacker sent emails, which looked like they were coming from top executives to employees. The email requested the employees to make wire transfers, resulting in fraudulent transfers of USD 46.7 million. Access to the computer of a victim of a phishing attack can give the attacker access to networks and systems of the victim's employer and clients. For instance, one of the employees at retailer Target's HVAC vendor fell victim to phishing attack.

The attackers used his workstation to gain access to Target's internal network, and then to their payment network. The attackers used the opportunity to infect point-ofsale systems used by Target and steal data on 70 million credit cards.

A big problem and what to do about it Computer security company Trend Micro found that 91 per cent of attacks in which the attackers gained undetected access to networks and used that access over time started with phishing messages. Verizon's Data Breach Investigations Report found that 25 per cent of all data breach incidents involved phishing.

Given the significant role played by phishing in cyberattacks, I believe it's important for organizations to educate their employees and members about managing their

|  | معاملہ<br>پیش<br>کنبہ |  |  |  |
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| بغرض حصول RBA مرفقکیٹ۔<br>اشتہار برادۃ گانی ہرخاص دعام۔<br>ایما ہے جو کہ زیر کاردانک ہے۔ پولاری حلقہ ہے روخواست بغرض حصول RBA مرفقکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں<br>ایما ہے جو کہ زیر کاردانک ہے۔ پولاری حلقہ ہے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عمیاں ہے کہ سائل کا<br>ریز یل افراد ہیں۔<br>مرشار نام دولد بیت عمر پیشہ آمدنی<br>عبرافغی ریش ولدغلام محدریثی 65 سال ریڈیارملازم "LPC | معامل<br>پیش<br>نببه  |  |  |  |
| له مندر ہو عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول RBA مرفقاً سید و فتر ہذا میں<br>ایما ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹوار کی حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیال ہے کہ سائل کا<br>ریز میل افراد میں ۔<br>مرشار منام دولد ہےت محمر بیشی 65 سال ریڈیار مازم سے LPC  | پیش<br>کنبه<br>نمبه   |  |  |  |
| کیا ہے جو کمدز برکاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاک ہے کہ سنائل کا<br>ریزیل افراد میں۔<br>مرشار نام دولدیت محمر پیشہ آمدنی<br>عبرالفنی ریش ولدغلام محمد ریش 65 سال ریڈیارملازم <sup>سنت</sup> LPC  | پیش<br>کنبه<br>نمبه   |  |  |  |
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My name has been wronlgy written in my driving license bearing Dl No; JK-1820120008939/DL as Mohd Shabir while my correct name is Muzafar Ahmad Bhat S/o Mohd Sabir Bhat R/o Yaripora which needs to be correct. If anybodyhaving any objection in this regad he/she may fiel his/her objection in the office fo the ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publicatio of this notice. After that no objection shall be entetained. Muzafar Ahmad Bhat rna S/o Mohd Sabir Bhat R/o Yaripora

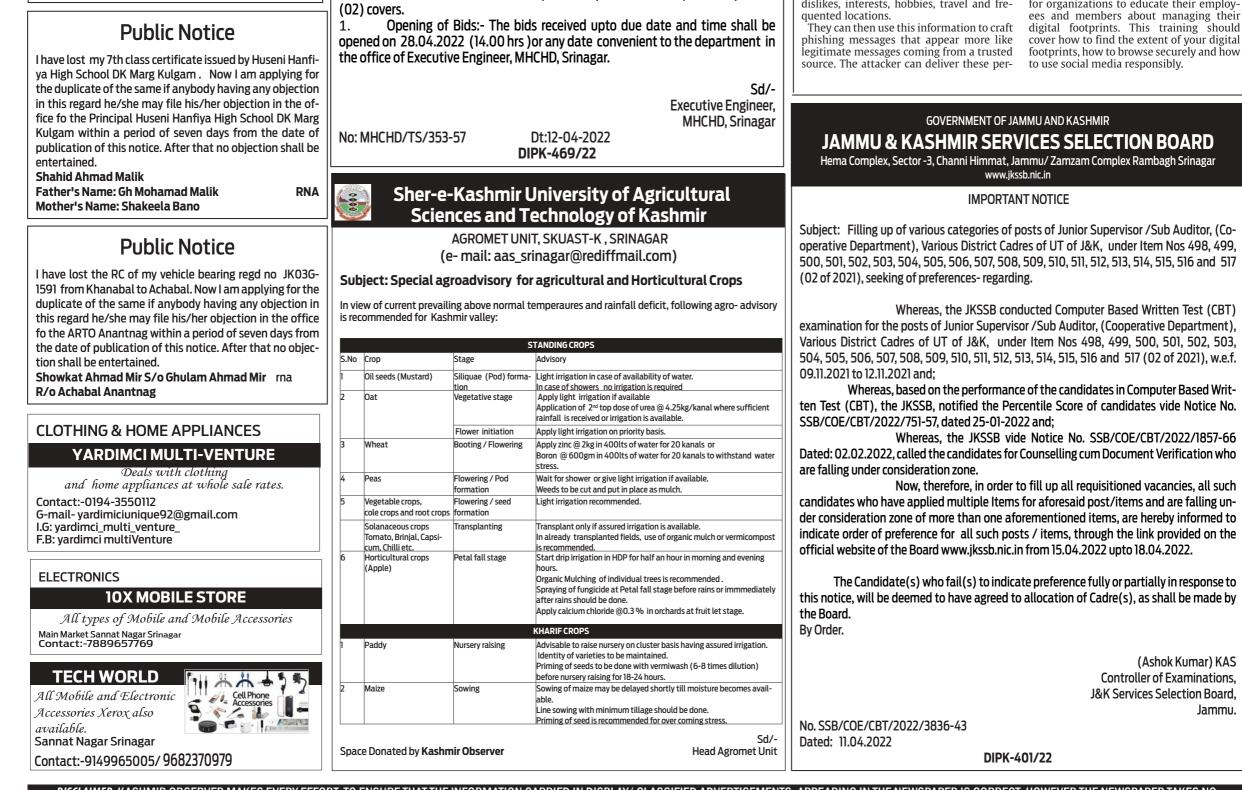
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### **KU Signs MoA** With J&K KVIB

#### **Observer News Service**

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Jammu and Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB).

The MoA was signed by Registrar Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir and Farrukh Qazi. Secretary, Chief Executive Officer J&K KVIB at a modest ceremony in the University, which, among others, was attended by Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Darzi, Director UGC-HRDC, Muzaffar Allaquband Deputy Secretary J&K KVIB and Sandeep from KVIB, a statement issued said.

As per the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), the University of Kashmir shall conduct the third party verification of KVIB units established in Kashmir division, as is mandated for prior adjustment of mar-

**Observer News Service** 

er Affairs (FCS&CA)

Kashmir today sealed

three establishments

during market check-

ing at Lal Chowk. Ali

Kadal and Rawalpora in

Srinagar for violation of

the Essential Commodi-

As per an offi-

cial handout, it was

informed that the en-

forcement team of the

department has also re-

covered more than two

the traders during the

month of Ramazan and

in all 33 shops sealed

which include Mutton

shops, Chicken shops,

lac rupees fine from

ties Act.

33 Shops Sealed, 3

**FIR's Lodged Against** 

**Erring Shopkeepers** 

gin money to the beneficiaries' account under

Notably, J&K KVIB has been designated as the implementing agency of J&K Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), which is a credit-linked subsidy scheme aimed at harnessing and diverting the energy and

enthusiasm of youth for establishment of the productive enterprises in the micro industrial sector. It also aims to create employment opportunities in rural areas of the Union Territory.

The scheme guidelines envisage conducting of physical verification of units established under JKREGP to ensure that these units are es-

tablished properly as per scheme guidelines/DPR. Prof Darzi has been

designated as Nodal Officer for supervising the work to be undertaken by the university for the purpose.

the REGP scheme

Roadside parking by shop-owners and shoppers thronging Nowhatta market causes traffic jams in the congested downtown locality.

### Illegal Dumping Of Garbage **SMC Imposes Fine Of Rs One lakh On Tipper Driver**

### Agencies

\$

Srinagar: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) on Wednesday imposed a fine of Rs one lakh on one person for illegally unloading and dumping heaps of garbage on the banks of Doodh Ganga flood channel and Pantha Chowk -Batamaloo Byepass road.

The person has been identified as Parvez Ahmad Ganai, son of Ali Mohammad Ganai of Boniyar Baramulla, who is driver and Owner of Tipper bearing registration number JK02AC-3649.

"For the last few months it was observed that heavy loads of garbage was illegally unloaded and dumped by some unscrupulous elements on the banks of Doodh Ganga flood channel. Panthachowk-Batmaloo Bye Pass Road especially in the Nowgam stretch, interior city such as Tengpora, Rawalpora, Sanat Nagar, Barzulla Bridge, Mehjoor Nagar," SMC said in a statement said.

This illegal dumping of huge waste has badly deteriorated the environment of the city, said Commissioner SMC Athar Amir Khan. He said the Corporation was close-

keeping an eye and working to nab

out such miscreants who damage the environment and push the city to extreme insanitary conditions.

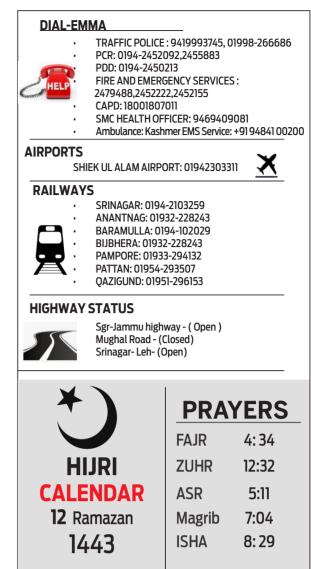
"On 1st January 2022 at around 10:42 PM in one of the operations, a tipper bearing registration number JK02AC-3649 was caught red handed while unloading a tipper full of loads of garbage at Rawalpora near Govt. School. However, the tipper driver forcibly with the help of some unknown persons managed to flee from the spot."

The Corporation while acting on a tip off, on 18th March 2022 at around 11 PM the tipper was again caught unloading bulk of garbage at Barzulla near the bridge. The tipper was managed to be seized and taken into the custody by the Corporation, the statement said, adding that it was found that the tipper was working with one M/S. Buhroo Trading Corporation, which is under service contract to Station HQ, Old Airfield, Rangreth and the waste collected from the Station HQ is being dumped within the territorial jurisdiction of Corporation in crude manner and in a brazen violation of environmental laws and rules.

er dated 8/3/2022 in an ( Vide ord

No. 241/2021 titled Raja Muzaffar Bhat v/s Union of India & others, the National Green Tribunal, authorized UT authorities to impose costs on polluters, the statement said, adding that the illegal dumping of waste is also a grave offence under SWM Rules, 2016 and J&K Municipal Corporation Act, 2000.

