

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

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P3 CITY

EID UL FITR 2022: CITY MARKETS WITNESS LESS FOOTFALL OF SHOPPERS

Ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr, markets across the city would remain abuzz with shoppers but this time around things are different. City markets are witnessing less flow of people and enthusiasm

P5

WHAT CAUGHT THE WEB

LET THERE BE LIGHT?

With the deepening power crisis disseminating a profane deflation among Kashmir's local populace, a new parody Twitter account of Kashmir's Power Development Department (PDD) has become K-Twitter's new virtual friend who's spreading smiles amid distress.



P7 STATE

MERCURY SETTLES AT 40.4 DEGREES CELSIUS IN JAMMU

Jammu city recorded the maximum temperature of 40.4 degrees Celsius on Saturday, slightly lower than the season's high of 41 degrees the previous day, officials



29 TH RAMAZAN		
	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	7:16	4:14
FIQAH JAFARIYA	7:23	4:12



From the deepest desires often come the deadliest hate
- Socrates

NEWS DIGEST

CISF Constable Shoots Himself Dead

SRINAGAR: A Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) constable on Saturday allegedly committed suicide in Gurez area of north Kashmir's Baniptora district. 28-year-old CISF constable Kamaljeet Singh allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle near the Dam site of Kishanganga **More on P6**

J&K Sees 11 New Corona Cases

SRINAGAR: As many as eleven people on Saturday tested positive for Coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir while no fresh fatality due to the virus was reported in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. According to officials, seven new cases of **More on P6**

ACB Nabs Engineer With Rs 10K Bribe

SRINAGAR: The anti-corruption bureau (ACB) on Saturday arrested an Executive Engineer for demanding and accepting a bribe for releasing payment of a contractor in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. The anti-graft body received a complaint from a contractor alleging that **More on P6**

5 Kg Heroin Seized Near LoC

JAMMU: The Army seized over five kilograms of heroin along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said Saturday. Soldiers of the Army's Ace of Spades division noticed some suspicious movement in the area along the LoC on Friday evening and launched a search and sanitisation **More on P6**

Now, NMC Cautions Medical Students About Pak Colleges

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has advised Indian students not to enrol themselves in medical colleges in Pakistan.

The public notice issued by the NMC came days after the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) through a joint advisory urged Indian students not to enrol themselves in any college or educational institution in Pakistan, failing which they will not be eligible to find a job or pursue higher education in this country.

"All concerned are advised not to travel to Pakistan for pursuing Medical Education.

"Any Indian national/Overseas Citizen of India who intends to

'It Doesn't Feel Like Home': Nostalgia, Nightmare In Kashmir Orphanage

Tabia Masoodi,
Al Misda Masoom

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

Life inside an orphanage is an emotional roller-coaster—"always testing the tested"—Musaib says without blinking an eye. The orphan yet to observe his 18th birthday narrates his nightmare that comes to haunt his stay in the house of orphans. The nightmare starts with an Azaan that suddenly turns into a resounding scream. A siren-wailing ambulance can be heard next in that dusk

hour. It unsettles Musaib who leaves his prayers and embraces his mother tightly.

His mother Fozia quickly folds the praying mat, mumbles prayers for everyone's safety and runs downstairs to make sense of screaming. Musaib follows her like a scared kitten. He then wakes up to an awful reality.

He sees himself in a strange shelter bereft of his mother's comforting presence. He gets up and prays in the masjid of the orphanage he now lives in. The nightmare repeats ever



since his father's death in a road accident landed him in an orphanage. After offering prayers and

completing his meals at Iftar, Musaib came back to his room and sat in a corner to study. But his melancholic mood couldn't let him concentrate. He was continuously drifting back and forth into the past. After trying for a few more minutes to concentrate on his studies, he gave up and left the room for an evening walk.

Roaming in the orphanage courtyard, he wished that he could go out on the street to feel a little freedom but the rules won't let him. Frustrated by this thought he kicked a

little stone and wiped off his tears and came back to his room. But the flashbacks did not leave him.

"I've an episodic memory of that incident," Musaib said. "Even though it was 14 years ago, I remember it like it was yesterday. How my father was carried out of the ambulance and how his body was fully bandaged. When I saw him I asked my aunt what happened to him. Why was he sleeping? And she said he's a little sick and he has to go somewhere for treatment. **More on P6**

ARTICLE 370 AFTERMATH

Over Rs 9,000 Crore Spent On Security Till 2021

Agencies

New Delhi: In 28 months since the abrogation of Article 370, the Centre spent over Rs 9,000 crore, especially on security expenditure, in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir.

The amount was paid to the Jammu and Kashmir government under the security-related expenditure (police) scheme since the inception of the UT on August 5, 2019, the day when Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, and Articles 370 and 35 (A) were nullified that gave the erstwhile state its special status and the mandate to define its domicile rules.

MHA's recently published annual report 2020-2021 mentions these facts, mentioning "in order to strengthen the security apparatus, the Government of India has provided Rs 9,120.69 crore to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir under the Security Related Expenditure (Police) scheme since its inception".

As per the report, the amount includes Rs 448.04 crore that was spent till December 31, 2020 since the bifurcation



of Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides, the report says, the MHA has also approved the raising of five India Reserve (IR) Battalions, two Border Battalions and two Women Battalions for Jammu and Kashmir. "The recruitment has already been completed for five IR Battalions."

Officials in the MHA told news agency ANI, "The security situation in J-K is monitored and regularly reviewed by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Army, Central Armed **More on P6**

Gen Pande Takes Charge As Army Chief

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Gen Manoj Pande took charge as the 29th Chief of the Army Staff on Saturday after incumbent Gen MM Naravane retired from service.

Gen Pande, who was serving as the vice chief, became the first officer from the Corps of Engineers to helm the force.

Before taking charge as vice chief

of the Army on February 1, Gen Pande was heading the Eastern Army Command, tasked with guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh sectors.

Gen Pande took charge of the Army at a time India is facing myriad security challenges, including along the borders with China and Pakistan.

As the Army chief, he will also have to coordinate **More on P6**

Haji Aazmeen Asked To Deposit Cash, Papers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Haji Committee on Saturday asked the selected Haji-2022 pilgrims of the Union Territory to deposit advance payment and required documents by May 6.

In a statement issued here, an official spokesperson said that Haji Committee of India in a communication to the J&K Haji Committee has asked all the selected pilgrims to deposit an advance of Rs81,000 - each upto May 6, 2022 positively.

As per an official handout, it was given out that the payments can be made either: Online at i.e. <https://hajcommittee.gov.in> or in Haj Committee of India Account maintained with SBI or account maintained with UBI through any branch of SBI / UBI having Core banking system by using unique Bank Reference Number in the Specified pay-in-slip on website or By cheque of any branch of SBI / UBI in the respective Bank.

In Addition, the spokesperson said that the Pilgrims of Kashmir **More on P6**

Markets Abuzz For Eid Shopping After 3 Years Of Lockdowns

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Markets in Kashmir were abuzz with activity on Saturday as shoppers thronged markets in preparation for Eid-ul-Fitr after years of pandemic and security clampdown following abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

Eid in Kashmir will be celebrated early next week.

A good footfall of customers was seen at



bakery outlets, shops, chicken vendors, mutton vendors, readymade garments and crockery stores. **More on P6**

Saudi To Celebrate Eid On Monday

Saudi Arabia announced to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr on May 2, as the Shawwal moon was not sighted on Saturday. The crescent of the month of Shawwal could not be sighted from the Tamir observatory or from the observatory of **More on P6**

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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Sunday| 01-05-2022

2

How Much Garden You Would Need to 100% Survive On

Jeff Somers | Life Hacker

Gardening is often pitched as a relaxing, therapeutic activity—and it is relaxing and therapeutic! But it's also a sign of how advanced society has become that we can regard growing food as a charming hobby instead of an absolute necessity. On the one hand, that's a clear sign of mankind's mastery over the world. On the other, it's left us remarkably dependent on a system of farming and delivery logistics that has been shown to be distressingly fragile.

Anyone who has ever successfully grown a tomato plant in their backyard has wondered if they could go "off-grid," grow their own food, and be done with their local supermarket. The answer is yes, but that's the wrong question. The question isn't whether it's possible—the question is how. It's all about the logistics: How much space do you need to grow enough crops to feed you and your family? Math will help you figure this one out.

Calculate the necessary square footage

If you've only ever gardened for fun, or to supplement your store-bought groceries with some tasty home-grown treats, you might not be aware of just how much space is required to feed someone. You may have noticed that family farms are kind of large, and there's a very good reason for that (though some of that space was

traditionally given over to livestock and draft animals). Estimates vary. Different crops require different amounts of space, for example, and some gardening gurus estimate you'd need at least 4,000 square feet per person, with more space allotted for stuff like lanes between crops.

Most of us don't have 4,000 square feet to dedicate to gardening, but you probably don't need quite that much as long as you're efficient. A good rule of thumb is that you need about 200 square feet per person for a self-sustaining garden. So if you're a family of four, figure you'll need about 800 square feet, or a space about 20x40 or 10x80.

That's ... still a lot of space, especially if you're in an urban setting. The key is planning your garden out, because different crops take up different amounts of space, and if you're going to live off of those crops you have to include a wide variety of plants for nutritional completeness. Your garden will need to include these:

Proteins. If you're going to survive on a garden, you won't be eating meat. While nuts are an excellent source of protein, nut trees take up a lot of space, so make sure you plant beans. Growing lima beans on poles will require about six square feet of garden per person. Snap beans will take about 10 square feet and soybeans will eat up about 30 square feet.

Carbohydrates. You'll need some starch in your diet. The good news is that you have a lot of options. Beans will pull double duty here, in fact. Potatoes will require about 25 square feet per person,

corn will require about 30 square feet per person, squash will need about six square feet, and peas need about eight square feet.

Vitamins. A complete diet requires a load of nutrients beyond protein and carbs, so plan on including stuff like spinach (eight square feet per person), broccoli (eight square feet), kale (one square foot), or cabbage (10 square feet).

Fruits. You can live on vegetables alone, but having some fruits is a great idea. Melons are great (six square feet per person), as are pumpkins (10 square feet), strawberries (10 square feet), and watermelons (six square feet).

Medicinals & Spices. Some plants don't offer much nutritional value, but make life a lot better by providing seasoning or health benefits. Some examples include cilantro (one square foot per person), garlic (four square feet), onions (eight square feet), and mustard (two square feet).

If you grow every plant we just discussed for a family of four, you'd need a garden space of approximately 754 square feet of garden—so the 200 square-foot rule tracks pretty well.

are the caveats to surviving on your own food

There are a few caveats here, or aspects of a survival garden you really need to think about before you decide that just because your backyard is precisely 200 square feet you'll be able to pull this off. First of all, the list above isn't comprehensive and only included a few examples. You might want things like carrots, okra, or cauliflower. This garden size calculator will give you some idea of how

much square footage each crop requires. When planning your garden, the main rule is this: Grow stuff you want to eat. Growing food you despise is no way to live.

Other things to consider:

Variety. Keep in mind that growing just enough food to survive on will wear on you over time. Sure, you could go full Mark Watney and try to live on potatoes alone (and you just might be able to with some supplements thrown in), but if you think entering year two of nothing but potatoes won't be depressing, you're kidding yourself. Keep in mind that variety is the spice of life, and diet variety will require more square footage.

Seeds. Make sure you always select open pollinated seeds so you can recover seeds from your crops and re-plant.

Spoilage. Growing food is a battle against nature. The moment your crops start to grow, hungry things will show up to eat them in the middle of the night, bugs will nest in them, and diseases will somehow find them. You're going to need a margin of error if you're going to live off your garden—and you will likely need a year or two to figure out what not to do and make adjustments to your plan.

Design. There are many ways to lay out and manage a survival garden. Square foot gardens use raised beds and a grid system to maximize space, keyhole gardens are drought-resistant, and home-stead gardens utilize a farm-like layout (and require more space). When planning a survival garden, look at the space you have and consider what kind of garden design will maximize your yield.

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name 1: ICAI Doctoral Scholarship Scheme 2022

Description: ICAI Doctoral Scholarship Scheme 2022 is an initiative by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) for students pursuing Ph.D. degree.

Eligibility: Open for candidates below 40 years of age on the date of the application with an ICAI membership. The candidates must be full-time students at the University/College/Institution while pursuing PhD programmes.

