



P3 CITY

AFTER HAWAL, DALGATE LOCALS FINED FOR ROADSIDE PARKING

Days after Hawal residents voiced their displeasure over fines for residential area parking, now residents from city's Dalgate area are up in arms against the traffic Department.

P5 THINK

WHAT IS CHILDHOOD EMOTIONAL NEGLECT?

Since children do not have a vocabulary and/or mental faculty available to them to express how they feel when they are neglected by their parents/family members/caregivers, we as adults may overlook the impact of our neglect on the mental health of



P7 STATE

PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO FACE FINE FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF FFRC ORDERS

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG), Manoj Sinha in the newly notified rules has said that the Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC) shall impose



Quote!

Suspicion always haunts the guilty mind

- Shakespeare

NEWS DIGEST

CISF Constable Found Dead

Srinagar: A Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) constable was found dead on Thursday in his room at the National Hydro Electric Power Corporation Private Limited (NHPC) premises in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. CISF Constable Asgar Ali son of Nizamuddin, **More on P6**

Single New Corona Case In J&K

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir recorded one fresh Covid case on Thursday that took the infection tally to 4,54,126, officials said. The lone case was reported from Kupwara district in Kashmir division, they said. There are 54 active cases, while **More on P6**

Standardized Baggage For Hajj Pilgrims

Srinagar: The Hajj Committee of India will provide standardized baggage to the pilgrims if they confirm their delivery address by May 14. According to an official spokesperson, in order to avoid inconvenience to the Hajj Pilgrims, the Hajj Committee of India (HCI) through **More on P6**

Youth Found Dead Inside Auto Rickshaw

Srinagar: A youth was found dead inside an auto rickshaw at Cheeni Chowk area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday. Official sources said that the soon after information, police took the body in its custody and shifted it to GMC Anantnag, reported news agency GNS. The youth was later identified as Tehseen **More on P6**

Govt Shifts 10 More JKAS Officers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a third reshuffle in less than a week, the Union Territory government on Thursday transferred ten officers, mostly Jammu and Kashmir Administrative (JKAS), in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to separate orders, Namrita Dogra, JKAS, Joint Director, Information, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Recovery), Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Sapna Kotwal, JKAS, Project Manager, IWMP, Udhampur, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Information, Jammu. Shagun Sharma, JKAS, Joint Director, Food, Civil **More on P6**

Militants Escape After Gunfight In Anantnag

SRINAGAR: An unspecified number of militants have escaped from the dragnet of government forces in South Kashmir's Anantnag district after a brief gunfight, officials said on Thursday.

They said that there was no further exchange of fire following "initial firefight" near Marhama area of Bijbehara in the district on Wednesday. "The militants it seems escaped in the initial phase taking advantage of darkness," a senior officer said, as per news agency GNS.

He said that "operation" was called off **More on P6**

KP Employee Shot Dead Inside His Office In Budgam

'Those Behind This Despicable Terror Attack Will Not Go Unpunished': LG



Family members wait as body of Rahul Bhat is being taken away in an ambulance from Srinagar's SMHS hospital on Thursday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A government employee belonging to the Kashmir Pandit community was killed by militants inside his office in Chadoora of Budgam district in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday,

drawing strong condemnation from political parties.

Two gunmen entered the Tehsil office in Chadoora town and shot at Rahul Bhat, a clerk posted there under the special employment package for migrants, officials said.

The officials said Bhat,

who was residing in a migrant colony at Sheikhpora in Budgam district, was shifted to a hospital here but succumbed to injuries.

"The man had received three bullet injuries that had resulted in massive blood loss. Two of the

Killing Sparks Protest By Community Members

Scores of Kashmiri Pandits on Thursday staged a strong protest and blocked strategic Srinagar-Jammu highway near Qazigund against the killing of a community member in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. According to reports, nearly a hundred Kashmiri Pandits, including women, assembled on the Srinagar-Jammu highway near Veesu, Qazigund on Thursday afternoon and staged a protest against **More on P6**

Family Says 'Cold-Blooded Murder', Demand Probe

Mourners flocked the house of a Kashmiri Pandit government employee shot dead by militants inside his office in central Kashmir's Budgam district Thursday, as his family and relatives waited for his body and the father demanded a probe into the incident. Rahul Bhat, who had got the job of a clerk under the special employment package for migrants in 2010-11, was gunned down by militants inside the Tehsil office in Chadoora town. **More on P6**



@OfficeOfLGJandK 66 I strongly condemn the barbaric killing of Rahul Bhat by terrorists at Budgam. Those behind this despicable terror attack will not go unpunished. J&K Govt stands in solidarity with the bereaved family in this hour of grief."