Vide a representation submitted by the defaulter and received under receipt No. 2871 dated 30/3/2022, confessing to the offence and apologized for the act now, therefore, consequent upon the order dated 8/3/2022 in an OA No. 241/2021 issued by Hon'ble Tribunal and the authority of imposing costs on the polluters given to the State/UT thereunder, and as confessed to the offence a fine to the tune of Rs. 1.00 lac (Rupees one lac only) has been imposed on the defaulter for the above said illegal acts, to be deposited in the Municipal Chest within a period of 10 days, it said, adding that the Solid Waste Management Officer, SMC has been asked to release the vehicle in question on the production of the GR of the said amount by the above owner/driver of the tipper. (KNO)



### **This Day In History**

- 193 Lucius Septimus Severus crowned Emperor of Rome 754 - Pact of Quierzy: between Pope Stephen II, [III] & Pippin
- the Korte
- 966 Christianisation of Poland
- 972 Notger becomes bishop of Liege
- 979 Challenge to throne of King Aethelred II of England
- 1028 German emperor Conrad II the Sailor crowns his son Henry III, king
- 1191 85-year old Giacinto Bobo becomes Pope Coelestinus III 1341 - Sack of Saluzzo (Italy) by Italian-Angevine troops under Manfred V of Saluzzo.
- 1434 The foundation stone of Cathedral St. Peter and St. Paul in Nantes, France is laid
- 1471 Wars of the Roses: Battle of Barnet Yorkists defeat the Lancastrians and kill the Earl of Warwick
- 1699- Khalsa: Birth of Khalsa, the brotherhood of the Sikh religion, in Northern India in accordance with the Nanakshahi calendar.
- 1792 France declares war on Austria, starting French Revolutionary Wars
- 1919 -Following Gandhi's nonviolent methods, Muslim and Hindu protest British rule; British troops fire on the crowds, killing 400
- 1940 Allied troops land in Norway
- 1944- Freighter "Fort Stikene" explodes in Bombay India, killing 1.376
- 1945 WWII: US 7th Army & allies forces capture Nuremberg & Stuttgart in Ger®many
- 1967 In the Vietnam War, US planes bombed Haiphong for 1st time 1971 - President Nixon ends blockade against People's Republic

shops who were selling Srinagar: The Enforcethe items at very high ment squad of Food Civrates other than fixed il Supplies and Consumby the government. Besides three FIRs were lodged against the violators

The market checking drives has been started following complaints pouring in from different sections of the society regarding illegal enhancement of rates by the shopkeepers dealing with different consumable items.

The Assistant Director Enforcement, Kashmir further reiterated that the drive will continue and strict action under law shall follow against

the violators.

vegetable and Bakery

### **Public Grievance Redressal Camp Held At Shalteng**

#### Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to bring Administration at the door steps of people for an on spot resolution of their developmental issues, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Wednesday held a Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Bemina in Shalteng Tehsil under weekly Block Diwas programme.

The programme was held within the premises of SDM/Tehsil Office Shalteng and witnessed large participation of people from Maloora,

Mujgund, Ranbir Garh, Khushi Pora Panzinara-A, Panzinara-B, Zainakote, HMT, Tengpora Batamaloo and other adjoining areas of Shalteng Tehsil of Srinagar. During the Grievance

Redressal Camp, PRI representatives. Public delegations and scores of individuals projected various issues and demands before the chair, particularly the long pending issue arising out of jurisdictional overlap with Baramulla and

Bandipora districts. Besides, PRI representatives, individuals and other delegations, also demanded

for macadamization of roads, augmentation of water and power supply, repairs of drainage system, upgradation of schools, providing electric poles, development of playground, commissioning of ITI Zainakote, development of Parim-

pora Fruit Mandi and General Bus Stand and other issues. After giving patient

hearing to the grievances and demands of the public, the DC sought on the spot response from the concerned District Officers present during the Grievance Redressal Camp.

### UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division

### NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

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

| S.<br>No | Name of<br>Work  | Est. Cost<br>(Rs. In<br>Lacs) | Cost of<br>T/Doc in<br>shape of<br>E-Challan<br>(in Rs.) | Time of<br>completion | Time and Date<br>for Submission<br>of E-Tender. |                              | Class of<br>Contractor    |
|----------|--|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.       | Renovation<br>of Labs<br>In CORD<br>at Main<br>Campus. | 13.62Lacs                     | Rs.600/-   | 02-Months             | 13-04 -2022<br>to 26-04-2022<br>(6.00 PM)       | 27-04-<br>2022 (11.30<br>AM) | "BEE"<br>"CEE" &<br>"DEE" |

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| DATED:12/04/   | 77                  |
| DAILD.12/04/   | 22.                 |

**Executive Engineer** DIPK-NB-252/22

. خبر نہایت ڈکھ کے ساتھ دی حاتی ہے <sup>ک</sup> ے والد بزرگ محتر م مرحوم غلام محمد ہمدانی عرف) مامدلاله خادم زیارت میرسیدعلی ہمدانی یورخہ 11 اپریل 2022ء کو اس دنیائے فاق سے رحلت کر گئے۔ انا لللہ و انا الیہ راجعون سے رحلت کرے۔ یہ مدری یو ایک مرحوم کا رسم چہارم 14 اپر یل 2022ء کو النظ آبائی مقبرہ واقعہ زیارت خانقاہ مولا میں صبح دیں بحکر 30 منٹ پر انجامہ دیا جائے گا۔ فزین مجلس گھریرانجام دی جائے گ۔ وكواران شفاعت احمد بمداني (فرزند) NOJK-RTOK 665 Dated: 12/04/2022 فون تمبر:9149832896 FKO r

### Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

#### NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Muzamil Nazir S/o Nazir Ahmad R/o Takanwari Pora Noor Bagh Sgr (Transferor) of Alto 800 bearing registration

No. JK01T-3689 chasis No: 171753 Engine No: 958838 Model 2013 in favour of Manzoor Ahmad Najar S/O Gh Mohammad Najar R/O Narakra Budgam (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned. No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

Sd/-Regional Transport Office, Kashmir

### **Office of The Regional** Transport Officer Kashmir



fer of ownership has been received from Ab Rashid Dar S/o Mohammad Ramzan Dar R/o Abu Bakar

of ALTO 800 bearing registration No. jk01ad-8070 chasis No: 54285 Engine No: 5813184 Model 2017 in favour of Ishtiyaq Ahamd Nachar S/o Gh Mohammad Nachar R/o F.C. I Guru Bazar Karan Nagar Sgr (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned. No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period. NOJK-RTOK 666 Sd/-Dated: 10/01/2022 Regional Transport Office, FKO Kashmii

#### of China

- 1981 1st Space Shuttle, Columbia 1, returns to Earth
- 1988 USSR, US, Pakistan & Afghanistan sign Afghanistan treaty
- 1994- US F-15 accidentally shoots 2 US helicopters down over Iraq, 26 die
- 1995- India beats Sri Lanka to win the Asia Cricket Cup final in Shariah
- 2000 -Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich files a lawsuit against P2P sharing phenom enon Napster. This law-suit eventually leads the movement against file-sharing programs.
- 2003 -The Human Genome Project is completed with 99% of the human genome sequenced to an accuracy of 99.99%
- 20 people are killed in attacks in Mogadishu, Somalia
- 2013 33 people are killed after a bus tumbled off a cliff in Trujillo, Peru



### Rail Comes To Udhampur Finally

54.85 Kilometers In 22 Years. Now Only 236.15 Kilometers To Go

**Observer News Service** 

Udhampur - Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Wednesday flagged off a train service between Jammu and Udhampur promising that it would go right up to Srinagar and Baramulla by 2007.

The foundation stone of the rail link from Udhampur housing the Army's Northern Command, was laid by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1983.

The train "piercing the heights of the Pir Panjal mountains and taming nature's fury is a challenge that engineers have accepted" he said.

The launch of the 'Uttar Samparak. Kranti Express' brought the prime minister to the state for his second visit in six days. The first was six days ago to flag off Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service.

The rail track passes through mountainous terrain with 20 per cent of the track going tunnels including an over 2.5-km long one that is considered longest in the country.

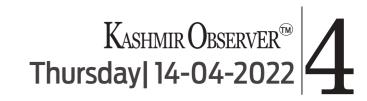
The 54.85-km broad gauge railway line, an engineering marvel with 158 bridges and 20 tunnels was built at a cost of Rs 515 crore.

The prime minister said the train link has led to hopes of the train running right up to the valley.

"The train will run from Udhampur to Katra, Qazigund, Srinagar and Baramulla by '2007. We have earmarked Rs 1000 (Rs.10 billion) for this." the prime minister said, with the fervent hope that the service would help build a stronger relationship between the people of the "state and the rest of the country. (Kashmir Observer, 14 April, 2005)

Colony Bemina Sgr (Transferor)

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# OBSERVER

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# Ukraine Policy

s the war in Ukraine drags on, India is finding it increasingly difficult to maintain its neutral policy stance between the West and Russia. US President Joe Biden in a virtual meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday urged him to throw his lot with the nations resisting the Russian invasion of Ukraine. He said the US and India are going to continue "close consultation on how to manage the destabilizing effects of this Russian war". However, the PM Modi without naming Russia called the "killings of innocent civilians" in Ukraine's Bucha city "very worrying", and said India immediately condemned the killings and called for an independent probe. Earlier foreign minister S Jaishankar and India's envoy at the United Nations T S Tirumurti have condemned Bucha killings unequivocally.

The virtual meeting took place ahead of the 2+2 talks between the US and India's Defence and Foreign Ministers which were also dominated by the discussion on the war in Ukraine. The US demand for India is to give up its neutral stance on the war and support western war efforts against Russia. But it is not an easy choice for India. The country has for decades had deep relations with Russia and its predecessor the Soviet Union which also supported it on Kashmir by vetoing the successive resolutions in the Security Council. So, joining the west against Russia would neither be feasible nor would it be without costs for the country.

Making things further difficult for New Delhi is the pressure from China and Russia which want it to be a part of their bloc against the west. Recently, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov visited India to press the same point. These were very significant visits. The Chinese foreign minister urged India to not support the west over Ukraine and also sought to normalize the relationship between the two countries. But New Delhi has made it clear that it was not in the mood to improve its relations with Beijing until the latter didn't pull back its troops from the territory it has captured in Ladakh. China claims the captured area as its territory and wants New Delhi to move on and accept the new status quo in Ladakh as a fait accompli. New Delhi, however, will not do so as was made clear by foreign minister S Jaishankar.

# Sri Lanka's Financial Crisis Fuels Political Unrest

The island nation is facing unprecedented upheaval as a growing economic crisis sparks anti-government protests in the streets and calls for the president to resign.

### Haris Zargar

or several weeks now, thousands of Sri Lankans have taken to the streets in anti-government protests reminiscent of the Arab Spring as the country grapples with an economic crisis that has resulted in record inflation, a devalued currency, blackouts and a scarcity of basic necessities.

The worst economic crisis in its postindependence history has plunged Sri Lanka deeper into a political crisis that shows no signs of abating. But what may appear as a sudden descent into chaos has been in the making for years.

Owing to its shrinking foreign currency reserves, Sri Lanka is mired in public debt and struggles to pay for imports of fuel and other necessities. The country needs about \$3 billion to help restore supplies of essential items, including fuel and medicine, as well as bridge financing to avoid a hard default on its outstanding foreign debt of \$51 billion.

Because of the financial crunch, the 22 million residents have been dealing with skyrocketing prices and a shortage of essential items. The cost of living has nearly doubled in the past four months, making it unaffordable for many.

Since Sri Lanka gets most of its electricity from imported oil and coal, the government has been compelled to impose power outages that have left citizens in the dark for up to 13 hours at a time, and this may be extended to 16 hours. There is so little money that some of its embassies and consulates are being closed temporarily.