Prizes & Rewards: INR 50,000 per month and a contingency grant of INR 50,000 per annum

Last Date to Apply: 31-07-2022

Application mode: Via email only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/CA56



only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/IJA7

Scholarship Name 3: Oxford and Cambridge Society of India Scholarship (OCSI), UK 2022

Description: Oxford and Cambridge Society of India Scholarship (OCSI), UK 2022 is an initiative by the Oxford and Cambridge Society of India (OCSI) for Indian students applying for Undergraduate/second undergraduate/graduate and research studies in the US and UK.

Eligibility: Open for candidates below 30 years of age on 1 September of the year of application for the award and fulfil all the academic requirements as specified for the scheme. The candidates must be admitted to the University of Cambridge or the University of Oxford through the University's normal academic procedures.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 200,000

Last Date to Apply: 15-05-2022

Application mode: via email only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/OCS7

Scholarship Name 2: IIT Jammu Internship Program (Accelerate Vigyan) 2022

Description: IIT Jammu Internship Program (Accelerate Vigyan) 2022 is an internship opportunity offered by the Indian Institute of Technology, Jammu to work under the VRITIKA event titled - "Solar Thermal Energy Conversion" sanctioned by Accelerate Vigyan, SERB.

Eligibility: Open for candidates having B.E./B.Tech. and/or M.E./M.Tech./M.S./M.S.(R) degree in Mechanical or Energy or equivalent streams with at least 7.0 CGPA on 10 point scale or 70 per cent marks in aggregate from a recognized technical university/institute as a full-time program.

Prizes & Rewards: Variable awards

Last Date to Apply: 10-05-2022

Application mode: Online applications

از نیابت کنزرو
مضمون درخواست: شہیر احمد حجام ولد غلام نبی
Hajam Sahane موضوع لعلپورہ ہمارا عطائیگی
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اشتہار ہمارا آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
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درخواست ہائیت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ
موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ پولیس سٹیشن کنزرو و چوکیدار
علاقہ نے سائل کے پسر کی پیدائش اندراج نہیں کی ہے
سائنلشیر احمد حجام ولد غلام نبی حجام بیان کرتا ہے
کہ اسکا پسر عیان شہیر کی تاریخ پیدائش
17-12-202 کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام
کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص
کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سائل
ہوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر
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امدی	پیشہ	عمر	نام و نامید	نمبر
01	مستند	62 سال	مستند یوسف پالہ ولد شعیان پالہ	8000
02	گشتی	60 سال	گشتی اختر روجہ محمد یوسف	8000
03	گشتی	45 سال	گشتی اختر روجہ محمد یوسف	8000
04	روزی	30 سال	روزی جان دختر محمد یوسف پالہ	8000
05	روزی	28 سال	روزی جان دختر محمد یوسف پالہ	8000
06	ترکشی	27 سال	ترکشی جان دختر محمد یوسف پالہ	8000
07	بسط	26 سال	بسط یوسف ولد محمد یوسف پالہ	8000
08	عائینہ	25 سال	عائینہ جان دختر محمد یوسف پالہ	8000
09	سیرت	14 سال	سیرت یوسف دختر محمد یوسف پالہ	8000

اے کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کہہ نہیں سکتے ہیں یہ سائل کے کہنے کے پاس دفنا میں
اکان زہری اراضی موجود ہے۔ جس کی سالانہ آمدنی پانچ ہزار کی آمدنی حاصل ہوئی
یہ اس طرح کل سالانہ آمدنی اٹھ لاکھ دو ہزار روپیہ بنتی ہے۔ اب سرٹیفکیٹ مڑ کوہ
کی اجرائی جس اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو ایلیٹ ہوم کے اندر اندر
دفتر ہذا میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر الصدوناتب تحصیلدار- rma

**OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
J&K POLICE PUBLIC SCHOOL BEMINA SRINAGAR.**

Batmaloo:- 190001 E-mail:- digsgraff@ikpolice.gov.in Fax:- 245113 Tel:- 0194-2455064

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE.

Applications on plain paper with full bio-data affixed With passport size' photograph are invited from the eligible candidates for the below mentioned; posts; in J&K Police Public School Bemina Srinagar on adhoc basis. Application should reach to the office of DIG CKR Srinagar SMC Road Balgarden upto 10th of May 2022, Applications will be received w.e.f 30/04/2022 from 10:a.m. to 04:00 p.m.

S.No	Name of the Post	No. of posts	Eligibility Criteria	Salary.
1.	PGT Chemistry	01	MSC Chemistry with B-Ed	Rs. 15,000/= Per month.
2.	PGT Physics	01	MSC Physic with B-Ed	Rs. 15,000/= Per month.
3.	Computer Teacher (PRT)	01	MCA with B-Ed	Rs. 12,500/= Per month
4.	Science Laboratory attendant	02	10+2 (with Science background having basic computer knowledge)	Rs. 5000/= Per.monjth.

Note: - Selection will be purely on interview basis.

Saijad K Bhat, Staff Officer,
For DIG CKR Sgr.

DIPK-1345/22
No:-GB/CKR/PPS-21/2022/ 5511/15
Dated:28/04/2022
(Administrative Officer J&K PPS Bemina Sgr)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SPECIAL FOREST DIVISION KULGAM

e- NIT NO:- 01 of 2022-23 DATED:- 27-04-2022

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./ Central Govt. Organizations for the following work: -

Name of Work:- Standard nursery maintenance operations for Polybag Nurseries in Hitech Nursery Kulgam, S.C Nursery Kulgam, S.C Nursery Chambgund & Avil Nursery Veshew.

Particulars of Work	Adv. cost (Rs. in lakh)	Bid Security	Class of contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion
Maintenance operations of Polybag Nurseries.	2.984	BSD Form	" D " Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor, JKFC Contractor	Rs. 200	Six calendar Months
Hitech Nursery, Kulgam Range No. of Polytops 1st year = 0 2 nd year=70000 3 rd year=7793					
S.C Nursery Kulgam, S.C Range Kulgam No. of Polytops 1st year = 50000 2 nd year=15000 3 rd year=0					
S.C Nursery Chambgund, S.C Range Kulgam No. of Polytops 1st year = 61767 2 nd year=40000 3 rd year=36796					
Avil Nursery, Veshew Range No. of Polytops 1st year = 20000 2 nd year=50000 3 rd year=0					
Total 351356 Nos Note: Operations include weeding, hoeing, segregation and shifting of Polytops.					

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- www.jktenders.gov.in.

Position of Funds: Budgeted
Position of AA: Give order No. 02/CFs/2022-23 Dated 23-04-2022.
Position of TS: Give Order No. 02/CFs/2022-23 Dated 23-04-2022.

Publishing Date:-	27-04-2022
Download Start Date :	28-04-2022 from 06:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date:	28-04-2022 from 06:00 PM
Bid submission End Date:	07-05-2022 Up to 04:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:	09-05-2022 at 11:00 AM in the Office of the Conservator of Forests Kashmir South Circle Bijbehara Anantnag.
Date of Opening of Financial Bid through online:	To be opened (Online) at any convenient date and time after complete Evaluation of Technical Bids Received.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website jktenders.gov.in. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act. Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406-Forest and Bid Security in the shape of Bid Security Declaration form duly filled in with time period prescribed and addressed to Divisional Forest Officer. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e BSD Form, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2021-22, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document).
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.

NO:- DFO/Sp/Kul/Acctts/57-63
Dated:- 27/04/2022

DIPK-1363/22

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
Kulgam Forest Division,
Kulgam.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of own-ership has been recieved from one.Shri : Ghulam Hussain Bhat S/o: Ali Moham-mad Bhat R/o: Parisabad Pora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Maruti 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04A - 6193. Chasis number 42702 Engine no. 60339 Model 2007. in favour of Shri. Bilal Ahmad Sofi S/o. Bashir Ahmad Sofi R/o Dreygam Khasipora Budgam (Transferee) as well as HPA cancel-lation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Budgam. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of own-ership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Re-gional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspa-per .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.368
Dated 30/04/2022
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 : Mian Mohammad Iqbal S/o: Mian Jamal ud Din R/o: Lal Nagar Chanapora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV M-800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04- 5451. Chasis number 383328 Engine no. 93327 Model 2002. in favour of Shri.. Aijaz Ahmad Khan S/o. Lt. Gh. Mohd Khan R/o Batamaloo Srinagar (Transferee) Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of own-ership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Re-gional 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.750
Dated 30/04/2022
Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
mcb



PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost both the Number plates (Front & Back) Of my ve-hicle bearing Regd No; jk05d 7126. 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 Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
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Market Checking Intensified Across Srinagar City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to prevent profiteering and black marketing by business establishments operating in Srinagar, the special Market Checking teams of District Administration Srinagar on Saturday conducted market checking across the Srinagar City to ensure all essential commodities are sold at Government approved rates as per the quality standards with sufficient availability of consumables.

The checking squads comprising of senior officials from Revenue, Police, Food Safety Wing of Drugs & Food Control Organization, SMC, FCS&CA and Legal Metrology Departments under the supervision of SDM East and SDM West conducted intensive market checking in all Tehsils of Srinagar City and inspected various markets within their jurisdiction.

During the drive dozens of food business units were sealed, while several erring shopkeepers were also booked found failing to maintain the quality of food items, not displaying rate lists of essential commodities, selling expiry products, besides indulging in practices of illegal profiteering and sale of underweight products.

A fine to the tune of over Rs 2 lakh was also imposed on the erring shopkeepers for violating different provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act.

During the market checking over 2 dozen Food Business Operators that mainly include the Bakers who were operating without license and under unhygienic conditions were prohibited from further manufacturing.

The kneading of dough was checked at all the bakery units and it was found that at maximum places the same is being done mechanically.

The Date of Manufacture, Use-by Date, Ingredients, Nutritional information and Temperature Controlled system in the Display Panels was also checked. While other food items especially Mutton and Chicken were also inspected along with the team of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on owners of all Business establishments and shopkeepers to maintain quality and standard of essential commodities and ensure all essential commodities are sold at Government approved rates. He asked the Market checking teams to continue the drive even after Eid-ul-Fitr.



File Pic

EID UL FITR 2022

City Markets Witness Less Footfall Of Shoppers

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr, markets across the city would remain abuzz with shoppers but this time around things are different.

City markets are witnessing less flow of people and enthusiasm seems to be missing.

Most of the people cite inflation and back to back lockdowns as the reasons that have "broke the back" of poor and middle class people.

Shopkeepers say after two years of lockdowns imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic have hit the ordinary people hard.

"People find it hard to make ends meet".

Another reason which people cite is the unprecedented inflation which is making it hard for people to shop ahead of the festive season.

"Usually around a dozen customers would visit our shops on daily basis which has increased to around 20 but ahead of Eid hundreds of customers were visiting our shops" said Zahoor Ahmad, a shopkeeper from Amira Kadal.

He said that a number of people are thronging to the market but due to inflation they are unable to buy the desired items.

"A person takes an amount and thinks that he will buy three or four items from it but once he reaches

the market he is unable to buy even a single item from it".

Traders from other areas also echoed the same voice and said after three years Eid is being celebrated without restrictions and were expecting good sales this year but inflation has pinched poor people very much and they are taking only important items to meet their two ends.

They said that the dent caused to "our economy since 2019 due to lockdowns is coming to the fore now as it has made poor people poorer and they are struggling to meet their two ends."

"Constant price rise is hitting the common man where it hurts the most and the ad-

ministration has failed to take meaningful steps to curb the trend," they said.

It has wreaked havoc on people, particularly daily wagers, hawkers, laborers, middle, BPL and salaried classes and depleted their savings.

In Lal Chowk, Srinagar, less number of people were seen on roads which otherwise presented a bustling look ahead of the Eid-ul-Fitr.

As per Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation's report on monthly retail inflation, J&K has an inflation rate of 7.59 percent which is even higher than the national inflation rate of 6.95 percent. (With KNO Inputs)

LCMA Conducts Demolition Drive In Various Areas

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Enforcement Wing of Lake Conservation & Management Authority today conducted a demolition drive in Nigeen, Shahdabagh, Lashkari Mohalla NFR, Friends Colony, Nowpora areas of the city on Saturday.

During the drive, the structures which were built illegally were raised to the ground.

The LCMA authorities informed that there is zero tolerance for illegal constructions/encroachments, besides no laxity or dereliction of the duty on part of field staff is being tolerated.

Recently two watchers of the Nigeen site have been placed under

suspension for showing callous approach towards their assigned duties.

Lake Conservation & Management Authority have directed people not to go for any sort of illegal constructions taking the undue advantage of Govt Holidays.

LCMA said the Enforcement wing will continue its demolition drives of illegal constructions, removal of encroachments and will continue to initiate legal action against the violators.

Moreover, it advised the Tipper and Load carrier owners not to carry any construction material in the prohibited area of Dal and Nigeen Lakes without getting proper permission and in case anybody is found shall be dealt with as per law.

