



P3 CITY

FINE OF RS 1.63 LAKH RECOVERED FROM ERRING SHOPKEEPERS

A day before Eid, Enforcement Squad of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department conducted market checking drive of various areas of Srinagar City including

THINK

P5 REWINDING RAMAZAN

Mercy and forgiveness are the favours that the month of Ramazan brings along with it. Believers try to make the most of this blessed month, striving, seeking and smiling through Allah's assured promise of blessings and forgiveness. It is this journey that culminates into Eid ul Fitr that we are celebrating today.



P7 STATE

MET PREDICTS LIGHT RAIN FROM TODAY

Weatherman has forecast fairly widespread light rain and thunderstorm from evening of May 3 to 5 while night temperatures recorded an increase in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday.



Kashmir Observer wishes its readers a happy and prosperous Eid-ul-Fitr!

NEWS DIGEST

LG Greets People on Eid-ul-Fitr

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. The Lt Governor, in his message, said that the festival of Eid highlights the joy of sharing, an official spokesperson said, "Eid-ul-Fitr marks the culmination of the period of fasting and prayer **More on P6**

J&K Reports Six New Corona Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded six fresh coronavirus cases on Monday, raising the infection count to 4,54,053 in the Union Territory even as no death linked to the disease was reported in the past 24 hours, officials said. Jammu and Kashmir **More on P6**

Man Falls Off Moving Cab, Dies

SRINAGAR: A 50-year old man was killed on Saturday after he fell down from a moving vehicle in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. News agency KNO quoting sources reported that a man was on top of Tavera cab, traveling from Beerwah to Zanigam when he fell down from the vehicle. **More on P6**

Woman Jumps To Death In Jammu

JAMMU: In the second such incident in as many days, a 30-year-old woman jumped from a bridge here and ended her life, officials said. Saira Bano, a resident of Narwal and mother of three children, jumped from Gujar Nagar bridge over Tawi river and hit the hard surface on the ground, the officials said. **More on P6**

Foreign Militants Coming Out Of Hideouts To Strike: Army

Number Of Local Militants Coming Down: Lt Gen Pandey

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Foreign militants are compelled to come out of their hideouts to conduct operations in Kashmir as the number of local militants is coming down in the valley, a top Army officer said here on Monday.

General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the Army's 15 Corps, Lt General D P Pandey, also said the weapon systems, used in other parts of the world, finding their way to Kashmir is a challenge.

"These foreign terrorists, majority of them, were on the quiet. Initially, they were putting local youth as the face of terrorist activities and terrorism. As the number of local terrorists started drying down and coming down, they (foreign terrorists) are now slowly getting exposed (to encounters)," Lt Gen Pandey told reporters here.

The GoC said the foreign militants are compelled to come



out of their respective hiding places and anonymity to carry out strikes and conduct operations against the Kashmiri people or non-locals.

Therefore, when they have started coming out and emerging, they are now getting exposed and the contacts (with security forces) are happening, he said.

Asked about reports of some equipment used by the US forces finding their way to the

valley, the Army officer said it is a challenge, but not a huge one.

There are equipment, weapon systems, which have been used in other parts of the world, which have found their way inside. It is definitely a challenge. But we have also changed our rules of engagements and procedures to contest that point. They have been found and they are not in those large numbers. But definitely there are signatures and we have recovered after the encounters...it is not a big challenge, he said.

Referring to the infiltration attempts along the Line of Control (LoC), Lt Gen Pandey said this year so far, there has been only one such attempt.

Only one attempt, which was made from across to infiltrate, was destroyed and since then there has been no major attempt. There are reconnaissance and some degree of attempts, but **More on P6**

2 CRPF Men Injured In Tral IED Blast

Two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were injured on Monday in a militant attack in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. According to officials, unidentified militants triggered an IED blast in Larmoo area of Tral on Monday evening when a joint team of police and CRPF were conducting area domination in two bullet proof bunkers. In the explosion, two CRPF personnel received minor injuries. Soon after **More on P6**

AMARNATH YATRA

Foolproof Security Arrangements Being Made: CRPF

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on Monday assured a safe environment for the pilgrims during the annual yatra to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas.

Deputy Inspector General of CRPF, Jammu, Rajesh Dhakarwal, said foolproof security arrangements are being put in place to ensure the

successful 43-day-long pilgrimage, scheduled to commence on June 30.

"As far as security is concerned, we will provide a safe environment to the pilgrims as special security arrangements are being put in place (throughout the yatra route), Dhakarwal told reporters at Sarna during his visit to Bhaderwah in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district.

He said as part of the contingency plan, some special steps **More on P6**

FIRE FURY IN KASHMIR

Property Worth Rs 560 Crore Lost In Last Six Years

Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: As frequent fire incidents continue to ravage Kashmir Valley's already shattered economy after back to back lockdowns, official data has revealed that flames have consumed property worth a whopping Rs 560 crore in the last six years alone.

The fire incidents have witnessed an abrupt spike in the ongoing spring season—turning hundreds of houses and commercial buildings to ashes.

Data available with Kashmir Observer reveals that the Valley witnessed over the department of Fire and Emergency received over 660 calls in the first three

months of this year, which according to the department is huge and might break the record of last three years if the situation remains same.

The data suggested that the fire caused a whopping loss of around Rs 560 crore to the people in the Valley in the last six years.

In Srinagar district only, the data suggests a clear spike in the fire incidents in the first three months of the ongoing year.

According to the data, the department received over 39 fire calls in which 21 residential houses, nine shops and one shopping complex, one vehicle, six electricity transformers got damaged in the month of January only. **More on P6**



Technology Development Board
Department of Science & Technology
Government of India

Furthering Swachhta through Indigenous Technologies

Proposals are invited for Technology Interventions towards 'Garbage Free Cities'

The major thrust areas for indigenous technological innovations are as follows:

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- Agricultural Waste
- Biomedical Waste
- E-Waste
- Industrial Hazardous & Non-Hazardous Wastes
- Battery Waste
- Radioactive Waste
- AI Specific Solutions



“In 2014, less than 20% of the waste was processed. Today we are processing about 70% of daily waste. Now, we have to take it to 100%”



KEY FEATURES

- Financial Assistance to Indian Companies for Technology Commercialisation.
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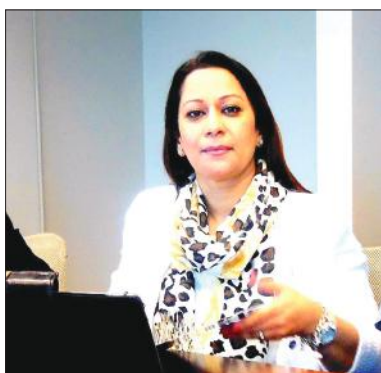
Dreamer, Warrior, Philanthropist—Gazalla Noor In Letter And Spirit

SHEEBA WANI

It took a single social media post to trigger a tsunami of tributes for the dynamic Kashmiri woman entrepreneur who touched countless lives with her philanthropic and social works.

At 59, Dr. Gazalla Amin Noor succumbed to cancer—the critical diseases she bravely fought for half a decade. "I am beyond heartbroken to share that my darling mother - Dr. Gazalla Noor - has left this earthly plane for the heavenly abode," the social media post by her son, Aamir Ahmad Amin, informed.

"She passed on peacefully and softly in the loving embrace of her family during the last night of April in this holy month. Her entire life and work



as a pioneering Kashmiri woman in her field has been a testament to the strength of the human spirit, and she dealt with the many, many ups and

downs with utmost grace, compassion and generosity towards people. She taught me and my brothers not merely to survive in life, but to thrive, and to never forget how important it is to be sensitive and caring."

As the word spread, who's who in town competed to pay homage to the lady who was a go-to person for many for her empowering and enterprising spirit.

"Death snatched from us a lovable friend, lovely sister, medical student, business icon, pure human being, beautiful woman, great satirist, knowledgeable thinker, a brave fighter and above all a genuine poet," said Ali Shaidã, a noted Kashmiri personality.

Gazalla Noor was a warrior, said netizen Aahil Asif: "She taught **More on P6**

Honeybees Can Tell The Difference Between Odd And Even Numbers

The Conversation

Two, four, six, eight; bog in, don't wait. As children, we learn numbers can either be even or odd. And there are many ways to categorise numbers as even or odd. We may memorise the rule that numbers ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9 are odd while numbers ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 are even. Or we may divide a number by 2 where any whole number outcome means the number is even, otherwise it must be odd. Similarly, when dealing with real-world objects we can use pairing. If we have an unpaired element left over, that means the number of objects was odd. Until now odd and even categorisation, also called parity classification, had never been shown in non-human animals. In a new study, published today in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, we show honeybees can learn to do this.

Why is parity categorisation special?

Parity tasks (such as odd and even categorisation) are considered abstract and high-level numerical concepts in humans.

Interestingly, humans demonstrate accuracy, speed, language and spatial relationship biases when categorising numbers as odd or even. For example, we tend to respond faster to even numbers with actions performed by our right hand, and to odd numbers with actions performed by our left hand.

We are also faster, and more accurate, when categorising numbers as even compared to odd. And research has found children typically associate the word even with right and odd with left.

These studies suggest humans may have learnt biases and/or innate biases regarding odd and even numbers, which may have arisen either through evolution, cultural transmission, or a combination of both.

It isn't obvious why parity might be important beyond its use in mathematics, so the origins of these biases remain unclear. Understanding if and how other animals can recognise (or can learn to recognise) odd and even numbers could tell us more about our own history with parity.

Training bees to learn odd and even

Studies have shown honeybees can learn to order quantities, perform simple addition and subtraction, match symbols



It isn't obvious why parity might be important beyond its use in mathematics, so the origins of these biases remain unclear. Understanding if and how other animals can recognise (or can learn to recognise) odd and even numbers could tell us more about our own history with parity.

with quantities and relate size and number concepts. To teach bees a parity task, we separated individuals into two groups. One was trained to associate even numbers with sugar water and odd numbers with a bitter-tasting liquid (quinine). The other group was trained to associate odd numbers with sugar water, and even numbers with quinine. We trained individual bees using comparisons of odd versus even numbers (with cards presenting 1-10 printed shapes)

until they chose the correct answer with 80% accuracy. Remarkably, the respective groups learnt at different rates. The bees trained to associate odd numbers with sugar water learnt quicker. Their learning bias towards odd numbers was the opposite of humans, who categorise even numbers more quickly. We then tested each bee on new numbers not shown during the training. Impressively, they categorised the new num-

bers of 11 or 12 elements as odd or even with an accuracy of about 70%.