People have been waiting in queues for hours to get fuel or have their cooking gas canisters refilled, with several elderly people even dying while waiting in line for fuel. Schools have been forced to cancel exams owing to a shortage of paper. The crisis has also resulted in the declaration of a public health emergency owing to a severe shortage of medicines and equipment, and state hospitals have had to halt regular surgeries.

### Tense political situation

The protests have morphed into antiregime rallies demanding the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who is accused of corruption and mishandling the economy. They turned violent on 31 March in the capital Colombo as public rage spilled over into the streets. Demonstrators gathered outside the president's residence, slinging stones and lighting fires. The police used tear gas and water cannons to disperse them and arrested over 50 demonstrators.

Rajapaksa then declared a state of emergency, but it was lifted on 5 April. A few days earlier, on 2 April, the government had also im-36-hour curfew to effectively prohibit any gatherings, saying "no person shall be on any public road, railway, public park, public recreation ground or other public ground or the seashore". After the curfew came into effect, the police reportedly arrested over 660 people for violating it. To suppress a public outcry, the government imposed restrictions on social media platforms including Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, Telegram and TikTok. As services began to be disrupted, users around the island began to use virtual private network services to circumvent it. Condemning the social media restrictions, the Bar Association of Sri Lanka said it was a "vital aspect" of freedom of expression for citizens and "as important as traditional media". The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka observed that the country's Telecommunications Regulatory Commission had "no authority" to ask service providers to restrict social media



**The rallies have largely unified** ethnic and minority groups as Sri Lanka continues to heal from a long civil war that ended in 2009. But there are fears that the continuing crisis may exacerbate civil strife among sections of the majority Sinhalese population, which is polarised

access. Opposition politicians also slammed the government for "stifling" free expression. As the decision came under widespread criticism, the access to the sites was restored.

Despite the clampdowns, protesters have continued to demand Rajapaksa's resignation, brandishing signs calling his family "thieves" – his older brother Mahinda Rajapaksa is the prime minister – and urging them to "go home". However, both of them have refused to step down.

The two are third-generation politicians and their family has dominated the island's politics for nearly two decades. Rajapaksa family members are currently in charge of 11 ministries. During Mahinda's second presidential term from 2010 to 2015, as many as 40 members of the family were said to be in government posts outside the Cabinet.

#### Resignations and resistance

On 3 April, the Cabinet resigned en masse, leaving the government scurrying to recruit new ministers to help guide the country through the crises. A few days later, on 5 April at least 41 parliamentarians quit the ruling coalition, denying the Rajapaksas a governing majority in the assembly. But the government's chief whip, Johnston Fernando, informed Parliament that the president would not resign under any circumstances. Sri Lanka's main opposition party, Samagi Jana Balawegaya, has also increased its pressure on the regime and said it would propose a motion of no confidence in the president if the government does not provide immediate relief for the people affected by the economic crisis. It has also called for the abolition of the all-powerful executive presidency. In the midst of this growing political instability, Sri Lanka is frantically seeking international loans to help the country stave off an even worse financial crisis. On 6 April, Rajapaksa announced a three-member advisory group to help the government in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. India has already offered to issue a credit line of \$1

billion and \$500 million in gasoline.

According to experts, the current crisis was in the making for years as the government repeatedly borrowed large sums of money from international lenders to enhance public services. While its foreign debt increased, the economy was severely affected by heavy monsoons in 2016 and 2017 that reduced agricultural output.

The economic crisis was compounded by the Covid-19 pandemic, which hit the country's revenue from tourism and remittances, a key source of income and foreign exchange. By 2021, Sri Lanka had welcomed just 173 000 tourists for the year, down from 2.3 million in 2018. The Russia-Ukraine war has only exacerbated these troubles as oil prices soar.

However, government critics argue that ill-advised tax cuts and economic mismanagement have put further strain on the country's public finances, precipitating a spiralling economic meltdown.

The rallies have largely unified ethnic and minority groups as Sri Lanka continues to heal from a long civil war that ended in 2009. But there are fears that the continuing crisis may exacerbate civil strife among sections of the majority Sinhalese population, which is polarised between those who want Rajapaksa out of power and those who want him to stay. Meanwhile, five experts from the United Nations have called on the government to engage in "constructive and open dialogue" on political reforms with the Sri Lankan people. "Peaceful protests and voices of legitimate dissent should not be met with unnecessary and excessive use of force by authorities," they said. "Resorting to use of force against protesters will only jeopardise avenues to express discontent peacefully, risking instead an escalation of tensions.

Though this tricky geopolitical situation has its opportunities for New Delhi, it has also its costs. The US has already threatened consequences if India didn't stop importing oil and gas from Russia. But India has not given up its principled policy, one that is in the best interest of its people.

### OTHER OPINON

### Poverty and Pandemic

recent research paper from the International Mon-etary Fund written by three economists has come up with evidence that during the pandemic, extreme level of poverty in India was kept to the pre-pandemic level after direct distribution of food by the government was taken into account. The poverty cut-off marks were taken to be \$1.9 and \$3.2 measured in purchasing power parity terms. This was interpreted by certain sections of the media as proof of poverty having actually declined during the pandemic, thanks to the policy interventions by the Central government. This is somewhat confusing when viewed against another research paper published in May 2021 by the Azim Premji Foundation, where scholars found compelling evidence of a substantial rise in poverty in India during the pandemic. Using data from the Indian economy, they found that according to one measure - the minimum-wage threshold — 230 million Indians had slipped below this poverty line. This led to the understanding that the pandemic had increased poverty. What then is the correct conclusion to be drawn? Can the results be reconciled?

Both the views are correct in their own ways. Poverty can be viewed in many different ways, the most common being measuring the number of people in a population living below a well-defined level of income, per head per month. This means that the constituency of the poor is not homogenous. Some lie just below the poverty line, while many others can be located at the extreme lower range tending to zero income. What the IMF paper claims is that the extreme poor remained at the prepandemic level of incomes because they received a subsidy in kind — in terms of food — from the government. The poor were defined in terms of the purchasing power parity mark of \$1.9 per head per day. The most important conclusion to draw from this study would be to note that without the distribution of free food to the extremely poor, there might have been instances of people perishing from starvation and, obviously, a further spike in extreme poverty. The Azim Premii Foundation paper claims that if one took the minimum-wage threshold as the poverty line, with suitable corrections made for rural-urban differences and inflation, 230 million Indians slipped below this line during the pandemic in 2020. Combining the two sets of results, the reasonable conclusion would be that total poverty had increased during the pandemic, but government policy has helped the poorest of the poor to survive. The increase in total poverty is a difficult challenge for the government to tackle going forward.

Telegraph India

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 New Frame.

The author is a Kashmiri Journalist.



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

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### **Environment and Education**

ORLD Nature Conservation Day acknowledges that a healthy environment is the foundation for a stable and healthy human society. It is celebrated on July 28 annually. The main purpose of celebrating World Nature Conservation Day is to conserve the animals and trees that are on the verge of going extinct from the natural environment of the Earth. This day also recognizes that a healthy environment is the foundation for a stable and productive society and to ensure the well-being of present and future generations, we all must participate to protect, conserve, and sustainably manage our natural resources. Conservation of resources has an important role in protecting our mother Earth. The balance in the natural beauty of the earth can be maintained by preserv-

ing various components of nature - water, air, soil, energy, vegetation, minerals, fauna, etc.

The world is facing many challenges related to environment. On one hand, the world is developing at an alarming rate while on the other hand the destruction of natural resources is going on. Today, the human society is facing severe environmental problems like climate change, greenhouse effect, energy crisis, depletion of natural resources, biodiversity loss, pollution of air, water, soil, etc. The scope of the problems is from local level to global level. The ever increasing population and changing lifestyles are increasing the severity of the environmental problems. The time has come to protect the natural environment through precise efforts.

Education is one of the key solutions for this situation. The best way to spread awareness regarding the Conservation of World nature is through education. A carefully designed learning system through which youngsters are exposed to various aspects of environmental conservation would help them develop a deep understanding of it. Children shall become aware of the threats of environmental degradation and encouraged to act responsibly. Education does not only teach the name of a flower but also its importance for the ecosystem.

A well designed environmental education system gives both theoretical as well as practical exposure to environmental conservation. A child would think a thousand times before plucking a flower if he knows its importance in balancing the ecosystem. Schools can have cleanliness drives on campus where children make sure that everything is kept clean and litter free. From classes to school playgrounds - they should be made to feel responsible for keeping all areas spotlessly clean. They should also be encouraged to participate in cleanliness drives in their communities.

Schools can also make sure children start learning about environment preservation from an early age. If children are being taught about water as an EVS (environmental studies) topic then teachers can cover local water bodies like lakes and rivers. They can apprise the children about water scarcity and ask them to creatively think of ways to conserve water by water harvesting, innovate means to keep water bodies clean and so on.

MAhmad

 $\frac{K_{ASHMIR}O_{BSERVER}}{Thursday | 14.04.2022}$ 

**Book Review** Siyasi Muslims 66 The Muslim vote bank is an imagination of secular parties who treat Muslims as a homogenous social group and make promises to Muslims using the minority status of Muslims in India. However, it misses the point that Muslims are not a homogenous group and everyone among them is not concerned with the package of Muslim issues

#### Haris Rashid

In his book Siyasi Muslims: A story of Political Islams in India, 2019, Hilal Ahmed analyses the Muslim politics in India through contemporary debates. The first thing that the book does is that it challenges the homogeneity of Indian Muslims. As a result, it achieves separation of "Muslim" and "Islam". Islam is not a living organism that acts on its own but it is the Muslims that act. Therefore, the subject of the book is Indian Muslims not Islam per se. The debate on Burqa that the author analyses highlights the fact that it is the Muslims that act and not Islam. The debate on triple Talaq also points to the fact that when analysing the politics of Muslims, it is the Muslims that should be studied and not Islam. Similarly, the casteism that Muslims in India practice or perpetuate despite the egalitarian nature of Islam also highlights this point.

