

Militant Active For 22 Yrs Killed In Tangmarg Encounter

Longest Surviving Militant Yusuf Kantroo, Two Associates Killed; 2 Trapped, 5 Security Men Injured

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Armed forces gunned down Muhammad Yusuf Dar aka Kantroo, the longest surviving militant commander at Malwah area in Tangmarg sub-district of north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Thursday.

The death of Yusuf Kantroo in a fierce encounter with army and other security agencies in Tangmarg is considered a major blow to Lashkar-Taiba which the deceased was leading in North Kashmir for a long period.

Yusuf active for 22 years, was said to be one of the longest surviving militants. He was killed along with two associates in a



pre-dawn encounter with the joint parties of army, CRPF and JK Police.

Giving details of the operation, a police spokesperson said that army's 62 RR and Budgam police launched searches on the basis of specific information about the presence of militants in Malwah village.

He said the search operation turned into an encounter

THE FIRE WAS EFFECTIVELY RETALIATED, LEADING TO AN ENCOUNTER. Later on Baramulla Police headed by SSP Baramulla also joined in the operation. One policeman from Baramulla district also got injured in the encounter, who was later on shifted to Army's base hospital in Srinagar."

after the holed up militants fired upon the government forces in a bid to escape from their dragnet.

In the initial exchange of gunfire, the spokesperson said four soldiers, including an officer, received minor injuries.

"The fire was effectively retaliated, leading to an encounter. Later on Baramulla Police headed by SSP Baramulla also joined in the operation. One policeman from Baramulla district also got injured in the encounter, who was later on shifted to Army's base hospital in Srinagar," he said. In the ensuing encounter, the

spokesperson said two LeT militants including dreaded commander Yusuf Kantroo, one of the ten most wanted militants, were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. The identity of the second militant, he said, is being ascertained.

Later in a Tweet, police claimed to have killed third militant in the encounter.

Two more militants, including a newly recruited teenager, are still trapped in the village where exchange of gunfire is going on. "#BaramullaEncounterUpdate: So far, 03 #terrorists **More on P6**

Kashmir's Higher Reaches Receive Snowfall

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Many areas in the higher reaches of Kashmir received fresh snowfall on Thursday while the plains were lashed by rains, bringing respite from the unusual warm temperature, officials said.

Many areas including the famous tourist destination of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, Gurez in Bandipora, Machil in Kupwara, and Sonamarg in Ganderbal, received fresh snowfall, the officials said.

They said snowfall was reported from Zojila axis on the Srinagar-Leh highway as well as in the higher reaches of Srinagar.

There were reports of hailstorm from some areas of Pulwama in south Kashmir.

The plain areas in the Kashmir Valley received rainfall, they added.

The wet weather spell brought down the temperature across the valley, bringing respite from the unusual warm temperatures **More on P6**

Govt's Real Estate Push

50 Percent Remission In Stamp Duty For First Time Buyers Okayed

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday issued the formal order for 50 percent remission in stamp duty for first-time buyers of real estate in the housing sector in the union territory.

On February 25, the Administrative Council (AC), which had met under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, had approved the remission in stamp duty for first-time property buyers.

"In exercise of power conferred by stamps act, the government hereby directs that there shall be remission of fifty percent (50) of duty chargeable under the said act for the first time buyers or



lessees on purchase or lease of more than 20 years of immovable residential property or apartment or house or a residential plot from any agency of government, or development authority of from developer of project approved by RERA," said a notification issued by Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Atal Dulloo. **More on P6**

Ex-Guv Malik's 'Bribe Bomb'

CBI Files Two FIRs, Raids 14 Spots In J&K, Outside

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The CBI has registered two FIRs in connection with corruption allegations levelled by former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik in the awarding of contracts for a group medical insurance scheme for government employees and civil work worth Rs 2,200 crore related to Kiru hydroelectric power project in the erstwhile state, officials said on Thursday.

The CBI, after registering the FIRs, carried out searches on Thursday morning at 14 locations in Jammu, Srinagar, Delhi, Mumbai, Noida in Uttar Pradesh, Trivandrum in Kerala and Darbhanga in Bihar, they said.

The central agency has named Reliance General Insurance and Trinity Re-Insurance Brokers Limited as accused in its FIR related to a controversial health insurance scheme for Jammu and Kashmir government employees reportedly cleared by Malik in the state administrative council meeting on August 31, 2018.

"...unknown officials of Finance Department of Government of Jammu



File Photo

and Kashmir by abusing their official position in conspiracy and connivance with Trinity Reinsurance Brokers Ltd, Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd and other unknown public servants and private persons have committed the offences of criminal conspiracy and criminal misconduct to cause pecuniary advantage to themselves and caused wrongful loss to **More on P6**

IAS Officer Navin Choudhary's House Raided

The CBI on Thursday raided the residence of a senior J&K IAS officer in connection with a corruption case being investigated by the agency. Official sources said the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) carried out raids at the residence of senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) **More on P6**

Cash For Release Case BJP Leader, Sarpanch Arrested For Rs 1Lakh 'Extortion'

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Thursday arrested a Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) leader and a Sarpanch in north Kashmir's Bandipora district for allegedly extorting Rs1 lakh from a

woman to secure her detained brother's release. The BJP district president, Bandipora, Abdul Rehman Tikri and Manzoor Ahmed, a Sarpanch were arrested by police on Thursday for collecting **More on P6**

US Lawmakers Visit To Muzaffarabad Sparks Row

Agenceis

New Delhi: India on Thursday condemned the visit of US Congresswoman Ihan Omar to Pakistan-controlled -Kashmir (PcK), saying it reflected her "narrow-minded" politics.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi criticised Omar for visiting PcK. The US Congresswoman is currently on a four-day visit to Pakistan. "We have noted **More on P6**

Power Crisis in Kashmir Valley Likely to Worsen

Officials Blame Coal Shortage, Less Rainfall For Electricity Shortage

Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: The power crises in Kashmir could worsen in coming weeks if the coal shortage persists throughout the country, officials from Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDCL) said on Thursday.

Pertinently, the Valley is facing unscheduled power cuts during Ramazan, particularly at Sehri and Iftar time, leaving the consumers fuming.


Talking to Kashmir Observer, an official said that the people should brace-up for more power curtailments, if the present crises find no solution. "But I am hopeful, the




File Photo

Central Government might be looking for options as the present crisis has gripped the whole country," the official, who insisted not to be named, told Kashmir Observer.

Chief Engineer, KPDCL, Javid Yusuf Dar told Kashmir Observer that there is coal shortage across the country which has led to power crises. The reason **More on P6**



Ministry of Finance
Government of India



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02 Go to Services > Returns > Opt-in for quarterly return option

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- ✓ **Enjoy the convenience of a flexible Invoice Furnishing Facility**
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For more details, please refer to the Notification No. 82/2020-Central Tax & Circular No. 143/13/2020-GST both dated 10.11.2020

Last date to opt for QRMP Scheme for Q1 of FY 2022-23 is 30th April, 2022

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Research Finds Sunscreens Can Better Protect Skin With Potent Antioxidants

ANI

Sunscreen doesn't protect the skin as well as it could because there is a key ingredient that's missing from all these creams, according to a new study. The study was published in the journal, 'Antioxidants'. The missing ingredient is a class of antioxidants (a type of stable molecule) commonly found in nature. Experiments have shown that these antioxidant molecules eliminate excess iron in cells, thereby helping cells maintain a healthy level of free radicals (a type of unstable molecule). Free radicals and free iron are strongly linked to skin damage.

"By including these potent antioxidants in skin-care products and sunscreen formulations, and therefore trapping free iron, we can expect to get an unprecedented level of protection from the sun," said Dr Charareh Pourzand, who led the research from the Department of Pharmacy & Pharmacology and the Centre for Therapeutic Innovation at the University of Bath.

Scientists have known for some time that iron deposits promote the appearance of ageing, but the latest study highlights the interplay between free iron and free radicals in the skin.

As a result of their findings, Dr Pourzand urged skin-care manufacturers to look more closely at opportunities to include iron-trapping extracts in their products.

A number of iron-trapping natural extracts have already been identified in the Bath lab (these include several classes of botanical, fungal and marine-based compounds, among them, extracts from certain vegetables, fruits, nuts, seeds, bark and flowers), however, Dr Pourzand said more research is needed before any of these compounds are fit for commercial purpose.

"Though the antioxidants we've identified work well in laboratory conditions, they don't necessarily remain stable once they've been



These extracts come from plants, and environmental factors affect their stability and long-term effectiveness -- anything from the season in which they are grown, soil type, latitude and the time of harvest can change the strength by which they can neutralise free radicals as well as work as iron traps

added to a cream," she said. "These extracts come from plants, and environmental factors affect their stability and long-term effectiveness -- anything from the season in which they are grown, soil type, latitude and the time of harvest can change the strength by which they can neutralise free radicals as well as work as iron traps," she continued. She added, "What is needed now is for the bioactive chemicals in these extracts to be standardised -- once that has happened, they can and should be added to products designed to protect the skin from ageing."

The sunscreens on the market today are designed to either block or absorb UV rays. In so doing, they lower the number of free radicals that are created on the skin -- it is these unstable molecules that cause skin damage and ageing, in a process known as oxidative stress. Free radicals cause harm by damaging DNA and other cell components, and this sometimes results in cell death. What has not been given consideration in sun-care and anti-ageing formulations is the role of iron, both in damaging the skin directly when it interacts with UV radiation and in amplifying the

damage caused by free radicals. "This needs to change," said Dr Pourzand. "Formulations need to adapt and improve," she added. The antioxidant compounds identified at Bath have the ability to protect the skin against both chronological ageing (the natural decline in skin texture that comes with age) and sun-mediated ageing (known as photoaging). Though the body needs iron to function properly, too much (or too little) is harmful or even deadly to our cells. To protect themselves from this danger, our cells have a well-developed

system for adjusting excess iron when it builds up, thereby bringing it back to a state of balance (known as homeostasis). In the presence of sunlight, however, this balance is disrupted, leading to skin damage, ageing and sometimes cancer. Chronological ageing also contributes to iron levels falling out of balance, especially in women after menopause, meaning older people (and particularly older women) are more vulnerable than others to the ravaging effects of the sun.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one.

Shri : Bilal Ahmad Ganaie
S/o: Abdul Majeed Ganaie
R/o: Zabigula Beerwah Budgam owner of vehicle bearing
Registration No: JK04F 5394 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin Ltd B/U Srinagar .



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.588
Dated 25/02/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my 8th class Certificate. Now I am applying for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the HIGH SCHOOL KAMAD within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- SHOWKAT AHMAD HAJAM
S/O:- MOHD JAMAL HAJAM
R/O:- KAMAD ANANTNAG

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that I have lost the Route Permit of the school Bus bearing registration No JK03D 5368. (ETERNAL PUBLIC SCHOOL ANANTNAG.) Now the duplicate of the said certificate is required to be obtained from the transport department. Any person(s) having any objection can file his/her objection in the office of ARTO Anantnag within 7 days after which no objection will be entertained.

Reyaz Ahmad Bodha
Principal Eternal public school Anantnag.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

My mother's name in passport has been wrongly written as Rafeeqa Akhter while her correct name is Raqeeba Akhter which need to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Passport office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Faraz Ahmad Mir
Father's Name: Mohd Shafi Mir
Mother's Name Raqeeba Akhter

ako

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving license bearing DL no: 1376/A/BPR as Mushtaq Ahmed while my correct name is Mashook Ahmed Kawa which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Office of ARTO Bandipora within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mashook Ahmed Kawa
R/o Kawa pora sarie Dangerpora

FKO

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars
Name : Rehana Bashir
Fater's Name: Bashir Ahamd Bhat
Mother's Name: Mala
Regd No: N11341430132

Details of Marks Certificate lost
Secondary School Examination (class 10th)
Roll No 266284 Session /Year Annual / Reg. 2012

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

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam

bmj

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Ghulam Nabi Sheikh S/o: Ghulam Ahmad Shiekh R/o: Wagoora Chadoora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing
Registration No: JK04D 4183 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra And Mahindra Finance Ltd B/U Srinagar .