Two Bakery Units Fined At Lal Chowk

Observer News Service

Srinagar, Apr 30, KNT: A team from the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Saturday fined two well-known eateries of Srinagar city for alleged non-adherence to norms and selling bakery and confectionery at exorbitant rates.

Led by Assistant Director Enforcement Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Srinagar, Mushtaq Ahmed Wani, the team inspected various bakery manufacturing and selling units, mutton shops and eateries in parts of the city as part of a drive launched by the Department ahead of the Eid festival.

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER, PAMPORE.

TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Sealed tenders affixed with revenue stamp of Rs.2 are invited from Registered dealers /suppliers having valid GST numbers for the purchase of following categories of items 01. General Medicine, 02. Lab items/consumables, 03.OT items/consumables, 04. Dental items/consumables, 05.Xray items/consumables and 06.stationery items for Smooth functioning of SDH Pampore which should reach to office of undersigned within 10 days from the publication of this tender notice. The tenders shall be opened on next day after last date of submission at 2.00 Pm in presence of bidder's who should be present on the same date and time. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned (i.e. Name of the items along with their specifications) from 05-05-2022, 10.00 Am to 4.00 Pm on working days up to one day before last date of the submission of tenders.

Terms and conditions:

- 1.Rates should be written both in words and figures for each item. The rates should be sealed by affixing transparent tape to avoid any possibility of tampering.
- 02.The rates should quoted as per latest GST rules.
- 03.unsealed tenders shall not be entertained.
04. The approved tenderer shall have to supply the items to this office time to time as per requirement after issuance of the supply orders .
- 05.In case the successful bidder fails to supply the material, the department/committee reserves the right to purchase the same from other parties/bidders on the same rates, terms and conditions.
- 06.The tender should be accompanied with CDR of Rs 10000/- for each category as mentioned above.
07. Quality Shall be given preference irrespective of price.
- 08.Authorization certificate is mandatory .
09. Tax clearance certificate should be attached with bid documents.
10. Rates should be inclusive of all taxes .

DIPK-1397/22

No:- BMO/P/
Dated:- / 05 /2022

Block Medical Officer
Pampore

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



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- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BJBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



**HIJRI
CALENDAR**
29 Ramazan
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 12
ZUHR	12:28
ASR	5:18
Magrib	7:17
ISHA	8: 45

This Day In History

- 1947 - Radar for commercial & private planes 1st demonstrated
- 1948 - North Korea proclaims itself Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 1949 - Gerard Kuiper discovers Nereid, (2nd satellite of Neptune)
- 1951 - 600,000 march for peace & freedom in Germany
- 1956 - A doctor in Japan reports an "epidemic of an unknown disease of the central nervous system", marking the official discovery of Minamata disease.
- 1960 - India's Bombay state split into Gujarat & Maharashtra states
- 1962 - 1st French underground nuclear experiment in the Sahara
- 1965 - USSR launches Luna 5; later impacts on Moon
- 1965 - Battle of Dong-Yin, a naval conflict between ROC and PRC, takes place.
- 1966 - US troops shooting targets in Cambodia
- 1972 - North Vietnamese troops occupy Quang Tri Activities Committee
- 1977 - 36 people are killed in Taksim Square, Istanbul, during the Labour Day celebrations.
- 1978 - Naomi Uemura became 1st to reach North Pole overland alone
- 1984 - Great Britain performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1985 - US President Reagan ends embargo against Nicaragua
- 1986 - Russian news agency Tass reports Chernobyl nuclear power plant mishap
- 1991 - Angolan civil war ends
- 1991 - Last day of Test cricket for West Indian batsman Gordon Greenidge.
- 1993 - Bomb attack on Sri Lankan president (26 die)
- 1997 - Tony Blair elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
- 2000 - President of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo declares existence of "a state of rebellion", after thousands of supporters of her arrested predecessor, Joseph Estrada, storm towards the presidential palace at height of EDSA III rebellion.
- 2003 - In what becomes known as the "Mission Accomplished" speech, U.S. President George W. Bush declares that "major combat operations in Iraq have ended" on board the USS Abraham Lincoln off the coast of California
- 2008 - The London Agreement on translation of European patents, concluded in 2000, enters into force in 14 of the 34 Contracting States to the European Patent Convention.

From KO Archives

2 Teenaged Brothers Shot Dead

Observer news service

Baramulla: Two brothers in their teens were killed and their cousin injured when the security forces allegedly fired upon them in Devar (Lolab) of Kupwara district yesterday.

According to reports Sajjad Ahmad and Parvez Ahmad sons of Muhammad Anwar Khan of Devar village in Lolab area were busy picking up guchhies (a mushroom) in the forest in the afternoon yesterday. While one of them was a 9th class student, another was reading in 7th class. On seeing them, reports said, the security forces on a patrol in the jungle, opened fire upon the children killing the two brothers on the spot while injuring their cousin. Identity of the latter could not be ascertained immediately. Reports further said the security forces got the case hushed up by paying Rs 1,500 as hush-money for each of the de-ceased.

It may be recalled that, in a similar incident, security forces had allegedly killed a student in the Kupwara forests recently and later claimed that his body had been picked up from the forest during a routine patrol. In that case, however, the family of the victim had refused to accept any money.

Kashmir Observer, May 1, 2000

T: 0194-2311312 (S) F: 0194-2311420 (S) T/F: 0191-2476079 (J)
E:jkhpmtctd@gmail.com

Jammu & Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing & Processing Corporation (JKHPMC) Ltd

**Horticulture Department,
Jammu & Kashmir Government**

Opposite Presentation Convent School,Rajbagh, Srinagar-190008, J&K

No: JKHPMC/e-NIT No.89 of 2022

Dt: 30-04-2022

Subject: Date Extension Corrigendum-2 w.r.t Notice 89 of 2022, dated 22-03-2022.

In view of several requests received from the prospective bidders in respect of the "Tender" for "Empanelment of Agencies (for a period of one year) for the Finalization of Annual Rate Contracts for supply of Agricultural Machinery Equipment and other allied branded items with ISI/BIS marking", Last Date of Online Bid Submission is extended by Eight (08) days' time and as such the Last Date of Online Bid Submission would be up to 07-05-2022. Subsequently the Bid Opening Date would be 09-05-2022.

Other Terms and Conditions will remain the same unless notified otherwise.

DIPK-NB-599/22

Sd/-
Managing Director
JKHPMC Ltd

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Twitter Talks



“All the parking lots are in & around lal chowk, as if Elon Musk has donated flying cars to people in rest of the city. Maddening jams on Nalamar road, Nawakadal, Bohori Kadal, Habba Kadal, Soura, Qamarwari etc. Urban planning is a joke in #Srinagar”
@riyaz_masroor
“Kashmiri politicians are fine with giving time to journalists from mainland India. When Kashmiri journalist reach out to politicians like @OmarAbdullah or @MehboobaMufti they shy away & don't give interviews beacuse we are aware with local issues we won't ask hunky-dory questions”
@shahidtantray

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Flying The Coop

With the curtain about to ring down on the government's half-yearly sojourn in the summer capital, the somewhat pretentious officialdom, politicos included, of the state is all set to take its soothing ministrations to the more conducive climes of Jammu in a seemingly endless repetition of an ante-diluvian practice. Obviously, the chill descending this side of the Pir Pansal range freezes the creative and innovative currents within our masters, and they need warmer air to keep their beneficent and benevolent souls going.

Jammu and Kashmir has the distinction of being the only state with two capitals with the government migrating between them after every six months. In between, it helps itself with a neat 10-day break as if after a ‘tiresome’ performance in either region even as the drain on public exchequer in the shape of inconsequential touring and resultant expenses on petrol and allowances goes on without any respite. In fact, some kind of a ‘seasonal’ inertia sets in throughout the move offices about a month earlier as the officials begin packing up for the bi-annual trek up and down the highway. The files and records of various move offices are a mute witness to the common refrain during these days: “put up after durbar move.” Thus, by any calculation, the state government remains in a comma for about a month in every six months. It hardly matters if by the same token the government gives an emphatic lie to its own claim of being “a government that works every day”. In the process, the near-empty state exchequer is made to cough up a few crores of borrowed money to sustain a patently primitive tradition of ‘durbar move’ the erstwhile Dogra ruler, Maharaja Ranbir Singh, had initiated 133 years ago, in 1872.

Remember, in the eighties, the then happy-go-lucky chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, had taken a bold decision to dispense with the time-consuming and expensive practice only to spark off massive protests in the winter capital which forced him to lick the dust by withdrawing the order. Apparently, the main argument put forth to retain the practice is that it promotes emotional integration between the Muslim-dominated Kashmir region and Jammu having a substantial Hindu population. Partly, it also contributes a great deal in boosting trade and commerce in Jammu region. Over the decades, however, both the pleas have become almost totally irrelevant. The emotional integration between Kashmir and Jammu is just a farce as the two regions are not always on the same wave length in respect of quite some crucial issues.

The rise and groundswell of regional groups like the Jammu State Morcha has left nobody in doubt that the disturbingly saffronised regional and separatist sentiments are eating into the shrinking secular base, particularly in the two and a half districts of Jammu, Kathua and Udhampur. The growing influence of the RSS and its Hindutva outfits like the Shiv Sena and Bajrang Dal is no music for Kashmiris and certainly cannot even tolerate, leave alone nourish, any emotional bonds between the two regions. It is an open secret the RSS has been organizing regular shakhas in certain areas while the Bajrang Dal distributes trishuls to militarize the Hindu mind against Muslims.

It is no wonder that the Congress and the National Conference, who have lost no opportunity in making a travesty of their secular credentials at the regional and the national levels for the petty profits of power, should hold on to a tenuous artifice, a fig leaf, rather, to flaunt a virtue both have sacrificed time and again for the spoils of office. So, sensing themselves lacking in moral authority in deciding an issue on hard practical sense, they try to compensate by keeping up appearances. As both are deeply compromised in dealing body blows to the foundations of the nation's philosophy, they have no other option but to keep up outdated notions to avoid having to grapple with hard facts.

Otherwise also, the half-yearly migration of the government out of the problem zones affects its performance rather adversely leaving the deserted areas’ people high and dry. The sooner the practice is abandoned, the better it would be for the entire state and its people. Indeed, in an era when the entire world has been reduced to a global village, the government can evolve a mechanism through which to administer the state quite effectively and efficiently without having to move between two capitals. It goes without saying that most ministers and top functionaries even otherwise keep routinely flying between the two capitals regardless of where the seat of power happens to be.

The article is an editorial from KO Archives and was originally published on 12 June, 2010

Schools are Drug Kiosks

Sarah Koul

Today, if you think it is impossible for your child to have easy access to drugs, you are terribly mistaken. Being a recent high school graduate, I can attest that schools have become the hub for facilitating drug culture. They serve as hosts to the discreet yet abundant exchange of contacts, information and even the substance itself.

Otherwise deemed to discipline, schools have become kiosks for dope and drugs. Not only do these kiosks sell the substance that spoils students but they also furnish impressionable adolescents with the inspiration to abuse and consume drugs.

Peer pressure is the key contributing inspiration behind drug abuse. Curiosity of young adolescents is weaponised against them. They become real life cases of “Trial and Error” as in many instances, a friend or the dealer provides some substance without any cost, for the individual to ‘taste’ or ‘try’. They give youngsters the apt amount to make them an addict in one single dose. This then facilitates an uninterrupted sale of drugs to the dealer and a unending loop of despair for the young addict.

Similarly, the popular culture image of drugs and dope which glorifies it especially as “masculine” and “manly” also contributes adversely to the situation. Students who have already given to abuse make it look desirable for others to consume it. It then becomes a “fashion” statement that young boys in school ties take up readily. Then these students become suppliers and this cohort increases. The chain further grows, involving as many students as approachable.

The dictum in school goes that Heroin is as available as a bottle of water. It is no wonder then that teenagers as young as 14-15 years old have taken to drug abuse. In recent times, it has been witnessed that teenagers as young as 14-15 year olds too are getting involved in this trend.

In addition to being a fad, in many instances, drugs are consumed owing to emotional and mental plight. It is very evident that the youth of Kashmir has witnessed inhumane conditions for many years now. As a consequence of conflict trauma, the rate of prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression and chronic anxiety has risen unprecedentedly. The youth is confused, scared, wounded, caged and helpless. Add to this the prolonged lockdowns following the abrogation of Article 370 and Covid pandemic which kept youngsters out of schools for over three years.