Hilal Ahmed argues against homogenizing of Indian Musims by looking for the sources of identity of Muslims in the census started by the British. He argues that the census categorized all Muslims, irrespective of the schools of thought they adhere to or their caste or class, in one category and reduced them to numbers. This reduction to numbers is the reason provided by him for the homogenisation of Indian Muslims. Since all Muslims belong to the religion of Islam, it might have been convenient for the nurnose of census to con sider them as one category. In this context, the explanation provided by the author begs the questions- what would have been the alternative to this? As the author introduces the reader to the different castes, classes and schools of thought that the Muslims adhere to, should the census adopt a caste based, class based or the school of thought based approach? Interestingly, the author does not even once mention the first schism in Islamthe Shia-Sunni divide. Irrespective of the line of this argument, the author however drives the point home that Indian Muslims are not a homogenous category. Since Indian Muslims are not homogenous, they have different approaches to similar Muslim issues. Therefore, no single organization can claim to be representative of the entire Indian Muslim population. All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) might be one of the well known organizations but there are a plethora of other Muslim organizations that contest over similar Muslim issues. Irrespective of these plethora organizations contesting over Muslim issues, the author argues that these issues are treated by the government and the political parties keeping in mind that Muslims are a homogenous group. As a result, only some of the Muslims, mostly AIMPLB as the government and the courts give priority to it, are represented. The voices and concerns of other Muslim groups are not considered. Similarly, there are other issues, including legal and constitutional, over which internal politics takes place among Muslims. Some elite Muslims want reservation for all the Muslims while others belonging to the lower castes want reservation for Dalit Muslims only and some want separate reservations for Dalit Muslims and other Muslims. Therefore, there is no consensus on these Muslim issues among various Muslim groups in India. However, most of the Muslims invoke the constitution and speak the language of rights when faced with these issues. Given that Muslims are not a homogenous group and they are not represented by a single organization, Ahmed goes on to explain their nature of participation and interaction with the politics of the country. He counters the argument that Muslims are only concerned with Muslim issues and beyond that they are not concerned about anything. Providing quantitative evidence, he argues that Muslims are equally concerned about poverty, unemployment and other common governance issues that other socio-religious communities also face. Giving the example of Babri Masjid, he argues that it is not the most important issue for most of Muslims in India and it does not figure as an electoral issue for Muslims. The reaction to Triple Talaq or the abolition of Hajj subsidy also highlights the point that Muslims are concerned about politics beyond these Mulims issues. In this context, Ahmed rebuts the accusations that Muslims are

concerned only with their Muslim identity and further goes on to argue that they do not form a "vote bank" of any party. He argues that Muslims show different voting patterns in different elections. Sometimes they vote for Indian National Congress (INC) while other times they vote for Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). The example of fatwas issued by Imam of Jamia Masjid Delhi asking people to vote for different parties in different elections is given to highlight the point that Muslims do not vote for any single party. However, Muslims, like ANALDIAN ARABARARA HILAL AHMED

ment. Some of the parties like BJP who oppose Muslim appeasment have token representation of good Muslims in their party so as to reach out to Muslims for votes while at the same time asking them to vote as Indians and not as Muslims.

Since the book analyses the contemporary Muslim issues in India, it also deals with the Hindutva politics and tries to situate Muslims in it. The author argues that Hindutva needs Muslims to survive as they create Mus-

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lims as a permanent "other". Hindutva considers Muslims as foreigners and converts in the sense that Islam came from outisde with the invaders and then some Hindus also converted to Islam. "Indianization of Muslims" is considered a panacea by Hindutva to all the problems that Muslims in India face. It can be said that the "Muslim" and the "Indian" identities are considered

It is interesting that Ahmed argues how Muslims are a heterogenous group that are different based on class, caste, gender and the schools of thought they belong to. It brings out how all these different identities combine to create different modes of discrimination and privilige for Muslims. It is what is called "intersectionality"- which identifies multiple factors of advantages and disadvantages.

However, on the homogeneity of Muslims, it is not mentioned how the Pakistan movement affected this homogenous identity of Muslims. Since the Pakistan

There are political parties led by Muslims in India that claim to represent Muslims both at the state level and the national level. The book does not deal with such parties and only mentions the BJP and the secular parties. There is also no mention of how Muslims have reacted to Hindutva. Silence is not the only reaction by Muslims

bank is an imagination of secular parties who treat Muslims as a homogenous social group and make promises to Muslims using the minority status of Muslims in India. However, it misses the point that Muslims are not a homogenous group and everyone among them is not concerned with the package of Muslim

issues

and more a new particular and the second The notion of Musim appeasment — that secular parties appease Muslims by promising the Muslim issue package is also dealt with in detail in the book. Muslims are recognized as a minority by the constitution and hence non-BJP parties make a plethora of promises to Muslims on Muslim issues using the "minority" character of the community. These issues include minority status of educational institutes like Jamia Milia Islamia and Aligarh Muslim University and the OBC reservation for Muslms. Ahmed argues that these promises and work done for Muslims cannot be called appeasement as these parties making promises or doing work for Muslims consider Muslims to be a homogenous group. Only a few sections of dominant Muslims benefit from what is called Muslim appeasment. Further, Sachar Committee report on the socio-economic condition of Muslims in India is invoked to refute that anything done for Muslims as a community is appeasemutually idea-

logues. Since

Muslims do worship

facing Kaaba or follow non-

Indian prophets and Muslim personal

law, it is alleged that their allegiance lies out-

While Hindutva has historically used anti-Muslim

rhetoric to target Indian Muslims, the ideology of Hin-

dutva is not fixed to Savarkar or Golwalkar. There is no

discussion on how the identity of Muslims have been

shaped in the wake of partition in 1947 or the Kash-

mir issue. The word "separation" or "separatist" is used

many times throughout the book but it is not elaborated

as to why Muslims are accused of separatist tendencies.

Further, the reaction of Muslims to Hindutva is also not

discussed. Since it is argued that Muslims think like any

other socio-religious group and are not just concerned

about their Muslim identity, they do not react to these

religious issues and maintain "Muslim silence".

movement was based on the premise that Muslims are a nation, how it impacted or brought about the homogenization of Muslims has not been discussed. The impact of Hindutva on this identity is also not discussed. Since Hindutva interacts with Muslims based on their religion and considers them a homogenous group, the reaction from Muslims is expected to be on the lines of religion and as a homogenous community of Muslims.

One of the important points that the book misses is Muslim mobilization. There are political parties led by Muslims in India that claim to represent Muslims both at the state level and the national level. The book does not deal with such parties and only mentions the BJP and the secular parties. There is

also no mention of how Muslims have reacted to Hindutva. Silence is not the only reaction by Muslims. There have been various forms of reactions, including armed mobilization by various Muslim groups like Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI). In fact, the author discusses the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) but does not mention how Muslims mobilized against it.

Overall, the book does a great job at deconstructing the Muslim community of India and identifies their source of identity. Through the contemporary debates on Muslim issues in Indian politics, it places them in the historical context and clarifies the terms of the debate. Though he engages with the Muslim politics but also leaves a lot out of the book on this subject.

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

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# NEWS

Kashmir Observer Thursday | 14.04.2022

## Div Com Kashmir Presides Over Block Diwas At Kokernag

Lays foundation stone of several projects in Achabal, Kokernag

#### **Observer News Service**

Anantnag: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Wednesday presided over the Block Diwas programme at Kokernag, here.

The Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag Dr Piyush Singla; DDC Member, Sagam Constituency, M Saleem Parray; BDC Larnoo, BDC Breng and senior officials from district administration.

Speaking on the occasion, Div Com said that all the issues put forth today have been noted by concerned officers and efforts will be made to redress the grievances in a time bound manner. He said that accountability and transparency has been bred into the system through the Block Diwas mechanism and he is hopeful that people will continue to utilise the platform for putting forth genuine grievances.

Pole said that issues crop up with new developments, but the spirit of Block Diwas is to provide a platform to people to communicate these issues to the concerned officials so that governance becomes more efficient.

The DC Anantnag said that Block Diwas is a forum of reducing the gap between PRIs, administrative officials and people. He said that 4000 works under district CAPEX works were completed with cooperation of PRIs.

He said that the plan under formulation for the present fiscal should be formulated as per local needs. He said that works should be discussed and included in the plans after discussion with all stakeholders. He said he is hopeful that visit by Div Com Kashmir will act as a beacon for further development of Kokernag.

Kokernag. DDC Member, M Saleem Parray said that Kokernag Gate was a demand of PRIs in a recent Block Diwas programme and the promptness with which the project has been taken up is worth appreciating. He said that the Lisser Grid should be augmented for better power supply. He said that the quota of PMAY should be enhanced so that

more people can be provided affordable housing. The DDC member said that the Kokernag Master plan imposes certain restrictions on construction activities and these should be reviewed. He said that beautification of Bringi Nallah should be taken up. He said a library cum reading room to facilitate aspirants of competitive exams should be set up.

Talking about staff availability at Bamdoora and Hiller PHCs, the DDC member said that while staff has been deputed at the centers but needs to be augmented in view of the area being covered.

BDC Larnoo Mumtaz Ali said that a single bank caters to the entire area and banking facilities need to be augmented in the area. He said that the quota under PMAY will be enhanced in the area.

BDC Breng Parveena Akhter and MC President MC Kokernag Sheikh Prince put forth local issues on the occasion. President MC said that X Ray and CT Scan facilities should be available at SDH. He said that land should be identified for development of a sports stadium. He also said that innovative water harvesting measures must be taken to

reduce the burden on natural sources of water.

Haroon Khatana said that enhancement of infrastructure to attract tourists is necessary. He said that mobile connectivity issues in some far flung areas should also be taken up on priority.

Several delegations including Sarpanches put forth various issues regarding panchayat ghars, enhancement of public transport, settlement of land acquisition cases, Gondola project for Daksum, availability of timber, water supply issues, development under FC grants, technical deletions in PMAY and enhance-

ment of AAY quota. The Div Com gave a patient hearing to all the grievances and assured time bound redressal. He directed the officials present to ensure that all grievances received at Block Diwas are redressed in a time bound manner.

Pole also inaugurated several projects in Kokernag including 3 modern bus ports constructed at a cost of Rs 22 lakhs and a shopping complex with 18 shops, 2 halls and a restaurant constructed at a cost of Rs 1.7 crores. He

also laid the foundation stone of Kokernag entry gate being developed under CSR/ He felicitated the eco guards and distributed appreciation certificates. Golden Cards were also distributed among beneficiaries on the occasion

Prior to this, the Div Com visited Achabal. He participated in an urban sanitation drive organized by Municipal Council Achabal. He also interacted with officials from Municipal Council Achabal. He was accompanied by Director ULB, ADDC Anantnag, BDC, Councillors and various sectoral officers.

The Div Com was informed about various works taken up in Achabal under FC Grants, My Town My Pride and other schemes. He said that a vending zone has been created and 69 vendors have been provided installments under PM SVANidhi. He said a town beautification plan is being prepared and will be taken up this year.

The Div Com felicitated various Eco Guards on the occasion and lauded their social contribution.

PRIs present on the occasion said that Achabal Chattabal Development Authority should be set up for focused development of Achabal and making it a prominent part of the Anantnag tourist circuit.

Appreciating the keen efforts being taken by the council for development of the area, he lauded the council for the cleanliness in the town area. He said that there are instances of road side littering in the area and people must be made aware of the importance of maintaining cleanliness.

He said the grievances raised by PRIs will be taken up with concerned quarters for redressal. The Div Com laid the founda-

tion stone of the Community Marriage Hall and a slaughter house at Achabal. The two projects, being constructed under FC Grants by MC Achabal, will be completed by March 2023 at an estimated cost of Rs 3.35 crores.

The Div Com stressed that the works must be completed prior to the stipulated timeline and said some appreciation mechanism will be worked out for agencies that complete projects before the expected timeline.

### **Time To Show Results On Ground: Advisor Bhatnagar To Engineers**

Reviews pace & progress on implementation of JJM across J&K

### **Observer News Service**

**JAMMU:** Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Wednesday impressed upon the engineers of Jal Shakti Department to come up with tangible results regarding implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Advisor was speaking in a meeting called to discuss the progress achieved under the Mission till date.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary Jal Shakti Department, M Raju; MD, JJM, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers of the department besides other officers and officials associated with the Mission.

Out station based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing from their respective districts.