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.249
Dated 21/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Fayaz Ahmad Wani S/o: Lassa Wani R/o: Gund Arjun Khansahib Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Swift. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04E - 1565. Chasis number 057978 Engine no. 1954748 Model 2017. in favour of Shri.. Ab. Rehman Dar S/o. Ghulam Rasool Dar R/o Chatabugh Budgam (Transferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K State Co-Operative Bank B/U Kremshore also required.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.248
Dated 21/04/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Driving License bearing DL No: JK1820160012374. Now I am applying for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Kulgam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

UMMER AKBAR MIR
S/O: MOHAMMED AKBAR MIR
R.O ORIEL KUND QAZIGUND KULGAM

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION SOPORE.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

FRESH E-TENDERING/NIT No: 02/Sopore/e-tendering/RNB/ DATED: 21-04-2022
For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of J&K Expression of

Interest (EOI) are invited from approved and eligible Bidders as per Instruction to Bidder (ITB) and Terms of Reference at

Annexure-I. The Bidder (Firm/Consultant/Agency/Company) should have the eligibility as per Annexure-II under Eligibility Criteria for each of the following works:-

S.No.	Name of work	Adv. cost for consultancy (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of Tender/ document	Time for completion	Type of consultancy
1	Consultancy services (structural and Architectural) for construction of Govt. Degree College Dangiwa-cha incl.. Soil investigation.	26.60	1100/-	10 days	Architecture/Structural Consultancy with Soil Testing

Position of AAA = Accorded
Position of Funds = Available

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	21-04-2022
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 21-04-2022 (10:00AM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 21-04-2022 (10:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 06-05-2022 (04:00PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	07-05-2022 (12:00PM)
In the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Sopore.		

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and the bidders residing Outside UT of J&K can submit DD of any nationalized bank in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore the cost of tender document fee is non refundable.

- If MSE firm is registered with NSIC (National Small Industries Corporation) agencies for tendered item then they are exempted from submission of EMD & Tender Cost.
- If MSE's who are interested in availing these benefits will have to enclose with their offer the proof of their being MSE's registered with any of the above mentioned agencies.
- 2. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money.
- 2. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
- 3. The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- 4. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Sopore.
- 5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids.
- 6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint with the bid submission process.
- b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get, Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Note:-

No:- 401-20
Dated:- 21/04/2022.

DIPK-849/22

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Sopore

CCIK Aghast Over Frequent Power Cuts During Ramazan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Taking a strong note of the unscheduled power cuts in Srinagar, Chamber of commerce Industry Kashmir (CCIK) expressed concern and said that erratic power schedule at Sehri and Iftar by the KPDCCL. It termed frequent power cuts as unfortunate.

CCIK President Tariq Ghani said that the unscheduled power cuts in Ramazan, particularly during Sehri and Iftar, have caused a lot of inconvenience to people across the city.

“Plunging city into complete darkness that too in the holy month of Ramazan is unfortunate”, Tariq said.

Due to frequent power cuts people face huge problems in carrying out their religious obligations. The Shab-e-Qadar is heading, KPDCCL should ensure sufficient supply of electricity, Ghani said.

CCIK President appeals LG Manoj Sinah to personally intervene, so that the people will get electricity on Shab-e-Qadar, Ghani added.

RAMAZAN 2022

Eyeing Muslim Market, V-Mart Launches Series Of Offers

Observer News service

Srinagar: To share the joy of the Holy month of Ramazan, V-Mart has come up with offers, the company handout said.

“There is a festive atmosphere throughout this month and fashion and apparel play a pivotal role in bringing smiles to the faces during this occasion” it added.

V-Mart stores offer a wide range of clothing to suit the needs of men, women, the elderly and kids, and trendy outfits to suit every occasion at the affordable prices”.

V-Mart was established in 2002 as an Omni retail store chain for the complete family, offering fashion apparel, footwear, home furnishings, general merchandise, and grocery items. Today, V-Mart is present pan-India in Tier II and III cities with 369 Stores.

V-Mart caters to this growing aspiration of youth and young families across states as diverse as Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Meghalaya, and many others.



Dilapidated Foreshore-Shalimar link road gives tough time to commuters.

Welfare And Progress Of Minorities Govt's Priority: Syed Shahezadi

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Syed Shahezadi, Officiating Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities on Thursday said that the Union Government is committed to the welfare and progress of the minority communities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar, Syed Shahezadi said that the government is providing special focus to the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir and many initiatives and schemes are being taken in this regard.

She said that the whole nation will progress when we work together and appealed to everybody to contribute towards peace, progress and development.

Syed Shahezadi was on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from April 18-21 during which she held interactions with minority groups and listened to their issues. She said that the issues highlighted by the minority



groups will be brought to the notice of the relevant authorities to improve the standard of living.

Highlighting the various schemes and projects for the welfare of minorities she said that under PMJVK, 19 projects amounting to 314.33 lakhs have been sanctioned for providing better health, education and other facilities to the people of J&K.

She also said that the government was committed to provide access to quality education to students from minority communities. She said the government was working with utmost sincerity to ensure welfare of these students through affordable, accessible and quality education and many schemes and scholarships are benefiting them.

Giving details she said that under pre-matric and post matric scholarships to the students of Jammu and Kashmir, an amount of 6.94 Cr and 26.3 Cr has been sanctioned respectively.

50 students from Jammu and Kashmir have been provided benefits of free coaching for the year 2021-22 for which an amount of 39 lakh has been sanctioned by the Union Government. Under Nai Udaan scheme, she said that 315 students from Kashmir have qualified to prepare for the civil services examination. She further said that Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni schemes have helped 7750 and 2450 beneficiaries.

SKUAST-K To Hold International Conference On Coronavirus

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir is going to hold a two-day international conference on coronavirus on May 10 & 11 at the Shalimar campus.

The conference 'Coronaviruses: Past, Present and Future' is expected to be attended by internationally renowned virologists and scientists.

In this regard, a meeting was held by the Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, to review the preparations for the mega event.

Director, SKIMS, Prof Parvaiz Koul; Principal GMC, Anantnag, Prof Syed Tariq Qureshi; Principal GMC, Baramulla, Prof Ruby Reshi; and Deputy Director, Health Services Kashmir, Dr Syed Manzoor Kadri, besides the Directors, Deans, other officers and event organising committee members from SKUAST-K, attended the meeting.

Organizing secretary of the conference, Dr Nadeem Shabir said the event will provide a platform for scientists, academicians, industry representatives, and policymakers to discuss the ongoing coronavirus research and policies in

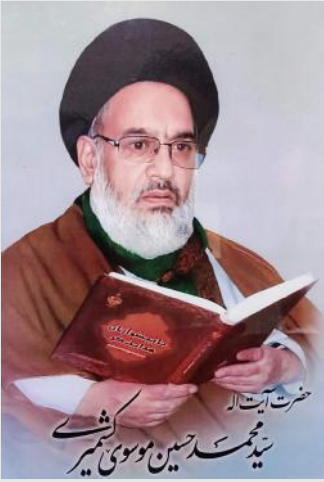
the Indian subcontinent. The conference will also highlight the role of Indian researchers, doctors and industry in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. The leading Indian virologists and academicians will deliver keynote lectures, while researchers from leading institutes of India will also share their ongoing research on coronaviruses under various themes, including, one health and Zoonosis, Surveillance, Detection and Characterization, Countermeasures and interventions, Behavior and Social Policy, and SARS-CoV2 and the future.

از نجات اجمیل
مضمون درخواست مخاطب: علامہ عبداللہ خان ولد غلام رسول خان ساکنہ اجمیل دواگاہ
تخصیص وزنگام برادر اندراج کروئے چولہ در موضع اجمیل دواگاہ
اشتبہا برادر گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاذہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول اندراج کرانے
چولہ در موضع اجمیل دواگاہ پیش کی ہے اس سلسلے میں پٹواری حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی
ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی اجمیل دواگاہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے سائل کا کلمہ
5 افراد پر مشتمل ہے سائل بیوگھر بیوگازہ موضع اجمیل دواگاہ سے ترک سکونت کر
کے بارمول میں کرایہ پر رہائش رہا تھا اس وقت سائل اپنے والد کے ساتھ رہائش رہا
تھا اب سائل مذکورہ نے خود عیال موضع اجمیل دواگاہ میں ہی علیحدہ طور پر رہائش کرتا
ہے اور علیحدہ طور پر مکان بھی موضع اجمیل دواگاہ میں ہی علیحدہ طور پر رہائش کرتا
موضع اجمیل دواگاہ اپنے نام چولہ اندراج کروئے انہوں نے کہا ہے اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا
اعراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندراج کرنا اعتراض مضبوط نہیں کرے۔ عیاد
گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار
fko

SAD DEMISE



With profound grief, we inform the demise of Ghulam Qadir Teeli S/O Late Mohammad Ramzan Teeli R/O Hazratbal Srinagar who left for heavenly abode on 21.4.2022. Deceased was a noble and kind soul. May Allah Grant him highest place in jannah. Aameen There will be congregational fateh khawani on Saturday 23.4.2022 at 10 am. on their ancestral graveyard Hazratbal near bus stand. . Grief stricken Family 9796937523 Note- women are requested not to bring any kind of eatables with them inf



Inna Lila-Hi-Wa-Inna Illaihi-I-Rajauun

RASM-I-CHAHURUM

Hazrat Ayatulah syed Mohammad Hussain Moosvi Kashmiri on 22-04-2022 at THEIR HOME TOWN MAHAWARA BUDGHAM KASHMIR. az-ko

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited
Impaired Asset Portfolio Management Department
Zonal Office Kashmir South-I

Possession Notice

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas **Mr. Parvez Rashid**, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated **23.11.2021** thereby calling upon the Borrower namely **Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Mir S/o Ghulam Ahmad Mir R/o Hatiwara Lethpora Pulwama (Borrower-Mortgagor)**, to repay an amount of **Rs. 14,21,238 (Rupee Fourteen Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Eight only)** being the balance outstanding as on **31.10.2021** in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower under Sarfeasi Act having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower under Sarfeasi Act in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken **Symbolic possession** of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **19th day of April of the year 2022**.

The said borrower under Sarfeasi Act in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to **Rs 14,21,238 (Rupee Fourteen Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Eight only)** together with future interest thereon from **01.11.2021** and other charges incurred or to be incurred. **The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.**

Description of the Immovable Property

Mortgage of land measuring 7.5 Marlas falling under Khasra No.721 min, Khata No 243 and Khewat No 184, along with residential house constructed on it situated at estate/village Hatiwara, Lethpora, Tehsil Pampore District Pulwama standing the Name of **Mr Mohammad Ashraf Mir S/o Ghulam Ahmad Mir R/o Hatiwara Lethpora Pulwama.**

Dated: 19.04.2022
Place : Pulwama

DIPK-NB-393/22

Authorized Officer

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

HIJRI CALENDAR
20 Ramazan
1443

FAJR	4: 23
ZUHR	12:32
ASR	5:13
Magrib	7:10
ISHA	8: 37

This Day In History

- 536 St. Agapetus I ends his reign as Catholic Pope
- 1056 - Supernova Crab nebula last seen by the naked eye
- 1073 - Pope Alexander II buried and Ildebrando chosen as Pope Gregory VII
- 1145 - 19th recorded perihelion passage of Halley's Comet
- 1164 - Raynald of Dassel names Guido di Crema as anti-pope Paschalis III
- 1370 - Building begins on the Bastille fortress in Paris
- 1500 - Pedro Álvares Cabral is the first european to discover Brazil, landing near Monte Pascoal, claims it for Portugal
- 1521 - French King Francois I declares war on Spain
- 1529 - Treaty of Saragosa: Spain & Portugal divide eastern hemisphere
- 1648 - English army claims King Charles I responsible for bloodshed
- 1659 - Lord Protector Richard Cromwell disbands English parliament
- 1671 - King Charles II sits in on English parliament
- 1674 - Netherlands & Munster sign peace treaty
- 1676 - Battle of Etna - Neth/Spain vs France, M de Ruyter fatally wounded
- 1677 - Battle at Catania: between French & Dutch fleet
- 1692 Edward Bishop is jailed for proposing flogging as a cure for witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts
- 1809 - Battle at Eckmuhl - Napoleon beats Austria Archduke Karl
- 1817 - Curacao prohibits use of white paint due to fierce sunlight
- 1823 - Baltic Club (Exchange) forms in London
- 1823 - R J Tyers patents roller skates
- 1838 - English steamship "Sirius" docks in NYC after crossing the Atlantic, first transatlantic steam passenger service

Udhampur Toll Massacre Reaches 26

Observer News Service

Jammu- At least 22 people were gunned down at Prankot village in Udhampur district on Friday night, Jammu and Kashmir- chief minister Farooq Abdullah said today. Abdullah, who visited the village along with state DGP Gurbachan Jagat, told the state assembly they found 22 bodies, four of them under the debris of a gutted house.

Police yesterday said 13 people, including two women and three children, of two families were killed in indiscriminate firing by militants. In a suo moto statement, Abdullah sought cooperation of the members in fighting militancy in the state. He regretted the BSF did not respond to state request to launch a joint operation following intelligence reports about the presence of foreign militants in the area.

The chief minister said the IGP (Jammu) wrote twice to BSF officials regarding the presence of militants and migration of people but the BSF did not initiate any action.

"If our forces cannot contain them, the situation can become grim for us", he said.