Moreover, lack of opportunities and unemployment, even lack of recreation further adds to their misery. Students can't seem to be able to escape their thoughts and thus resort to drugs.

Decades of uncertainty have deeply implanted hopelessness into the minds of general masses.

Recent lockdowns which resulted in financial and economic drawbacks have also added to the misery of all, pushing more and more youth towards this menace. The Kashmir case is a typical case in point for the saying, “It's not the drugs that make a drug addict, it's the need to escape reality”.

No wonder then, drug addiction is spread-



Otherwise deemed to discipline, schools have become kiosks for dope and drugs. Not only do these kiosks sell the substance that spoils students but they also furnish impressionable adolescents with the inspiration to abuse and consume drugs

ing across Kashmir like an epidemic outbreak. A Government report says there are at least 6 lakh people in the 17- 33 age group affected by drug related issues in Kashmir. According to a report published by the United Nation Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) around 70 thousand people are drug addicts alone in the Kashmir division. According to a survey conducted by the J&K administration in 2019, some 600,000 people—over 4.5 per cent of the total population of the Union territory (as per Census 2011)—are into some form or other of drug addiction. Of them, 90 per cent were found to be in the 17-33 age group. The substances consumed range from pharmaceutical opioids to heroin and brown sugar. The consumption of opioids in J&K is estimated to be among the highest in the country.

What needs to be understood and exterminated is the structure and system of supply of these substances.

As responsible adults and members of a community and society, everyone must realise their responsibility and make amends to help fight this wave of drug abuse outbreak. We must realise that drug abuse does not only affect and impact the user but also the whole community. Car accidents as a result of driving under influence, burglary, assault, instances of break-ins and other criminal behaviours threaten the safety and security of the whole community.

The question is why and how are these substances so easily available in the first place? How and why have parents become so ignorant in parenting and raising their child that they do not realise their child is going the wrong way?

Strict and stern actions need to be immediately taken by the authorities to curb and in fact

put down this structure of supply and distribution. This outbreak can only be put down if we nip the evil in the bud. Excessive amount of freedom, both social and financial, is not healthy in any way. It is important to keep a check on where your child is going, who he is meeting and where he is spending his money especially when he would need thousands of rupees to be able to purchase a substance. Easy access to social media and messaging apps has made it more convenient for people to approach or contact anyone, even drug dealers. These substances can be procured over a phone call, in fact a single text message.

Parents must keenly supervise their children and also improve the environment they provide to them. In many instances, the communication gap between the parent and child breeds barriers in their relationship. And thus pushes the child towards depression for he/she cannot even confide in their parents. Lack of support, warmth and love can particularly contribute towards pushing them to the edge.

Drugs will not only wreak havoc on your child's future, but their present and past too. It is the responsibility of every parent to help in preventing the spread of this virus which does not only jeopardise a person and his family but the whole society.

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 student

Will Change of Guard End Pak's 'Independent' Foreign Policy

Haider Abbas

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan's fate was sealed when Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa used the word 'invasion' when Russia attacked Ukraine on February 24, when Khan was in Moscow.

The regime change in Islamabad is a big win for Washington since it retreated from Afghanistan. Interestingly, India and China, the otherwise bêtes noirs, have been guarded not using the word “invasion”. The winds of change were evident in Pakistan after General Bajwa shadowed the Washington line.

However, the second change in Pakistan politics came when Turkey, whom Islamabad considered an ally to form a new Organization of Islamic Countries, drifted towards the US

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdo an, in a clear pro-US signal, even refused to provide airspace for flights to Russia from Syria. This will affect Moscow's plans to recruit Syrian mercenaries to fight inside Ukraine.

Turkey's shift has also hit Islamabad's plan to build a new Islamic block, away from the influence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. However, Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman and US President Joseph Biden were unable to iron out their differences and hence, KSA is now considering some of its oil sales to China in Yuan, reported Wall Street Journal.

What Imran Khan did inadvertently in the process is bringing together Mohammed Bin Salman and Chinese President Xi Jinping together.

Syrian Shockwaves

Moscow's plan to recruit Syrian soldiers has sent shockwaves throughout European nations, who stand behind Ukraine. It is believed that Russia has deployed up to 20,000 mercenaries from Syria, Libya, and elsewhere in its new offensive in Donbas.

An official told the Guardian newspaper that estimates of mercenary involvement on the ground in eastern Ukraine range from 10,000 to 20,000 and that it was hard to break down that figure between Syrians, Libyans, and other fighters recruited by the Russian security company, the Wagner Group.

Syrian ex-soldiers have been offered monthly salaries of between \$600 and \$3,000, depending on rank and experience, to fight in Ukraine.

The recent attack in Karachi that killed three Chinese citizens and the previous one in Dasu area of Balochistan that killed nine Chinese workers is seen by many as a way to target China and Chinese working in Pakistan. Killing the CPEC project appears to be the eventual aim

Wagner is a private military company where mercenaries are hired to fight for money irrespective of national interests. However, what may be added Syrian president Bashar Al Assad, could survive only because Russia lend these fighters.

Therefore, Turkey came to the rescue of Europe, which joined hands with France, to help curb Russia in the war. Turkey also had finished with an upper hand over Russia in the recent Azerbaijan-Armenia war and also has historical differences with Russia.

Turkey had also closed the straits at the entrance of the Black Sea for Russian warships. How Russia is now to interpolate to this latest Turkish diktat is to be seen, but right now Russia is 'all-ahead' to take over the Black Sea, and turn Ukraine into a land-locked nation, to monopolize Black Sea's oil and natural gas resources. In such a scenario, Russia will have to turn toward its trusted friend Iran.

Russia In A Spot?

Will Russia now take any stand against Turkey? The possibilities are minimal as Moscow stands isolated and in fact, could only register a complaint that Turkey was selling its Bayraktar TB2 UAVs to Ukraine.

Meanwhile, India too stopped a Japanese military aircraft carrying humanitarian aid to Ukraine. New Delhi argued that India would allow only civilian aircraft and will not let foreign military aircraft in its airspace.

The move did not antagonize Russia, and India due to its diplomacy could strike a balance in the last two months. Right now, India plays host to Raisina Dialogue, in which speakers from 90

nations are participating, Polish Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau, has urged India to reconsider its stance on the Ukraine war.

Poland which is on alert since the war began, is now into a massive ‘Stop Russia Now’ campaign and wants Russia to be out of G-20, and does not want Russian President Vladimir Putin to be present at its next summit to be held in Indonesia in October.

Poland has already supplied millions of dollars worth of military aid to Ukraine. However, India is not likely to lend an ear to Polish calls as India has its priorities.

The war will soon end but the pyrrhic victory that the US has notched over the regime change in Pakistan has sent shivers inside China, as the billions of dollars it has invested in the China-Pakistan-Economic-Corridor (CPEC) is at stake.

CPEC is the most ambitious project China has ever had, under its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), through which it wants its goods to reach Gwadar Port in Balochistan and be routed to the Mediterranean Sea for Europe and US.

The recent attack in Karachi that killed three Chinese citizens and the previous one in Dasu area of Balochistan that killed nine Chinese workers is seen by many as a way to target China and Chinese working in Pakistan. Killing the CPEC project appears to be the eventual aim.

Washington never wanted CPEC to succeed and India's no holds barred approach to it, could finally spell a gloomy picture for China, as the US once after this Russian imbroglio, will surely like to focus on CPEC with a single-point agenda to annul it.

This would be the most resounding victory that India would have over Pakistan as well as over China.

An article in The Global Times, just before Khan's ouster had subtly dealt with the coming scenario, “However, this does not mean that the US will stop meddling in the politics of some of China's neighbors to undermine China's development and neighborhood diplomacy.”

Let's see what is to happen next?

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Eurasian Times The writer is a former UP State Information Commissioner and writes on international issues

WHAT CAUGHT THE WEB

Let there be Light?

This Parody Account is Giving Kashmir's Power Department a Jolt, One Tweet at a Time

KO Web Desk

With the deepening power crisis disseminating a profane deflation among Kashmir's local populace, a new parody Twitter account of Kashmir's Power Development Department (PDD) has become K-Twitter's new virtual friend who's spreading smiles amid distress.

Despite the identity of the person behind @jkpddparody being anonymous, the account owner is being ingenious in combining the concurrent power crisis rapturously with sarcasm, all the while taking a silent dig against the Power Department in Kashmir.

It all started on April 28, when overwhelmed by the unprecedented crisis, the parody pundit came out with its first sarcastic tweet. "Iftar time/Power cut time. Tell us in the comments if we missed the power cut in your area", the parody account had tweeted. This tweet was a hit among Kashmiri twitter users who could understand that it was a witty jibe at the "power schedule" that the PDD is (in)famous for

in Kashmir.

With that tweet, it became clear that the account had rolled up its sleeves and elected itself to be the voice of the "powerless" and what better way to do it than through satire?

The PDD parody account deserves all the accolades for constructively platforming the anguish and anger of Kashmiri people on account of the electricity crisis that Kashmir has been facing lately. It has managed to be the wittiest yet the most harmless of critics of the PDD – serving sense through smiles.

Making the most of this period of unprecedented power crisis, the parody account is filling virtual spaces with its creative and satirical writings. The account user seems to know Kashmiris well. It takes on from the very common practice in Kashmiri neighbourhoods of asking, "power-cha?/ Do you have electricity?" and turns it into another hard-hitting critique of the crisis.

Perhaps, that's why not many could control themselves from spreading the word, when the

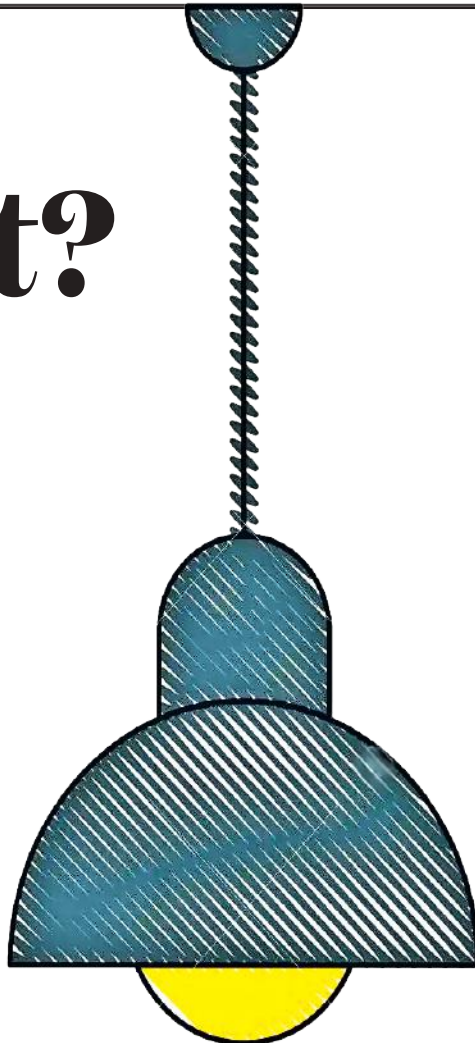
parody account tweeted, "You worried that your house doesn't have power supply while all your neighbors have? Don't worry we got your back, call us immediately and we will cut the power supply of your neighbors as well".

With "Bijli darakht pe nahi ugti hai" (Electricity doesn't grow on trees), the parody account's humour seemed infectious and promised K-twitter their pal next door.

When Kashmiri journalist, Azaan Javaid tweeted a soulful picture of Srinagar bedeck with lights, the parody jumped in to call the shots yet again.

Loaded with sarcasm, it tweeted, "Sorry for the inconvenience, our employees are currently busy with prayers, once they are free we will cut the power supply!"

The parody account has exemplified "making fun of others but with a meaning". K-twitter is religiously taking part in enjoying the parody account's content which feels intelligent and defies the notion of "one needs a highly self-selected audience for parody humour".



Your Body, Your Fast



Aejaz Iqbal

Ramazan is a month of self-regulation and self-training. Muslims fast in accordance with our religious requirements, but there are medical benefits as well. Generally, fasting has been used by patients for weight management, to rest the digestive tract, and for lowering lipids. There can be adverse effects of both total fasting and crash diets.

Islamic fasting is different from these diet plans because in Ramadan fasting, there is no malnutrition or inadequate calorie intake. The calorie intake of Muslims during Ramadan is typically at or slightly below the nutritional requirement guidelines. In addition, the fasting in Ramadan is voluntarily taken and is not a prescribed imposition from the physician. And there is hope that this training will last beyond the end of Ramadan.

The difference between Ramadan and total fasting is the timing of the food; during Ramadan, we take an early pre-dawn breakfast and do not eat until dusk. The fast is from both food and liquid intake.