While reviewing the tendering and allotment of works under the Mission, Advisor Bhatnagar urged upon the Executing agencies to take up all the remaining works in hand in this working season only. He enjoined upon them to complete the mission target before the onset of winter season along with integration of all the components. He urged them to prioritize the works so that best outcomes are achieved in this working season.

Advisor Bhatnagar also took note of the tendering process of all the works to be done under this national mission. He stressed on the fact that no reservation would be acceptable of any sort for not meeting the renewed deadline fixed today. He maintained that every sort of liberation has been extended to the executing agencies for meeting the targets and now



it is time to start delivering as there is no scope of any laxity.

The Advisor further exhorted upon the officers to maintain the quality of all the works and certify at the end about proper working of each connection provided to the households. He underscored that the PM Office is itself keenly monitoring this aspect of the mission and it has to be seriously taken care of. He also asked them to look into incentivizing works that are completed earlier.

The Commissioner Jal Shakti Department gave the overall scenario of the Mission throughout J&K. He revealed that all the guidelines and directions from time to time have been implemented. He informed the chair that his office is acting as a facilitator in every sense for successful culmination of this prestigious mission. He provided the timeline of different activities taken up under this mission till date.

The MD, JJM informed the Advisor that there are few grey areas that needs attention. He revealed that besides augmentation of the manpower in the JJM Cells at both Srinagar and Jammu, the process of evaluation of bids needs to be accelerated. He assured that once the works are allotted the same would be ensured to be completed within their specific deadlines.

The Advisor asked the concerned Chief Engineers to hire staff through outsourcing if necessary as there is no dearth

of funds under the mission. He reminded them that it is a rare opportunity for all of them to write their names in golden letters. He asked them to own this mission and its objectives as it is a one off opportunity for all of them to provide the safe drinking water to whole population, something that could only be dreamed of few years ago.

The Advisor was informed that under the mission 485680 tap water connections have been provided to households till date and more 774044 connections are being provided to cover whole population. It was said that each school, health and Anganwadi centre has already been provided a tap water connection under this mission.

It was further revealed that in order to achieve the targets of this mission some 1156 bore wells/ tube wells, 509 over head tanks, 1595 filtration plants, 7946 service reservoirs, and 86017 kms length of pipes besides other infrastructure is proposed under this mission. It was also revealed that this mission is a transformational one with abundant funding provided to the I&K.

Pertinent to mention here that the mission aims at providing safe drinking water connection to each of the rural household. J&K proposed to complete around 3053 water supply schemes under this mission with a whopping cost of around Rs 11000 crores under Jal Jeevan Mission in the UT.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### 16 % Teens In Kashmir

for depression and anxiety among school going adolescents aged between 15 and 19 years during January and February 2021.

The data has further noted that out of the 439 adolescents who had responded, 426 (97.03%) who were of a mean age of 17.5 + 1.26 years and comprised of 57% males were included in the final analysis.

Anxiety and depression, the research revealed, are major public health probems among adolescents. "The high burden estimated in our study highlights the need for immediate action to support adolescents particularly those with a self/family history of COVID-19." The researchers reveal. It is pertinent to mention here that the report has also brought into fore that before the start of the pandemic, these adolescents, on an average were spending two hours on internet, however after the pandemic the median of hours per day had significantly increased to 4 hours per day. Female gender, history of personal Covid infection, hospital admission due to COVID-19 in family and perceived impact of Covid, the report noted, were positively associated with anxiety, whereas history of personal Covid infection was positively associated with depression. Talking to Kashmir Observer, Dr. Rugia Quansar, one of the authors, said that there's an important need for improving access to preventive and curative mental services for adolescents. "This school-going age is such where an adolescent desperately needs to socialize and participate in various physical activities to avoid stress. It's like a stress buster for children. However, since the outbreak of Covid pandemic, there has been a severe disruption in routine activities of these adolescents and that's exactly what has impacted their mental health." Dr. Ruqia told Kashmir Observer. "The percentage obtained has been done by using a WHO standard scale which includes GAD-7 for anxiety and PHQ-9 for depression. So, there are few questions that an adolescent has to undergo and based on the total score, we're able to calculate his/her mental health. If the total score is above 10 then it is considered anxiety or depression. Subsequently, according to our data, Covid pandemic and the lockdown has affected the mental health of our children." She further added that there have been many researches in Kashmir on how pandemic has affected mental health of adults.

adolescent mental health in Kashmir." says Dr. Ruqia.

The data has marked that there is also a specific need to have a mental health screening program in place for adolescents, Dr. Ruqia notes, who had a family history of Covid diagnosis in the family in particular and for all adolescents in general. "This way, we can ensure that our children don't have to battle mental health crises at this tender age." Dr. Ruqia told Kashmir Observer.

#### Observer. **Panel Likely**

the south Kashmir district on April 3. (With agency inputs) **Govt Gives Addl Charge** 

### Police Academy (SVP NPA), Hyderabad, w.e.f. April 4th, 2022 to

May 13, 2022, reads the order. Mubassir Latifi Ameer, CO IR-15th Bn has been given additional charge of CO SDRF 2nd Bn, Jammu while Firdous Iqbal, SSP, Div. Comdt. HG(K) will hold the additional charge of CO SDRF 1st

Bn. B Randheer Singh, SSP, SO to ADG HG to hold additional charge of Div is variation in these inputs. We do not have any input like a lot of them had gathered on the launch pads, he said, adding if the numbers are compared with last year's, there are minor variations.

On the threat posed by the use of drones by Pakistan to drop weapons on this side, he said such activities are mostly taking place along the IB being guarded by the BSF.

No major action of drones was noticed along the LoC till date. As far as IB is concerned, the BSF is alive to the challenge and are tackling it effectively,

other soldiers. It said not one out of the 54 PoWs has been released despite the exis-

has been released despite the existence of a "specific bilateral agreement in force between the respondent Union of India with the detaining power of Government of Pakistan.

The plea said that the Government of Pakistan is also shielding the perpetrators of crimes against humanity committed upon Captain Saurabh Kalia and his men, besides many other PoWs/ soldiers whose names could not creative could be a solution of the same second second provide the same second second

specifically be listed herein. The petition said in these matter and produce the report thereof before this court for further necessary actions , it said, besides seeking other directions concerning PoWs.

#### SIA To Probe

Mohd Shrief Sartaj of Jammu -- have also been detained for questioning in connection with the case, police said.

On April 2, Jammu and Kashmir DGP Dilbag Singh had said the politician was absconding and would be traced soon. Shah had also disclosed names of his

Shah had also disclosed names of his foreign associates including layed and

"But, no one was working on the deteriorating mental health of Kashmir's adolescents. That's why we thought of collecting and compiling the data on 2020, with a one-year term to redraw the parliamentary and assembly constituencies of the J&K, six months after the reorganisation of the Union Territory.

The Commission was given one year extension in 2021 and again of two months by the Centre on March 6, 2022.

### 11 People Booked

son of Nazir Ahmad Parray, a resident of Parray Mohalla, Asham, Zahoor Ahmad Dar, son of Ghulam Nabi Dar, a resident of Chewa village, Mohd. Saleem Parray, son Mohd. Ramzan Parray, a resident of Khos Mohalla Hajin, Irfan Ahmad Lone, son of Mohd Afzal Lone, a resident of Bangar Mohalla, Hajin, Irfan Ahmad Bhat, son of Abdul Aziz Bhat, a resident of Syed Mohalla, Hajin, Naseer Ahmad Parray, son of Bashir Ahmad Parray, a resident of Kathpora Hajin and four others.

A top police official also confirmed the development to a local news agency GNS.

#### **Civilian Shot**

"#KulgamTerrorIncidentUpdate: Civilian Satesh Kumar Singh, a resident of Kulgam, #succumbed to his injuries at hospital. #Terrorists involved in this #gruesome terror crime will be neutralised soon. Search to track the involved #terrorists in progress," police posted on its official Twitter handle.

Kulgam and Shopian districts have small pockets with Rajput families who have never migrated out of Jammu and Kashmir. They are mainly into the apple business.

Pertinently, the attack on Singh comes over a week after three people, including two Bihar residents were injured in twin attacks by suspected militants in the twin districts of Pulwama and Shopian on April 4.

Joko Chowdary and Patlashwar Kumar, both residents of Bihar were shot at and injured in Lajoora area of Pulwama.

Hours later, 35-year-old Sonu Kumar, son of Jankee Nath was fired upon by militants in his native Chotigam village of Shopian district.

A day earlier, two Punjab residents were injured by unknown militants in

Comdt. HG Jammu, Monika Sagar, SSP, IR-18 Bn (Camp Commander CID Cell New Delhi) was given additional charge of SSP CID Cell New Delhi, reads the order.

According to the order, Manoj Kumar Pandit, SSP, AIG (Communication) PHQ will hold additional charge of AIG (Buildings) PHQ while Joginder Singh, SSP, Anti Corruption Bureau will hold the additional charge of Director SSF. I&K.

Zahoor Ahmed Wani, ASP, CIK will hold the additional charge of SSP CID, CI Kashmir while Safdar Hamid Hassan, Dy. CO IR-6th has been given additional charge of CO IR-6th Bn.

Surinder Kumar, SP, Dy. CO IR-9th and Hafizullah, ASP, PCR Jammu will hold the additional charge of as CO IR-9th Bn and SSP PCR Jammu respectively.

The officers shall stand relieved of the additional charge immediately after the incumbents join back on the post, the order added.

### J&K Slips To 32nd

new initiatives. The index is based on 2019–20 data–(KNO)

### Indian Troops

(BSF) is effectively tackling the challenge.

They (Pakistan) will attempt (to push militants into this side taking advantage of melting of snow) by activating the launch pads as Pakistan is continuously making attempts to disturb peace (in Jammu and Kashmir), Lt General Singh said, replying to a query about the possibility of increased infiltration attempts from Pakistan with the melting of snow along the possible infiltration routes.

We are keeping a watch on the situation and our counter-infiltration measures are in place to foil all their attempts, the army officer said.

Asked about intelligence inputs suggesting increasing activity of militants on the launch pads across the LoC, he said, There is no alarming situation that a lot of people had gathered on the launch pads.

The number of militants on launch pads is an assessment and nobody has seen them physically. There are many agencies and inputs do come, but there he said.

Asked about his assessment of the challenge being posed by Pakistan and China, the GOC said the major challenge for his troops is definitely Pakistan as White Knight Corps does not share borders with China.

On recent incidents of militant attacks in Rajouri, he said whenever there is peace and development, the enemy is not happy and makes an attempt to disturb it.

Such type of sporadic incidents (are happening) to give anyone a grenade and he hurls it is the work of a coward. It did not need a lot of courage, so such type of work can be done by our enemy alone, he said.

However, he said the army and the people are together and I am sure that our enemy will not be able to break our strength and we will emerge as successful. Some of our friends who are misled by any reason will join us as well and the enemy will fail in its design.

He lauded the people for enthusiastically participating in the Rajouri Day' celebrations and said we all have joined hands and will move together for peace and development of this region.

Rajouri is a beautiful valley having a lot of tourism potential. We are making attempts to bring the Rajouri festival on the national calendar, he said.

### SC Agrees To Hear

held under the illegal detention of the government of Pakistan , the plea said.

It said that the PIL is necessitated by the circumstances as admittedly 54 PoWs are "evidenced and heard to be held under the torturous detention" of the Pakistan government since the 1971 war.