Abdullah said vigil at borders should be intensified to check infiltration of militants from across the border.

Earlier, Speaker Ali Mohammad Naik turned down the opposition plea to suspend the question hour and allow a discussion on Udhampur prompting a walkout by Congress MLAs and Panthers Party members. : Meanwhile the number of people killed by suspected militants in two villages of Udhampur district on Friday was feared to cross 26 mark though the toll was yesterday given as only 13, officials said here today. So far 25 bodies, including of eight women and nine children, had been recovered while efforts were on to trace the body of minor, official sources said. Among the survivors was one girl, who was burnt below her waist, they said. Meanwhile, reports available from the locals indicated that two militants each had camped in the houses of affected families a day earlier without, causing any harm.

However, during the night they, along with their accomplices, poured kerosene on the houses and set them afire, the sources said adding the militants also indulged in clubbing and butchering the inmates of the houses without using firearms.

The Coordination Committee on Kashmir (CCK), an organisation comprising eminent human rights activists and intellectuals, today condemned Friday's massacre of 13 Hindus in Jammu and said the act was apparently aimed at communalising the Kashmir situation. "It appears to us that the attack on entirely innocent Hindus was deliberate attempt to communalise the Kashmir struggle... so long as militancy continues in Kashmir.

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K O V I E W

Spurt In Violence

Though successive killings of militants by the security forces give a sense that militancy may be on its way out in Kashmir, the recent spurt in attacks and the violence tell a different story. It shows there has been simultaneous replenishment of the depleted militant ranks through fresh recruitment and the influx of militants from across the border - a trend that has stayed constant over the past three decades. This is why while public unrests and stone pelting have drastically diminished since the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019, militancy has continued unabated. And there is little sign that the situation on this score will change anytime soon.

What should be a cause of concern for the Srinagar agencies is that the militancy-related violence has returned to Srinagar after a hiatus of many years. According to the figures, the summer capital has witnessed eight encounters between militants and security forces since January 1 in which 15 militants including six Pakistani nationals were killed. Srinagar has also witnessed attacks on the security personnel, the recent one at Maisuma in which one CRPF personnel was killed and another grievously injured. Both the alleged attackers, who were Pakistani nationals, were later killed in an encounter at Bishembarnagar.

The Director General of Police Dilbagh Singh, however, has said that the security situation in the Valley is far better than before. The police chief added that counter-insurgency operations are being carried out successfully on a daily basis. He, however, acknowledged that militants are carrying out attacks but those involved in them are identified and killed soon.

The attacks on minorities have emerged as a disturbing new pattern. This has been a source of deep worry for the security forces, who can't protect each and every migrant or Kashmiri Pandit. The greater success in the killings of militants has been no deterrent. According to an estimate, close to 500 militants, most of them the local youth, have been killed since the withdrawal of J&K's semi-autonomy in 2019. Though the new estimates have put the number of militants under 200 - the first time the figure has fallen below this important psychological threshold - there has been little reduction in the levels of violence.

What is more, security agencies have already warned that the violence could once again scale up this year, with the local militancy expected to be reinforced by the influx of foreign militants - albeit, there have so far been no indications that this is happening. Militancy is largely led by the local youth who come from a demographic of 15 to 25 year olds. An iron-fist approach to quell the militancy has so far borne little fruit. Hence the need for reaching out to youth and engaging them politically. But it seems unlikely that the union government would be willing to change tack as of now.

O T H E R O P I N O N

US miscalculations about the war in Ukraine

Stroul's comments were most likely directed at US vassal regimes in the Arabian Peninsula who, sensing America's decline, did not adopt the standard anti-Russian position of NATO.

The fact that cynical regimes like the ones in the UAE and Saudi Arabia dared to openly disobey their western masters is a sign that American euphoria is based more on wishful thinking than on a solid understanding of the current multipolar global order.

In addition to the UAE and Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Apartheid Israel have also avoided taking an outright anti-Russian position.

Just like Russia has miscalculated the effects from its invasion of Ukraine, the US is miscalculating the benefits it can reap from Russian difficulties in Ukraine.

White House policy-makers are misreading their own capabilities and setting unrealistic goals.

In the current global order, Venezuela, Iran, China, Turkey, India and Mexico have the capabilities to not fully side with either the US or Russia. It should be remembered that sanctions against Russia are imposed by western regimes without United Nations endorsement.

The majority of countries in the world have not imposed economic sanctions on Russia.

The situation is such that if Russia manages to preserve its internal stability for the next year or two, even if it does not achieve most of its desired goals in Ukraine, it will be quite a blow to the US-led campaign to weaken Russia.

Here is why?

Russia is in a position where if it does not implode—quite unlikely—it can easily sell this achievement as victory domestically and to states cooperating with Russia on some foreign policy matters.

This would be quite a strong symbolic message as it will underline the fact that with all its massive economic weaponry and proxy military pressure on Russia inside Ukraine, Western regimes are no longer capable of achieving strategic geopolitical victories.

While Russia will not achieve complete victory in its Ukraine endeavour because of the unrealistic goals it set at the start of the military campaign, the US too will not achieve its maximalist goals of global hegemony.

Crescent International

Mindful Fridays

Divorce's Child Debacle

Wasim Kakroo

We know that a significant proportion of all marriages end in divorce. However, we typically overlook the fact that the majority of these divorces have an impact on children under the age of 18. Many parents are filled with guilt or worry about how their divorce will affect their children's life.

Because children rely on their parents for security, it's natural for them to be alarmed or perplexed when they witness their mother or father in distress related to divorce. When parents fail to explain the reasons behind the changing emotions and home surroundings, their children frequently misinterpret what's going on. They may start to believe that they are to blame for the divorce, or they may accept responsibility for attempting to reunite their parents.

How do children take their parents' divorce?

Divorce has a wide range of emotional effects on children, depending on their age. Adults, on one hand, are usually more prepared for what's to come, while as children may have never experienced anything like it before. It can be perplexing and frightening for children in many cases.

Kids are the ones that suffer the most as a result of their parents' divorce. For this age group, new living circumstances usually bring a lot of stress and confusion. They don't understand why their family is being split up and why their parents' love for each other has abruptly ceased.

On the other end, Middle-school aged children frequently assume that they are to blame for their parents' divorce. Such children frequently sense severe guilt if they are not given a fair explanation of the event. Then there are teenagers, who are usually aware of what is going on, and they commonly react with anger. Since the divorce interferes with their daily lives, it hence causes them to grow enraged. Teenagers are prone to pointing fingers and blaming one of the parents for the divorce and it may lead to long term or life-long resentments in the mind of a teenager against a particular parent or both of the parents.

What are the various consequences for children whose parents got divorced?

Different consequences may apply depending on the child's age and the circumstances of their parents' divorce. The following are a few of the more prevalent ones:

Such children have an increased likelihood of developing mental illnesses. Children with divorced parents are more prone to suffer anxiety, sadness, and other mental illnesses. Children encounter many problems as they grow up, and in most cases, their parents' divorce simply adds to the stress.

Such children also have an increased likelihood of experiencing behavioral issues. Children with divorced parents, may have more difficulty communicating effectively and in an assertive way with their peers. They may develop a lot of mood swings, which can lead to them taking out their anger on others, making it difficult for them to make friends and socialize.

Infact, the psychological consequences of divorce on children can easily lead to future trust issues. When a child sees their parents' marriage fall apart, they begin to assume that this is how relationship function. They have a hard time trusting new people in their lives, especially when it comes to relationships, and trusting them is a whole new level of difficulty.

It's understandable that a child going through all of this would be too sensitive. This is one of the psychological effects of divorce on children. Mention of family, divorce, or parents will easily harm or disturb them. It will be the parent's responsibility to make the children feel at ease when dealing with emotional concerns.

Moreover, separation anxiety in younger children might manifest itself in the form of increased crying or clinginess. This is, of course, a developmental milestone that usually occurs between the ages of 6 and 9 months and lasts until 18 months. Still, older toddlers and children may exhibit separation anxiety or ask for the other parent when they aren't around.

This stress may manifest in the form of Clinginess, bedwetting, thumb sucking, and temper tantrums and are especially common in toddlers and preschoolers between the



When parents fail to explain the reasons behind the changing emotions and home surroundings, their children frequently misinterpret what's going on. They may start to believe that they are to blame for the divorce, or they may accept responsibility for attempting to reunite their parents

ages of 18 months and 6 years old. If you find your child of age older than 6 years regressing, it could be a symptom of increased stress or trouble transitioning post divorce.

Academic drop-ins are also a possibility. A strong academic achievement necessitates a lot of focus and concentration. It's difficult to keep focused while your parents are divorcing. Such children frequently suffer in school.

In a 2019 study, researchers looked into whether or not children bear the brunt of their parents' divorce. While children's body mass index (BMI) does not indicate an immediate influence, it may be "substantially" greater over time than children who have not experienced divorce. These consequences are more noticeable in children who have experienced separation before the age of 6.

Children experience both cognitive dissonance and allegiance conflict when their parents fight. They're uncomfortable being caught in the middle, unsure whether to support one parent or the other. This can manifest as a strong desire for "fairness," even if it is detrimental to their own development. Increased stomachaches or headaches may also indicate discomfort in children. As children grow older, the loyalty dilemma may become much more obvious, leading to a complete split from one parent. Such children have a higher likelihood of developing addiction. They are more likely to start abusing substances at a young age. It frequently leads to a severe addiction. These children are also more likely than their peers to begin having sexual experiences at a younger age.

How can we help such children in coping with the effects of divorce?

Even the most cooperative of split-ups can

become tense and contentious. Divorce is a difficult subject to approach but your children will appreciate your openness and recognition of their role in the problem.

However, there are ways to help kids deal with a divorce. Encourage your child to engage in conversation with you. Explain that you're a secure place for them to express any emotions they're experiencing. Then, most essential, listen to all they have to say with open ears.

Additionally, recognize that every child processes change in their own unique way. What works for one of your children might not work for the other. Pay attention to any acting out or other indications you notice and adjust your strategy as needed.

If at all possible, try to avoid causing problems with your ex (and it may not always be possible). When parents quarrel in front of their children, it might lead to "taking sides" or favouring one parent over the other.

Furthermore, allow your child to communicate with the other parent anytime he or she needs to. Make an effort to convey that you care about the time they spend with the other parent. If your child enjoys their time away from you, don't imply that they are disloyal.

Being consistent in disciplining the child may also help. When it comes to their child's discipline, both parents should be on the same page. Many parents compensate for the absence of the other parent by allowing their children to act as they choose. Discipline consistency may lessen the likelihood of the child subsequently participating in delinquent behaviour.

However, if you need assistance, ask for it. This could be in the form of your own personal support network of family and friends. Call your paediatrician or a mental health expert if your child begins to exhibit certain warning signs. You don't have to go through this alone. So, be kind to yourself.


Yes, your child relies on you to remain calm and composed. You are, after all, only human. Showing emotions in front of your children is entirely acceptable and even encouraged. Explicitly expressing your own emotions will likely encourage your children to be open about their own emotions.

It's important to understand that a parent's divorce can be a traumatic event for their children.

However, this does not guarantee that it will occur. If the family dynamic has been toxic from the start, a divorce may be beneficial. During the divorce, it is critical to provide children your undivided attention and provide all required explanations. Your child, more than anything else, deserves to know that you love and support them unconditionally, regardless of your relationship status.

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

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar). He can be reached at 8825067196



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

► MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

What's Up PDD?

In the past few days, we are experiencing frequent power cuts especially during iftaar and suhoor, the time when people need electricity the most. Why is the PDD so irresponsible that inconvenience is being caused to the public in this holy month of ramazan? Almost every other day when iftar and suhoor approaches, the electricity is abruptly turned off. People need electricity to run appliances to prepare or warm their meals, and in fact not every household can afford to keep an inverter, they have to eat in the dark

or rely on candles or other sources for light.

Should the public then simply throw away electrical appliances and resort to ancient ways of living? Should we start collecting wood to burn for preparing our meals? And should we simply just start lighting fire in the dark? Should we also start living in caves like before? Because clearly we cannot light fire in our concrete houses.

It is precisely a shame for any administration that a city or province has to face power cuts even in the 21st

century and especially during a time which is important and holy to them. The PDD seems to be very incompetent in carrying out the one task they are actually assigned for. The electricity department is showing utmost carelessness and a sense of irresponsibility. While their primary concern should have been to provide uninterrupted electricity throughout the day, they are still battling to reduce frequent power cuts, what a shame. At least they should have been fulfilling the power requirement through this holy month of ramazan, but alas

Sarah Koul

Last Will and Testament of Imam Ali

KO Web Desk

The 21st of Ramazan in the Islamic calendar marks the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam 'Ali ibn Abi Talib (KTW), the fourth rightly-guided caliph in the Sunni tradition and the first divinely-guided Imam in the Shia tradition.