Our results showed the miniature brains of honeybees were able to understand the concepts of odd and even. So a large and complex human brain consisting of 86 billion neurons, and a miniature insect brain with about 960,000 neurons, could both categorise numbers by parity.

Does this mean the parity task was less complex than we'd previously thought? To find the answer, we turned to bio-inspired technology.

Creating a simple artificial neural network

Artificial neural networks were one of the first learning algorithms developed for machine learning. Inspired by biological neurons, these networks are scalable and can tackle complex recognition and classification tasks using propositional logic.

We constructed a simple artificial neural network with just five neurons to perform a parity test. We gave the network signals between 0 and 40 pulses, which it classified as either odd or even. Despite its simplicity, the neural network correctly categorised the pulse numbers as odd or even with 100% accuracy.

This showed us that in principle parity categorisation does not require a large and complex brain such as a human's. However, this doesn't necessarily mean the bees and the simple neural network used the same mechanism to solve the task.

Simple or complex?

We don't yet know how the bees were able to perform the parity task. Explanations may include simple or complex processes. For example, the bees may have:

- paired elements to find an unpaired element
- performed division calculations although division has not been previously demonstrated by bees
- counted each element and then applied the odd/even categorisation rule to the total quantity.

By teaching other animal species to discriminate between odd and even numbers, and perform other abstract mathematics, we can learn more about how maths and abstract thought emerged in humans.

Is discovering maths an inevitable consequence of intelligence? Or is maths somehow linked to the human brain? Are the differences between humans and other animals less than we previously thought? Perhaps we can glean these intellectual insights, if only we listen properly.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir
 e-mail: ddtregl23@gmail.com
Subject: - Change of location in the Registration Certificate of "M/s Violet Holidays".

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, this office has received an application submitted by Mr. Sharik Maqbool Bhat proprietor of the Excursion Agency namely "M/s Violet Holidays" wherein he has requested this office for change of location of his Travel unit from Nai Sarak Habba Kadal, Srinagar to Gousia Colony, Khanyar, Srinagar under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, the Travel unit is registered with the Department under the Registration of Tourist Trade Act/Rules under Registration No. Reg/T/2271/JKEA00000070/DTK/LI/P9 dated 19-07-2019 valid upto 31.03.2022.

Whereas, the applicant has submitted Original Registration Certificate, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Site plan, NOC from the concerned bank, Photographs of new location in support of his claim.

Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before the request of the applicant is considered for change of location of the unit, the matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection if any. The same should reach this office within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in the local newspaper. Objections beyond period of 7 days will not be entertained and request of the applicant will be considered as per rules.

Sd/-
 Deputy Director Tourism,
 Registration (Kashmir)
 No: Reg/ JKEA00000070/1317/DTK
 Dated: 02/05/2022.
 DIPK-1453/22

جموں و کشمیر تسمیٹر سسٹ (رجسٹرڈ)
 خدمت محتاجاں

پیغام عید

عید الفطر کے اس مبارک موقع پر میں سرپرست جموں و کشمیر تسمیٹر سسٹ اپنی طرف سے اور تمام زعماء ٹرسٹ نظمائے یونٹ ہاؤس ممبران کی طرف سے تمام اہل اسلام کی خدمت میں دل کی عمیق گہرائیوں سے عید مبارک پیش کرتا ہوں۔

ہمیں چاہیے کہ ہم اس عید کو مدنظر رکھتے ہوئے ہزاروں بیواؤں یتیموں، بے سہاروں اور مصیبت زدگان کی سکیوں و آہوں کا خیال رکھتے ہوئے عید سادگی سے منائیں۔ انکی مصیبت زدگی ہمارے لئے باعث آزمائش ہے۔

ہم اپنے معزز عطیہ دہندگان کا بصدا احترام شکریہ ادا کرتے ہیں کہ انہوں نے جموں و کشمیر تسمیٹر سسٹ کو اپنی عطیات ماہ رمضان میں پیش کیں۔ لازم ہے کہ فیاضی کا یہ معاملہ سال بھر جاری رکھا جائے۔ کیونکہ یتیموں اور بیواؤں کی حاجتیں سال بھر پوری کرنا پڑتی ہیں۔

آجیے اللہ رب العزت کے حضور دعا گو ہیں کہ عید الفطر مبارک موقع ہمارے لیے ان بے سہاروں کی مدد کے طفیل خوشیوں کی مہلا ملے۔

دعا گو
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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost driving license bearing DL No: 22438/LAB. 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 Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name: Aftab Majeed Dar
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DATE SHEET

Pursuant to guidelines issued by the Director School Education Kashmir Srinagar vide No. DSEK/SIE/K/113/2016 dated 10.03.2017 and this office Notification No. DIET/Spr/787-300 dated 08-03-2022, it is hereby notified that the special exam for the candidates v/ho have passed 7th Class exam from different schools and have not continue their further study applied for Class-8th (special exam) session March-April 2022 in this DIET v/ill be conducted w.e.f. 09-05-2022 in this DIET. In this regard the Date Sheet is hereby notified as under :-

Class 8th Special Exam)

Time:- 11:00am

Date	Day	Subject
09-05-2022	Monday	English
10-05-2022	Tuesday	Mathematics
11-05-2022	Wednesday	Science
12-05-2022	Thursday	Social Science
13-05-2022	Friday	Urdu/ Hindi
14-05-2022	Saturday	Kashmiri/ Punjabi

Note:
 All the stake holders shall maintain sanctity of examination as per the guidelines and besides keeping all the SoP's Covid-19 Pandemic in consideration.
 NO: DIET/Spr/1551-53
 Dated 30-04-2022
 HoD CMDE
 DIPK-1425/22
 Principal
 District Institute Of Education & Trainings Sopore

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Fine Of Rs 1.63 Lakh Recovered From Erring Shopkeepers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A day before Eid, Enforcement squad of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department conducted market checking drive of various areas of Srinagar City including Residency Road, Rawalpura, Mahraj Bazar, H.S.H Street, Nishat, Shalimar, Harwan, Theed, Brain, Boulevard road, Soura, Qamarwari, Shalteng, Lal Bazar, Bota Kadal, Dargah. The checking was led under the leadership of its Director, Abdul Salam Mir along with Assistant Director Enforcement Kashmir Mushtaq Ahmad Wani.

The checking was aimed at to ensure availability of quality products and to curb black marketing and profiteering on es-

sential commodities.

During market checking 94 business establishments were inspected and a penal sum of Rs. 1, 63,300 was collected as fine from 36 erring shopkeepers for violation of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

"The team also interacted with the consumers and the complaints received have been solved on spot as well", the department in a statement said.

The FCS&CA has asked people to cooperate with the enforcement team for lodging their complaints.

Moreover, the erring lot has been reprimanded to remain careful in future.

"The drive will continue in the same passion in future as well and whoever found violating the norms will be brought to justice", the officials said.

Bhatnagar Addresses Attestation Parade Of BSF Recruit Constables

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Monday addressed the passing out parade cum attestation ceremony of 459 recruits at Subsidiary Training



Centre (STC), Humhama here who passed out to join BSF as brave Seema Praharis.

The Advisor who was Chief Guest on the occasion also inspected the grand attestation parade of BSF Recruit Constables.

Speaking on the occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar said that BSF being the "First Line of Defence" has not only been guarding our borders effectively since its inception but it has made significant contributions in fighting foreign sponsored terrorism and internal -militancy also with unparalleled valour and steely determination.

Underlining the very fact that close cooperation and coordination amongst different security agencies is necessary to eliminate terrorism and narco-terror threats that emanates across our borders, the Advisor asserted that BSF with efficient mechanisms and response systems is fully prepared to meet any kind

of challenges.

He appreciated the display of self-confidence, skill and picture perfect coordination of passouts which was the high point of the parade. He applauded the recruits for choosing BSF as a career

option and exhorted them to serve the nation with courage and enthusiasm.

He congratulated Inspector General, Ftr HQ BSF Kashmir and the instructional staff of STC Kashmir for putting in herculean efforts in achieving the objective of moulding raw village youths, into well trained Seema Praharis and have given them self-confidence and turning them into disciplined Jawans. He wished the recruits a bright future in their life and service ahead.

Advisor Bhatnagar on the occasion also awarded medals to recruits who performed exceptionally well in various indoor and outdoor activities during the training period.

IG BSF, Ftr Kashmir & STC Kashmir, Raja Babu Singh, Senior officers of BSF and other security forces, parents and families members of the trainees were also present during the passing out parade ceremony.

EID MUBARAK

Ajaz News Agency wishes all its customers a very happy Eid .May this beautiful occasion of Eid gives you all the reasons to make your life even more beautiful.we hope you will have lots of peace ,happiness and blessings.

Best wishes from
Arshid tiboo,Barkat Ali and Ajaz Ahmed Teli

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Lost of Mark's card

I have lost my Marks Cards of 1. B A 1st Year Session Annual 1990 Roll No 164942. B A 2nd Year Session Annual1992 Roll No 465163. B A 3rd Year Session Annual 1993 Roll No 4872.Now i have applied for its Duplicate copy if any body have any objection regarding this Please contact University of Kashmir within seven days after seven days no objection will be accepted.

Ms. Shafiq Akhtar
D/o Mahmed Maqbool Sheikh
R/o Jamia Baramulla

inf



City Centre Lal Chowk witnessed heavy rush of shoppers on the last day of the Holy Month of Ramazan known as the day of Arafa. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Nitishwar Kumar Takes Stock Of Arrangements At Hazratbal, Makhdoom Sahib Shrines

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Nitishwar Kumar on Monday visited Hazratbal Shrine and Ziyarat Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom Sahib (RA) to take stock of final arrangements for the auspicious day of Eid-ul-Fitr.

The Principal Secretary took on spot assessment of the facilities being provided by the concerned departments with regard to sanitation, uninterrupted water and power facilities and other civil works of cleanliness in and around the Hazratbal Shrine and Ziyarat Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom Sahib (RA).