The plea also urged the court to direct the Centre to procure from the International Red Cross, the list of POWs who were scheduled to be repatriated by Pakistan in years succeeding the 1971 war but ultimately "not repatriated as scheduled in the third train of POWs".

The PIL referred to four different cases which are pending before the top court including the one of martyr Saurabh Kalia who was murdered during the Kargil War along with five

respondent Union of India and specifically the Indian Army under them have not initiated any concrete steps for establishment of a mechanism for effective enforcement of provisions of Geneva Convention despite the lapse of more than 70 years, since the same first came into force.

It said that the "utmost suffering and trauma are evident from the overwhelming admitted reality that 54 POWs, narrated in the Gujrat High Court Judgement dated December 23, 2011, who are worthy soldiers of this great nation, are living a miserable life for almost 50 years now".

The plea said that the respondents in their replies and counter-affidavits have so far resisted availing coercive and binding remedies through the International Court of Justice and other international human rights organisations, on the pretext that mutual release of POWs had been covered under the bilateral agreement inter alia Shimla Agreement on July 3, 1972.

While late Smt. Indira Gandhi signed the said agreement and quite promptly fulfilled the obligation of repatriating 93,000 odd well-fed Pakistani POWs, yet she failed to have the same implemented for the Indian POWs torturously detained by Pakistan, thereby yielding all the possible power of bargain against an enemy well known for scanty regards for basic human rights, it alleged.

It said that the respondents have not made any reference to date to the court of inquiries, etc, if at all they conducted any, despite such a huge number of POWs in the 1971 war as determined in the Gujarat High Court judgement dated December 23, 2011.

The plea also sought a direction to the Centre to produce the court of inquiry proceedings held if any under the mandatory provisions of Army Rules into the circumstances under which the frugal patrol of Captain Saurabh Kalia was deployed at Bajrang Post in May 1999 during the Kargil war, was taken POW, tortured inhumanly and murdered in cold blood and finally bodies with injury marks returned by Pakistan.

Alternatively directions be issued to said respondents to hold such inquiry

Khatib of Pakistan-controlled Kashmir, Farooq Khan of Toronto (Canada), officials said.

### **JCO Dies As Army**

army vehicle skidded off the road and fell into the gorge, leading to on the spot death of JCO identified as DN Pandey and injuries to two soldiers— Naik Bharat Jagdale and Vijay Pawar.

Both the injured were shifted to hospital and are under treatment, they added. Confirming the accident, a police officer told a local news agency GNS that the vehicle belonged to 101 Field Regiment.

### J&K Logs 12 New

Srinagar district recorded eight new cases while Budgam registered two new infections, officials said.

Seventeen of the 20 districts in the Union Territory did not report any fresh case.

There are 77 active cases while the overall recoveries has reached 4,49,082, they said.

The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,750. No Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, officials said.

There were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus), they added. **Electric Shock** 

an electric line at Wantrag Kehribal area of the district on Wednesday morning, reports said. He was immediately shifted to Public Health Centre (PHC) Mattan where doctors declared him dead. A police official confirmed the death

of the casual labourer.

"Police have taken cognizance and further proceedings are underway," the official added. (GNS)

### **Govt Transfers**

Srinagar Wajahat Qayoom has been posted as in-charge ARTO Ganderbal.

Similarly, Shiekh Manzoor Ahmad has been posted as in-charge ARTO Budgam and Mubashir Jan in-charge ARTO Baramulla has been transferred and posted as in-charge BOI Srinagar.

According to the order, Jamshed Rasool in-charge ARTO Budgam has been transferred and posted as in-charge ARTO Baramulla.

The order further reads that all the officers shall be deemed to have been relieved with immediate effect.

# STATE

### **Tehsildar Among Four Injured In Clash In Rajouri, Probe Ordered**

**Two PDD Engineers,** 

**Inspector In ACB Net** 

#### **Press Trust Of India**

**JAMMU:** At least four people, including a tehsildar, were injured in a clash in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, prompting the authorities to order an inquiry, officials said

Tehsildar Ravi Shanker and agricultural employee Chandar Additional Deputy Commission-Mohan had a heated argument er, Kalakote, Krishan Lal as the over some issue at Shanker's res- inquiry officer and asked him to idence in Sunderbani before they submit a report within a week.

**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** The anti-corruption

bureau (ACB) on Wednesday

arrested two junior engineers

and an inspector of the power

development department (PDD)

for demanding and accepting

a bribe from a unit holder for

upgrading the electricity con-

complaint from a resident of

village Gofbal in Kunzer, Baramulla that he had applied before

AEE Tangmarg for upgrading the

electricity consumption/sanc-

tion load from presently 63 KV

to 250 KV for his unit run by

his family since 2014, an ACB

He said that the complain-

ant alleged that Junior Engi-

neers Masood Ahmad and Gh

Mohd Bhat, besides Inspector

Ab Rashid Bhat (Meter Reader)

as bribe for the processing of his

were demanding huge amount marg is also being investigated.

file for upgrading the load. The case are going on," he added.

**Fasting On Spiritual, Mental Health** 

IUST Holds Conf On Impact Of

spokesperson said.

The anti-graft boy received

sumption, sanction load.

attacked each other, they said. The officials said Shanker, Mohan and two more people were injured in the clash and

hospitalised. Police have registered two FIRs in the case, while Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri, Vikas Kundal ordered an inquiry.

In his order, Kundal appointed

officials, he said, settled for Rs

260000 for completing the work.

No. 12/2022 U/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered in PS ACB Baram-

ulla and investigation taken up.

During the course of investi-

gation, he said, a team was con-

stituted that laid a successful

trap and caught red-handed the

two JEs and Inspector of KPDCL

special sub division Tangmarg

while demanding and accepting

"They were arrested on the

spot by the ACB team. The bribe

money was also recovered from

their possession in presence of

He said the role of Junaid Ah-

mad Mir, Assistant Executive

Engineer and Manzoor Ahmad

Bukhari, Assistant Engineer of KP-

DCL, Special Sub Division, Tang-

"Further investigations of the

the

independent witnesses,"

Bureau spokesperson said.

bribe of Rs2,60,000.

On receipt of the complaint, the ACB spokesperson said, a Case FIR

### Heatwave Continues In Jammu, **Light Rains Lash Kashmir**

**Press Trust Of India** 

JAMMU: Heatwave conditions continued to prevail over the Jammu region on Wednesday, while light rains in Kashmir brought down the day temperature to normal after almost a month, an IMD official said.

Jammu recorded the maxi-mum temperature at 38.5 degrees Celsius and minimum at ficial said. 24.8 degrees Celsius. While the day temperature is 6.4 degrees above season's average, the night temperature is also 5.6 notches above normal, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) official said.

Katra, the base camp for the rainfall on Wednesday. pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, recorded a high of 34.6 degrees Celsius and a low of 22.8 degrees Celsius. The weather, on the other

hand, was pleasant in Kashmir day night. region where Srinagar recorded a high of near normal 20.6 degrees Celsius and a low of 11.8 degrees Celsius, which was 4.2 notches above normal, the of-

The drop in the mercury in the valley was the result of rainfall under the influence of western disturbance which is presently active over Jammu and Kashmir, the official said, adding Srinagar recorded 5.3mm of

According to IMD, most parts of Kashmir valley and some places in the high altitude areas of Jammu region recorded light to moderate rains since Tues-

The weather is expected to remain cloudy with light rain likely at many places in Kashmir and some places in Jammu on April 14, the official said, adding that the next spell of light to moderate rain is likely on April 20 and 21.

As per IMD, light snowfall in the upper reaches of north Kashmir, including Razdan top on Bandipora-Gurez road, was reported.

### Large Chunk Of Railway Land **Cleared Of Slum-Dwellers In Jammu**

#### **Press Trust Of India**

JAMMU: The Maratha Basti shantytown near the Jammu railway station wore a deserted look on Tuesday with a majority of its dwellers, hailing from different parts of the country and some Rohingya Muslims, having left after packing their belongings.

Dozens of families that are yet to leave are also packing their belongings and are ready to leave after the district administration issued a notice, asking them to vacate the rail-

way land immediately. 'We have been living here for several decades without any problem. The government has decided to vacate the land and we have no option but to move elsewhere in search of a shelter," Mohan Lal, who hails from Siwan in Bihar, said.

His wife Pooja said they have been living at this place for years and were shell shocked after police pasted the notice at different places.

"We are hardly getting one square meal a day. Where will we move with our children?" she asked, pleading with the government to allow them to stay back before they make the necessary arrangements at some other place.

different parts of the country, including Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Punjab, were living in the vast area.



families and also claimed the life of a girl," Lal said, adding that people managed to overcome those incidents but now, the government's move to clear the land of all dwellers has left them disheartened.

Over 150 shanties, including 41 belonging to Rohingyas, were gutted in a massive blaze at the slum on June 3, 2019, while another major fire destroyed dozens of hutments in April 2021.

According to official sources, there were over 100 families of migrant labourers and 38 families of Rohingyas living on the railway land.

The notice was served in response to the issue raised by the railway authorities with the district administration, officials said, expressing hope that the land would be handed over to the railway authorities in the shortest possible time.

Facing persecution, Rohingyas fled Myanmar and many of them entered India illegally hingya, said many of them are through Bangladesh and took observing the Ramzan fast and shelter in different parts of the

over 13,700 foreigners, including Rohingyas and Bangladeshi nationals, are settled in Jammu and Samba districts of Jammu and Kashmir, where their population has increased by over 6,000 between 2008 and 2016.

lodged in a holding centre in Kathua after they were found living illegally in Jammu city during a verification drive in March last year.

Last week, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court gave six weeks to the government to identify the immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh illegally

"We do not know where to go with our children as we have no place of our own. We will be killed if we return to our country," Mohammad Zakir, a Rohingya, said as his family mem-bers were busy packing their

Shamsul Alam, another Rofinding it difficult to find a shelter

### **Return Of KPs To Kashmir** High On NC Agenda: Gupta

 $\frac{K_{ASHMIR}O_{BSERVER}}{Thursday | 14.04.2022}$ 

### **Observer News Service**

JAMMU: A day long convention of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Minority Cell was held today at Sher e Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu under the chairmanship of party's Provincial President Jammu Rattan Lal Gupta. The meet was organized

by Jatin Bhat. Addressing a day long convention Rattan Lal Gupta said that the issues confronting the displaced Kashmiri Pandits need to be addressed on priority. He exhorted the central government to chalk out a time bound roadmap for their safe, honourable and dignified return. Gupta described the displace-

ment of Kashmiri Pandits as a blot on the glorious ethos of Jammu and Kashmir which is known the world over for its inclusiveness and harmonious coexistence. He also enumerated the measures taken by the National Conference during its various spells of governance for addressing the concerns and issues Malla, Chandra Ji, Daizy ji, Vijay of the displaced community.

Mr Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu said that unemployment has caused a sense of deprivation and despair among the migrant youth and this needed to be addressed on priority.