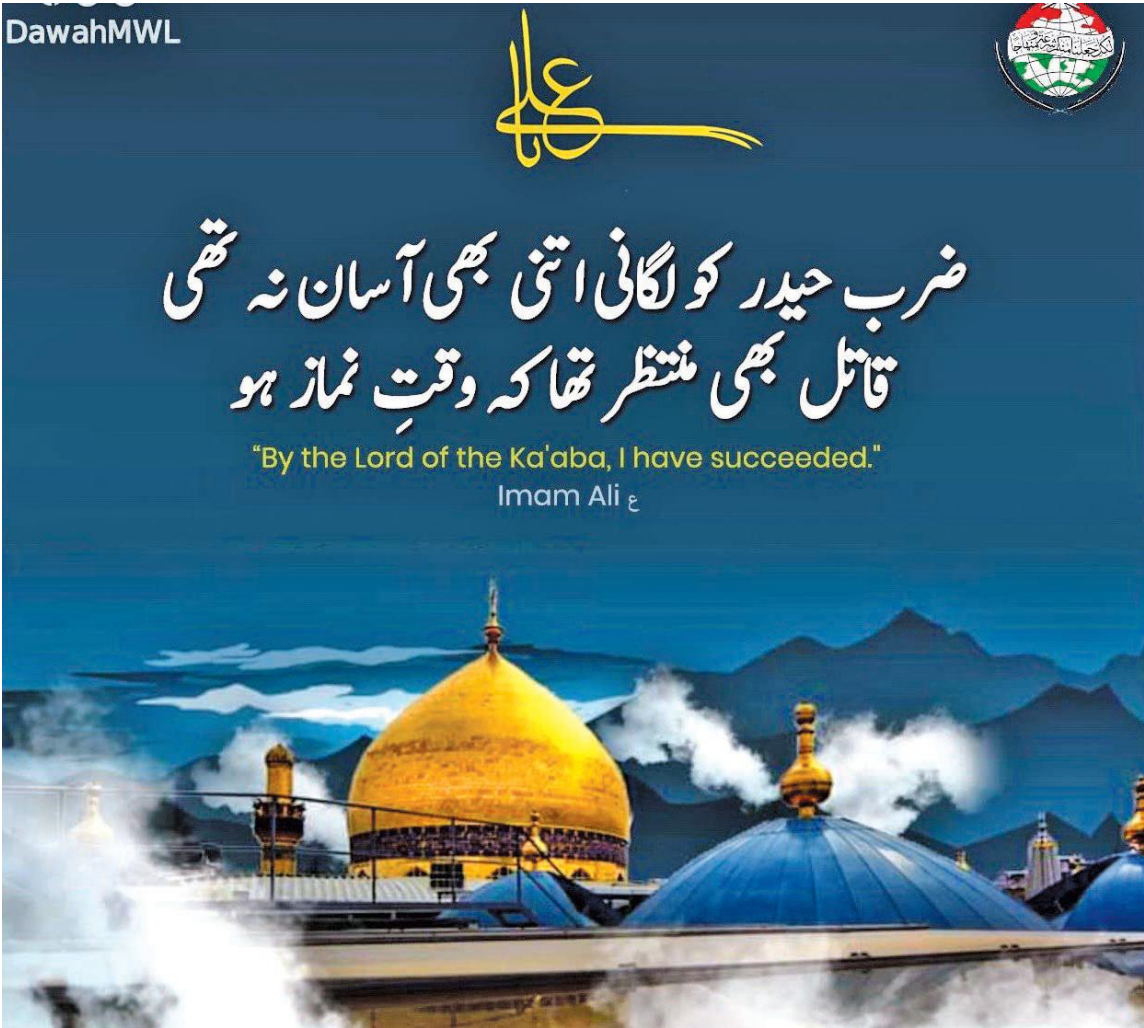
Like the two preceding caliphs, 'Umar ibn al-Khatāb (R) and 'Uthman bin Affan (R), Imam 'Ali was brutally murdered by disgruntled subjects for religio-political reasons. In this case, the assassin, 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Muljam was a member of the Kharijite sect whose grievances against 'Ali were colored by his own theological grievances as well as the fact that his father, brothers and fellow Kharijites had been killed at the Battle of Nahrawan (658) by the caliph's army. As a result, Ibn Muljam took it upon himself to assassinate the caliph, which he did by striking Imam 'Ali with a poisoned blade to the back of the head while he was leading dawn prayers in the Great Mosque of Kufa. The Commander of the Faithful (Ameer-al-Momineen) died of his injuries two days later.

The following is his last will and testament (addressed to his two eldest sons, al Hasan and al-Hussain) as preserved in Nahj al-Balaghah, Imam 'Ali's collection of letters, sermons and decrees that was compiled by al-Sharif al-Razi (d. 1015) in the 10th century.

Translation

I advise you to fear God, and not to pursue this vicious world even

DawahMWL



though it may try to entice you. Do not seek it though it may seek you and do not grieve over and long for

things which this world refuses you. Always speak the truth, and work constantly for the eternal reward

and blessings of God. Be an enemy of tyrants and oppressors and be a friend and support of those who are

oppressed. To you, to my other children, to my relatives and to all who receive these words of mine, I advise to fear God and to be pious, to have fair and honest dealings with one another and improve mutual relations because I have heard your grandfather, the Prophet Muhammad (may the peace and blessings of God be upon him) often say: "To remove mutual enmity, ill-feeling and hatred among people is better than all the prayers and fasting of many years."

Fear God when the question of helpless orphans arises. You should not let them be full some time and hungry some other times. So long as you are there to guard and protect them, they should not be ruined or lost. Fear God with respect to your neighbors, for your prophet constantly enjoined us to be good to the neighbor, so much so that we thought that he may even decree that they had the right to inherit from us. Fear God in respect of the Holy Qur'an, lest others should excel and surpass you in following its tenets and in acting according to its orders. Fear God so far as prayers are concerned because prayers are the pillars of your religion.

Fear God in the matter of His House (Ka'bah). Let it not be deserted

because if it is deserted, you (the Muslims) will be troubled with chastisement. Fear God in the matter of struggle in the path of God with your properties, lives, and tongues. Develop mutual liking, friendship and love and help one another. Take care that you do not spurn and treat one another badly and unsympathetically. Exhort people to do good and abstain them from evil, otherwise the vicious and the wicked will be your overlord and if you willingly allow such persons to be your rulers then your prayers will not be heard by God. O sons of 'Abd al-Mutalib: Let there be no retaliation for the act of my murder, except against the individual who committed the act. Do not seek vengeance against the community of Muslims under the slogan "The Commander of the Faithful has been murdered" nor inflict any harm on anyone, save my murderer. If I should die because of his strike against me, then strike him with a sword a single time, as he did to me. Do not mutilate or torture the man, for I have heard the Prophet of God say: "Never mutilate or torture any living being, even if it be a vicious dog."

["Letter 47," Nahj al-Balaghah (Beirut: al-Maktabah al-'Asriyyah, 2009), pp. 361-362]

How Did the Sahabas Spend Their Ramazan?

Suad Kamardeen

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The best people are those of my generation, and then those who will come after them (the next generation), and then those who will come after them (i.e. the next generation), and then after them, there will come people whose witness will precede their oaths, and whose oaths will precede their witness." [Bukhari]

Who better to learn from than those declared to be among the best people by the Prophet ﷺ? Each year, as we near Ramazan, we hear about how the sahaba prepared for Ramazan six months before its arrival and made dua for its acceptance for six months afterwards. With this level of steadfastness, one can already imagine how they actually spent the blessed month. They did not view it as a month to stop their normal routine or activities; there were instances when they went to war while fasting. Rather, they spent more time in worship, sacrificing sleep and spending their time solely on what matters.

In the post, we share hadiths and narrations showing how the sahaba occupied their time in Ramazan and strove to excel in all acts of worship including: prayer, Qur'an recitation, charity, and much more.

How They Welcomed the Month

The ability to witness Ramazan, a month in which Allah gives us a chance to revive our hearts and renew our souls, is a blessing the sahaba never took for granted.

It's narrated that Ibn Umar (RA) used to say when Ramadhan started, "Welcome oh the month that purifies us from the sins."

Yahya ibn Abi Kathir, may Allah have mercy on him, would supplicate when the month of Ramdan arrived, "O Allah, secure me for Ramazan, secure Ramazan for me, and receive my deeds with acceptance." [Hilyat al-Awliya' 3/69]

Fasting

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Fasting is a shield. When anyone of you is fasting on a day, he should neither indulge in obscene language, nor raise his voice; rather if anyone reviles him or quarrels with him, he should say, 'I am fasting.'" [Bukhari and Muslim]

The above hadith influenced how the sahaba lived their lives. They filled their day with supplications, guarded their tongues and continued to remind one another long after the passing of the Prophet ﷺ about this essential element of fasting.

Ali (RA) would deliver a sermon, after Fajr and Asr prayers, reminding people that fasting is "not merely from food and

drink, but rather from lying, falsehood, and vain talk." [al-Sunan al-Kubrá lil-Bayhaqī 7955]

Jabir ibn Abdullah (RA) also said, "If you fast, then guard your ears, eyes and tongue against lies and evil deeds; do not abuse your servants; be tranquil and dignified on the day you observe fasting; do not let the day when you do not fast and the day when you fast be the same." [ibn abi Shayba]

This is a reminder to us, as well, to remain steadfast in protecting our fasts. Think before you respond to that message, reply to that tweet in anger or engage in unbeneficial conversation. In this age of fake news, spreading false information has become much easier, even though it's akin to lying. It's essential to verify whatever we choose to share, and refrain from sharing if we're unsure of the source.

Qur'an

As Ramazan is the month of the Qur'an, the sahaba increased in recitation. Uthman ibn Affan (RA) was said to complete the recitation of the Qur'an once everyday, some sahaba completed it once every three nights, some in every seven nights and so on. They recited it during their prayers and at other times.

However, not only did they recite more, they also contemplated on its meanings and messages:

Once when ibn Umar was reciting Surah Mutaaffin and reached the verse "a Day when everyone will stand before the Lord of the Worlds?" he cried so hard that he was overwhelmed and couldn't carry on reading.

Reciting the Qur'an is highly rewarding especially in this blessed month, but we should also strive to understand and implement some of what we recite. In the Qur'an, Allah emphasises the importance of acting on the knowledge we gain, therefore it is paramount that we seek to learn what Allah has laid out for us in His Book.

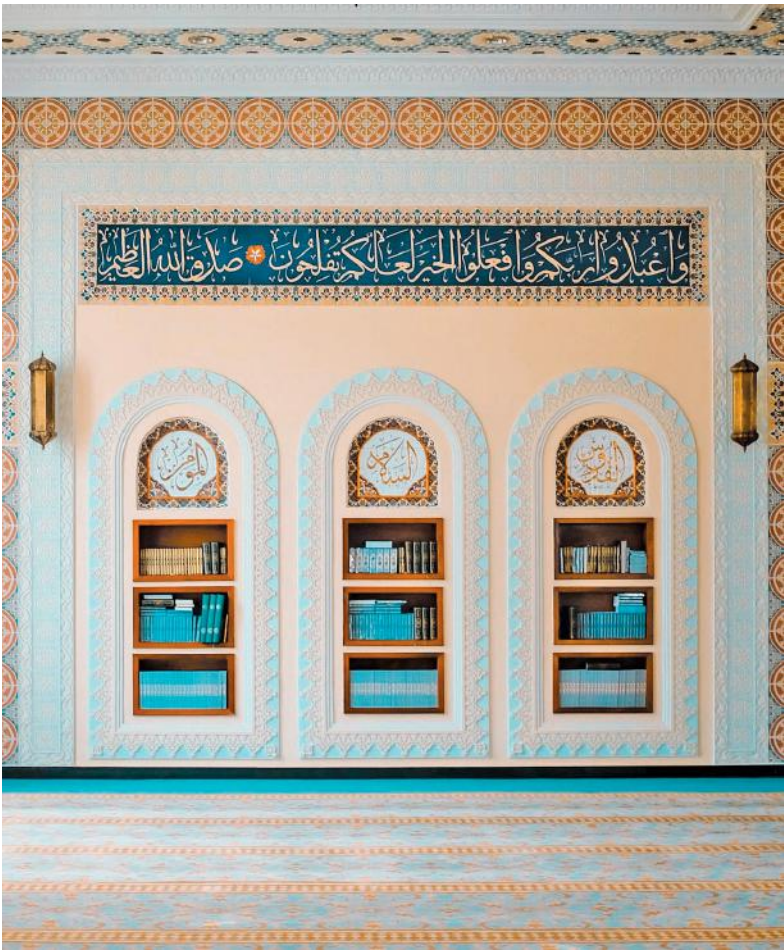
What can you do this Ramazan, however little, to improve your understanding of the message of the Qur'an?