Abstinence from water for eight to 10 hours is not necessarily bad for health. In fact, it causes concentration of all fluids within the body, producing slight dehydration. The body has its own water conservation mechanism. It has even been shown that slight dehydration and water conservation, at least in plant life, improve their longevity.

The physiological effect of fasting includes lowering of blood sugar, lowering of cholesterol, and lowering of the systolic blood pressure. In fact, Ramadan fasting could be an ideal recommendation for the treatment of mild to moderate, stable, non-insulin diabetes, obesity, and essential hypertension.

It is important to note that patients who are suffering from severe diseases, such as Diabetes or coronary artery disease, kidney stones etc are exempt from fasting and should not be allowed to fast. There are psychological effects of fasting as

well. There is a peace and tranquility for those who fast during the month of Ramadan. Personal hostility is at a minimum, and in areas of the world where Muslims are living in large numbers, the crime rate decreases. This psychological improvement could be related to better stabilization of blood glucose while fasting; hypoglycemia after eating can aggravate behavior changes. There is a spiritual beneficial effect of extra prayer at night. This not only helps with better utilization of food, but also helps in energy output. It has been calculated that there are 10 extra calories output for each unit of the prayer. This would particularly be connected to the extra prayers that are performed during the last 10 nights of Ramadan, when the believer is seeking the night of power, when worship during this night is said to be worth a thousand months.

It is important to emphasize that Muslims are not performing prayers for exercise, but a mild movement of the joints with extra calorie utilization can be a better form of exercise. Similarly, recitation of the Quran not only produces a tranquility of heart and mind, but it has also been shown to improve memory.

Fasting is a special act of worship which is ultimately between the believer and the Creator Himself, as no one else knows for sure if this person is actually fasting. In a hadith of the Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, Allah says, "Fasting is for Me and I only will reward it." In another hadith, the Prophet reminds us, "If one does not give up falsehoods in words and actions, Allah has no need of him giving up food and drink."

Fasting not only purifies a Muslim's soul but also his body. Fasting helps reduce weight and rejuvenate the body as food consumption is modified and the body gets a chance to cleanse itself of unwanted impurities and toxins.

Ramazan brings with itself countless blessings and benefits. Observe fasting in Ramadan to be rewarded in this world and the Hereafter.



KODAK MOMENTS



Kashmiri residents shop ahead of Muslim festival Eid al-Fitr at a local market in Srinagar. Markets across the Muslim world witness huge shopping rush in preparation for Eid al-Fitr, a celebration that marks the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

Picture credit: Faisal Bashir. / @thebasupunk

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Quality Over Quantity: Re-Learning the Meaning of My Ramadan

Marium Abid

I was twelve years old when I apparently committed a sin during Ramadan; I prayed eight rakaats of Taraweeh instead of twenty. Young and eager to resume eating and relaxing after fasting, I prayed the shorter version followed by the witr prayer. Proud of my cheeky shortcut, I quietly folded my prayer mat and tried to sneak out of the room. My aunt who had seen the whole spectacle called from behind, "What do you think you are doing and how did you finish your Taraweeh so quickly?"

As you can already imagine, what followed was a bout of scolding about how I won't be getting any rewards for the prayers because I cut them short to enjoy food and how I'm disrespecting the gift of Ramadan. At this point, I was of course crying from embarrassment of being scolded in front of everyone instead of being ashamed for not praying all the twenty rakaats of Taraweeh.

To this day, I'm still scared to

pray only eight rakaats. Even when I pray eight rakaats in a congregation, I feel like I have cheated somehow and would make up for it by doing other forms of ibadah.

That one episode of not praying enough rakaats has stayed with me for a long time and for years, I would be in this race; pray all the nafls, do all the dhikr, pray all the taraweeh, finish two Qurans and so on. Although, I would be able to successfully tick most of these off at the end of every Ramadan, I would never, however, come out of Ramadan feeling content. The meaning of the Quran and the Ibadah I was doing would still be a stranger to me even after spending a month engrossed in the ibadah.

What I learnt then was to invest my time on the quality of my ibadah rather than the quantity.

It is a very common behavior embedded in us since early childhood to focus on the quantity of the worship as opposed to its quality. We are always in a race, in all aspects of life.

Who posts the most on social



media, who has the most likes, who has the biggest house etc and in Ramadan, this race intensifies. Who finishes the highest number of Quran, who does the most charity, who sends out the

most Iftars, how many dishes are you making for an Iftar and oh boy, if you have made only one dish then you're already out of the race.

I was in this race as well; mak-

ing sure I was doing everything according to the list curated by my society.

Preparing samosas beforehand, preparing a feast everyday, hastily reciting the 20 rakaats of

Taraweeh, praying all nafls, listening to Quranic lectures and doing all the dhikr. Everything was going well until I burnt out last year as I was juggling all this with my 3-months old.

This is when I decided to pause and rethink. I thought about what was I getting out of this month besides exhaustion and social pressure of being a jack-of-all-trades.

Even after doing all this, I still didn't understand the meaning of the words of Allah nor did I feel the spiritual uplifting or mental peace which comes with Ramadan. In the midst of this race, I had lost the true meaning of Ramadan.

On the surface, I was doing everything. However, what was lost was my connection to Allah which is supposed to strengthen in this month.

This year, therefore, I have decided to take things slow. This month is my time to increase my taqwa and restore my relation with Allah which becomes secondary sometimes in the hustle bustle of our lives.

This Ramadan, I aim to focus and understand the book of Allah and learn from the teachings of Prophet SAW and to improve my akhirah. This Ramadan, I don't want to be in a race instead I want to take a breather from this world which has soaked us in its glamour so much that sometimes, even in Ramadan, we feel difficult to come out of it.

As we have successfully finished some fasts by now, we should all be getting in the routine of Ramadan. If something is not working for you, don't feel pressured to do it. Alternatively, if something is working for you then make a mindset to continue doing it after Ramadan. Make the actions of this Ramadan a permanent part of your everyday life.

Don't do so much that by the end of it, you're so exhausted that you don't have energy to continue. And whatever you do, do it for the love of Allah because your actions during this month are between you and Allah alone.

- Amaliah

Can't implement reform in a day, says CJI Ramana over using local language in courts

Agenceis

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India N V Ramana on Saturday said reforms such as the introduction of local languages in courts cannot happen in a day as these things take time due to logistical difficulties and hiccups.

"Sometimes, some of the judges are not familiar with the local language. The chief justice will always be from outside. Senior-most judges sometimes are also from outside," Justice Ramana said.

"There are several hurdles and bottlenecks or hiccups in the implementation of a regional language," he said in reply to a query during a joint press conference along with Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju.

At the press conference, held following a day-long joint conference of chief ministers and chief justices of high courts, the CJI said that sometime in 2014, a plea to use local languages in courts was rejected by the full court of the Supreme Court.

"Thereafter, no concrete proposal came before the Supreme Court. Now recently, the debate over allowing regional languages has started," he said.

Tamil Nadu has raised the issue of using regional language in judicial proceedings, the Chief Justice of India said.

Justice Ramana also referred to a similar request by a senior

politician from Gujarat but said he has not received any proposal yet.

"It has to reach from the village level to the Supreme Court. It takes some time," he said.

"Secondly, we do not have that technology or systems where the entire records have to be translated to local language or from local language to English. The logistic support is the biggest problem," Justice Ramana said.

To some extent, artificial intelligence is the way out, he said, adding that former CJI S A Bobde and Justice Nageswara Rao Committee had tried to do something in the matter.

"We cannot implement reform in one day. I think it will happen only over a period of time," he said.

The Union law minister, in response to the query, said the government was committed to promoting regional languages in the technical and legal field and consultations with stakeholders have to be held for that.

When asked what is stopping the government from using local languages in courts, Rijiju said, "Nothing is stopping. It is a process which requires wider consultations with the judiciary."

"Use of other languages in courts not only for arguments but also passing orders will require approval of the Chief Justice of India. That is why it needs wide consultation," Rijiju said.

ED seizes Rs 5,551 cr deposits of Chinese smartphone giant Xiaomi for FEMA violation

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate Saturday "seized" over Rs 5,551-crore worth fund of Chinese mobile manufacturing company Xiaomi for violating the Indian foreign exchange law, officials said.

In a press release after the ED's statement, Xiaomi Technology India Private Limited said its operations in the country are "firmly compliant with local laws and regulations".

The company (also called Xiaomi India) is a trader and distributor of mobile phones in the country under the brand name MI.

"Xiaomi India is a wholly-owned subsidiary of

the China-based Xiaomi group. This amount of Rs 5,551.27 crore lying in the bank accounts of the company has been seized by the Enforcement Directorate," the agency said in a statement.

The seizure has been done under sections of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) after a probe was launched by the federal agency against the company in connection with alleged "illegal remittances" sent abroad by the Chinese firm in February, it said.

Xiaomi began its operations in India in 2014 and started remitting the money the next year, the agency said.

Mobile Internet Services Suspended In Punjab's Patiala, 3 Senior Police Officers Transferred



Agenceis

Patiala: The Punjab government on Saturday suspended mobile internet and SMS services in Patiala district, a day after clashes between two groups over an anti-Khalistan march left four people injured.

The government also transferred the inspector general of police (IG) Patiala Range, the Patiala senior superintendent of police and the superintendent of police with immediate effect.

A spokesperson of the Chief Minister's Office said Mukhwinder Singh Chhinna has been appointed as the new IG-Patiala while Deepak Parik will be the new Patiala SSP. Wazir Singh has been appointed as the new superintendent of police of Patiala.

Chhinna replaces Rakesh Agrawal as IG (Patiala Range) while Parik takes over the post of SSP-Patiala from Nanak Singh.

Police and district administration authorities claimed that the situation is under control and peaceful in the city.

Heavy police security has been deployed at the site of the clashes outside the Kali Mata temple in Patiala, while various Hindu outfits have given a call for a bandh here.

The order to suspend mobile internet and SMS services, except voice call, was issued by the state's home affairs and justice department.

In exercise of power conferred upon me by virtue of temporary suspension of telecom services (public emergency or public safety) rules, 2017, I Anurag Verma, principal secretary, home affairs and justice, do hereby order suspension of the mobile internet services (2G/3G/4G/CDMA), all SMS services and all dongle services etc provided on mobile networks except voice calls in the territorial jurisdiction of the district of Patiala from 9:30 AM to 6 pm on April 30, said the government order.

And, where there is an imminent danger of loss of life and or damage to public/ private property, and widespread disturbances of public tranquillity and communal harmony, as a result of inflammatory material and false rumours which are being/ could be transmitted/ circulated to the public through social media/ messaging services on mobile internet services, all SMS services and dongle services," it said.

To thwart designs and activities of "anti-national and anti-social groups or elements", maintain peace and communal harmony and to prevent loss of life or damage to public or private property, the order said, it has become necessary to take all necessary steps and measures to maintain law and order due to "unavoidable circumstances" in Patiala district in public interest.

Describing the measures, it

said that this being done "by stopping the spread of misinformation and rumours, through various social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter on mobile phones and SMS, it said.

It was also mentioned in the order that the Patiala deputy commissioner and SSP have hinted towards a situation where data services could be grossly misused by certain unscrupulous elements.

Talking to the media, Patiala Deputy Commissioner Sakshi Sawhney said the situation is calm and peaceful.

We have deployed force here. The situation is peaceful right now and the situation is under control. We are constantly monitoring the situation, Sawhney said.

On suspension of mobile internet services, the official said this step was taken to prevent any rumour mongering but appealed to people not to panic.

Inspector General (Patiala Range) Rakesh Agrawal, who has now been transferred, said two FIRs have been lodged in the matter and Harish Singla, working president of a group called "Shiv Sena (Bal Thackeray)" has been arrested.

During the violence on Friday outside the temple here, the groups hurled stones at each other and police fired in the air to bring the situation under control.

Delhi reels under heatwave, max temp settles at 43.5 Deg C

Agenceis

New Delhi: Delhi continued to reel under a heatwave on Saturday as the maximum temperature here settled at 43.5 degrees Celsius, five notches above the season's average, the India Meteorological Department said.

The IMD, however, predicted dust and thunderstorm on Monday and Wednesday which is likely to give some respite to residents from the scorching heat.

"Heatwave is likely to sweep across the region on Sunday too. People are likely to get some respite from the heat as the city would witness dust or thunderstorm on Monday and Wednesday. There will be partly cloudy sky on Tuesday," IMD officials said.

For the plains, a heatwave is declared when the maximum temperature is over 40 degrees Celsius, and at least 4.5 notches above normal. According to the weather office, city's minimum temperature was recorded at 25.7 degrees Celsius, two notches above the normal on Saturday morning.