During the visit the Principal Secretary was informed by the concerned about the arrangements of security, electricity, water supply, cleanliness, fire service, transport and medical aid which have been put in place for devotees in these places.

While reviewing arrangements at Hazratbal Shrine, the Principal Secretary directed the authorities to ensure proper cleanliness in and around



the Shrines, separate arrangement for women, necessary arrangement of tents to cover maximum open space, besides proper matting on the open paths so that devotees do not face any difficulty while offering prayers.

The Principal Secretary was informed that 3 Ambulances including one Critical Care Ambulance, Medical team with necessary medicines and first aid boxes will be deployed at the Hazratbal Shrine by the Health Department.

Similarly, PHE has kept 2 water tankers and installed additional 50 tap points in addition to the existing 150 points at the Hazratbal. While water tankers have also been deployed to other prominent

Shrines also.

With regard to sanitation, the Principal Secretary was informed that adequate staff has been deployed by SMC to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness measures at Hazratbal and other Shrines in the City. While mobile toilet vans are also placed by SMC. In addition, Dog catching squads have been deployed.

On the occasion, the Principal Secretary directed the SMC authorities to speed up the process of removal of debris and muck from the premises of Hazratbal Shrine. He also called for cleanliness of lanes and bye lanes leading to places of congregational prayers.

The Principal Secretary stressed to the offi-

cers that large gatherings are expected at these places and it is important to ensure adequate facilities for the devotees are put in place so that no difficulty will be observed by them. He also directed for making adequate parking and transport facilities for the devotees.

He was accompanied by Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, P.K Pole, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, CEO, Wakaf, Mufti Fareed u Din, Director Tourism, Dr G N Itoo, Director Health Services, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather.

Regional Transport Officer, Sajid Yehaya Naqash, Senior Superintendent of Police, Rakesh Balwal, VC LCMA, Dr Bashir Ahmad, SSP Traffic, Imtiyaz Ahmad and other senior officers of Police and Civil Administration also accompanied the Principal Secretary during the visit.

Meanwhile, Waqf Board Chairperson, Dr Darakshan Andrabi also joined the Principal Secretary with regard to arrangements for the auspicious day of Eid-ul-Fitr.

OFFICE OF THE MEMBER SECRETARY INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SOCIETY GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE GANDERBAL

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Advertisement Notice

Applications on plain paper are invited from the desirous eligible candidates for engagement of guest faculty for the academic session 2021-22 in the discipline/trade mentioned below on the terms and conditions detailed below.

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01	Vocational Instructor Plumber	One	B.Voc/Degree in Civil/Mechanical Engineering from AICTE/UGC recognised Engineering College/University with one year experience in the relevant field OR Three year Diploma in Civil/Mechanical Engineering from AICTE/recognised Board of Technical Education or relevant advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two year experience in the relevant field OR NTC/NAC passed in Plumber or relevant trade with three year experience Essential qualification-Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT Criteria (Basic qualification)---80 Points Higher Qualification-----10 Points Experience-----10 Points

The applications supported by self attested photocopies of the certificates should reach the office of the undersigned by or before 07/05/2022 till 3.00 PM.

Terms and Conditions:

- The engagement shall terminate automatically on 31/07/2022.
- The candidates engaged as such shall be paid honorarium @ Rs. 250/= (Rupees Two Hundred and Fifty Only) per lecture subject to a maximum of Rs. 7000/= (Seven Thousand only) per month in case of Diploma holders and Rs. 7500/= (Rupees Seven Thousand and Five Hundred only) in case of Degree holders.
- The selection shall be made by the committee from among the eligible applicants.
- Mere submission of application form or eligibility shall not entitle any applicant right to get engaged.
- Application not supported by the documents shall be rejected without any notice to the applicant.
- The selected candidates shall have to furnish an undertaking from the Judicial Magistrate that he/she has accepted all the terms and conditions and shall have no preferential claim for his/her continuation/re-engagement or permanent appointment in the Department/Institute.
- The selected candidates shall have to maintain proper discipline and punctuality and shall have to work to the entire satisfaction of the trainees and the Superintendent ITI Ganderbal.

DIPK-1417/22

No: ITI/Gbl/Estt./2022/67-70
Date: 30/04/2022

Sd/= (Er. G.N. Shah)
Superintendent
ITI Ganderbal

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
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- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJHERA: 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
01 Shawwal
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR 4: 08
ZUHR 12:28
ASR 5:18
Magrib 7:18
ISHA 8: 49

This Day In History

- 1374- BC Solar eclipse (2m07s) seen at Ugarit by Mesopotamian astronomers "On the day of the new moon, in the month of Hiyar, the Sun was put to shame, and went down in the daytime, with Mars in attendance."
- 1515- Persian Gulf: Portugese fleet occupies Ormuz
- 1660- Sweden, Poland, Brandenburg & Austria sign Peace of Oliva
- 1678-French conquering fleet at Curacao, 1200 die
- 1715- Edmund Halley observes total eclipse phenomenon "Baily's Beads"
- 1830-1st regular steam train passenger service starts
- 1919-Afghanistan Emir Amanollah begins war against Great Britain
- 1928- Japanese atrocities in Jinan, China.
- 1938- Vatican recognizes Franco-Spain
- 1939- The All India Forward Bloc is formed by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- 1941-German air raid on Liverpool
- 1942- Japanese troop attack Tulagi, Gavutu & Tanambogo, Solomon Islands during WWII
- 1945- Allies arrests German nuclear physics Werner Heisenberg
- 1945- British troop join in Rangoon
- 1945- WWII: German ship "Cap Arcona" laden with prisoners sunk by Royal Air Force in East Sea, 5,800 killed - one of largest maritime losses of life
- 1946- International military tribunal in Tokyo begins
- 1947- New post-war Japanese constitution goes into effect.
- 1952-1st landing by an airplane at geographic North Pole
- 1962-Express train crashed into wreckage of a commuter train & a freight, killing 163, injuring 400 (Tokyo, Japan)
- 1965- 1st use of satellite TV, Today Show on Early Bird Satellite
- 1965- Cambodia drops diplomatic relations with the US

From KO Archives

Tsunami Theory Has 'Support' In Kashmir

Observer News Service

S RINAGAR - The report on April 17 that a retired Atomic Energy Department scientist had attributed the Asian tsunami to planetary alignment has come as a boost for those who believe that cosmic changes influence events on earth.

A Kashmiri Naqash Ghulam Jeelani who says he has written about the phenomenon of interplanetary and cosmic forces having a bearing on what happens on earth as far back as IW1, feels vindicated by the report. Also, he takes issue with the view by some scientists

I hat (he earthquake which caused the Asian tsunami might have changed the earth's spin, Naqash says: "My point is that if at all there is a connect ion between earth's spin, wobble, axial tilt and the tsunami, then the wobble, or change in spin or axial tilt must have occurred first, causing the Asian tsunami."

"Because, primarily my opinion is based on the observation that cosmic changes or forces, and interplanetary changes affect intra-planetary activities and phenomena."

Naqash says that he has neither the resources nor the equipment to collect data about natural disasters but his opinion stems, among other things, from "observations" about the varying frequency of incidence of events such as earthquakes, appearance of comets, cyclones and formation and extinction of geographical features, "which have sometimes occurred at a high rate of movement and sometimes at a comparatively low rate."

Paramahatmsa Tewari, the retired Atomic Energy Department scientist, had said that his conclusion about the causes of the tsunami stems from his theory that all spinning cosmic objects including the sun develop electric fields that repel each other.

According to Tewari on December 26, 2004 when the Saturn, Moon, Earth and the Sun were perfectly aligned, there was an imbalance of these electrical forces on Earth, because the repulsive force due to Sal urn was reduced as it as shielded by the Moon which does not spin, while the Sun, which was on the other side exerted its force on Earth.

Tewari had said that the imbalance pushed solid earth away from the sun causing sc water to overflow due to its fluidity, causing the tsunami.

(Kashmir Observer, 03 May, 2005)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

A day of
reflection

After a holy month of fasting and worship, made more daunting by the long days and hot sun, Eid-ul-Fitr has come as an ultimate award for the faithful who go hungry from sunup to sundown in line with God’s command. And on this day whatever our individual circumstances, the joy is guaranteed. This is not the joy in the routine sense of the term but one which is spiritually uplifting and exhilarating. It is the one that comes from a sense of accomplishment of one’s religious obligation and the anticipation of God’s forgiveness. But while Eid is about spiritual fulfilment and the awakening, it is also about our obligation towards our society. More so, in Kashmir where we not only inherit the tragic fallout of the turmoil over the past quarter of a century but also continue to live this reality in the present. Ramzan was no different. There were killings this month too, leaving many families without their loved ones.

Eid also follows a relative period of normalcy as far as the situation on the ground. Unlike last year, we are not in the throes of the Covid-19 lockdown. The past few months have witnessed tourist and business activity pick up. This has shored up the economy somewhat. A large number of people rendered jobless have found employment again. But the economy reeling under successive lockdowns over the last three years will need normalcy to sustain for a longer period of time to get back on its feet. There is a large section of the population which is still grappling with the economic losses.

But now when Eid is upon us and God is showering His faithful with His blessings, we can hardly afford to be forgetful in our joy. Unbridled consumerism can hardly be allowed to take over in the run-up to Eid, as evidenced by a shopping binge ahead of the holiday. We cannot be bereft of the concern for the poor and the people who have suffered most over the past three decades. It is incumbent on us as a community that while we celebrate Eid we also remember them and contribute in a material way to lessen their misery.

That said, more than an occasion of joy, Eid in Kashmir is a time for reflection. And of mourning too, for the thousands who have died in recent decades. Eid is inherently also about joy and celebration but there is nothing routine about this joy. The festival is about spiritual renewal and a sense of fulfilment. It is a very solemn occasion for individual and collective reflection and remembrance. It is also about our obligation towards our society.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Palm Oil Lessons

The country’s palm oil requirement is met almost entirely through imports from Indonesia and Malaysia. Indonesia alone has a nearly 60 per cent share of the world’s output and export of this oil. Comparative advantage theory would see this as a good thing. When palm oil is produced in Indonesia and Malaysia or sunflower oil in Ukraine and Russia, it results in “gains from trade” for other countries. They can similarly specialise in industries to concentrate national resources, both for exports and domestic production.