Here are some sources to help you get started!

Prayers

Aisha (RA) said, "Do not abandon qiyam al-layl, for the Messenger of Allah ﷺ never left it. If he was not well or he felt heavy, he prayed sitting."

Such is the importance of the night prayer that Umar ibn al-Khattab (RA) used to pray at night for a lengthy period of time, and when it was in the middle of the night, he would wake up his family to pray too. Then he would recite the verse, "And enjoin prayer upon your



“When Ramazan came to an end, the companions didn't stop these good deeds or habits. They strove to continue even after the month has passed. As you go through this month, choose one habit you want to be consistent with and ask Allah to aid you in going through with it

family [and people] and be steadfast therein. We ask you not for provision; We provide for you, and the [best] outcome is for [those of] righteousness." [Qur'an 20:132]

Also, during the caliphate of Umar ibn al-Khattab (RA), he would instruct Ubay ibn Ka'b and Tameem ad-Daari to lead taraweeh salah. Although they prayed eleven rak'ahs, they recited long surahs to the extent that some people had to use a staff to support themselves while standing.

Abdullah, the son of Abu Bakr al-Sid-

diq (RA), also narrated that when they finished their qiyam, they had to hurry to eat their food for fear of Fajr beginning. [Muwata of Imam Malik]

Ibn Umar (RA) used to pray in his house during Ramazan, and when people departed from the mosque, he would go there with a flask of water [to pray] and wouldn't leave until after Fajr.

We know from the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ that Allah descends to the seventh heaven in the last third of the night asking, "Is there anyone who invokes Me (demand anything from Me),

that I may respond to his invocation; Is there anyone who asks Me for something that I may give (it to) him; Is there anyone who asks My forgiveness that I may forgive him?" [Bukhari]. Ramazan is the perfect time to make the most of this opportunity. Even if you can't stand in prayer for the entire night, sleep for a few hours and set your alarm to wake up at least thirty minutes before Fajr to catch the blessing of the night.

Besides the obvious blessings, Tahajjud also offers so many benefits to us, which you can learn more about here.

Charity

Ibn Abbas (RA) said, "The Messenger of Allah ﷺ was the most generous person, and he would be even more so in the month of Ramazan because Jibreel would meet him every night in the month of Ramazan till it elapsed. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ would recite the Qur'an for him. When Jibreel met him, he would be more generous than the blowing wind in doing good." [Bukhari and Muslim]

The sahaba always strove to follow in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ, hence were distinctly generous in the month of Ramazan seeking every avenue to earn the pleasure and reward of Allah.

When the time of iftar came, they would race to feed the poor. Ibn Umar (RA) used to break his fast with poor people and if a poor person came to him asking for food while he was eating, he used to give him his portion.

The Prophet ﷺ said, "Whoever gives iftaar to one who is fasting will have a reward like his, without that detracting from the reward of the fasting person in the slightest." [Tirmidhi]

The Prophet ﷺ and his companions were also generous with their duas. They never failed to seek forgiveness for themselves, others, loved ones, ummah etc.

Charity can come in different forms through spending your wealth, giving your time, donating your skills or other resources. In Islam, we're taught that a smile is charity, saying a good word is charity, as is spreading salam and so many more easy to do deeds.

Several platforms have made it possible to automate our donations, and if you don't have the financial capacity, you can commit to other activities such as helping out around the house or sharing food with your neighbours. Remember to set the right intentions before embarking on any action.

Also, when crafting your dua list, how can you make it as inclusive as possible? Remember, the Prophet ﷺ said, "No Muslim servant supplicates for his brother behind his back but that the angel says: And for you the same." [Muslim]

The Last Ten Nights

Aisha (RA) said, "When the last ten days of Ramazan arrived, the Prophet ﷺ would tighten his belt, spend the night in worship, and awaken his family." [Bukhari]

The last ten nights of Ramazan is one we all look forward to, and so did the companions. They took great care in how they presented themselves to their Lord, by taking a bath and applying perfume every night. They also maximised hours of the night and after, by staying in the mosque after Fajr prayer until sunrise [Muslim].

Aisha reported, "The Prophet ﷺ would seek spiritual retreat in the mosque during the last ten nights of Ramazan, until Allah Almighty caused him to pass away. His wives continued to perform the retreat after him." [Bukhari]

How do you plan to up your worship during the last ten nights? Here are a few tips to consider!

Zakat al-Fitr

Zakat al-Fitr is an obligation, and ibn Abbas (RA) shares that, "The Prophet ﷺ obligated charity at the end of Ramazan as purification of the fasting person from vain talk and misbehaviour, as food for the poor. Whoever pays it before the Eid prayer, it is accepted as Zakat. Whoever pays it after the Eid prayer, it is part of voluntary charity." [Sunan Abi Dawud 1609]

Waki' ibn al-Jarrah, may Allah have mercy on him, said, "Zakat al-Fitr is to the month of Ramazan like the prostration of forgetfulness is to prayer. It makes up for deficiencies in fasting just as the prostration makes up for deficiencies in prayer." [al-Majma' Sharh al-Mu-hadhab 6/140]

When Ramazan came to an end, the companions didn't stop these good deeds or habits. They strove to continue even after the month has passed. As you go through this month, choose one habit you want to be consistent with and ask Allah to aid you in going through with it.

Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "Do good deeds properly, sincerely and moderately and know that your deeds will not make you enter Paradise, and that the most beloved deed to Allah is the most regular and constant even if it were little." [Sa-hih al-Bukhari 6464]

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Dozens Killed As Blast Hits Shia Mosque In Northern Afghanistan

Agencies

A bombing at a mosque in the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif has killed at least 31 worshippers and injured more than 80, in the second major attack on the Shia Hazara community in Afghanistan in a week.

Afghan media reports quoting health officials said that 31 dead bodies and 80 wounded had so far been brought to the main Abu Ali Sina hospital in Mazar-e-Sharif.

The death toll could rise as some of the injured are in a critical condition, they said.

Images of the victims being carried to hospital from the Seh Dokan mosque were posted on social media. The images also showed a scene littered with broken glass.

Daesh terrorists claimed responsibility for the attack, according to a statement on the group's Telegram channel.

The statement added that the attack on the Mazar-i-Sharif mosque was carried out using a remotely detonated booby-trapped bag when the building was packed with worshippers.

On Tuesday, two blasts outside a school in a Hazara community neighborhood of Kabul killed at least 20 people and wounded more than two dozen others.

The Hazara community, the poorest of the country's ethnic groups, accounts for about 22 percent of Afghanistan's population. Its members have been targeted in several large-scale kidnappings and killings across Afghanistan in the past.

In May last year at least 85 people -- mainly girl students -- were killed and about 300 wounded when three bombs exploded near their school in the Shia-dominated Dasht-e-Barchi neighborhood of Kabul.

In October 2020, Daesh admitted attacking an

educational center in the same area that killed 24 people, including students.

In May 2020, the group was blamed for a bloody attack on a maternity ward of a hospital in the same neighborhood that killed 25 people, including new mothers.

Daesh has a foothold in eastern and northern Afghanistan, particularly in Nangarhar, which is regarded as its base in the war-torn country. It has recently claimed responsibility for several attacks across Afghanistan.

Blast kills four people in Kunduz

Separately, at least four people were killed and 18 wounded in a blast in Kunduz, another northern Afghan city.

Provincial police spokesman Obaidullah Abedi said it was caused by a bicycle bomb targeting a vehicle carrying mechanics working for a Taliban military unit.

Since seizing power, the Taliban have regularly raided suspected Daesh hideouts in the eastern Nangarhar province.

Taliban officials insist their forces have defeated Daesh, but analysts say the terrorist group is a key security challenge. It has claimed some of the deadliest attacks in Afghanistan in recent years.

Security in Afghanistan has vastly improved since the Taliban's takeover of the country. However, several attacks are reported each week throughout the country, including some claimed by Daesh.

The Taliban, who had previously ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, took power again on August 15 as the US was in the middle of a chaotic troop withdrawal. The group announced the formation of a caretaker government on September 7. No country has yet recognized their rule.

Prepare For Every Security Challenge: DM Tells Army



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: In the backdrop of the Russia-Ukraine war, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday asked the top commanders of the Army to prepare for every possible security challenge that India may face in the future including that of unconventional and asymmetric warfare.

Singh made the remarks at the biannual Army Commanders' Conference that began on Monday.

The defence minister also complimented the Army for its operational readiness to deal with any possible eventualities.

The commanders carried out an extensive review of India's national security challenges along the borders with China and Pakistan as well as assessed possible geopolitical implications of the Russia-Ukraine war for the region.

"Addressed the Army

Commanders Conference today. Complimented the Indian Army for their operational preparedness and capabilities. Exhorted the Military leadership to prepare for every possible challenge in future, including the challenge of unconventional & asymmetric warfare," Singh tweeted.

The Army said the defence minister appreciated the force for "selfless and unflinching" service to the nation and its relentless efforts towards modernisation through indigenisation.

The five-day conference will come to an end on Friday.

The Army Commanders' Conference is an apex level biannual event that is held in April and October every year. The conference is an institutional platform for conceptual level deliberations, culminating in making important policy decisions for the Indian Army.

Officials said the conference

held detailed deliberations on possible implications of the war in Ukraine for regional security as well as various military aspects of the conflict.

The commanders also carried out a comprehensive review of India's military preparedness along the 3,400-km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC) in view of the lingering military standoff with China in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh, they said.

The anti-militancy operation in Jammu and Kashmir as well as the overall situation in the Union Territory was also deliberated upon extensively at the conference, the officials said.

The commanders also delved into infrastructure development along the LAC.

India has been ramping up infrastructure development in the border regions in view of China's building new bridges, roads and related structures in key sectors along the frontier.

Panasonic India Inaugurates New Electrical Construction Material Manufacturing Unit In Andhra Pradesh



New Delhi: Panasonic Life Solutions India, a wholly owned subsidiary of Panasonic Corporation, today announced the opening of its new manufacturing facility in Sri City, Andhra Pradesh. The facility aims to strengthen the company's presence in the Southern Region and develop market synergies by providing swift material deliveries and customer delight. The 'highly automated' unit is spread over 133,584 sq. mt. and currently covers a floor area of 37,025 sq. mt. This will be the company's first electrical equipment manufacturing base in Southern India and seventh in India followed by facilities in the North and West regions.

The company will be making a total investment of INR 600Cr in two phases, the first phase of INR 300Cr has been made. Through this facility, the aim is to support the infrastructure development, create employment opportunities, and industrial development in Andhra Pradesh. It will contribute to the company's larger goal of increasing capacity expansion in India and carbon neutrality by 2030 to deliver on the promise of a carbon-neutral future.

This facility is fully operational and will primarily focus on manufacturing Wiring Devices products covering Roma, Penta Modular, and Roma Urban. Additionally, the company further intends to add other products from the Wiring Devices and include Switchgear, Wires, and Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) products over a period. Currently, the production capacity in the first year is 80 million units, and it is

expected to increase by 15% year by year as sales further expand.

Besides, the new facility will benefit the local communities as it is expected to create direct and indirect employment opportunities by developing a local supplier network only for Wiring Devices products by FY2025. Further, aligned with the vision of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, the company looks to support an all-inclusive growth and contribution to the development of the country.

Addressing the occasion, Mr. Kawamoto, Business Unit Head – Power Component Business, Panasonic Corporation, Japan, added that, "India is on a growth trajectory and this growth will need tremendous support from the ECM industry for people to 'Live their Best'. We see this as a tremendous opportunity for making human life simpler, safer, and comfortable, by enhancing the consumer experience through our technologically advanced products, with Japanese standards, which will now be manufactured at this facility in India."

Mr. Kazuki Yao, Managing Director, Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt. Ltd. said, "As a global leader in electrical construction materials, providing the most comprehensive electrical portfolio across the entire value chain, India being one of the fastest-growing economies in the world is an important market for PLISIND. Through the inauguration of our facility in Sri city, it will help us significantly scale up our productions in India, while contributing to the overall development of the region.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Militant Active

have been killed. #Operation going on. Further details shall follow," police posted on its official Twitter handle.

Giving details about Yusuf, the spokesperson said that he was an overground militant of Hizbul Mujahideen and was arrested in 2005. Three years later in 2008, he was released. However, he again joined militant ranks in 2017 and started killing "innocent civilians, policemen and political workers".

Later, he said, Yusuf switched from Hizb to Lashkar.

As per police records, the spokesperson said that the killed militants were categorized and part of groups involved in several cases including attacks on Police and security forces and "civilian atrocities".

Yusuf, he said, was involved in dozens of attacks on civilians and government forces, abduction of security personnel, besides rifle snatching incidents.