"Maximum and minimum temperatures of the day are likely to hover around 43 and 25 degrees Celsius on Sunday," IMD officials said.

The relative humidity at 5.30 pm on Saturday was 17 percent, the weather office said.

Addressing a press conference earlier in the day, IMD

Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said night would be warmer in May in most parts of the country, including Delhi.

Private weather forecasting agency, Skymet Weather said Palam recorded highest maximum temperature of the season.

"Delhi Palam recorded maximum temperature 44.6 degrees Celsius, highest of the season and also highest after 2017 when it was 44.9 degrees Celsius. Record is 45.3 degrees Celsius on April 25 in 1970. @SkymetWeather @JATINSKYMET (sic)," Vice President, Meteorology and Climate Change, Skymet Weather, Mahesh Palawat said in a tweet.

According to the IMD, Delhi recorded its second hottest April in 72 years with a monthly average maximum temperature of 40.2 degrees Celsius. The city's normal monthly average temperature in April is 36.30 degrees Celsius. In 2010, Delhi had logged an average monthly maximum temperature of 40.4 degrees Celsius.

The national capital experienced three prolonged heatwaves this month in the absence of periodic light rainfall and thundershowers which typify this time of the year due to lack of active western disturbances.

It recorded a monthly average maximum temperature of 37.30 degrees Celsius in April last year, 35.30 degrees Celsius in 2020, and 37.30 degrees Celsius in 2019.



DELHI PALAM RECORDED MAXIMUM temperature 44.6 degrees Celsius, highest of the season and also highest after 2017 when it was 44.9 degrees Celsius. Record is 45.3 degrees Celsius on April 25 in 1970. @SkymetWeather @JATINSKYMET (sic),"

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

'It Doesn't Feel

I was really calm at that time because I was unaware of the fact that life ends, that there is something called death. I did not realise that my father had died and my life's changed forever."

Musaib came to an orphanage in Srinagar when he was in Class 5. And now when he's in his 12th standard, he's still there—following the same old routine.

Before becoming orphan, he used to study at his father's academy. But after his death, Musaib was enrolled in an orphanage in Kishtwar but couldn't make peace there because of homesickness.

"I used to make excuses that they don't teach well there. So, my mother withdrew me from there and enrolled me in this city orphanage," the fatherless boy says. "Even here I was not able to settle well and tried to make excuses but then I realised that it is not right. My mother sacrificed her life for me and my siblings. I need to do something good."

Despite living in the orphanage for the past seven years, the place still doesn't feel like home for him. "I want to go home and be with my family. On occasions like Ramazan, I become homesick."

Musaib's Ramazan for many years has been set on the same timetable. From waking up for sehri to forming a long queue for iftar everything needs to be done accordingly.

The boy spends his Sundays washing clothes and cleaning his dorm. "I always have this thought that if I was at home my mother would have taken care of all these chores," he said. "Of course, I would've helped her but you know that feeling of someone doing things for you. It's missing here. It's Sunday and most children my age would be out there enjoying, playing and shopping but I'm not even allowed to leave this place. I'm not complaining. People here are good. But these thoughts cloud my mind and bother me sometimes."

Deep in thought, Musaib started to hang his clothes on the rope. Wringing off a cloth a few droplets splashed over his face, disrupting his trail of thoughts and he snapped back to reality.

He left for Masjid to offer Zuhr Namaz and returned to sleep for the whole afternoon. If it would have been a Sunday in any other month, all the kids would have spent the afternoon together playing or studying.

"We usually play after Asar but today most of us slept and so now we cannot play," he said. "They'll ask us to study. It sometimes feels like a jail. I know all the rules are for our betterment.

But because of this feeling of being trapped, I feel anxious and depressed sometimes. But then I remind myself of the goals and dreams I have to achieve. What other option do I have? I used to go to the top floor to look outside. The sound of cars and buses calmed me. But now the construction of new buildings blocked my only source of relief at those moments of melancholy."

Over Rs 9,000

Police Forces (CAPFs) and other security agencies".

"The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) also monitors the security situation closely and continuously in tandem with all the above agencies and the Ministry of Defence. The multi-pronged approach to contain cross-border infiltration also includes multi-tiered deployment along the international Border or Line of Control, border fencing, improved intelligence and operational coordination, equipping security forces with advanced weapons and taking proactive action against infiltrators," they said.

It also mentions that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also announced a development package of Rs 80,068 crore for the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir under Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP-2015) comprising 63 major projects in critical sectors, namely Road, Power, New and Renewable Energy, Tourism, Health, Education, Water Resources, Sports, Urban Development, Defence and Textile.

Out of 63 projects, the report reads, 54 projects are being implemented in UT of Jammu and Kashmir with an outlay of Rs 58,627 crore.

It says 20 projects have been completed or substantially completed and others are at various stages of implementation.

"As on 30th November, 2020, an amount of Rs 32,136 crore have been released for various projects, out of which Rs 30,553 crore have been utilized." (ANI)

Gen Pande Takes

with the Navy and the Indian Air Force on the government's plan to roll out theatre commands.

The theaterisation plan was being implemented by India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Bipin Rawat who died in a helicopter crash in December last. The government is yet to appoint Gen Rawat's successor.

In his distinguished career, Gen Pande also served as the Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN),

which is India's only tri-services command.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, he was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers (The Bombay Sappers) in December 1982.

Gen Pande has held several prestigious command and staff assignments in conventional as well as counter-insurgency operations in all types of terrain.

He commanded an engineer regiment along the Line of Control during the Operation Parakram in Jammu and Kashmir, an engineer brigade in the western sector, an infantry brigade along LoC and a mountain division in high-altitude area of western Ladakh and a corps in the Northeast.

His staff exposures include Brigade Major of a Mountain Brigade in the Northeast, Assistant Military Secretary (AMS) in the Military Secretary's Branch and Brigadier General Staff (Operations) at the Eastern Command headquarters.

Now, NMC Cautions

2018 or later after obtaining security clearance from MHA till date," the public notice issued on April 29 read.

The FMGE/NEXT (Foreign Medical Graduates Examination/National Exit Test) is a licensing test for students to practise in India.

However, migrants and their children who have acquired medical degree or higher education in Pakistan and have been awarded citizenship by India would continue to be eligible for appearing in FMGE/NEXT or seeking employment in India after obtaining security clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), it added.

Hajj Aazmeen

Division are also advised to deposit requisite documents including copy of pay-in-slip for Rs.81,000/- each, medical screening and fitness certificate (as per the format available on website www.hajjcommittee.gov.in or www.jkshc.org.), Original machine readable passport with J&K Haj Committee.

"And pilgrims of Jammu Division and Ladakh UT shall submit the same at their respective District Hqs upto 6th May, 2022," he said.

Markets Abuzz

reports said. Unlike in the past, traffic movement in Lal Chowk city centre was very well managed but other areas of the city witnessed massive traffic snarls due to rush.

The business on the eve of Eid comes after

years of shut downs but the levels of activity are still nowhere close to the pre- 2019 period, the local businessmen said.

There is some appetite for shopping among the people but it is not the same as it was before 2019. We have been in a lockdown state for the past three years now, said Shahid Khan, a businessman.

Irfan Bhat, owner of a bakery and confectionery chain, said the sales were better than last year. I hope this is a precursor to economic recovery, he added.

People, however, were unhappy that prices of all the goods have gone up significantly on Eid eve.

Prices of all the eatables have gone up by 20 to 30 per cent. Even mutton, for which the government has fixed a rate of Rs 535 per kilogram, is being sold at Rs 650 per kilogram. Where is the government? Why are there no checks? Asif Bhat, a resident of Indira Nagar, said.

Government on its part says it has formed special squads to keep a check on the quality of goods being sold as well the prices in the market.

Eid-ul Fitr will be celebrated either on Monday or Tuesday depending on the sighting of the crescent.

—With inputs from PTI

Saudi To Celebrate

Majmaah University in Hautat Sudair on Saturday. Eid ul-Fitr will be celebrated on May 2 as the Shawwal moon was not sighted on Saturday, according to the Haramain Sharifain Twitter account.

The month of Ramadan will complete 30 days tomorrow, the Haramain Sharifain added. Eid ul-Fitr celebrations follow the end of Ramadan which lasts 29 or 30 days based on when the crescent moon is sighted.

Muslims follow a lunar calendar consisting of 12 months in a year of 354 or 355 days.

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations marks the end of the month-long fast. Eid ul-Fitr is traditionally celebrated with large gatherings for worshippers to pray and break their fasts.

In Islam, Shawwal is the tenth month of the Islamic calendar, also known as the Hijri calendar or lunar calendar consisting of twelve months beginning with Muharram, and ending with Zul-Hijjah. Each month starts with the sighting of the moon.

CISF Constable

Hydroelectric project in Gurez on Saturday, sources said. His body was shifted to Sub district hospital Gurez for medico-legal formalities.

The deceased paramilitary man was a resident of Pathankot.

A police officer confirmed the incident to a local news agency KDC and said proceedings under section 174 CrPc of Indian Penal code has been initiated in this regard.

J&K Sees 11

Covid-19 were detected in Jammu division and two each in Srinagar and Baramulla districts of the Valley on Saturday, taking the number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic in J&K to 454043.

During the same time, officials said nine patients also recovered from the infection in the Union Territory.

Also, the officials said that the death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4751 in J&K—2328 in Jammu and 2423 in Kashmir, as no fresh fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

ACB Nabs Engineer

Farooq Ahmad Rather, Executive Engineer, Pahalgam Development Authority (PDA) was demanding bribe of Rs10, 000 for processing his file for release of payment. For the already executed and released capex works bills in block Achabal under MGNAREGA, an ACB spokesperson said Saturday.

Upon receiving the instant complaint, he said, prima facie offence U/S 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 was found made out. He said consequently, case FIR No. 08/2022 was registered in PS ACB Anantnag and investigation taken-up.

During the course of investigation, the spokesperson said, a team was constituted that laid a trap and caught red handed the PDA Executive Engineer, while demanding and accepting the bribe of Rs 10000 from the complainant.

"He was arrested on the spot by the ACB team. The bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses. Further investigation is going on," the Bureau spokesperson added.

5 Kg Heroin

operation there, they said. During the search, a polythene bag containing six packets of heroin weighing 5.8 kilograms was found, the officials said.

A case was registered at the Nowshera police station and further investigation in the matter is going on, they added.

Omar Asks Govt To Allow Panchayat Members Celebrate Eid With Families

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah on Saturday said the government should allow the sarpanch and panch, who are lodged in secure accommodations, to meet their families on Eid-ul-Fitr.

"These are the kinds of messages I'm receiving these days. Panch & Sarpanch held against their will by the police and not even being allowed to offer Friday prayers. On Eid they will not be allowed to meet their loved ones. This is an unacceptable situation & must be corrected," Abdullah tweeted.

The former chief minister posted screenshots of messages he purportedly received from NC-affiliated sarpanch and panch from Anantnag district in which they claimed that they are being held against their will.

They also claimed that they were not allowed to offer Juma'atul Vida prayers on Friday.



"I'm not sure why @JmuKmrPolice feels that the best way to protect people is to hold them prisoner against their will but it's a gross violation of their fundamental rights. On the one hand the @PMOIndia addresses them in Jammu & on the other the police holds them captive," Omar said in another tweet.

In March, Kashmir Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said panch and sarpanch are soft targets for militants as around 90 per cent of them do not have personal security officers but the police are taking steps to ensure their safety.

Soldier Killed, 2 Injured In Ganderbal Road Accident

Agencies

SRINAGAR: An army man was killed and two others injured when an army vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident at Gadribal Ganiwan area of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal on Saturday.

News agency KNO quoting of-

ficial sources that the army bus was vehicle part of a convoy that turned turtle near Masjid Mode Sumbal Bala Gund area of Kangan.

In the accident, one soldier died on the spot death while two soldiers were injured.

Both the injured were shifted to hospital and are under treatment, an official said.

Prominent Trade Union Leader Joins AAP In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A prominent trade union leader along with his supporters joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) at the party headquarters here on Saturday.

Som Nath, accompanied by his 50 supporters, joined the AAP in presence of senior party leaders including former legislator Balwant Singh Mankotia and District Development Council (DDC) member Taranjit Singh Tony, a party spokesperson said.

"Som Nath has been an active trade union leader for the past 40 years and his joining the AAP will strengthen the trade wing of the party," Mankotia said.

He said Nath will utilize his experience to strengthen the party at the grass-roots level.