These neat assumptions have been upended by the Russia-Ukraine war, which has not only disrupted sunflower oil supplies, but also driven up international crude prices and made it further attractive to divert palm and soyabean oil for making bio-diesel. Add to this the impact of dry weather on South America’s soyabean crop, it has led to a spike in palm oil prices — so much so to force Indonesia to ban all exports from April 28. It’s rare for any country that is the world’s largest producer and exporter of a product to experience domestic shortages in the same. On Friday, the landed price of imported crude palm oil (CPO) in Mumbai was \$1,975 per tonne, against \$1,780 a week ago and the \$1,173 average for April 2021. Its effects are not just in foods — from vanaspati and margarine to bread, biscuits, noodles, frozen dessert, namkeens and mithai — but also soap and cosmetics made from palm fatty acid distillate that is a byproduct of CPO refining.

The policy lessons are obvious. Hyper-globalisation and leveraging comparative advantage work well in a world sans geopolitical frictions or natural disasters (recall what the 2011 Thailand floods did to the computer hard drive supply chain). In the real world, countries need to de-risk against overdependence on few suppliers, especially of products entailing heavy foreign exchange outgo. Halving import dependence in edible oils from the current 60-65 per cent is a goal worth pursuing, provided such atmanirbharta does not degenerate into protectionism. Domestic producers can be given one-time capital subsidy and tariff support based on long-term import parity pricing. There are collateral benefits, too, from some paddy and wheat acreage getting diverted to oil palm or mustard.

Indian Express



Coordinating In The
Dark On Inflation

KAUSHIK BASU

But the fine-tuned management of inflation now being attempted is an area where economics is at its weakest. The study of money in general equilibrium was abandoned because it is mathematically so difficult to model, and we continue to pay the price for that. Much of the expert conversation on inflation management sounds professional, but is like the twitter of birds. A non-expert voice will sound discordant, but the chatter may be meaningless.

The fine-tuned management of surging inflation that is currently being attempted is an area where economics is at its weakest. Better global coordination of monetary policy is essential – and, as the world’s largest economy, the United States will need to assume a disproportionate amount of responsibility for this effort.

ITHACA – Inflation has suddenly become a major problem in virtually all countries. What is unusual this time around is that advanced economies are at the forefront, with annual consumer price inflation currently 8.5% in the United States, 7.5% in the eurozone, and 7% in the United Kingdom. Among emerging markets and developing countries, traditionally more resilient Asian economies also are recording high inflation, with price growth in India, Bangladesh, and South Korea reaching 7%, 6.2%, and 4.1%, respectively, in March.

In a few cases, sky-high inflation has country-specific causes. In Turkey, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is trying to run the central bank. In Sri Lanka, utter mismanagement of foreign-exchange reserves and agricultural policy are to blame.

In general, however, inflation is one of the least understood phenomena within economics. We do have enough knowledge to prevent major hyperinflationary episodes of the kind seen in the past, like the record-breaking cases in Germany in 1923 and Hungary in 1946, and in parts of Latin America and Africa in more recent times.

But the fine-tuned management of inflation now being attempted is an area where economics is at its weakest. The study of money in general equilibrium was abandoned because it is mathematically so difficult to model, and we continue to pay the price for that. Much of the expert conversation on inflation management sounds professional, but is like the twitter of birds. A non-expert voice will sound discordant, but the chatter may be meaningless.

All we can do at this stage is use what knowledge of inflation we do have with caution. In addition, better global coordination of monetary policy is essential.

These minimal steps are especially important for emerging economies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, where inflation can tip large vulnerable populations into extreme poverty.

With US inflation reaching levels not seen since 1981, the Federal Reserve is coming in for a lot of blame. I believe the criticism is overdone. For starters, contrary to what some observers claim, the primary driver of the current inflation is not demand but supply, and in particular the bottlenecks and supply-chain disruptions triggered initially by the COVID-19 pandemic and exacerbated by the ongoing war in Ukraine.

When inflation occurs purely because of excess liquidity and demand, price increases across goods and services are more uniform. But today, food and energy account for a disproportionate share of the headline inflation figure. If we remove these items, eurozone inflation drops sharply from 7.5% to 3.2%, while US inflation declines from 8.5% to 6.5%.

The difference in core inflation between the US and the eurozone does suggest that aggregate demand, even if not the primary cause of today’s price pressures, played a greater role in the US. Moreover, the rise in demand happened for a good reason. President Joe Biden’s administration implemented one of the largest government spending packages in US history – with the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan forming part of a total pandemic stimulus of nearly 25% of GDP – to support the more vulnerable segments of society during the COVID-19 crisis. Although inflation is high, poorer Americans are better protected than they otherwise would have been.

In the case of emerging economies with larger vulnerable populations, it is worth bearing in mind that when a country is experiencing mainly demand-driven inflation, and prices rise across the board, an exchange-rate correction can keep the effect largely confined within its borders. If prices of all goods and services in a country increase by x% and the currency depreciates by x%, there is little spillover to other countries. But today’s inflation is unevenly skewed across goods and services, and rising prices cannot

be confined to a country by a mere exchange-rate correction. Spillover effects are inevitable and are now happening.

Another reason why central banks seem relatively ineffective in tackling today’s inflation is the advance of globalization. It has been understood since the seventeenth century, when the Riksbank in Sweden (1668) and the Bank of England (1694) were among the world’s first central banks, that a single economy should not have more than one money-creating authority. All the major economies of that time soon established central banks in accordance with this principle.

This system is now being challenged in an unexpected way. As globalization proceeds (notwithstanding recent supply-chain disruptions), and goods, services, and capital flow from one country to another, the world is increasingly becoming a single economy. But there are currently more than 150 central banks. We are returning to the situation seventeenth-century policymakers sought to overcome.

And that means trouble for inflation management. If one country tries to stem inflation by raising interest rates, money will flow into that country, cause the exchange rate to appreciate, and dampen exports. Each country will thus naturally be less enthusiastic about monetary tightening than they all would collectively wish.

As is true in many other areas of public policy, better global coordination is needed to overcome this collective-action problem. As the world’s largest economy and the issuer of its main reserve currency, the US will need to assume a disproportionate amount of responsibility for this effort.

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 Project Syndicate

The author is a former chief economist of the World Bank and chief economic adviser to the Government of India, is Professor of Economics at Cornell University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution



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Bananas Over Bakery

Kashmir’s love for Bakery is hardly new. This year too, we saw people going gaga over delicacies. Only this time, the options had increased. It is literally a sea out there when it comes to Bakery options. The sight of people shopping is endearing as previous eid’s did not have much semblance of

normalcy on account of Covid-19. However, there’s always a black sheep in the celebrations. Some famous bakeries were fined for charging customers more. Add to this the concerns over the hygiene and quality of food.

Year after year, these concerns have popped up on different occa-

sions. Stakeholders have been roped in to keep a check but there isn’t much success with the enterprise. Now with new businesses mushrooming, one can only wonder at the mess at hand.

Therefore, we as consumers should start acting informed at our own end. Instead of going bananas over “that new bakery”, we must strive to look

for the best ones in terms of quality, hygiene and affordability. The Bakery culture is so popular in Kashmir that it wouldn’t be so difficult for each one of us to be more mindful in choosing where we shop from. Choose quality food over fad.

Yamina Khan

Rewinding Ramazan

EID MUBARAK!

Mercy and forgiveness are the favours that the month of Ramazan brings along with it. Believers try to make the most of this blessed month, striving, seeking and smiling through Allah's assured promise of blessings and forgiveness. It is this journey that culminates into Eid ul Fitr that we are celebrating today.

Whether it is the nights of Laylatul Qadr or the blessed Fridays or the our blissful mundane with errands around the marketplace for fruits or for dates – Ramzan set itself apart in greatness yet again.

Here are some such mundane yet quintessential pictures that defined this year's Ramazan.

Celebrating Women in Ramazan

For women, the concept of worship during Ramazan moves beyond worship. Very often, women feel that they're so occupied with daily chores that they do not find to retreat and spend a minute with Allah. But Allah's infinite mercy is wise, He blesses each one for in every role of service to our family. In our society, women's worship moves beyond the boundaries of five prayers or recitation and extends to the unparalleled reward of making Sehri, cooking Iftaar, getting the kids ready for school and in many cases, rushing to their own work places. Kudos to them, today and each day!

Here are some clicks out of the cameras of our photographers showing women enjoying their time in prayer, worship and some necessary Eid shopping!



A girl praying inside the shrine of Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) during Ramazan.



A girl looks at an assembly of Bangles at the eve of Eid.



Women shop for clothes in a busy market ahead of Eid.



Women congregation prays during the night of Laylatul Qadr during Ramazan



A woman intently reciting Quran, the holy book of Muslims.

Day-to-Day Ramazan



A congregation of worshipers raise hand in prayers in a mosque in Kashmir



Women and men shop for popular fried street food kiosks in Kashmir during the month of Ramazan.



A young boy is headed to his school with his sisters wearing the Muslim prayer cap during Ramazan.



Watermelon sales broke all records this Ramazan in Kashmir. Reportedly, Watermelon worth Rs 5 crores were sold everyday.



A Dry fruit seller hands over a fistful of dry fruit to a costumer over a counter full of dates meant for Ramazan.

‘ROAD TO EVERY VILLAGE’

A Cornerstone Of Economic Growth And Development In J&K: Govt

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Kupwara Unit plays a vital role in developing road network in farflung and remote areas of hilly and border district Kupwara. The Yojana has developed number of roads which connected hundreds of villages and habitations with major towns and district head-quarter sofar, thereby transforming the socio-economic status of the rural populace.

Dal to Wanganbhuttoo road is one such road in district Kupwara which was developed by PMGSY. "The road was sanctioned by Union Government during November -2019 under PMGSY Package No: JK082002", said Executive Engineer PMGSY, Kupwara, Mushtaq Ahmad, adding that the Road takes off from Kupwara-Kalaroos highway, 15 Km from Kupwara headquarter. The work was started in Dec-2020 (Post Covid-19 restrictions). But despite Covid, the work was executed and the field staff of PMGSY department put-in lot of efforts to execute the work and successfully completed the project, added the Engineer. The road, having a length of 5.70 Km, connects habitations namely Dal, Qasba Shukurpora and Wangbhuttoo benefited a total population of 7900 souls and has improved the connectivity of the whole area with the district headquarters.