He said that the killed LeT commander was involved in the assassination of Sarpanch Manzoor Ahmad of Pattan, BDC Chairman Sardar Bhupinder Singh in Khag village of Budgam in September 2020, SPO Mohd Ishfaq Dar and his brother Umer Ahmad Dar in Chatabugh in March last month, besides Tajamul Mohidin Dar of Guttapora Budgam on March 21.

Yusuf, the spokesperson said, was also involved in killing of NC Block president at Natipora, Srinagar, Gulzar Ahmad of Lawaypora at Narbal,

Tanveer Zargar of Chewa at Narbal, and Nazir Ahmad Dar, an employee of the Health Department, at Warihama.

The killed commander, he said, was also involved in abduction and killing of constable Mohd Ashraf Rather @Ishfaq of Archanderhama Magam, and abduction and killing of army Personnel Mohd Sameer Malla of Lokipora Khag on March 7, this year.

He further said that Yusuf was also involved in grenade throwing incidents, including the one at Kanihama on December 23, 2017 in which CRPF HC Riyaz Ahmad Rather resident of Nowgam Anantnag was killed. Also, he said, Yusuf was involved in killing of SPO Mohd Altaf during an encounter at Peth-Zanigam, besides killing of one Ex-SPO Naseer Ahmad Khan of Kawoosa Khasia.

"Moreover, he was also involved in snatching 4 AK rifles from the residence of Legislature Muzafar Parry at J-13 Jawahar Nagar Rajbagh. Furthermore, on his directions Abrar Nadeem (neutralized terrorist) carried

out an attack on CRPF at Lawaypora Srinagar in which 3 CRPF personnel attained martyrdom on March 25, 2021," he added.

In addition to this, the spokesperson said that the killed militant was also involved in recruiting innocent and gullible youth into "terror folds" including recruitment of Faisal Hafeez Dar of Aaripanth Magam into militant ranks.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation," he said.

The spokesperson quoting IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar as congratulating the joint team of forces for conducting successful operation by eliminating the "top most wanted terrorist" Yusuf Kantroo.

Kumar, he said, also appealed to parents of other militants to appeal to their wards to shun the path of violence.

Kashmir's Higher

prevalent there, the officials said. The MeT office has said the weather will remain cloudy, with occasional rain, thunderstorm, gusty winds, and hailstorm at isolated places of the valley till Friday.

There is possibility of snowfall over the higher reaches as well.

50 Percent Remission

The Housing and Urban Development Department shall designate a nodal agency which shall be responsible for collection of Adhaar-based data of first-time buyers of above properties, it said.

However, It is subject to the condition that the value of the property does not exceed Rs 1 crore, the notification said.

The fresh directive will come into effect from April 21 and remain in force till March 2024.

The decision is aimed at giving a boost to the real estate sector in Jammu and Kashmir and motivating the new buyers to participate in the market, officials said.

The remission is also expected to provide momentum to property sale and registration by making the purchase of property attractive and affordable, they said.

CBI Files Two FIRs

state exchequer during the period 2017 and 2018 and thereby in this

manner cheated the Government of Jammu and Kashmir," the FIR alleged.

It was alleged in different quarters that there were glaring deviations from the government norms in the contract awarded to Reliance General Insurance like absence of an online tender, removal of an original condition that the vendor should have experience of working in the state and companies having turnover of Rs 5,000 crore among others.

"The case was registered on the request of Jammu and Kashmir government on the allegations of malpractices in award of contract of J&K Employees Health Care Insurance Scheme to private company and release of Rs 60 crore (approximately) in the year 2017-18," CBI Spokesperson R C Joshi said.

After allegations of irregularities surfaced, the scheme, which was rolled out on September 30, 2018, was scrapped, officials said.

"The governor has approved foreclosure of the contract with M/s Reliance General Insurance Company (RGIC) for implementing group mediclaim health insurance policy for the employees and pensioners in the state," a Raj Bhavan spokesperson had said on October 27, 2018.

He had said the matter was referred to the Anti-Corruption Bureau for examining the entire process to see whether it was conducted in a transparent and fair manner.

In the scheme which was initially signed up with RGIC for one year, the employees and pensioners would have got Rs 6 lakh cover for themselves and five dependent family members by paying an annual premium of Rs 8,777 and Rs 22,229 for employees and pensioners, respectively.

In its FIR pertaining to the alleged malpractices in the award of contract for civil works package of Kiru Hydro electric power project, the CBI said guidelines related to e-tendering were not followed.

"The case was registered on allegations of malpractices in award of the contract worth Rs 2,200 crore (approximately) of civil works of Kiru Hydro Electric Power Project (HEP) to a private company in the year 2019," Joshi said.

The agency has booked Navin Kumar Chaudhary, former chairman of Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd, M S Babu, former MD, M K Mittal and Arun Kumar Mishra, former directors and Patel Engineering Ltd.

"Though a decision was taken in 47th Board meeting of CVPPPL (Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd) for tender through e-tendering with reverse auction after cancellation of ongoing tendering process, same was not

implemented (as per decision taken in 48th board meeting) and tender was finally awarded to Patel Engineering Ltd," the FIR alleged.

Malik, who was the governor of Jammu and Kashmir between August 23, 2018 and October 30, 2019 had claimed that he was offered a Rs 300 crore bribe for clearing two files.

After going to Kashmir, two files came to me (for clearance), one belonging to Ambani and another to an RSS-affiliated man who was a minister in the previous Mehbooba Multilevel PDP-BJP coalition government and claimed to be very close to the prime minister (Narendra Modi), he had said.

"I was informed by secretaries in both the departments that there is a scandal and I accordingly cancelled both the deals. The secretaries told me that 'you will get Rs 150 crore each for clearing the files' but I told them that I have come with five kurta-pyjamas and will leave with that only," Malik had told a gathering at an event in Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan in October last year.

IAS Officer Navin

officer, Navin Choudhary, principal secretary agriculture production and farmers welfare department.

Raids were also carried out at residences of former officers of Chenab Valley projects construction limited and premises of a construction company in Mumbai, New Delhi, Bihar and Jammu.

"The raids were carried out in connection with a corruption case registered by the CBI on the complaint of the J&K government", the sources added.

Notably, former J&K Governor Satyapal Malik has alleged that he had been offered Rs 300 crore to clear two files which he rejected.

Following Malik's allegation, J&K had approached the CBI to have charges investigated as it has been raised by the former governor of the state. (Agencies)

BJP Leader,

Rs.1 lakh from the sister of a detained youth on the promise of securing his release, a senior police officer told Kashmir Observer.

"Both of them have been arrested. The investigation in the case is going on. The charge sheet will be filed soon," he said.

Giving more details of the case, the officer said that a few days back, the cops from Police Station Bandipora had rounded up an alleged criminal namely Aqib Khursheed and detained him at

the police station.

"However, despite police's assurances of a fair probe, the family members had approached BJP district president Abdul Rehman Tikri for ensuring their ward's release," he said.

The two accused Tikri and Manzoor, the official noted, were approached by Aqib's sister who'd requested them to help her in ensuring her brother's early release.

"The duo had then demanded Rs. 1 lakh in exchange for her brother's release," the official said. "However, almost four days back, we received word of mouth about the incident, which prompted us to verify the legitimacy of the incident."

The official further added, "On further investigation, it was revealed that the duo had collected the amount and promised the lady of her brother's early release. The said amount has already been seized and an FIR No 64 u/s 420 IPC has been registered in this regard."

"If the two accused are proven guilty, they'll be strictly dealt with under the laid down provisions of law. J&K Police once again reiterates that if anyone is found guilty in such crimes, we won't spare them come what may," the official added.

Notably, u/s 420 IPC, If anyone is found guilty, they shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to a fine.

It is pertinent to mention here that the J&K Police has already recorded the statements of two accused & the detained youth's sister and the further investigation is currently going on.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravindra Raina has relieved Tikri of his post as district president and other party responsibilities with immediate effect.

US Lawmakers

that she has visited a part of the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir that is currently illegally occupied by Pakistan. Let me just say that if such a politician wishes to practice her narrow-minded politics... that may be her business," Bagchi said.

"But violating our territorial integrity and sovereignty in its pursuit makes this ours and we think the visit is condemnable," he said.

Bagchi was asked to comment on Omar's visit to PCK.

To another query on recent terror attacks in Afghanistan, the spokesperson said India has been looking at the developments in that country.

"We have seen some of the terrorist

attacks. We have always been forthright in our condemnation of terrorist attacks. We are looking at what has been the developments there," Bagchi said.

"But let me emphasise that we certainly condemn all terrorist attacks," he said. (PTI)

Power Crisis

for the shortage of coal, according to the government, is the high prices of global coal due to the Ukraine-Russia conflict and low imports.

Dar, however, told Kashmir Observer that the less rainfall is also the reason for power shortage in the UT.

"There is a 70 percent rain deficit. Also, the Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project supplies around 450 MW and we get the supply from other projects which sums up to 900 MW's but the demand is 1500 MW's in the valley," he said.

Dar further said that with more rainfall, the water in Chenab might rise and the department can provide more power supply.

He said the demand supply during Sehri and Iftar time is 1500 MW's but the department is only able to produce 1100 MW's.

However, sources from KPDCI told Kashmir Observer that National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) is facing rising demand forcing KPDCI to resort to load shedding.

"Every 15 minutes we are being asked to reduce the load because of the low frequency. We are bound to follow the orders," they said.

NLDC is entrusted with the responsibilities to oversee voltage and frequency.

If the states/UT's doesn't follow the orders, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) can impose heavy penalties for violation of the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) provisions which require the constituents (State Utilities) to undertake manual load shedding for curtailing the overdrawn whenever the grid frequency goes below 49 hz.

Earlier, the government had directed the KPDCI to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the people at Sehri and Iftar hours in the Valley. The regional political parties have cornered the LG administration for failing to provide the adequate power supply during the holy month of Ramadan.

Earlier, the central government said that over 12 states are facing electricity issues due to shortage of coal and the government is working to mitigate the shortfall.

Govt Constitutes Panel On Restructuring JKEDI

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Government on Thursday constituted committee for restructuring of the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute.

Headed by Principal Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department, the committee comprises Commissioner Secretary to the Government, Labour and Employment Department, Director, Skill Development Department, Director, JKEDI and Representative from Finance Department (not

below the rank of Additional Secretary).

The committee has been asked to revisit the Vision Document 2030; to frame a revised salary structure and promotion norms; to revisit the involvement of Institute in Non-Banking Financial Business and Lending Business; to suggest measures for release of Grand-in-Aid; to frame guidelines regarding utilization of funds on account of repayment under YSLs (Youth Start up Loan Scheme) and to examine the Audit Report of the Institute for further necessary action. (GNS)

SKUAST-K To Hold International Conference On Coronavirus

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir is going to hold a two-day international conference on coronavirus on May 10 & 11 at the Shalimar campus.

The conference 'Coronaviruses: Past, Present and Future' is expected to be attended by internationally renowned virologists and scientists.

In this regard, a meeting was held by Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, to review the preparations for the mega event.

Director, SKIMS, Prof Parvaiz Koul; Principal GMC, Anantnag, Prof Syed Tariq Qureshi; Principal GMC, Baramulla, Prof Ruby Reshi; and Deputy Director, Health Services Kashmir, Dr Syed Manzoor Kadri, besides the Directors, Deans, other officers and event organising committee members from SKUAST-K, attended the meeting.

Organising secretary of the conference, Dr Nadeem Shabir said the event will provide a platform for scientists, academicians, industry representatives, and policymakers to discuss the ongoing coronavirus research and policies in the Indian subcontinent. The conference will also highlight the role of Indian researchers, doctors and industry in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. The leading Indian virologists and academicians will deliver keynote lectures, while researchers from leading institutes of India will also share their ongoing research on coronaviruses under various themes, including, One health and Zoonoses, Surveillance, Detection and Characterisation, Countermeasures and interventions, Behaviour and Social Policy, and SARS-CoV2 and the future.

The conference is being organised by Dr Nadeem Shabir,

an assistant professor-cum-Wellcome Trust-DBT India Alliance Fellow who leads a prestigious project on the development of a safe vaccine against avian coronavirus at the Division of Animal Biotechnology, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Shuhama.

Dr Shabir is the only scientist from the Indian subcontinent, who has been nominated as an International Management Board member on United Kingdom-International Coronavirus Network (UK-ICN). He was also invited to deliver a talk on his ongoing research work on avian coronaviruses at the launch meeting of the UK-ICN held on November 5, 2021.

The UK-ICN is sponsoring the event to strengthen the network of coronavirus researchers in the Indian subcontinent.

Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, during his deliberation, congratulated the Organizing Secretary, Dr Nadeem for his maiden nomination from the Indian subcontinent as a member of the Global Network, and for conducting the prestigious International event, related to one of the burning issues confronting human survival on the globe, at SKUAST-K. He emphasized the role of healthcare professionals and other stakeholders in the fight against COVID-19 and sought active participation and deliberations on important themes of the conference from research scientists, medical professionals and young scholars from prestigious medical and research organizations in the country.

The Two-day event will be held in Nund Reshi Auditorium at SKUAST-K, Shalimar wherein Industry and Vaccine manufacturing partners too will discuss and present their views, apart from the international and national speakers of eminence in the field of coronavirus research.

Symposium Held On Message Of Ramazan At IUST



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: The Department of Islamic Studies, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, Thursday organized its annual symposium "The Message of Ramazan" on theme "Social Implications of Tolerance and Truthfulness". Pertinent to mention that the Department of Islamic Studies has been organizing this annual symposium since 2006.

This year, scores of participants representing various departments of IUST as well as Mantaqui Memorial Higher Secondary contested for a speech competition. This speech contest is held to boost the confidence of the participants, while engaging them spiritually and intellectually.

Earlier Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, besides introducing the symposium theme, welcomed the participants and guests.

The symposium was chaired by Dr. Anisa Jan, Dean of Students, IUST, while as Dr. Munejah Khan, Associate Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, IUST, was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Showkat Hussain, Sr. Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, IUST and Dr. Inayet Rasool, Head, Department of Arabic, IUST, acted as judges. The contestants were presented with prizes and certificates. Towards the end of the symposium, Prof. Abdur Rashid Bhat, Professor at the Department of Islamic Studies, presented the concluding remarks and Dr. Gh. Nabi, Sr. Asst. Prof., Department of Islamic Studies, presented the vote of thanks.

The symposium was coordinated by Shahida Mir and Safiya Qazi, both students from the Dept. of Islamic Studies, IUST, under the guidance of Dr. Riyaz Ahmad Sheikh, Lecturer, Dept. Of Islamic Studies.

PM Unchained J&K From Shackles Of Regressive Laws: LG

Says 'Changing' UT Received 80 Lakh Tourists, Pilgrims In Six Months

Observer News Service

VARANASI: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Thursday that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in August 2019, unchained Jammu and Kashmir from the shackles of regressive laws that deliberately kept it away from the development.

He made these remarks while launching a book titled 'Vastu Botany', authored by Dr. Kunwar Sawhney, founder of Kashi Academy for Holistic Innovation, at the Malaviya Mulya Anushilan Kendra, BHU, Varanasi.

Addressing the august gathering on the occasion, the Lt Governor observed that the book will act as a guide and the combined scientific research of astrology, vastu and flora will be immensely helpful in holistic living.

The Lt Governor congratulated Dr Sawhney and the Kashi Academy for the launch of the book, and said that the effort gives a vital message to the world on the significance of Vastu and plants in our lives.

While lauding the efforts of the Kashi Academy in blending traditional knowledge with modern science, the Lt Governor said, "I believe that the first condition for establishing an inclusive society is the assimilation of values and culture with technological advancement. When we are passing through the era of modernity and accelerated development, we should also keep intact the values of our ancient traditions and culture".

The work that Kashi Academy is doing has the potential to leave a rich legacy for future generations, the Lt Governor observed.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also highlighted the immense transformation that Jammu Kashmir is undergoing



after August 2019.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in August 2019, unchained Jammu and Kashmir from the shackles of regressive laws that deliberately kept it away from the development. The speed with which J&K has progressed in the last one and a half years is unprecedented and unmatched, he added.

The Lt Governor underscored how for decades together, Valmiki, Gorkha, West Pakistani Refugees and tribal communities had been facing discrimination. However, today, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, J&K is touching new heights of equitable development and growth.

He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister and Home Minister,

"we have approved investment proposals of Rs 52,088 crore in just one year – i.e from March 2021 to April 15, 2022, despite Covid pandemic, creating immense employment opportunities for our youths".

The Lt Governor said that our security forces have succeeded in breaking the backbone of the "eco-system of terrorism" and a record number of tourists from across the country are coming to J&K. In the last six months, 80 lakh tourists and pilgrims visited the UT, which in itself is a testimony of changing Jammu Kashmir.

Exuding confidence in the ongoing system of proactive,

development oriented governance, the Lt Governor asserted that Aatm Nirbhar Jammu Kashmir would contribute to the progress of the country. It will compete with the developed States/UTs and J&K's development model would be replicated in other regions of the country, he added.

Along with economic development, we are also committed to the cultural development of Jammu and Kashmir. I would urge the learned people present here to work to further deepen the cultural, spiritual ties between Kashi and Jammu & Kashmir. I am sure that Kashi Academy will take this work forward with its study, research and fieldwork, the Lt Governor said.

"There is a deep connection between Kashi, the age-old city of spirituality and knowledge, the city of Baba Bholenath and the Sharda Peeth of Goddess Saraswati. Both, Kashi and Jammu Kashmir have also been the Land of spiritual salvation for Adi Shankaracharya, the great proponent of the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta, the Lt Governor added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also extended invitation to the Sant samaj, Seers and devotees for the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra starting from June 30th. He also assured full cooperation of the UT administration to the scholars who want to contribute through research on Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage.

AMARNATH YATRA

Principal Secretary Reviews Security Arrangements

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Nitishwar Kumar, the Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, on Thursday took a detailed review of the security arrangements at transit camps and stressed upgrading the security system, besides directed the officers to work with zeal and in close coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the annual Amarnath Yatra.

According to an official spokesperson, the Kumar visited Ganderbal, Bandipora & Anantnag districts and reviewed the Yatra arrangements on Thursday.

The Principal Secretary to Lt Governor, who is also the CEO of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, today visited Sumbal Yatra Transit camp, besides various proposed sites for Yatra Transit camps including Transit Camp near Central University Kashmir Tulamulla, Wandhama Transit Accommodation, Manigam Transit camp and the additional proposed site for Yatra camp at Chinner Kangan.

During his visit to Anantnag District yesterday, the Principal Secretary visited Walnut factory Qazigund, FCI Godown Mir Bazar, Nunwan Base Camp, proposed site at Yanner Pahalgam for additional tented accommodation and Frisking Point at Sarbal.

The Principal Secretary took on-spot assessment and received first-hand information on the augmentation of staying capacity for the pilgrims.

The Deputy Commissioners



briefed the Principal Secretary about the steps taken for augmentation of stay capacity from the existing one and up-gradation of other facilities for the comfortable stay of devotees during the pilgrimage.

While inspecting the facilities at these sites, the Principal Secretary said, "we are expecting about 8 lakh Yatris to participate in the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2022". He directed the officials to ensure all facilities are upgraded accordingly for the convenience of the Yatris.

The Principal Secretary directed the District Administrations to prepare a comprehensive plan for augmenting the staying capacity, and directed to make all necessary arrangements including facilities of sanitation, round the clock availability of medical facilities with the presence of doctors, paramedics and essential medicines, drinking water and electricity at Yatra Transit Camps and halting stations en-route.

Explicit directions were passed to the concerned officers to ensure all required arrangements

are put in place well before the commencement of the Yatra, besides completion of the construction of prefabricated huts at the earliest. PCS & CA department was directed to ensure the availability of all essential commodities during the yatra days.

The Principal Secretary also took a detailed review of the security arrangements at yatra transit camps and stressed upgrading the security system. He urged the officers to work with zeal and in close coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2022.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole; Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Dr. Owais Ahmad; Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Ms. Kritika Jyotsna; DIG SKR, Abdul Jabbar, SSP Ganderbal, Nikhil Borkar; SSP Bandipora, Mohd Zahid; SSP Anantnag, Ashish Mishra; Additional CEO SASB, Rahul Singh; ADC Anantnag; ACR Ganderbal; SDM Kangan, SDM Sumbal, besides senior officials of CRPF, SASB and other district officers accompanied the Principal Secretary during the visits.

Govt Committed To Welfare Of Minorities In J&K: NCM Chairperson

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Syed Shahezadi, Officiating Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities on Thursday said that the Union Government in committed to the welfare and progress of the minority communities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference at Srinagar, Syed Shahezadi said that the government is providing special focus to the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir and many initiatives and schemes are being taken in this regard.

She said that whole nation will progress when we work together and appealed everybody to contribute towards peace, progress and development.

Syed Shahezadi was on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from April 18-21 during which she held interactions with minority groups and listened to their issues. She said that the issues highlighted by the minority groups will be brought to the notice of the relevant authorities to improve the standard of living.

Highlighting the various schemes and projects for the welfare of minorities she said

that under PMJVK, 19 projects amounting to 314.33 lakhs have been sanctioned for providing better health, education and other facilities to the people of J&K.

She also said that government was committed to provide access to quality education to students from minority communities. She said the government was working with utmost sincerity to ensure welfare of these students through affordable, accessible and quality education and many schemes and scholarships are benefitting them.

Giving details she said that under pre-matric and post matric scholarships to the students of Jammu and Kashmir, an amount of 6.94 Cr and 26.3 Cr has been sanctioned respectively.

50 students from Jammu and Kashmir have been provided benefits of free coaching for year 2021-22 for which an amount of 39 lakh has been sanctioned by the Union Government. Under Nai Udaan scheme, she said that 315 students from Kashmir have qualified to prepare for the civil services examination. She further said that Nai Manzil and Nai Roshni schemes have helped 7750 and 2450 beneficiaries.

Covid Fails To Dampen J&K Growth Trajectory

J&K Achieves Highest Growth Rate In GST Collections: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir figures among the top four states/ Union Territories in the country in Gross Domestic State Product growth and achieved one of the highest growth rate in GST collections despite Covid pandemic slowdown.

The J&K Government realised the revenue collection of Rs 15217.17 crores in the year 2021-22 which is a 25.70 % growth rate as compared to Rs 12105.95 crs (17.02% growth rate) in 2020-21, Rs 10345.46 crs in 2019-20 (8.18 %) and Rs 9562.80 crs in 2018-19. The revenue has been realized from SGST/IGST/Compensation, Stamps, MST and Excise Collections across J&K.

The economy of other states witnessed a prolonged and severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; GST collections of many States across India went down while Jammu and Kashmir recorded 26 percent increase in the collections as compared to last year.

A senior officer of the Finance department said that hike in collections has happened because of a series of financial reforms introduced to bring fiscal discipline in the Union Territory.

It was a result of these reforms the Union Territory was granted Rs 1.12 lakh crore worth budget for 2022-23 financial year as compared to Rs 1.8 lakh crore in the last fiscal year of 2021-22.

Reflecting the financial discipline, the official data says that in 2018-19, Rs 67,000 crore was spent on the execution of 9229 developmental works while in 2020-21, 21943 projects were completed by spending Rs 63,000 crore only. The work done was more than double while the cost incurred was Rs 4000 crore less.

In the financial year of 2021-22, there have been 30 percent less expenditure as compared to earlier while works completed were five times more, statistics of Finance department reveal.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has attracted investments worth Rs 33,000 crore in the industries and service sector in the last year, which is double the investment of Rs 15,000 crore made since 1947.

The administration is expecting a possible investment of Rs 75,000 crore by the end of the calendar year 2022, which officials said is five times the investment that happened in the region in the last 75 years.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed financial transparency after major changes were brought in.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECHANICAL DIVISION SRINAGAR,
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT, KASHMIR.**

Fax No: 0194-2497093 | email: xenmds@gmail.com |
website: www.medkashmir.org

CORRIGENDUM No – 01

FOR CORRECTION IN Letter Head

Name of work:

- Providing of satellite telecom service for 24x7 weather monitoring at MED Complex Shalteng, for existing DTH Service provider for audio/video systems for one calendar year (2022-23).
- Repairs to Departmental inspection vehicle (JK01L-8320) and LRV Stallion (Ashok Leyland)

References:

- This office NIT no: - MDS/TS/2022-23/04/e-tendering Date: 15-04-2022.
- This office NIT no:- MDS/TS /2022-23/ 05 /e-tendering; Date: 16-04-2022.

Due to typographical error, the NITs under references were inadvertently issued on letter head of **“Chief Engineer, MED Kashmir”**. The same may please be read as **“OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Mechanical Division Srinagar, Mechanical Engineering Department, Kashmir.)**. All other terms, conditions, technical specifications and critical dates of the NIT shall remain same.

**NO:- MDS/TS/ 305-09
Dated:- 18-04-2022
DIPK-910/22**

**Sd/-
(Er. Rajesh Sharma)
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Division Srinagar**

Two Killed, 28 Injured As Bus Falls Into Gorge In Udhampur

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Two persons were killed and twenty-eight others injured when a bus carrying a marriage party skidded off the road and rolled down into a deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said on Thursday.

The accident took place



near Rang-Udak village late on Wednesday night, they said, adding the bus was on its way to Bland village.

Two persons were killed on the spot while twenty-eight others sustained injuries, the officials said.