J&K Bank Inks Pact With Mahindra & Mahindra For Farm-Equipment Finance

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Mahindra & Mahindra's Farm Equipment Sector (FES) - India's leading tractor maker- as its preferred financier across the country with special focus on J&K and Ladakh.

As per the agreement, J&K Bank will provide affordable and hassle-free financing facilities to prospective customers on Mahindra branded tractors and farm machinery at its business units particularly in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

Vice President Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat signed the agreement on behalf of J&K Bank while as the National Sales Head Sunil Johnson put in his signatures representing M&M-FES. The signing ceremony was held last week in presence of Bank's President Syed Rais Maqbool, AVP Suhail Ahmad Lone, M&M FES Head Dealer Working Capital Management, Tanmai Saksena, Zonal Retail Finance Manager Rajan Arora and other officials of the Bank.

Commenting on the collaboration, President Syed Rais Maqbool said, "In line with our customer-centric strategy, we have entered into this tie-up with the

country's leading Tractor and Farm Equipment Maker to enhance credit to the farm equipment sector thereby facilitating ease of farming for people belonging to agricultural sector. The agreement shall entitle our customers for appropriate discounts from M&M along with Bank's competitive rate of interest."

"I hope the agreement will enable both the Bank and M&M to leverage the inherent strengths of each other's brand and network of outlets across India with focus on J&K and Ladakh where we have 851 Business Units", he added.

In his remarks regarding the agreement, M&M's President - Farm Equipment Sector, Hemant Sikka said, "With access to credit as a major block for farmers in employing mechanization on their farmlands, we at Mahindra entered into the tie-up with J&K Bank to help farmers purchase the latest Mahindra farm equipment in the region. Through J&K Bank's wide network we also hope to offer improved access to affordable credit through innovative and attractive financing solutions that will help farmers acquire the latest farm equipment to boost their yields."



A GIRL FIXES HER GAZE at an artificial necklace in the busy marketplace of Gonikhan in Srinagar, which witnessed a huge rush of shoppers ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Mercury Settles At 40.4 Degrees Celsius In Jammu



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu city recorded the maximum temperature of 40.4 degrees Celsius on Saturday, slightly lower than the season's high of 41 degrees the previous day, officials said.

The day temperature in Jammu city was 4.8 notches above average during this part of the season, a spokesperson of the Meteorological department said.

The winter capital city recorded a minimum temperature of 25.6 degrees Celsius against the previous night's 30.0 degrees Celsius which was 8.1 notches above normal.

Jammu had recorded the season's highest day temperature of 41.0 degrees Celsius on Friday as mercury continued its upward trend owing to prolonged dry spell over the past two months.

Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Vaishno Devi shrine in Reasi district, recorded a high of 37.2 degrees Celsius

and a low of 23.0 degrees, the spokesperson said.

The summer capital Srinagar, on the other hand, is witnessing pleasant weather with the day temperature settling at 26.2 degrees and the night temperature at 12.0 degrees Celsius.

The weatherman has predicted mainly clear to partly cloudy weather till May 2.

Cloudy with chances of light to moderate rain or snow mostly likely during May 3 to May 5, the spokesperson said.

Kashmiri Youth Killed In Road Accident In Saudi Arabia

Family Appeals Admin To Help In Returning Body For Last Rites

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A 27-year-old youth from Tangmarg area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district was killed in a road accident in Saudi Arabia on Saturday while the family here has appealed the Lieutenant Governor led administration to help them in returning the body for last rites.

As per the news agency

KNO, a youth identified as Muhammad Yunis Mir, son of Muhammad Saidullah Mir of Goigam Tehsil Kwarhama Tangmarg died in a road accident at Gizan in Saudi Arabia at around 03:30 AM when he was returning to his accommodation after offering Tahjud prayers.

Mi, who was the sole bread earner of his family, was work-

ing as coffee boy at a restaurant namely Alaman.

The family has appealed the administration to help them in returning the body of the deceased youth.

"We appeal the administration especially Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to help in returning the body of our beloved for last rites," the relatives of deceased said.

Cong Workers Detained During Protest Against Power Crisis In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Scores of Congress workers including former youth president Pranav Shagotra were detained here after they tried to take out a march in protest against the unprecedented power crisis in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Congress workers gathered at Exhibition Ground for a protest demonstration to highlight the power crisis being

faced by the public, especially in Jammu region where the mercury has crossed 40 degrees Celsius mark on Friday.

As the protesters tried to move towards the old city in a procession, waiting policemen swung into action and took them into preventive custody, officials said.

Jammu and Kashmir is going through an unprecedented power and water crisis. The BJP-

controlled administration has pushed this region into complete chaos and confusion," Shagotra said before being whisked away by police along with other party activists in a bus.

He alleged that the system appears to be completely collapsed as masses are struggling to get basic amenities like power and water but those at the helm of the affairs are still in the deep slumber.

Police Files Chargesheet Against Nine In 'Narco-Militancy Case

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday filed a charge sheet against nine accused persons in a narco-militancy case, related to the recovery of a cache of arms and ammunition and narcotics in Karnah area of Kupwara district last year.

"The charge sheet was filed in the Special NIA Court Baramulla against the six arrested accused and their three handlers presently based in Pakistan [administered] Kashmir. The six accused arrested persons are Adil Husain Shah son of Mir Hyder Shah resident of Takiya Bhadr Kote Karnah, Fariz Hussain Shah son Mir Shah resident of Padna Prada Karnah, Rafiq Ahmad Tanch son of Mohammad Khan Tanch resident of Baiyadi Karnah, Amir Fareed Tanch son of Fareed Ahmad Tanch resident of Biyadi Karnah, Mohammad Farooq Badan son of Yousf Badan resident of Amrohi Karnah and Umar Ashraf Lone son of Mohammad Ashraf Lone resident of Vijipopra Hajan district Bandipora", said a police spokesperson in a statement.

"Investigation has established that the nine charge-sheeted accused persons were part of a deep-rooted conspiracy for procuring arms, ammunition and narcotics from across the LoC and then supplying it to [militants] active in the Valley. The narcotic drugs were sold for generating funds in J&K and other parts of India in close association with operatives of banned [militant] outfits Lashkar-e-Tai-

ba (LeT) based across the border in Pakistan. The funds generated were pumped for furtherance of [militant] activities in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir through a network of over ground workers arrested in the case. The Pakistan based [militant] handlers chargesheeted under section 299 CrPC in the case are Mohammad Sadiq Shah son of Akbar Shah originally hailing from Panjtara Karnah, Tanzeer Ahmad son of Mangta Shah Originally hailing from Karnah now based in Muzafarabad and Mahmood Shah son of Maqsood Shah originally a resident of Panjtara Karnah", maintains the statement.

"The case was registered at Karnah Police Station of Kupwara district on November 2, 2021 after accused Adil Shah was arrested from whose possession 02 AK Rifles, 02 AK Magazines and 208 Rounds of AK were recovered on specific information developed by Police", it informed.

Further investigations led to the recovery of 04 Pistols, 05 Pistol Magazines and one packet of Brown sugar and also the arrest of other accused persons in the case with the investigations of the case carried by DySP Sayed Majeed under the supervision of Addl SP Kupwara Pardeep Singh.

"The arrest of this OGW module of narco-terrorism in this case is a major setback to the [militants] and their handlers involved in supplying of arms and ammunition and funds to the [militants] in the Valley", the statement concludes. (GNS)

23 Militants, 2 Soldiers Killed In Encounters In April

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory reported 14 encounters in the month of April in which 23 militants were killed.

According to the available data, of the 14 encounters, 13 were reported in Kashmir division and one in Jammu division. Data states that 64 militants were killed in J&K this year so far and among them two were killed in Jammu division and 62 in Kashmir division.

Among 64 militants killed 17 we're non locals and 47 locals and most of them 39 we're affiliated with LeT, 17 with Jaish, 06 with hizb and 02 with Al-badr.

On April 01, Muneeb Ahmad Sheikh son of Shah Mohd Sheikh, resident of Tak Mohalla Shopian, affiliated with LeT was killed in an encounter in Turk-wangam.

"On April two LeT militants namely Umar Nabi Teli alias Talha son of Ghulam Nabi Teli, resident of Ladoo Khuev and Shafat Muzaffar Sofi alias Muavia son of Muzaffar Ahmad Sofi, resident of Batagund Tral were killed in an encounter in Arigam Tral," the data states "On 07 April, after brief exchange of fire militants managed to give slip to forces in Haripora area of Shopian. On 09 April, militant identified as LeT commander Nisar Ahmad Dar alias Musailb son of Gh Hassan Dar resident of Redwani Bala, Kulgam was killed in an encounter in Sirhama Anantnag."

The data states that on 09 April, militants managed to give slip to forces after brief encounter in Check-i-Samad area of Kulgam district.

"On 10 April, two non-local militants were killed in an encounter in Bishem-

barnagar area of Srinagar. On 13 April, two Jaish militants including a Pakistani commander Jameel Pasha and hybrid militant Sameer Ahmad Sofi son of Farooq Ahmad Sofi, resident of Arnshepora, Shopian was killed in an encounter in Khur Batpora Kulgam," the data adds. "On 14 April, four newly recruited militants identified as Showkeen Ahmad Thoker son of M. Abdullaah Thoker and Farooq Ahmed Bhat son of Ab. Salam Bhat both residents of Sagan Shopian and Aqib Ahmad Thoker son of Farooq Ahmad Thoker and Waseem Ahmad Thoker son of Ab.Gani Thoker both residents of Heffkhuri Shopian were killed in an encounter in Badigam Shopian."

On 16 April, militants managed to give slip to forces in Watnar area of Kokernag in Anantnag after brief gunfight, however, one soldier identified as Neeshan singh was killed in initial exchange of fire, the data states.

"On 22 April, two non-local militant and a CISF personnel was killed in an encounter in Sunjwan Jammu. On 22 April, three militants including a top LeT commander Mohammad Yousuf Kantroo were killed in an encounter in Malwah area of Baramullah. On 23 April, two non-local jaish militants were killed in an encounter in Mirhama area of Kulgam district. On 24 April, three LeT militants Arif Ahmad Hazer alias Rehan (deputy of LeT's top commander Basit), Abu Huzaifa alias Haqqani (Pakistani) and Natish Wani alias Haider, a resident of Khanyar, Srinagar were killed in an encounter in Pahoo Pulwama," reads the data. "On 28 April, two Al-Badr militants identified as Aijaz Hafiz of Dalipora and Shahid Ayub of Dheeri Murran were killed in an encounter in Mitrigam Pulwama." —(KNO)

Paradigm Shift In The Growth Trajectory Of J&K: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The most striking benchmark of public service and governance for any Administration is the timely completion of projects. It not just minimizes the cost for the public exchequer but also strengthens the faith of citizens in the administration, a government spokesperson said Saturday.

In J&K, after its transition into a Union Territory, an unprecedented improvement in the pace of development is being witnessed which led to greater transformation here, the spokesperson said.

He said that the implementation of several path breaking central legisla-

tions after revocation of Art. 370, like Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2007, The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1954, among others, is poised to herald a new era of progress and development in J&K.

Project Completion: Speed and Social Responsibility

With steep reduction in construction cost and fast tracking of work execution, project completion has been enhanced by almost three times in J&K, the spokesperson said. He said no wonder that the number of developmental projects being completed has leaped from 9229 in 2018-19 to approximately 40,000 expected to be

completed in 2021-22.

Under PMGSY, J&K has ranked at fourth place at national level in terms of road length with 2353 PMGSY projects covering 16,448 km, connecting 2033 habitations completed since inception.

Till 15th of March 2022, the spokesperson said, 2480 PMGSY roads have been constructed resulting in black-topping of 6625 km. The highest daily macadamisation, a stark shift from an average of 6.27 km/day during 2019-20 to an average of 21.92 km/day is being achieved during current financial year, bears testimony to the speed, efficiency and quality of project completion in J&K.

Government has started several

tunnel projects like Z-Morh Tunnel which is an under-construction tunnel, 20 km away from the Zojila Pass, on Srinagar-Kargil-Leh highway. The 6.5 km long tunnel will connect Gagangir directly to Sonamarg in Kashmir. Zojila Tunnel is another under-construction tunnel located to the north-east of Srinagar, on the Srinagar-Leh section of the NH1 with a 14.2 km road tunnel between Baltal and Minamarg.

4 tunnels on Akhnor – Poonch section of NH 144A will also be constructed. 10.30km Singhpora-Vailoo tunnel under Sinthan Pass on NH-244 has been approved and shall be completed at the earliest.