The road has improved the accessibility of health facilities, Agriculture and Horticulture of the area and proved as game changer to give fillip to socio-economic development in the area. The road was physically completed in Dec-2021 for an amount of Rs.648 Lakhs by way of earthwork cutting and filling, protection works (R & B Walls) including l/c and was macadamized for a length of 5.70 Km. The local people of these villages have appreciated the efforts of PMGSY staff and expressed gratitude towards the LG Administration.



Transport infrastructure is one of the most important parameters which is regarded as the key driver of economic growth and economic development of a region. Amongst the prevalent forms of transport systems like roadways, railways, airways and waterways, road transport is considered as most accessible and reliable medium of transport.

In a region like the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir where majority of the landscape is rural, hilly and mountainous, road transport plays a pivotal role in economic growth and development. In District Reasi, the PMGSY scheme has developed number of roads which connected hundreds of villages and habitations with major towns and district headquarter so far, thereby transforming the socio-economic status of the rural populace. Agar-Jitto interior PMGSY road is one such road in the district."The road connects 3-4 Panchayat habitations of Block Katra", says Smt. Prem Lata, Sarpanch Agar-Jitto.

The road has improved the connectivity of the whole area. The Sarpanch is all praise for the Lieutenant Governor's administration and District administration Reasi in particular. She explains how this road is changing the lives of inhabitants of not only village Agar Jitto but also three other Panchayats that are connected through it.

"Earlier the track was not macadamized and commuters had to face a lot of hardships especially during rainy season when the road would become slippery and muddy", says the Sarpanch. "Students were particularly affected as they had to travel more than six Kilometres to reach the school that has now been reduced to just 2 Kilometres thereby effectively reducing the distance by more than 5 Kilometres.

Moreover, this Macadamized road has now facilitated all weather connectivity to the habitations it has connected, which was not the case earlier." The local people of these villages have appreciated the efforts of PMGSY staff and expressed gratitude towards the LG Administration. In consonance with this spirit, road to every village in Jammu and Kashmir is going to be a reality soon. The Public Works Department is speeding up execution of works under Capex, CSS, and PMGSY to make road to every village in J&K a reality. On enhancing connectivity in the border villages including for border guarding forces, all the border posts in J&K will be connected with the roads during the next year.

Jammu and Kashmir constructed a record 3167 km of rural roads in 2020-21 under PMGSY, thereby providing safe and secure all-connectivity to remote habitations across the Union Territory. In

2018-19, 1622kms PMGSY roads were constructed and 2387kms roads were blacktopped, in2019-20 1325kms PMGSY roads were constructed and 2290kms were blacktopped, in2020-21, 3167kms PMGSY roads were constructed and 5500kms were blacktopped and in 2021-22, 2480 kms PMGSY roads were constructed and 6625 kms blacktopped as on 15.03.2022.

2353 PMGSY projects covering 16448km connecting 2033 habitations were completed since inception. Under PMGSY, J&K ranked No. 4that national level in terms of road length achieved. In addition, 125 bridges are to be constructed to provide connectivity to far-flung areas.

NABARD is another resource instrument for Rural Roads. During 2018-19, 28 Projects costing Rs. 80.96 Crores, 2019-20, 84 Projects costing Rs. 231.29 Crores, 2020-21, 115 Projects costing 418.67 Crores, 2021-22, 400 Projects costing Rs. 1585.38 Crores have been sanctioned.

650 km Z-Morh Tunnel (2378 crore) on Srinagar-Sonamarg road is to be completed by December,2023. Escape Tunnel has been completed before time to facilitate Sonamarg travel during winters.

8.45 km twin-tube Qazigund-Banihal Tunnel has been completed at a cost of Rs3127 crore.

Construction of 1415km two lane bi-directional Zoila Tunnel with 14.20 km parallel escape is in progress. Foundation stone of 4 tunnels on Akhnour-Poonch section of NH 144A has been laid. DPR of 10.30 km Singhpora-Vailoo Tunnel under Sinthan pass on NH-244 has been approved. 8 km Sudhmahadev- Dranga tunnels 1 and 2 on NH- 244 have been approved.

The foundation stone of two 4-lane twin-tube tunnels-the 4.38km Marog to Digdole , and 3.2 km Digdole to khooniNallah besides viaducts of 6 km at Mompassi to Sherbibi and between Nashri-Ramban has been laid.

A total of Rs8681 crore has been allotted for 130km portion

on 6 lane Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway. Once completed, the travel time from Delhi to Katra will be reduced to 5 hours.

In order to decongest Jammu city, 58km Semi Ring road is being built and work on 4 lane Semi ring road Srinagar started from 6th August 2021. Phase 2 of the project from Sumbal to Wayul approved, DPR under preparation. Phase 3 from Lasjan to Rajbagh to Khanyar to pandach to Ganderbal to Wayul is at planning stage.

Double laning of Akhnour-Poonchroad has been started at Rs. 3185 crore. Domel- Bhamla Road NH-144 upgradation is going on costing Rs.55.05 Crore. Double laning of Sudhmahadev-Goha-Khellani-kishtwar-Chatroo-Anantnag stretch of NH-244 has been started at Rs. 4289 crore.

NH-444 Srinagar- Pulwama-Shopian- Kulgam - Qazigund has been sanctioned including Pulwama, Shopian and Kulgam Bypasses. Land acquisitions are at final stages for Bypasses and 80% work on this Project has been completed during 2020-22.

3 Flyovers at Bemina (.88 KM) costing Rs. 36.9 Crore, Nowgam (.85 KM) costing Rs. 49.3 Crore and Sanat Nagar junctions have been sanctioned and work started on Bemina and Nowgam flyovers.

83 CRF projects costing Rs.1010 crore to be funded through JKIDFC are scheduled to be completed by March 2023.

In addition road travel has become faster and safer in Jammu and Kashmir. Travel time from Jammu to Kishtwar reduced has been reduced from 7.5hours to 5 hours. Travel time from Jammu to Doda on NH-244 has been reduced from 5.5 hours to 3.5 hours. Travel time between Srinagar and Jammu has got reduced from 7-12 hours to 5.5 hours for LMVs. Travel time from Srinagar to Gulmarg has got reduced from 3 hours to 1.5 hours. Similarly, layover for trucks travelling on Srinagar-Jammu section of NH-44 decreases from 24-72 hours to 12 hours.

Social Activist Altaf Hussain No More

Srinagar: The demise of Altaf Hussain Joo popularly called Taatha is beeing widely condoled.

Taatha, who hailed from Dalgate, passed away at his Jan Mohalla, Lal Bazar residence Monday morning following a brief spell of illness, family sources said. Taatha, who retired as Financial Controller of SICOP, was well known for his tireless work for social causes. He was associated with various trusts and institutions working for public welfare.

His demise has been widely mourned with people recalling his outstanding social work.

Ittehadul Muslimeneen president Masroor Abbas Ansari



and Shia Association General Secretary Abid Ansari paid tributes to Altaf Hussain and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family in separate statements.

Pak PM to review security arrangements for Chinese nationals

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would review security arrangements for the Chinese nationals working in the country in the wake of the suicide attack at the Karachi University that killed three Chinese teachers and a local man, according to a media report.

In view of potential threats being faced by the USD 60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and other joint ventures between the two countries, the prime minister would assess all the mechanisms earlier devised for ensuring the security of the Chinese nationals and the new plan being made by the planning and interior ministries.

The Express Tribune newspaper citing its sources said that the security plan would be presented to Shehbaz in the first week after Eid.

China last week asked Pakistan to scale-up security for its nationals working in the country and demanded a thorough investigation and punishment to the perpetrators behind the suicide attack at the Karachi University.

On April 26, an explosion triggered by a burqa-clad

woman suicide bomber from Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) ripped through a shuttle passenger van of the Confucius Institute at the prestigious University of Karachi leaving three Chinese teachers dead and one injured, in the latest targeted attack against Chinese citizens in Pakistan.

The paper said the premier had also directed Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Minister Ahsan Iqbal to meet the country heads of all the Chinese companies working in Pakistan to seek their input in security and other arrangements.

The sources said the planning minister was scheduled to visit Gwadar soon after Eid to examine the security arrangements and complaints, if any, by the Chinese companies and nationals working on CPEC projects.

Prime Minister Shehbaz has also directed the interior ministry to engage provinces, especially the Balochistan government, for the provision of security in Gwadar and submit a report in the first week after Eid.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Foreign Militants

because of the (anti-infiltration) grid, they have not been able to come to this side, he added.

On the issue of Aadhaar cards recovered from militants, the GoC said it was also a challenge, but the security forces will slowly overcome the problem.

These are challenges because if a person (foreign militant) carries an Aadhaar card, to find out his real identity is a difficult proposition. Also, when there is an encounter and if a person comes out during a live encounter having a valid Aadhaar card, it is a difficult challenge. (But), slowly, we will overcome this problem, he said.

2 CRPF Men

the attack, additional reinforcements of police and CRPF rushed towards the spot. Senior officers also examined the blast site. According to reports, the area was placed under a cordon and search operation was launched to nab the attackers.

"A joint team of Police & CRPF were conducting area domination in 02 BP bankers during which a minor #IED #blast took place in Larmoo #Tral, #Awantipora. 02 CRPF personnel got minor injuries. Our team retaliating & #reinforcement sent alongwith senior officers," IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said, according to a police spokesperson.

Govt Approves

lockdown and restrictions leading to non-operationalization of the public transport," the spokesperson said.

He said that for the owners of commercial vehicles, who have already deposited the passenger tax for aforesaid period in full, the excess amount paid thereof by them shall be adjusted against the liability accrued or accruable in the next financial year i.e for the time period of 1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2023.

"Further, the recovery of the outstanding passenger tax from the owners of the commercial vehicles for the financial year 2018-19 to 2021-22 will be made in four equal installments on quarterly basis commencing from 1st April, 2022," the spokesperson added.

Meanwhile, the AC also approved transfer of 80 kanal land in Bandipora district to the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) for establishing dumping sites for solid waste management, he said.

The meeting, according to the spokesperson, also approved the proposal of Revenue Department to transfer various parcels of land for public purposes.