Babu Ram Pal President Central Zone Jammu exhorted the functionaries to strengthen the National Conference and the Mi-

nority Cell at the grass roots level. NC Minority wing functionary Jatin Bhat while referring to the plight of the non camp migrants putting in the rented accommodation called for construction of additional 5000 flats across Jammu. He also demanded raising of boundary wall in Jagati. He stressed the need for availability of basic needs in all the camps, particularly drinking

water, power and medicare. Those who were present in the meeting : Vijay Lochan P.P SC Cell, Vijay Laxami Dutta Senior leader women wing, Qazi Jalal Ud din, Ashok Koul, A.K Raina, P.I Talshi, Shadi Lal, R.L Koul, Kaka Ji Bhan and others.

### **DC Bandipora Reviews Flood Preparedness Plan**

#### **Observer News Service**

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmad on Wednesday chaired a meeting to review flood preparedness in the district besides discussing the Flood Management Action Plan of the district.

The meeting discussed the Flood Management Action Plan in detail. All the departments put and stressed on maintaining close forward their suggestions and in- coordination between various deformed the meeting about their preparedness.

Dr Owais reviewed the availability of logistics of all concerned departments and asked the officers to conduct audit and identi-

fication of shelter locations for all vulnerable areas. He urged the departments for early submission of requisitions for required items and also directed for procurement of 10 dewatering pumps and augmenta-

tion of other items. He also called for establishment of round the clock function-

> **Religious Intolerance Increasing, Parliamentary Panel Should Be** Formed To Look Into It: Sikh Body

**Observer News Service** 

AWANTIPORA: To necessitate the spiritual upgradation of the society and highlight the sig- Director Institute of Mental nificance of Ramadhan, the In-

ing, a revered dimension of fasting and worship according to Islam," he added.

Renowned psychiatrist and Health and Neuroscience Kash-

Lal said migrant workers from

The slum area is also occupied by Rohingya Muslims, who live in a different cluster.

"Three fire incidents

Over 200 Rohingyas are also

al control rooms at Sub Division level that should be represented by all concerned departments for better coordination and action to grievances. Dr Owais directed departments

to gear up for conduct of mock drills and other activities on a regular basis.

He directed the officers to strictly follow the Action Plan while dealing with any situation partments for better results.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Ali Afsar Khan, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Parvaiz Rahim, SDM Sumbal Dr Bashir Ahmad, SDM Gurez, Dr Mudasir, CMO Bandipora, CEO Bandipora, Ex. Engineers of Irrigation Flood Control Bandipora and sumbal, MID Shadipora, R&B Bandipora and Sumbal, PHE Bandipora and Sumbal, SSD Gurez besides Tehsildars, Dy. SP DAR, AEEs of PDD and other senior officials of the district.

According to government data,

staving in the Union Territory.

belongings.

Studies (ICSS) of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) held a one day Conference on the theme "Impact of Fasting on Spiritual and Mental Health" in collaboration with Shamah Foundation (A Women us to stress and anxiety. Concern based in Kashmir) here on Tuesday.

Several key figures, eminent religious scholars, health experts from across the valley delivered special lectures during the conference which commenced with recitation of the Quran and Naat-e Rasool (PBUH)

In his presidential address. Vice Chancellor, IUST Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, the Chief Guest on the occasion, deliberated upon social, spiritual and mental benefits of fasting for the wellbeing of an individual and how it boosted unity within a community. Prof. Romshoo congratulated ICSS for conducting such a useful and in- and science and emphasized the tellectual exchange as it would contribute towards the upliftment of human character and spiritual understanding.

Darul Shaykh-ul-Hadees, Uloom Raheemiyyah Bandipora and eminent religious scholar, Maulana Mufti Nazir Ahmad Qasmi in his distinguished lecture referred to the first Hadith of Bukhari "Inna mal aamalu bi-niyaat" (i.e., the actions are rated according to the intentions) and said that before fasting or any ize these dimensions. He further practice, correcting intentions added that ICSS would continue was needed.

He underscored signifi- ture and would work to make levels, as the benefits were not just confined to physical starvation of a human body but went beyond 'if fasting was observed in a pure and proper way' and it could stop The event, which was attended us from wrong doing in any by Deans, Officers, HoDs, faculty profession we are in. "While members students and scholcontrolling our eyes, ears oth- ars of the university concluded er body parts, mind, emotions with vote of thanks by former from evil practices, we could Incharge of ICSS and Dy Director

ternational Centre for Spiritual mir Prof. Mushtaq A. Margoob, explored the psychological dimension of fasting. He said that fasting not only meant abstaining from eating but also controlling basic instincts, evil desires, emotions and feelings that lead

He discussed how fasting in Ramadhan over a period of time

trains us with self-control over body, emotion and desires. Prof. Margoob, who is also the visiting professor of the university touched the subject of mental health according to WHO and said it is a state of wellbeing in which humans realize their potential and capabilities and then fight with stress and anxiety to live a productive and healthy life

which would finally contribute to the welfare of the society. Prof. Qayyum Hussain, Vice Chancellor Cluster University Srinagar, the Guest of Honor on the occasion talked about the re-

lationship between Ramadhan physical importance of fasting. He also stressed on 'healing due to fasting' as it broke-down the nonessentials cells and could stop many diseases like Parkin-

son's, dementia, Cancer etc. Earlier Director ICSS, Prof. Hamidulla Marazi highlighted the spiritual and mental benefits of fasting in his welcome address and called on the significance of exploring research in this direction to contextualwith such programmes in fu-

cance of fasting at multiple the Centre a pivotal platform for spiritual education.

Also during the event, Trustee of Shama Foundation, Haji G.M. Dug detailed the work and functions of Shamah Foundation. achieve the spiritual cleans- IUST Dr. S. Iqbal Quraishi.

last decade devastated many country, including Jammu. amid the soaring temperatures.

### **IIT, IIM, Central Universities Made Functional In Record Time: Kansal**

#### **Observer News Service**

**JAMMU:** Jammu & Kashmir is witnessing an unprecedented era of positive developments with setting up of premier education institutes like IIT, IIM, AIIMS, Central and Cluster Universities among other avenues of education, Principal Secretary Higher Education, Rohit Kansal said Wednesday. He made these remarks

while addressing students of Central University Jammu. He advised the students to 'think sured all support to the Central was chairing the valedictory through chaos to identify world function of a 3-day Mobile Film Making workshop.

The workshop was organised by the Mass Communication tion of National Education Poland New Media Department of Central University of Jammu. The participants have been trained by Ritesh Taksande from Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) Pune.

the Principal Secretary said, 'In be in sync with the national the fast changing and fast developing world of today, it is pertinent to identify ideas and develop the wherewithal to implement them meticulously to fruition. Ideas have the potential to develop into billiondollar companies these days.'

Explaining the scope of technology and its advantages, the examinations, a committee of Principal Secretary added that Vice Chancellors was examining they have demolished barri- the mechanism of centralized ers of time and space and pro- test and a synchronized admisvided 'level playing field' to sion process to various UG, PG youngsters and bright minds and technical courses in J&K. ger barriers to a bright idea. He technical courses. He also as- and others.

shed light on the implementaicv-2020. He reiterated that all educational institutions across NEP in full from the current session. He also revealed that J&K would now follow a uniform Speaking on the occasion, academic calendar that would academic calendar. This would immensely benefit the students and also enable students from J&K to compete for admission to the best colleges and universities across India without any loss of time.

He also revealed that in order to reduce the burden of multiple Vice Chancellors was examining

from all sections of society. He also highlighted the need He explained how the digital for increasing employability world has enabled people to and growth through skill based collaborate across time and courses and said that the present geographies and how distance workshop was one such example and remoteness were no lon- of the introduction of skills and

University Jammu for the implementation of the NEP 2020.

Veteran BBC Editor and documentary film maker, Vijay Rana also spoke on the event and shared his professional experiences with the students. He J&K would be implementing urged the students to move ahead with confidence and faith and nothing could prevent them from being successful.

Speaking at the event, Vice Chancellor Sanjeev Jain assured successful implementation of NEP-2020 in the university and assured that the Central University would enhance the emphasis on employability and skill based courses and continue organising 'outcome based' practical training sessions in the university in the future also. Three films, namely Ek Fauji, Educated Fools and Mitra were adjudged the three best films and the teams were awarded cash prizes.

Those present at the event included Registrar, Dr Yashwant Singh, Dean School of Knowledge Management and Media Studies, Prof Devanand, Head of Department MCNM, Prof Baccha Babuamong staff, students

#### **Press Trust Of India**

SRINAGAR: Alleging that relitary panel to look into the issue and suggest action against those without any fear," he said. involved in fanning such feelings. (APSCC) chairman J S Raina said religious places such as gurud- forced in letter and spirit. waras, temples, mosques and

religion without any fear. 'Since the acts of religious intolerance have increased in the re-

gious intolerance has increased cent past..., a parliamentary standin the country in the recent past, ing committee should be formed a Sikh body here on Wednesday so that stern action is taken against called for forming a parliamen- rogue elements and people carry on with their religious obligation

He also urged the Supreme In a statement, All Parties Court to take note of such inci-Sikh Coordination Committee dents and ensure that the right to freedom of religion is en-

Raina conveyed his best wishchurches should be kept away es on the occasion of Baisakhi from politics and people should and prayed for peace as well as be allowed to practise their own prosperity of the entire country.

### **BCI Recognizes CUK's BA LLB Programme**

#### **Observer News Service**

by the Chairman BCI and later conveyed to the department. GANDERBAL: Bar Council of In- The Programme stands now rec-

dia (BCI) has recognised the integrated five-year B.A LLB Programme of the Central University of Kashmir (CUK). The BCI conducted a live virtual inspection of the School of Legal Studies (SLS) on 11th of March, 2022, in

which Judges, academicians, lawyers and administrators were present. They took keen ognized from 2011 to 2023. interest in physically verifying all the parameters of the department required for recognition of the programme.

The Committee submitted its report to the BCI Chairman who concation Committee on 11-04-22. The Committee, on the basis of the report submitted by the Inspection Team, found that the Department fulfilling all the prescribed conditions and recommended recognition of its integrated five-year B.A LLB Programme.

cation Committee was approved Chairman Bar Council of India.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASP

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Shah and Registrar, Prof. M Afzal Zargar congratulated the Dean, School of Legal Studies, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Mir including the faculty members for vened a meeting of the Legal Edu- their untiring efforts and students who are real beneficiaries of this accomplishment.

The Department had applied for recognition of the five-year of Law, School of Legal Studies is BA.LLB programme to the Bar Council of India, immediately after its establishment in 2011 and a BCI team had visited the department, but the team could This decision of the Legal Edu- not submit its report to the



changing opportunities'. The Principal Secretary also

# SPORTS

### LG Sinha Interacts With J&K's First Women **Cycling Club Members**



**Observer News Service** 

**JAMMU:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday interacted with members of women cycling club, 'Women Do Ride' of J&K, at the Raj Bhavan.

members of the first women cy- intervention in the building of cling club led by Payal Jain. He adequate infrastructure and faappreciated the efforts of first cilities to encourage women's women cyclist group of J&K in inspiring positivity in society, gender equality, women empowerment, skill-sharing & invaluable contribution to social development of the country.

During the interaction, the

LG Sinha about various activities through which they raise awareness on a host of social causes. They also discussed concerns of women cyclists and sports enthusiasts.

The Lt Governor said the gov-LG Sinha congratulated the ernment is making pro-active participation in governance, business, and other sectors. The courage and determination of the cyclist group to succeed is scripting success stories in various other fields.