Smart Cities Mission: J&K's shift

from Aspirational to Achiever

The capital cities of Jammu and Srinagar have been brought under the ambit of Smart Cities Mission with around 276 approved projects. Procurement and operationalization of approx. 200 e-Buses, creation of 2 Unified Metropolitan Transport Authorities (UM-TAs), Light Metro Rail Transit System for Jammu and Srinagar, and several other projects are set to transform the quality of life and convenience for citizens in these cities. Smart Cities Mission along with AMRUT will transform the urban landscape of J&K. These centres of growth shall prove to be the true growth foci and induce the forward and backward linkages for multifaceted progress of the UT of J&K.

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HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT, JAMMU & KASHMIR GOVERNMENT

Opposite Presentation Convent School, Rajbagh, Srinagar-190008, J&K

No: JKHPMC/e-NIT No.90 of 2022

Dt: 30-04-2022

Subject: Date Extension Corrigendum-2 w.r.t Notice 90 of 2022, dated 22-03-2022.

In view of several requests received from the prospective bidders in respect of the "Tender" for "Empanelment of Agencies for the Finalization of Annual Rate Contracts (for a period of one year) for the supply of Plant Protection (PP) Chemicals, Organic Fertilizers/Manures and Vermicompost, duly approved by the Agriculture Department, J&K", Last Date of Online Bid Submission is extended by Eight (08) days' time and as such the Last Date of Online Bid Submission would be up to 07-05-2022. Subsequently the Bid Opening Date would be 09-05-2022.

Other Terms and Conditions will remain the same unless notified otherwise.

Sd/-
Managing Director
JKHPMC Ltd

DIPK-NB-598/22

AG J&K Win North Zone IA&AD Cricket Tournament



Shakir Afridi

SRINAGAR: AG J&K lifted North Zone Indian Accounts and Audit Department (IA&AD) trophy while defeating AG Punjab in the final match of knockout North Zone IA&AD tournament played at Yamuna sports complex, New Delhi.

The final match of the tournament was between team AG J&K and AG Punjab on Thursday. While winning the toss AG J&K skipper Omar Alam decided to bat first. Batting first team JK set 150 runs on board for the loss of 8 wickets in the allotted 20 overs. Henan Malik with 36 runs, Bandeep Singh 61 runs and Was-eem Raza with 32 runs were the highest scorers for team AG J&K.

For team AG Punjab, Vikas Mishra took three wickets while as Dhiraj Kumar took two wickets and were the team's top wicket takers. While chasing the target of 150 runs AG Punjab fell short of 10 runs. They scored 139 for loss of 8 wickets in the allotted 20 overs respectively.

Jaskaran Butta with 43 runs and Akash Vashist with score of 46 runs were the top scorers for team Punjab. Mohammed Mudasir scalped two wickets whereas Waseem two wickets, Abid Mushtaq two wickets, whereas Omar and Ram one wicket each for team J&K.

While talking to Kashmir Observer, AG J&K team captain Omar Alam said that the tournament was a knockout based tournament which is being played each year in which six teams have participated including AG Punjab, AG Haryana, AG U.P., AG Utharakhand, AG Shimla and AG J&K.

With this triumph team J&K has qualified for all India cricket tournament in which two teams including the winner and runners up teams qualify from each pool/zone.

The All India level cricket tournament shall be played at Kochi, Kerala from May 19 to 21, 2022.

"It is the first time in the history of IA&AD North Zone cricket tournament that team J&K won this tournament," Alam told KO.

JKCA Talent Hunt: Zone Kashmir Schedule & Details

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) has announced the schedule for its Talent Hunt trials due to be held in Zone Kashmir.

The Kashmir Zone trials will be held at three different venues:

- Central Zone Venue (S K Stadium, Srinagar)
- North Zone Venue (Kushal Stadium, Sopore)
- South Zone Venue (Tikibagh, Mattan)

The JKCA further stated that the same schedule will be followed for Talent Hunt trials for women. The trials will begin on the scheduled dates and venues at 9:00 AM. Each player has to bring a digitized DOB certificate, a school leaving certificate/ marks sheet/other documents will not be accepted as DOB proof. The cut off dates for the various age groups are:

- U-23 – Born on or after 01 September, 1999
- U-19 – Born on or after 01 September, 2003
- U-16 – Born on or after 01 September, 2006

Players have been further



S.No.	Format	Date
1.	U19 Men's	6th May to 8th May
2.	U23 Men's	9th May to 10th May
3.	Senior Men's	11th May to 13th May

advised to bring the following certificate duly signed by their parents/guardians:

"I father/mother/guardian of _____ hereby certify that he/she is voluntary participating in the J&K Cricket Association talent hunt trials for the age group _____ which is being held at _____ on _____. I have no objection if my son/ward participates in the said talent hunt trials and subsequent tournament, if selected. JKCA will not be responsible in case any mishap occurs during the trials/tournaments."

Liverpool Wins 1-0 At Newcastle To Keep Pressure On City

Agencies

NEWCASTLE: Liverpool kept its quadruple hopes alive with a 1-0 win over Newcastle on Saturday to maintain pressure on Premier League title rival Manchester City.

Naby Keita's classy first-half goal at St. James' Park was enough to send Liverpool two points ahead of City, which plays at Leeds later.

Even with Trent Alexander-Arnold, Fabinho, Thiago Alcantara and Mohamed Salah rested from the starting lineup ahead of Tuesday's decisive Champions League semifinal game at Villarreal, Liverpool could have won more comfortably as Newcastle's hopes of a fifth straight league win wilted in the face of almost constant pressure.

Newcastle was also bidding for a seventh straight win at home and the game kicked off amid a raucous atmosphere that might have increased had Jonjo Shelvey managed to make a better connection with a second-minute shot.

Keita had keeper Martin Dubravka scrambling across his line as his first-time strike flew inches wide of the far post with eight minutes gone as Liverpool increasingly started to dominate.

It took the lead after 19 minutes when Jordan Henderson and Diogo Jota combined to feed Keita, who stepped inside before dispatching the ball past the helpless Dubravka. Miguel Almiron thought he had leveled after rounding goalkeeper Alisson, only for an offside flag to dash his hopes, and it took a fine fingertip save by Dubravka to prevent Jota from increasing the visitors' lead just before halftime.

Newcastle started the second half with greater intensity, but with Bruno Guimaraes and Allan Saint-Maximin largely curtailed, was unable to cause enough problems.

Sadio Mane could have sealed the result with 27 minutes remaining but steered his shot wide.

Umran Malik In Focus As SRH Play Struggling CSK In IPL

Press Trust of India

PUNE: Pace sensation Umran Malik's performance will be followed again keenly when Sunrisers Hyderabad take on struggling Chennai Super Kings in an Indian Premier League match here on Sunday.

Malik has been the find of the season as he outsmarted the top batters of the world with his brutal pace.

His 5/25 show against Gujarat Titans, albeit in a losing cause, is considered one of the best bowling displays in the IPL history.

The right-arm tearaway pacer from Jammu has become talk of the ongoing IPL after clocking over 150 kmph consistently. He has so far picked up 15 wickets from eight matches at a strike rate of 12.00.

But despite his heroics with the ball, SRH eventually fell short by five runs against Gujarat Titans in their last game.

And come Sunday, Malik would look for more support from his pacer colleagues Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Marco Jansen



and T Natarajan.

The form of skipper Kane Williamson has been a cause of concern for SRH but the likes of Abhishek Sharma and Aiden Markram have raised their hands and would look to continue their good show.

Placed second last in the table with just four points, CSK are hanging by a thread in the competition and in Malik a bigger threat awaits their already floundering batting unit.

CSK's problems compounded further when they lost against Punjab Kings by 11 runs in their

last game. And any further lapse from here on could spell doom for the defending champions.

CSK have been undone by their failure to click in all departments of the game and they would be looking for an inspirational show from new skipper MS Dhoni to turn around their fate.

Former skipper, Jadeja himself would be itching to get his mojo back with both bat and ball to at least give his side an outside chance of making the play-offs, which at present looks bleak.

IPL 2022: DC Lock Horns With LSG

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Delhi Capitals would expect more from their batters after an underwhelming display in their previous win, while Lucknow Super Giants must be eager to shrug off over-dependence on skipper KL Rahul when the two teams clash in the IPL here on Sunday.

Delhi have endured a tough couple of weeks with a mini COVID outbreak in their camp and a no-ball controversy, however, Rishabh Pant and his troops came out from it to march to a four-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders.

While the win boosted the Capitals', who are sixth on the points table, playoff chances, the middle order collapse while chasing an easy total will be a cause of concern.

David Warner continued his sparkling form but his fellow opener Prithvi Shaw, who despite looking in good touch, hasn't been able to convert his starts.

The Capitals have tried vari-



ous batters at number three, including skipper Rishabh Pant, but are yet to find a suitable candidate for the job.

Mitchell Marsh, who returned to the side after finishing his quarantine, is expected to make it his own but the Australian all-rounder must shake off the rust.

LSG, meanwhile, are on course to sealing a playoffs berth, sitting at number three on the points table with six wins from nine outings.

However, LSG will hope they can breakaway from the over-dependence on captain Rahul, who has been in sublime form.

Rahul has two centuries and a fifty under his belt this season

and his innings have been the bedrock of LSG's wins. Such is the dependence on the skipper that all three of LSG's losses have come when Rahul has failed to get going.

LSG do have enough fire power in the form of Quinton de Kock, Ayush Badoni, Deepak Hooda and Krunal Pandya and they need to shoulder more responsibility. They also have the multi-talented duo of Jason Holder and Marcus Stoinis.

In the bowling department, Krunal and pacer Dushmantha Chameera did well to help defend a modest total against Punjab but Ravi Bishnoi has been on the expensive side.

GT Beat RCB By 6 Wickets, Inch Closer To IPL Play-Offs

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Gujarat Titans extended their dominance at the top of the table with a six-wicket win over Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League here on Saturday and inched closer towards clinching a play-off spot in their inception year.

After failing multiple times, Virat Kohli finally came out of a prolonged slump in form by registering his first IPL fifty in 14 matches, including nine this season, as Royal Challengers Bangalore posted a challenging 170 for six.

In reply, Rahul Tewatia (43 not out) and David Miller (39 not out) did the job for GT after the table toppers were struggling at 95 for four in the 13th over. With 16 points which has been the magic mark, Titans are well on course towards a top-two finish at the end of league stage.

On the day, Kohli made 58 off 53 balls before walking back to the dugout amid a standing ovation at the Wankhede Stadium.

GT were off to a sound start with Wriddhiman Saha (31) and Shubman Gill (29) putting on 51 runs before Wanindu Hasaranga effected

the first breakthrough by removing the former.

Left-arm spinner Shahbaz Ahmed had Shubman Gill trapped in front of the wicket. GT skipper Hardik Pandya (3) once again got out cheaply, falling to Shahbaz.

BCCI Reschedules Ranji Trophy Knockouts



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The BCCI has delayed the knockout matches of the Ranji Trophy by two days and now the quarterfinals will begin from June 6 and the title clash of the premier domestic event will start from June 22.

According to an internal communication circulated by the BCCI to its state units, the two semifinals will now begin from June 14, instead of June 12.

The final is slated to be held at the Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru.

Bengal, Jharkhand, Mumbai, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh have qualified for the

knockout stage of the first-class competition.

The league stage of the Ranji Trophy was played before the start of the ongoing IPL.

The BCCI is yet to announce the reason behind change in schedule.

The Schedule:

- Quarterfinals: June 6-10
- First Quarterfinal: Bengal vs Jharkhand
- Second Quarterfinal: Mumbai vs Uttarakhand
- Third Quarterfinal: Karnataka vs Uttar Pradesh
- Fourth Quarterfinal: Punjab vs Madhya Pradesh
- Semifinals: June 14-18
- Final: June 22-26.

Call On India's Participation In Asiad Will Be Taken After Receiving Feedback From Host Nation: Anurag Thakur



19th Asian Games
Hangzhou 2022

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Saturday said a call on India's participation at this year's Asian Games will be taken after receiving feedback from host nation China, which is striving to bring the outbreak of COVID-19 cases in Shanghai and Beijing under control.

Shanghai, the financial hub of the country, has been under a lockdown for a month now while more curbs have been introduced in Beijing which is one edge now.

Rumours are doing rounds that the Hangzhou Asian Games, scheduled to be held from September 10 to 25, will be postponed

due to the pandemic.

"What is the situation there (in China) and what the host nation is saying about the situation is important," Thakur said on the sidelines of an event here.

"All other participating nations are discussing and in some time India will also take a decision but before that the host nation should make it clear what are they thinking and how much prepared they are," the minister added. While several international sporting events were cancelled in China because of the pandemic, the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics were held behind closed doors under strict COVID-19 guidelines.

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