He said that the AC approved the transfer of land measuring 6 Kanal in favour of Jal Shakti Department for construction of over head tank (OHT)/ rapid sand filtration plant (RSFP)/Pump cum operator quarter WSS Barzulla Colony and establishment of PHE Division Office, Pulwama.

The AC, he said, also approved the transfer of land measuring 80 Kanal situated at village Rakh-I-Asham, Sumbal (30 kanal), Hajin (20 kanal) and Bandipora (30 kanal) in district Bandipora to Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) for establishing dumping sites for solid waste management.

"Proper and scientific disposal of solid waste will boost public health by providing cleaner environment and assist in abetting environmental degradation and pollution, besides realizing the vision of litter-free J&K," the spokesperson added.

Foolproof Security

have been put in place foreseeing the problems that could be faced during the Yatra.

Considering the vulnerability of the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, the officer said a new yatri niwas' has been set up at Chanderkot in Ramban district which can house 3,500 pilgrims in case of a road block.

We are taking all necessary measures and the security will be foolproof for the successful yatra, he said.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration is expecting a footfall of over eight lakh during the annual yatra which is commencing after a gap of two years owing to the outbreak of the Covid pandemic.

Asked about the recent recovery of an improvised explosive device (IED), planted by suspected terrorists near Ghat in Doda, the DIG said the NIA and other security agencies are closely monitoring the situation in the entire Chenab valley region comprising Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban districts.

All precautionary steps are being taken to ensure that this should not happen again, he said.

Property Worth

The property worth Rs 2,85, 53,000 got damaged.

In the next month, the fire calls increased to 49 in which 14 residential houses, two shops and three shopping complex got damaged. The property worth 1,78,40,00 got damaged in the month of February.

In the month of March, the department received over 52 fire calls in which 58 residential houses, two shops and six shopping complexes were damaged. The property worth Rs 12,40,65,500 got damaged.

Similarly, in the year 2021, over 354 structures including 60 shops and 20 shopping complexes got damaged during different fire incidents, which was highest from any district of Kashmir, the data reveals.

The data clearly indicates the fire incidents in Srinagar city are on rise.

The data further reveals that in the first three months over 525 structures, 99 shops and 11 shopping complexes turned into ashes due to the fire, besides causing a whopping loss of around Rs 36 crore to the people in the Valley.

Deputy Director, Fire and Emergency services (Kashmir) Bashir Ahmed Shah told Kashmir Observer that the congestion in the city is one of the main reasons that it witnessed the highest number of fire incidents.

"What can we do in these circumstances," Shah said.

He further added that the people don't let them work and act as spectators in the area which witnesses the fire incidents.

"Few days ago our men faced the wrath of people and they had to hide their gadgets so that the people wouldn't identify them," Shah said.

Since the last six years, the Valley has witnessed over 15,593 fire incidents. The year 2021 witnessed over 2242 incidents, while 2336 fire incidents were reported in 2020.

While 1812 fire incidents were reported in 2019, a year earlier in 2018, 2741 incidents of blaze were witnessed. In year 2017 and 2016, 2914 and 3548 fire incidents were reported, respectively.

The officials said that many structures got damaged due to fire during different encounters between militants and government forces.

Dreamer, Warrior

us how to fight when catastrophe strikes in the form of pain and difficulties. I never had doubt she was born an elevated soul."

Among the mourners are her school mates sharing some budding aspects of her life. "Though our political opinions did not match in recent years, I will always remember Gazalla Noor as a fellow voracious reader and mischievous classmate who spoke impeccable English," recalled Renuka Dhar, Gazalla's classmate at Presentation Convent School.

"She surprised many of us when she drifted into medical college and got married at a young age. One would've imagined her as a writer not a doctor because she hated physics as much as I did! We may have clashed over the issue of Kashmir but we definitely shared a bond as PCS girls whose fathers were colleagues. My memories of her are free of politics and religion because we grew up in different times when the thought of fighting over 'Kashmir' was not born, at least in our innocent heads!"

Apart from a voracious-reader and self-confident woman, Gazalla Noor was equally a great philanthropist.

"On January 2021," said Mohammad Afaaq Sayeed of SRO Kashmir, "I wrote a post seeking help from donors in buying office furniture and computers for SRO's 'Oxygen Kashmir' unit. A few minutes after the post went public, I got a call from Gazalla Noor Baji. She said, 'Afaaq, remove the post. I am sending furniture and computers to SRO.' I was like, 'Thank you Baji, you have always been a great support'. She mildly scolded me for saying 'Thank you'. Today, I sat on the same chair which she used to sit on a few years back in her office. I couldn't control

my emotions. My eyes went misty. She was a philanthropist par excellence. She started a coaching center for Civil Services aspirants at Rajbagh. She wanted to build a Cancer Hospital. She was a dreamer. A big dreamer."

To honour her memory, SRO Kashmir has decided to create a library for those students who can't afford to buy expensive books. The welfare body is converting their Batamallo office into a three storey library.

"We have named the initiative as "Noor e Ilm" and we will leave no stone unturned to make it a big success," Afaaq said. "Noor e Ilm will focus on the education of the children of the poor. This will be the greatest tribute to our women educationists like Baajiang my beloved mother both of whom died due to the same disease, cancer."

As a strong-opinionated woman, Gazalla Noor would raise her voice against some pressing issues on social media. In her twitter bio, she would describe herself as "a human with an advantage, a businessperson with a heart".

In one of her social media posts, she endorses positivity in life.

"Why are we negative about life," she asked in the post. "The road to paradise also passes through this world. Allah has created beautiful things for us to enjoy and take joy from. I do not like it when people show dead bodies in shrouds and say this will be your end. Even that is a blessing after a certain age or after a long illness. Your life is a miracle. It is full of love, affection, moments of unbridled joy. Moments when charity that you do or the service that you do for others gladdens your entire existence. The moments when you receive so much unconditional love, empathy and peace. Look at how nature has spread itself around you in myriad unbelievable shapes and colors of immense beauty. Your wealth makes you happy, the clothes you wear and the work you do make you happy. I believe that this world is also a good place and not to be remembered as a futile, ugly thankless journey."

But beyond her vocal virtual presence, she was an inspiring self-starter in real life.

"A terrific and ambitious businesswoman who thrived in a conflict zone despite so many challenges around, she led a lobbying group — full of men — in times of one after another crises," said journalist Sameer Yasir. "She was a real — what the State has made a mockery of the word: entrepreneur."

In Kashmir's oldest trade body, Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Gazalla Amin became the first woman to hold Secretary General and Treasurer positions.

"Kashmir has lost an iconic figure particularly in agro and women entrepreneurship & is a great loss to the business as well as society of Kashmir", posted Mubeen A Shah, her former colleague at KCC&I.

"A pioneer of contemporary women entrepreneurship in Kashmir, who was among the

first to make a mark in commercial lavender and rose oil farming in Kashmir, Gazallaji has inspired countless young men and women in agri-business," said Nisar Ali, a noted economist. "Her passing away has created a void and a silence which is very difficult to overcome."

Despite being diagnosed with the dreaded disease, she stayed affable and master at bonding with people.

"She was the man around, very convincing while making a statement on issues," said Peerzada Ashiq, a senior Kashmiri scribe.

"Graceful in conduct and well-meaning in conversations, Gazallaji stood out for her ability to connect with social causes in Kashmir. She was ever ready to join any cause to reach out to the dispossessed, needy and disempowered. She was proud and seeped in Kashmiri culture. Anything about Kashmir would excite her. I am yet to come across such a large hearted, dignified and full of life woman as Gazallaji. Indeed she will live on in the legacy she left behind. Gazallaji has left enough 'Noor' behind for us to learn from."

LG Greets People

during the holy month of Ramzan and inspires all to work towards building a compassionate, harmonious, peaceful and prosperous society," Sinha said.

"May this auspicious day strengthen mutual goodwill and instill in us a sense of unity and pride in the syncretic culture of the UT of J&K", he added.

J&K Reports Six

divisions both registered three new COVID-19 cases each, they said.

The officials said Jammu district recorded a maximum of three fresh cases.

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

There are 61 active COVID-19 cases, while the number of recoveries stands at 4,49,241 in Jammu and Kashmir, the officials said.

The death toll from the pandemic remained unchanged at 4,751 as no new fatality was reported in the past 24 hours in the Union Territory.

Man Falls Off

He said locals immediately shifted him to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead.

An official identified the deceased as Ghulam Nabi Shah a resident of Kanigund and said investigation has been started into the matter.

Woman Jumps

They said some local people rushed the critically injured woman to Government Medical College Hospital where she was declared brought dead by the doctors.

On Sunday, a 43-year-old man committed suicide in a similar manner from nearby Tawi bridge near Vikram chowk.

MeT Predicts Light Rain From Today

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Weatherman has forecast fairly widespread light rain and thunderstorm from evening of May 3 to 5 while night temperatures recorded an increase in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday. "Heat Wave (in Jammu) will abate from May 3rd onwards due to passage of a Western Disturbance which will cause intermittent scattered to Widespread Light to Moderate Rain/Thunderstorm during 3 (Evening/Night) to 5th," a meteorological department official said, adding, "Thunderstorm will be accompanied by Hail-storm and gusty winds. Accordingly, people, especially farmers may take note of the forecast. (Chance of occurrence >70%)."

He said that Srinagar recorded a low of 14.0°C against 11.8°C on the previous night. The temperature, he said, was 4.3°C above normal during this time of the year for the summer capital.

Qazigund recorded a low of 10.6°C against 9.4°C on the previous night. The temperature was 2.1°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 13.3°C against 10.6°C on the pre-

vious night. It was 4.9°C above normal during this time of the season for the place in south Kashmir, the official said.

Pahalgam recorded a minimum of 6.7°C against 5.6°C last night. The temperature was 1.8°C above normal for the famous resort in south Kashmir during this time of the season, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 9.0°C against 6.7°C on the previous night, the official said. While 4.3°C is normal for the world famous skiing resort during this time of the season, the official said that the temperature was 4.7°C above normal for the place in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of 11.4°C against 10.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.0°C above normal for the district, the official told Global News Service. Jammu recorded a low of 29.4°C against 26.7°C on the previous night, the official said. The temperature was 6.8°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 12.6°C, Batote 16.5°C and Bhaderwah 13.9°C, the official said. (GNS)

Omar Trying To Communalise Situation In J&K: BJP

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah is attempting to communalise the situation in Jammu and Kashmir by "deceitfully" trying to connect power cuts with Sehri and Namaz, the BJP alleged on Monday.