The injured persons were shifted to Ramnagar hospital. Twelve with critical injuries were referred to Udhampur hospital, they added. The deceased have been identified as Rajio Devi (66) and Vimla Devi (48), the officials said.

Real Kashmir Face Aizawl FC In I-League Phase 2 Today

Press Trust of India

NAIHATI: Only one point separates them as Real Kashmir FC and Aizawl FC lock horns to kick off the second phase of the I-League in Naihati on Friday. Real Kashmir have never lost a game to former champions Aizawl. Real Kashmir head coach David Robertson wants to finish in the best way possible following a difficult first phase. "It was a difficult season for us for obvious reasons. We could not able to field the same team in consecutive matches. Things are looking better. We want to end the campaign in the best way possible," Robertson said.

Goalkeeper Niraj Kumar accompanied the coach in the pre-match press conference.

"The upcoming games are very important for us. We want to give our best in every match. We are looking forward to the upcoming games," Kumar mentioned.

"Aizawl are a technical team. They are very energetic. We had

problems keeping clean sheets but we have to defend well to stop them from scoring goals. Hopefully, the result will arrive in our favour," Robertson concluded.

Aizawl FC head coach Yan Law is eyeing positive results in the remainder of the matches.

"We have done very well throughout phase 1. Our players controlled the games and created so many chances. We need to start keeping clean sheets. Our objective is to finish with more points than a few top 7 teams," the head coach said.

Law wants to achieve what Aizawl has never done before, defeating Real Kashmir.

"We have never defeated Real Kashmir previously. Tomorrow, we want to win and break the streak. They are a different team. We have to approach the game tactically. We know what we need to do. "The boys are training well. We are focused on executing our plans," he concluded.

'MYMP' Events Rescheduled As Weather Plays Spoilsport

J&K Bank Academy take on SCFA Srinagar today at TRC



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The inclement weather conditions in the Kashmir division brought major relief to the natives as they were battling an unexpected temperature rise early in the year while on the other hand, incessant rains in the past 24 hours left most of the playground and stadiums soggy due to which 2nd semi-final of Spring Shield Cricket Tournament being held in Nanil, Anantnag and Tennis Ball Cricket tournament matches scheduled to be held in Khrew, Pulwama on Thursday was rescheduled for today.

Meanwhile, Pahalgal Blues registered their entry into the final of the Spring Shield T20 Cricket Tournament on Wednesday, trouncing Seer XI by 5 wickets.

The second clash for the entry to the summit between BSM Mattan and GSM Mattan scheduled for Thursday was postponed due to wet soggy outfield and inclement weather conditions. Both the teams had reported on the ground and umpires after inspecting the outfield decided to call off the match for the day not before rescheduling the game for tomorrow.

Similarly, the Tennis Ball

Cricket event slated to be held in Khrew Play Field was also called off and postponed till today.

Meanwhile, in the ongoing JKSC Youth Football League, two matches were played at TRC Synthetic Turf Football Stadium in Srinagar on Wednesday.

In the first match, JK Bank Academy defeated Bandipora Academy by 2-1, and in the second match, SCFA Srinagar outplayed Baramulla Football Academy by 2-0.

With these wins, J&K Bank Academy occupies the second spot in the points table with 4 points following SCFA Srinagar which has maintained its position at the top of the table with 6 points.

Both teams will face each other in a do-or-die match on Friday. The game is a must-win for J&K Bank Academy whereas a draw will earn SCFA Srinagar the long-battled Youth League Championship. The match is expected to go down the wire and is reckoned to be one of the best contests in the league.

All the events are being organised by J&K Sports Council under a special sports initiative under the banner of "My Youth My Pride".

14-Year-Old Hooda Seals Asian Games, Uber Cup Berths



Agencies

CHANDIGARH: Fourteen-year-old teenage sensation from Rohtak Unnati Hooda has secured her place in the Asian Games as well as Uber Cup by finishing third in the women's singles after Aakarshi Kashyap and Ashmita Chaliha, who claimed first and second positions, respectively.

Hooda is the youngest Indian badminton player to be part of

the Asian Games squad.

A 10-member women's team for the Asian Games and Uber Cup will consist of PV Sindhu, Kashyap, Chaliha, Hooda alongside Top-3 doubles pairs from the trials—Treesa Jolly-Gayatri P, N Sikki Reddy-Ashwini Ponappa and Tanisha Crasto-Shruti Mishra. Sindhu, Sen, Srikanth and men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj and Shetty were awarded direct entry into the squads for their world rankings inside Top-15.

Bumrah, Rohit Among Wisden's 5 'Cricketers Of The Year'

Press Trust of India

LONDON: India captain Rohit Sharma and pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah have been named among five players in Wisden's 'Cricketers of the Year' in the 2022 edition of the Almanack.

Besides the duo, the list also features New Zealand batter Devon Conway, England pacer Ollie Robinson and Proteas women star Dane van Niekerk.

England's Joe Root has been named leading cricketer in the world, while South African women's team batter Lizelle Lee has been awarded with the title of leading woman cricketer.

Besides, Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan has earned the title of leading T20 cricketer in the world.

Bumrah starred for India in their visit to England last summer. Besides his exploits in India's historic win at Lord's, he also produced a match-winning spell at The Oval with the latter handing India a 2-1 lead in the

WISDEN FIVE CRICKETERS OF THE YEAR



series that is to be concluded in July this year.

Rohit had an exceptional summer at the top of the order for India, scoring 368 runs in four Tests at an average of 52.57. The India skipper scored a match defining 127 at The Oval, his first Test century away from home.

Root was named leading cricketer of the year after an historic 12 months in which he scored 1,708 Test runs in a calendar year, the third most in history.

Lee was named leading woman cricketer in the world after a dominant 2021, averaging 90.28 with the bat in ODI cricket, including a spectacular series against India in which she scored 288 runs in four innings.

Rizwan's T20 recognition came after a record breaking 2021 in which he scored 1,329 runs at 72.88 in 27 T20s that included a century and 11 fifties. By passing 1,000 runs in a calendar year, he also became the first cricketer in the international game to achieve the feat.

DC Vs RR: It's Chahal Vs Kuldeep In The Battle Of Spinners

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Yuzvendra Chahal's bagful of tricks will meet its perfect match in Kuldeep Yadav's guile as the two wrist spinners are expected to dictate the narrative when Rajasthan Royals clash with Delhi Capitals in an IPL match on Friday.

With current 'Orange Cap' holder in Jos Buttler (375 runs) and 'Purple Cap' holder Chahal (17 wickets) in their ranks, the Royals are a team that is looking pretty formidable at the moment even with a dysfunctional middle-order, save Shimron Hetmyer.

On the other hand, resurgent Capitals are battling the agony that comes with a mini COVID-19 outbreak in the camp but are still trying to put their best foot forward to stay afloat.

Against this backdrop, the two wrist-spinners, who are currently dominating the bowling charts will be itching to show their wares with Kuldeep (13 wickets at No. 2) expected to pose some questions for in-form Buttler in case there is a match-up.

For Delhi, Kuldeep along with Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav would like to stem the run-flow but stopping Buttler will be on top of their agenda on a Wankhede track that is expected to be good for batting.



For Chahal, how he varies the pace against a rampaging David Warner or the ever-attacking Prithvi Shaw and skipper Rishabh Pant will be a delight for the fans.

Mustafizur Rahaman's cutters and Khaleel Ahmed's clever change of pace could also trouble the likes of Sanju Samson and Riyan Parag.

Similarly, if Trent Boult gets one to tail in first-up, Shaw's response and technique will be tested in earnest.

But Royals have now got a calm death bowler in West Indies' Obed McCoy, who was brilliant while bowling the final over against KKR.

McCoy, who made his IPL debut in the last game, is tall and looked like using his height to

good advantage to create awkward angles and length for the Delhi batters.

If middle-order non-performance is an issue for Royals, the DC doesn't seem to have found the second Indian batter in that middle-order slot apart from skipper Pant, who can take the bowling apart.

Mandeep Singh was a massive failure against genuine quick bowling but Sarfaraz Khan is trying to play himself in.

Rovman Powell till now has failed to show his destructive self and these are the players, who need to push the envelope when it comes to maintaining the momentum.

Serena, Lewis Hamilton Join Bid To Buy Chelsea



Agencies

LONDON: Former tennis world number one Serena Williams and seven-times Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton have joined Martin Broughton's bid to buy Premier League club Chelsea, a source close to the bid told Reuters on Thursday.

Former Liverpool chairman Broughton's consortium includes World Athletics President Sebastian Coe and wealthy investors from around the world, who the group says all want to maintain Chelsea's top status.

Private equity veterans Josh Harris and David Blitzter, who own sport teams including the National Basketball Association's Philadelphia 76ers, are also backing Broughton's bid.

Williams and Hamilton have pledged an estimated 10 million pounds (\$13.06

million) each to the bid.

Reuters have reached out to Broughton and Williams' representatives for comment.

Williams is already an investor in Los Angeles' Angel City FC, which plays in the National Women's Soccer League.

Final bids for the club, which was put up for sale by owner Roman Abramovich following Russia's invasion of Ukraine before sanctions were imposed on the oligarch by the British government, were submitted earlier this month.

Others on the shortlist to buy the English premiership club are LA Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly and Boston Celtics co-owner Steve Pagliuca.

A consortium led by Chicago Cubs owners the Ricketts family pulled out of the running.

The club's sale is being overseen by U.S. bank Raine Group.

Manchester United Name Ten Hag As New Manager

Agencies

MANCHESTER: Manchester United have named Ajax Amsterdam coach Erik ten Hag as their new manager to succeed interim boss Ralf Rangnick from next season, the Premier League club said on Thursday.

"Manchester United is delighted to announce the appointment of Erik ten Hag as men's first team manager, subject to work visa requirements, from the end of this season until June 2025, with the option to extend for a further year," United said in a statement.

Ten Hag is the fifth permanent manager to be appointed by United since Alex Ferguson retired in 2013 following David Moyes, Luis van Gaal, Jose Mourinho and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

Rangnick took over as interim manager in November following the sacking of Solskjaer with an agreement to continue as a consultant for two years.

The 52-year-old Ten Hag was appointed by Ajax during the 2017-18 campaign and led them to the Dutch league title in 2019 and 2021, as well as the Champi-



ons League semi-finals in 2019.

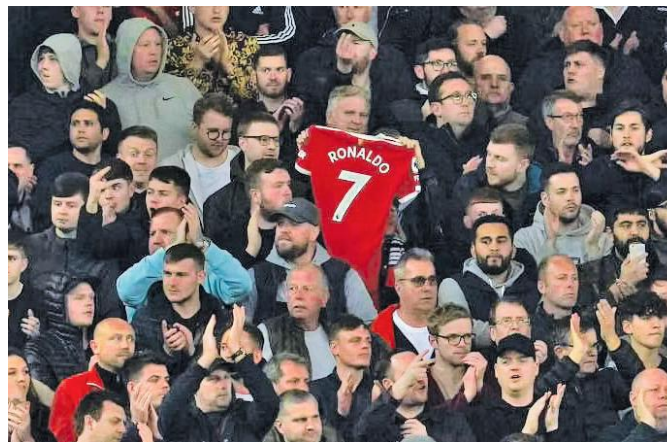
The Dutchman, who previously worked with the reserve team of Bayern Munich, had long been linked with a move to United.

"It is a great honour to be appointed manager of Manchester United and I am hugely excited by the challenge ahead," he said in the club statement.

"I know the history of this great club and the passion of the fans, and I am absolutely determined to develop a team capable of delivering the success they deserve," he added.

"It will be difficult to leave Ajax after these incredible years, and I can assure our fans of my complete commitment and focus on bringing this season to a successful conclusion before I move to Manchester United."

Ronaldo Thanks Liverpool Fans For Show Of 'Compassion'



Agencies

MANCHESTER: Cristiano Ronaldo expressed his gratitude to Liverpool fans for their show of support after his newborn baby son died.

The fierce rivalry between Manchester United and Liverpool was set aside during the seventh minute of Tuesday's 4-0 win for the home side at Anfield as the entire stadium joined in a minute's applause.

Liverpool fans also sang their anthem "you'll never walk alone".

Ronaldo missed the match to be with his family after he and partner Georgina Rodriguez announced the sad news on Monday.

"One world... One sport... One global family," Ronaldo posted on Instagram, alongside a video of Anfield rising to its feet.

"Thanks, Anfield. Me and my family will never forget this moment of respect and compassion."

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp described the ovation as his "moment of the match" despite a resounding win for his side.

Ronaldo and Rodriguez, who were expecting twins, also confirmed the birth of a baby daughter on Monday.

The couple, who met during Ronaldo's time at Real Madrid, have a four-year-old daughter together, while Ronaldo has three other children.

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