He also extended Baisakhi women club members apprised greetings to the group members.

YOUTH

### Wushu, Volleyball Events **Dominate Day In Shopian**





## **IPL: Royals, Titans Set For High-Voltage Clash**

**Press Trust of India** 

NAVI MUMBAI: A battle royale is on the cards when Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans take on the Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan Royals, two line-ups armed with potent bowling units in a top-of-the-table IPL showdown here on Thursday. The Royals put together one

of the best, if not the best bowling attacks, for this season and all their spinners and pacers have been right on the mark. The seasoned Trent Boult has

continued to reign fire with the new ball and has been equally impressive in the slog overs. In the previous game against Luc-know Super Giants, he bowled a fiery opening spell to get rid of skipper KL Rahul and Krishnappa Gowtham in the very first over.

Prasidh Krishna has given a glimpse of why he is touted to be the next fast-bowling sensation in Indian cricket. Alongside Boult, the duo has bowled with pace and aggression.

Rookie Kuldeep Sen too proved he has the stomach to play with the bigwigs.

by senior India spinner Ravi-

**Press Trust of India** 

NEW DELHI: Former South Af-

rica skipper Graeme Smith feels

the "mental strain" of leading the

be taking a toll on Rohit Sharma

Rohit's Mumbai Indi-

ans, who have won the

IPL a record five times, are

vet to open their account

in the 15th edition of the

lucrative league, having

lost all their four matches

This after the swash-

buckling opener has

led India to white-ball

series victories against

the West Indies and Sri

Lanka followed by a Test

series at home against

the islanders.

in the ongoing IPL

so far.

Indian team across formats may formats.



Yuzvendra Chahal It will be a tall task for the

Titans' batters, who are thin on experience, to navigate through the Royals bowling. The new-entrants have re-

lied heavily on young opener Shubman Gill, who has been in scintillating form, and Pandya. Matthew Wade has struggled to get runs while David Miller is also yet to fire, leaving rookies Abhinav Manohar and B Sai Surdharshan with more responsibility.

However, hand, are being ably carried out the finisher tonking sixes at will. The Titans boast of formi- are placed fourth.

**'Mental Strain Of Leading India** 

**Taking Toll On Rohit'** 

#### dable bowling unit themselves. The pace bowling department includes the likes of Lockie Ferguson, one of the fastest bowlers in world cricket, senior India guick Mohammed Shami, and Pandya, all attacking wicket-taking bowlers, who can put the opposition under pressure. Rashid Khan, expectedly, is their most economical bowler. The opposition batters have preferred to play his four overs out rather than go for the big shots. Both teams have won three games and lost one with the Rahul Tewatia Royals perched on top of the The spin duties, on the other seems to be loving his role as points table owing to a superior net run rate, while the Titans

### **Inter Zonal Chess C'ship** For U-14/17 Boys Held



**Observer News Service** 

**SHOPIAN:** The District Youth Services and Sports Department Shopian under the supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Gurmukh Singh Dutta on Wednesday conducted Inter Zonal (District Level) competition in the discipline of Chess U-14/17 Boys here at Mini Secretariat Arhama, here

The championship was inaugurated by the Activity Incharge, Riyaz Ahmad Wachkoo and PEL HSS Imamsahib Shahid Islam.

Speaking on the occasion, Dutta impressed upon the participants to take part in sports activities to get physically and mentally fit. The officers and officials of District Youth Services and Sports Office (DYSSO) were present at the event.

### **FIFA Warned Court Of World Cup Chaos If Russia Played**

### Agencies

GENEVA: Letting Russia try to qualify for the World Cup risked doing "irreparable and chaotic" harm to the competition, FIFA successfully argued at sport's highest court.

The legal debate between FIFA and Russia's soccer federation was published Tuesday by the Court of Arbitration for Sport, explaining why its judge denied an urgent Russian request to freeze a ban that excluded its teams from the men's and wom-

en's World Cups. The interim ruling in Russia's appeal on March 18 " pending a full appeal hearing likely due at CAS in the weeks ahead – ensured the men's team could not play Poland six days later in the World Cup qualifying playoff. Poland

was given a bye and advanced to the tournament in Qatar by beating Sweden in the playoff final. Poland, Sweden and the Czech Republic "which lost to Sweden" had all stated they would refuse to play Russia in light of the

country's war on Ukraine. That three-nation boycott of Russia weighed heavily on the urgent CAS ruling, which sided with FIFA's stated need to "guarantee the smooth running of its appeals division. flagship competition."

"My reason for that Punjab ave a largely right-handed



said in a submission to the court. FIFA said it could foresee that other member federations would also refuse to play Russia if the team advanced to the World Cup, saying the consequences for the tournament "would be irreparable and chaotic."

"Having considered all these factors, FIFA must act to guarantee the efficient organization and smooth running of its competitions." the governing body said.

Lawyers for the Russian soccer federation argued the ban by the FIFA Council was "a disguised disciplinary sanction" where the right to be heard was denied.

The ruling was made by a single member of the CAS management board, Corinne Schmidhauser, the president of the

The Swiss lawyer had to de-Though FIFA competition cide if the potential damage rules typically punish federa- done to Russia's soccer team ions whose teams refuse to play outweighed the damage to FIFA Schmidhauser noted that "should (Russia's) men's national team be allowed to play, their understood and cannot be criti- opponents would forfeit the cized from either a legal or mor- game and the matches would



ing India's white-ball captain. allows everyone else to play. Does that mental strain take a When he is scoring runs MI are in the Punjab Kings line-up." toll in the IPL? It's something to going to win a lot of the time." Smith was quoted as Besides enduring four

Rohit has not been at his best "He's just such a key player. If you look at the line-up, Rohit, with the bat and Smith, one of South Africa's finest captains, an outstanding player, hasn't wondered if it has to do with found form." "You've got Ishan Kishan, him leading the country across

Suryakumar Yadav injured for "Rohit is the energy at the a couple of games. He has now

come in and is looking good and then Pollard as the power finisher. You've got Brevis there but he's a young man. That's a verv strong batting line-up."

Ahead of the multipletime IPL winners' match against Punjab Kings, Smith called for left-arm spin bowling West Indies all-rounder Fabian Allen's inclusion in the playing XI.

"I've got for Tymal Mills to try and show some support to Bum-

This is the first tournament top of the order. Gets them off rah. I've gone for Fabian Allen he is captaining MI since becom- to a start, sets up the game that as well," Smith said, citing the presence of many right-handers





#### **Observer News Service**

SRINAGAR: J&K Admin's sporting initiative of 'My Youth My Pride' was on full-swing across J&K on Wednesday.

Wushu and Volleyball competitions were held at Sports Stadium in Shopian in which around 160 players participated including a good number of female athletes.

the event, some of the jubilant ed over the ticket for the next participants felt that such events round to BSM Mattan. Shabshould become a regular feature rooz and Faizan scored 46 and in the district. They opined that the Shopian stadium mostly hosts cricket matches but for a change, the competitions for games that interest them is a welcome change and will go a the toss, DCC Darigund could long way in building the talent pool in other games.

Earlier, DDC Vice Chairman, Shopian, Irfan Manhas presided over the function as the chief guest while Sheikh Ghulam Qadir, Sarpanch Zawoora was the guest of honour. Incharge of Sports Stadium Shopian and many other officials of Sports Council and a number of NYCs were also present on the occasion.

A large number of local spectators were also present in the stadium to root for their local heroes

Chief guest interacted with the participants and others present on the occasion and apprised them about the benefits of participation in Sports. He thanked the Sports Council and administration of J&K for reaching out to the district Shopian and conducting sports events. He also expressed his hope that such events shall grace district Shopian in future too.

Not so far away from Shopian, BSM Mattan and Pahalgam Blues registered their wins in Nanil been received well by all the sec-Sports Field where they defeat- tions of the society.

ed their arch-rivals in the Spring Shield T-20 Cricket tournament to book their places in the next round.

BSM Mattan after winning the toss scored 179 for the loss of 9 wickets with Jamid being their top scorer with a per-

sonal score of 61 runs, a feat that earned him the man of the match award. The opponents Mattan Blues were bundled out Speaking on the sidelines of for paltry 143 runs and hand-

> 45 runs respectively in what proved to be a losing cause. In another match, DCC Darigund lost to Pahalgam Blues. Choosing to bat after winning only aggregate 120 runs losing all the wickets in the pursuit of a big total. Sharid and Abrar bowled some tight lines and grabbed 3 scalps each.

Batters of Pahalgam Blues played sensible cricket and sailed through losing only 4 wickets with Sharid anchoring the innings and contributing a vital 31 runs with the bat. Sharid for his all-around performance was declared man of the match. The match between KCC Mat-

tan and Super Stars Mattan was in progress when the report was being filed.

Meanwhile, 'My Youth My Pride' initiative received a rousing response in district Doda where events in Kabaddi, Kho-Kho and Chess were held at Sports Stadium Doda. Around 90 athletes took part in the oneday event which also featured a good number of female athletes as well.

The battery of sports events being played under the umbrella of the "My Youth My Pride" initiative of the Sports Council has

saying by 'Cricket.com'.

full-time Test captain in February with his first assignment average of 20. being the series against Sri Lanka in March. For his franchise this season, things easier for MI.

straight losses as the team's batting line-up and I like the

Rohit was appointed India's skipper, the opener has man- fact he can spin the ball away aged to score just 80 runs at an from them and that will provide Rohit Sharma with another Smith said Rohit regaining his useful option and lengthens the touch with the willow makes batting line-up slightly," Smith reasoned.

scheduled games, soccer's world as a competition organizer. body agreed with Poland, Sweden and the Czechs.

"Those decisions are both fully al point of view," FIFA lawyers not even take place."

### **Andrew McDonald Named Australia Head Coach**

Agencies

MELBOURNE: Andrew McDonald fulltime after Australia's 1-0 test has been named head coach of the series win in Pakistan.

Australian men's cricket team on a four-year contract. Cricket Australia said Wednesday that Mc-Donald's contract had been made permanent after serving as interim coach since Justin

Langer did not agree to a short-

'The journey so far has been par-

period ahead," said McDonald, who was the favourite to secure the job

> McDonald joined Australia's coaching team in 2019 after leading Victoria state and the Melbourne Renegades to all three domestic competition titles during the 2018-19 season.

The former test all-rounder has term contract renewal in February. also held head coaching roles in the Indian Premier League and in Engticularly pleasing, and I am hon- lish county cricket. He had been ored to be given this incredible senior assistant coach with Langer opportunity for what is an exciting since joining the Australian team.

### Novak Djokovic Loses **Clay-Court Opener**

#### Agencies

PARIS: Novak Djokovic opened his clay-court season with a surprising loss to Alejandro Davidovich Fokina at the Monte Carlo Masters 2022 tennis tournament on Tuesday.

Davidovich Fokina stunned the top-ranked Serb 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-1 in another setback as he tries to move on from the controversy surrounding his refusal to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

the quarterfinals of the Dubai Ten- put up a fight in the third set.



the second round to hand Djokovic nis Championships in February his only previous tournament this vear after he was barred from playing at the Australian Open.

"He was the better plaver." It makes for rare back-to-back Djokovic said. "I was hanging on losses for Djokovic, who had not the ropes the entire match." The played since being eliminated in Serb said he was too exhausted to