Abdullah on Wednesday had said that electricity supply is deliberately being curtailed at Sehri and Iftar hours to hassle the Muslim community observing the holy month of Ramzan.

Reacting to the NC vice president's statement, the chief spokesperson of BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit, Sunil Sethi, said finally the National Conference has "thrown away its false clothing of secularism and its communal face with fangs have come out".

"This is a deliberate attempt (by Abdullah) to communalise the situation in Jammu and Kashmir by deceitfully trying to connect power cuts with the holy month of Ramzan, in Sehri and Namaz. This was a well thought of design to mislead and misguide a particular religion against the government for petty political gains": Sunil Sethi told reporters here.

The BJP had also requested the administration to improve power supply. But it cannot be forgotten that power supply is affected largely because of the defective policies of previous regimes that have left huge outstanding arrears, he claimed.

The NC leader had said that "curtailment of electricity at Sehri and Iftar hours is being deliberately done to hassle us".

"Are you playing with our sentiments? If your intention is not to play with our sentiments, then give power during Sehri and Iftar hours and cut it at other hours of the day," Abdullah had said.

Noting that there had been no opposition to Abdullah's statements by the constituents of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), Sethi said, "This is a dangerous trend which will further radicalise the situation but unfortunately the PAGD has gone low in politics with eye on the coming (assembly) elections."

He said such communal tirades have no place in the tolerant society of Jammu and Kashmir and alleged that these are yet another attempt to engineer violence.

Taking exception to Abdullah questioning the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Union, the BJP leader said, "The decision to accede to India was taken by the ruler of the state as was done in cases of other states. Omar has forgotten history as to how killings and tortures and destruction of property had been done by Pakistani invaders to Kashmir."

The BJP stands for brotherhood amongst all nationalists belonging to different religions and will oppose all attempts to weaken the secular fibre of mutual co-existence, Sethi said.

J&K's First Public Bicycle-Sharing System Set To Be Launched In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A public bicycle-sharing system will be launched in Jammu under the Smart City Mission in a boost to eco-friendly mobility, an official said on Monday.

The system will allow users to rent out a bicycle from designated automatic docking stations and deposit it at another docking station located close to the destination, the official said.

He said it will be a first-of-its-kind initiative in Jammu and Kashmir and be available to all citizens at a nominal rent.

Jammu Smart City Limited (JSL) has established 60 automatic docking stations across the city and each one has 10 slots to park and lock bicycles.

"Sixty docking stations have been established in prominent locations of the city so far and the work for 60 more is in progress," the official said.

He said Jammu Bus Stand, Indira Chowk, Government Medical College exit gate, Super Speciality Hospital, Parade Chowk, Jammu Airport entrance gate and Ragunath Temple are among the locations where docking stations have been installed.

JSL Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Avny Lavasa said a total of 720 mechanical bicycles, 80 electric bicycles (pedal-assisted), 120 docking stations, a mobile application, bicycle redistribution vehicle are the components of the project.

"The public bicycle-sharing system will not just help citizens to maintain good health but also bring down pollution levels in the city," Lavasa said.

Officials said a user can rent a bicycle by downloading and registering in mobile app 'Yaana Bikes' with a mobile number. The app is available on both android and iOS platforms.

They said the minimum membership is available at Rs 50 for five rides of 30 minutes each in a day and the maximum membership at Rs 1,500 for 1,500 rides of 30 minutes each over a year.

Claims Of Normalcy In J&K Self Serving Lies: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said the Jammu and Kashmir administration's decision to disallow Eid prayers at the Jamia Masjid here proves that the Centre's claims about normalcy in the union territory are "self serving lies and contradictions".

"Eid prayers disallowed yet again in Jama Masjid tomorrow.



It's clear that GOIs normalcy narrative for J&K is laced with self serving lies & contradictions. Stripping people not only

of their fundamental rights but also religious freedom symbolises their ruthlessness," she tweeted.

The administration had put conditions on holding Eid prayers at Jamia Masjid including that the prayers be held at 7.00 am and the management committee of the mosque give an undertaking that no untoward incident will take place during or after the prayers.

AMARNATH YATRA

LG's Principal Secy Takes Stock Of Arrangements At Baltal

GANDERBAL: Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Nitishwar Kumar conducted an extensive tour of Baltal on Monday and took on-spot assessment of the facilities being upgraded for the convenience of pilgrims of Amarnath Yatra-2022.

During the visit, the Principal Secretary to Lt Governor, who is also the CEO of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, along with Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K. Pole visited Baltal Base Camp, Dmail access point, Car Parking area and other proposed sites for halt stations to have first-hand appraisal of augmentation of pilgrims' staying capacity for ensuring smooth conduct of the yatra, an official spokesperson said.

On the occasion, he said, Principal Secretary was apprised by the concerned departments regarding the activities and developmental works undertaken to enhance the staying capacity by 2-3 times of existing holding capacity at various halt stations.

He said that the Principal Secretary inspected the facilities and arrangements at Access Point Dmail and also inspected the proposed separate site for Service Providers located on other side of Nallah Sindh, and directed the R&B department to frame a proposal for installation of an

iron bridge at the earliest so that the patch of land could be used by service providers during the Yatra period. He also stressed for proper leveling of all proposed sites before pitching tents.

"The officials of R&B department briefed the Principal Secretary about the progress on snow clearance and other developmental & repairing works on the Yatra track," the spokesperson said.

Regarding parking facilities, he said, the Principal Secretary directed for making adequate arrangements for parking of buses ferrying the Yatrīs, as heavy footfall of Yatrīs is expected this year.

NATIONAL MEANS CUM MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

BOSE Declares Result Of Class 8 Students Of J&K, Ladakh

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) on Monday declared the result of National Means Cum Merit Scholarship (NMMS) Examination of Class VIII (8th) students, held on 24th of March, 2022, across the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and of Ladakh.

As per a communiqué received in this regard, the list of the selected candidates is

available on the JKBOSE website www.jkbose.nic.in. Out of 8116 appeared candidates, 1091 candidates got selected as per quota allotted to J&K including Ladakh by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Furthermore, the selected students shall have to apply online on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) as and when the same is opened for the purpose.

Free Press Pivotal To Working Democracies: NC

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Free press is pivotal to working democracies and the government should work towards making an enabling environment for the media fraternity in Kashmir, National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah said on Monday.

He also said that the freedom of the human mind is acknowledged in the right to free speech and free press.

In his message on International Press Freedom Day, Abdullah said a free press is pivotal for any working democracy as it keeps the citizenry informed and imposes accountability.

"The NC in its 'Naya Kashmir' manifesto had underscored the importance

of having a free and vibrant press to keep those running the state of affairs under check and common citizenry informed about their rights," he said here.

No society can think of harvesting the fruits of democracy without securing its press fraternity all the required freedom and dignity, Abdullah, the MP from Srinagar, said. However, he said, it is imperative for the press fraternity to uphold the dignity associated with the profession at any cost.

"The struggle by embattled journalists and press fraternity of Kashmir to fight for the rights of people is commendable. I take this opportunity to salute the valour of our journalistic community, who notwithstanding curbs and persecution has been rendering

their duties with dedication. I take this opportunity to pay my tributes to all those journalists who lost their lives in the line of duty, Abdullah said.

NC chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq also underscored the need of having a free and vibrant press in Jammu and Kashmir. The government is duty bound to create an enabling environment for press fraternity in Kashmir so that they can air the public issues in a free and fair manner, he said.

KIIT Ranked 8th Globally In SDG 'Reducing Inequalities'



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar has been ranked 8th among universities of the world in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of 'Reducing Inequalities' in the prestigious Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022 published on 28th April 2022.

Besides World University Rankings, Times Higher Education publishes several other rankings of institutions every year on different parameters. One of the most important among these is the Impacts Rankings, which evaluates thousands of universities from all over the world on their contributions to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings assesses their commitment to sustainability across four broad areas: research, stewardship, outreach and teaching.

In this year's rankings, KIIT has been ranked 8th best in the entire world for its impact in one parameter of SDGs – 'Reducing Inequalities'. With impressive ranks of 101-200

in other SDGs – Quality Education; Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions; and Partnerships for the Goals – KIIT has achieved the overall position of 201-300 in the rankings, which lists over 1500 universities from 106 countries. Only a handful of Indian institutions feature in the list, and KIIT is among the top eight universities from India.

Along with quality education and research, KIIT has been actively involved in a wide spectrum of social development activities since its inception. "KIIT has done extensive work in the field of reducing inequalities. As a result, it has got 8th position in the whole world in this parameter of SDG", opined the academic community of KIIT Deemed to be University.

Expressing his happiness, Dr. Achyuta Samanta said, KIIT's position among the world's most impactful universities in the parameter of 'Reducing Inequalities' reflects its enormous work done in the field over the years. He congratulated the Chancellor; Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sasmita Samanta; faculty and staff members and students of KIIT for the achievement.

JKFDC & NFDC To Organize First Ever J&K National Film Festival

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Film Development Council in collaboration with National Film Development Corporation and Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, is organizing first ever National Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir from 15th to 20th June, 2022.

The Film festival, which will be a congregation of the best of films and music, film-makers, music artists, other allied talent, will serve as a reservoir of creativity and inspiration for anyone across the world who aspires to live, love and breathe films and music.

The idea behind this film festival is to highlight the film, music and creative ecosystem in J&K, along with its' natural and social-cultural beauty that Jammu and Kashmir has been blessed with, to rest of India and

the world.

Indian filmmakers and music producers, artists have been invited to submit their original films – fiction, documentary, OTT Films or shorts and Music Videos for the first National Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir

for a chance to win numerous awards under three broad categories including Feature Films, Non-Feature Films and Music Videos.

There are over 40+ awards to be given during the Film Festival Award ceremony and the winners will receive mentioned cash component as well a certificate and a medal/trophy.

The list of awards and prizes, rules and terms have been mentioned in the website <https://filmfreeway.com/nffjk> while the entries can be submitted at - <https://filmfreeway.com/nffjk>. The last date for receiving entries on the website is 16th May 2022.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

1st May 2022 being celebrated as International Labour Day in Salinar Satur Marg Limestone Mine under the aegis of Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS), North Zone Ghaziabad. The main objective of the celebration was to involve all mine employees to work towards improving safe work practices to significantly reduce accidents in mines.

Emphasis was given on Safety is everyone's responsibility and is a journey which has to be covered by all of us together. In this journey, we are also taking along our contract employees by giving them proper training on safety.

On this occasion the workers took an oath that they would dedicate themselves to the cause of safety and health and they will try to comply with all the constitutional provisions.

The Safety Pledge emphasized that they would make every effort to achieve zero damage efficiency.

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4 J&K Fencers To Represent India At Senior Fencing World Cup

Principal Secretary YSS lauds JK Fencers for rare achievement

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In yet another first, four fencers from Jammu and Kashmir have qualified for the Senior World Cup. The fencers including Vishal Thapar, Javed Ahmed Choudhary, Mayank Sharma and a promising ace fencer Shreya Gupta shall represent the country in the upcoming Senior Fencing Sabre World Cup later this month.

While the Men's World Cup shall be held in Spain, the lone female qualifier Shreya shall be competing in Tunisia, North Africa. Both events are scheduled to be held later this week.

All the fencers made it to the cut on the basis of some outstanding performance in the National Championship and the ranking secured by them in 32nd Senior National Championship held at Amritsar in March this year.

Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Alok Kumar, applauded and congratulated the fencers on their selection to the prestigious Fencing World Cup.

Alok Kumar said that Fencing State Centre of Excellence at M A stadium, Jammu, recently sanctioned by the Center government which shall start func-

tioning shortly besides adequate international standard fencing equipments including high quality gymnasium and physiotherapy centre in the Indoor hall of M A Stadium, Jammu, will facilitate the fencing players to use their



carriers in this potential sports. The centre shall be the first of its kind in the UT.

"We are duty bound to provide best possible sports facilities to our youth who are second to none in skills and talent and the day is not far away when our athletes shall reach the podium of Olympics as well," he added.

Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, in her message to fencers appreciated the hard work they put in while making their way to the prestigious event. "I am sure the day is not far away when our fencers will be ranked and recognised internationally," she added. She also applauded the role of Shottu Lal Sharma, Fencing Coach of J&K Sports Council.

Chess Olympiad: India Names Teams, Anand To Mentor

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Two teams each will represent India in the Open and women's section at the 44th Chess Olympiad with five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand being named as the hosts' mentor for the prestigious tournament scheduled to be played here from July 28 to August 10.

India being the host are entitled to field two teams each — in Open category as well as women's section for the first-time ever.

It has bolstered the home team's medal chances at the 14-day event, which is expected to witness participation of world's top names from more than 150 countries.

Vidit Gujrathi, who led India to gold medal in the 2020 Chess Olympiad, held virtually, will be part of India's first team in open section alongside Pentala Harikrishna and Chennai-based Krishnan Sasikiran, who have represented India on numerous occasions.

The 19-year-old Arjun Erigaisi and SL Narayanan will also be part of the first team.

The second team, on the other hand, will comprise of young talents, who have been making headlines with their consistent performances in the last couple of years, including Praggnanandhaa R, Nihal Sarin, Gukesh D and Raunak Sadhwani.

In the women's section, the first team will have the im-

mensely talented Koneru Humpy and World No 10 Harika Dronavalli, who have stamped their authority on many international tournaments, and the prolific Tania Sachdev with R Vaishali and Bhakti Kulkarni. The second team will consist of national champions Soumya Swaminathan, Mary Ann Gomes and Padmini Rout along with Vantika Agarwal and 15-year-old Divya Deshmukh.

The Chess Olympiad was moved out of Russia after it invaded Ukraine and was awarded to Chennai in March. Alongside the Olympiad, the 94th FIDE Congress and elections will also be held in the city.

IPL 2022: Punjab Face Team To Beat Gujarat Titans

Press Trust of India

NAVI MUMBAI: Gujarat Titans, who have been remarkable in bouncing back from adverse situations, would look to seal a spot in the Play-offs when they clash with inconsistent Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League (IPL), here on Tuesday.

Gujarat, the IPL debutants, are clearly the team to beat in the competition having won eight out of nine games. A sixth consecutive win will make them the first side to enter the play-offs.

A big reason for Gujarat's stellar run has been their ability to come back from tough situations. Whether it is Rahul Tewatia, David Miller, Rashid Khan or skipper Hardik Pandya — they all have produced match-winning efforts during the course of the tournament. If one has failed, the other has risen to the occasion.

The last time Gujarat and Punjab met, they produced a cracking finish with Tewatia bringing his team back from the dead by smashing two sixes off



the last two balls of the game.

Punjab would hope to be on the right side of the result and that the game doesn't go deep. They are in the middle of another inconsistent campaign and with five losses in nine games and are running out of time.

Their senior batters, captain Mayank Agarwal himself, Jonny Bairstow, Shikhar Dhawan and Liam Livingstone have done well in patches but have not been consistent enough.

Barring pacer Arshdeep Singh, who seems to be getting better with every game, the bowling department can also do better. They did well in the

previous game but the batters flopped to let the team down.

Another important cog for Gujarat is all-rounder Rashid Khan, who has also displayed his six-hitting prowess, to go with his crafty bowling.

Miller, Tewatia and Rashid have together hit 28 sixes and will be expected to keep doing the job.

Gujarat also have one of the most lethal attacks in the IPL.

While Mohammed Shami can wreak havoc with the new ball, the big-hitters in the Punjab line-up would be wary of the pace and variety which Lockie Ferguson brings with him.

Captaincy Pressure Burdened Jadeja: Dhoni

Press Trust of India

PUNE: The pressure and demands that come with captaincy affected Ravindra Jadeja's preparation and performance, says Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who had encouraged the all-rounder to take responsibility as a skipper rather than "spoon-feeding" him after the initial two-match transition period.

Jadeja had been appointed CSK skipper after Dhoni decided to step aside just before the tournament began last month.

But the all-rounder buckled under pressure and eventually gave up the job, forcing the franchise to fall back on their most trusted lieutenant.

Under Jadeja, CSK lost six out of their eight matches. India's most dependable all-format all-rounder's batting, bowling and fielding also took a hit.

Back at the helm of affairs, Dhoni, who has led CSK to four titles, produced instant result as CSK registered a 13-run win over Sunrisers Hyderabad to keep themselves afloat in the tournament on Sunday.

"I think Jadeja knew last season he'd be captaining this year. For the first two games, I oversaw his work and let him be later. After that, I insisted he'd take his own decisions and responsibility for them," Dhoni said at the post-match presentation ceremony.

"Once you become captain, it means a lot of demands come in. But it affected his mind as the tasks grew. I think captaincy burdened his prep



and performances."

Dhoni said Jadeja taking over the mantle of the side was a gradual transition, which he wanted.

"He knew and got enough time to prepare, what is important is you want him to lead the side and I wanted that transition to happen. At the end of the season, you don't want him to feel as the captaincy was done by someone else and I'm just going for toss.

FIFA Punishes Senegal For Fan Disorder, Lasers At Salah

Agencies

ZURICH: FIFA fined Senegal's football federation 175,000 Swiss francs (\$180,000) on Monday for fan disorder at a World Cup playoff game, including shining laser pointers at Egypt star Mohamed Salah in the penalty shootout.

Salah's face was a blur of vivid green light when he prepared to take his penalty, which he blasted over the bar. Senegal went on to win the shootout in Dakar in March with Salah's Liverpool teammate Sadio Mané scoring the decisive spot kick.

FIFA said its disciplinary committee also looked into a pitch invasion by Senegal fans, an offensive banner and the national federation's "failure to ensure that law and order are maintained in the stadium."

Senegal was also ordered to play a future competitive game in an empty stadium.

The FIFA disciplinary panel also judged dozens of similar cases from World Cup qualifying games played since January and handed out several other fines and stadium closures.

Nigeria was punished with a 150,000 Swiss francs (\$154,000)



fine and one-game stadium closure. Fans invaded the field in Abuja and there were other incidents of disorder after Nigeria was eliminated at home by Ghana in their playoff.

FIFA imposed fines of 125,000 Swiss francs (\$128,000) on Congo and 100,000 Swiss francs (\$103,000) on Lebanon in similar cases at games against Morocco and Syria, respectively. Both got one-game stadium closures.

Discrimination by fans of Chile and Colombia at their home games, plus other offenses, resulted in total fines of 95,000 Swiss francs (\$98,000) and 55,000 Swiss francs (\$56,500), respectively.

Champions League: Liverpool Looks To Defend 2-0 Lead

Agencies

The Champions League is heading toward a third all-English final in four seasons unless Spanish rivals can overturn first-leg losses.

Here's a look at second-leg matches in the semifinals taking place this week: **TUESDAY: VILLARREAL-LIVERPOOL (0-2)**

Villarreal surpassed expectations to reach the final four after upsetting former champions Juventus and Bayern Munich, and Liverpool was unable to inflict a knockout blow at Anfield.

Still, Unai Emery, a master of strategy in knockout competitions, faces the enormous challenge of engineer-

ing a comeback over a Liverpool side that is seeking a historic quadruple of the Champions League, Premier League, FA Cup and League Cup titles.

Liverpool made five changes from the side that beat Villarreal when it played at Newcastle on Saturday despite being involved in a Premier League title race. The second-place team managed to secure the 1-0 win that kept it a point behind Manchester City, all while striker Mohamed Salah was only needed on the field for 25 minutes. Fabinho and Thiago Alcantara also only came on in the second half while Ibrahima Konate and Trent Alexander-Arnold didn't come off the bench at all as the depth of the squad was clear.



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Nadal, Djokovic Slam Wimbledon Ban On Russian Players

Agencies

MADRID: Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic criticised Wimbledon's decision to exclude players from Russia and Belarus from taking part in this year's tournament following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The two tennis greats said Sunday that Wimbledon had acted unfairly.

"I think it's very unfair of (on) my Russian tennis mates, my colleagues... it's not their fault what's happening in this moment with the war," Nadal, a 21-time Grand Slam winner, said in Spain where both he and Djokovic are preparing to play in the Madrid Open. "I'm sorry for them," Nadal said.

Wimbledon starts on June 27. The prominent players affected by the ban include reigning U.S. Open champion Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, and French Open runner-up Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, who are all from Russia.