168 Militants Active, 75 Killed In J&K So Far: Army

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: At least 168 militants are operating in Jammu and Kashmir while 75 have been killed in encounters with security forces this year, officials said.

Among those neutralised include 21 foreign militants, they pointed out.

In the past 11 months, 11 militants were encountered and 12 infiltration bids were foiled in the vicinity of the Line of Control (LoC) alone, they said.

"The intensity of (counter-terrorism) operations will continue to be high till all of the residual 168 plus militants surrender or are eliminated," a senior army officer told PTI.

He said the overall situation is progressively improving due to the proactive army-guided



File Photo

deployment, leading to a positive environment to accelerate the government's development initiatives.

"Dividends of peace have started reaching the people and they are further getting motivated to preserve and sustain

peace", the officer added.

In 2021, security forces eliminated 180 militants, out of which 18 were foreign elements. This was possible due to synchronised intelligence network and support from civil population, he said. **More on P6**

'Train To Connect Kashmir With Mainland By 2023'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A senior northern railway official said on Thursday that Kashmir Valley will be connected to Jammu and rest of the country by next year and the all-weather and cost-effective connectivity shall be a boon for economy of the Union Territory.

Manager Northern Railway (NR), Ashutosh Gangal made these remarks during his meeting with Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, here on Thursday, an official spokesperson said. Gangal, he said, apprised the Chief Secretary about the status of the ongoing works on Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL). "Chief Secretary was informed that it is expected that Kashmir valley would be connected to the **More on P6**

62. 2 Square Km Area In Gulmarg Declared Eco-Sensitive Zone

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have declared 62.2 square kilometers around Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary as eco-sensitive zone (ESZ).

In a notification, the Ministry has notified that ESZ shall be of 62.2 square kilometers, with an extent of zero to 4.1 kilometers around the boundary of Gulmarg wildlife sanctuary.

"The 'zero' extent of eco-sensitive zone is proposed towards eastern side as it adjoins the Ferozpora watershed comprising Gulmarg wildlife sanctuary which is bifurcated geographically by geological features like high mountains, peaks and glaciers. The eco-sensitive zone is kept 0.05 kilometers towards Southern side, 0.012 kilometers towards South-Western

side and 0.012 kilometers on Western side of the Gulmarg wildlife sanctuary because the area is well known tourist spot with large tourist footfalls all around the year and there is no scope of eco-sensitive zone extent possible on these sides," reads the notification.

According to the ministry, there is no village/township which falls within the proposed eco-sensitive zone of Gulmarg wildlife sanctuary.

As per mandatory requirements, the UT government shall prepare a zonal master plan for the purposes of the eco-sensitive zone.

"The Union territory government shall, for the purposes of the eco-sensitive zone prepare a zonal master plan within a period of two years from the date of publication of this notification in the **More on P6**

Meet 'The Only Mason' Face-lifting Temples, Churches, Shrines In Kashmir

Syed Mohammad Burhan

On a chilly December morning last year, Naseer Ahmad Gilkar was busy cementing the dislodged bricks at St. Luke's Church, Kashmir's oldest Cathedral.

At the cusp of completing the renovation project, Naseer did not shy away from showing his happiness.

Wintry breeze did not deter the mason in his early fifties from arriving early at his workplace. He has been showing this work commitment for over three decades now while working at religious sites belonging to people of different faiths.

Before working at the Cathedral, Naseer face-lifted Hazratbal shrine and renovated Shri Chandra Chinar Udasin

Ashram, a Hindu temple at Lal Chowk, Srinagar.

"Masonry is in our blood," Naseer said. "My father and grandfather were both masons."

Naseer lives in Dalgate's Daesil Mohalla, a locality known for having produced experts in masonry.

Among other things, the mason termed the experience of working at religious sites different from other places.

"I've seen everyone coming to their place of worship with intention to bow before their creator," he said. "I've the same amount of respect for the church as I've for a mosque."

By working at religious sites of people other than your faith, he said, one gets to know about the belief of other people as well.

While renovating the St.



Lukes Church at Dalgate, Naseer talked about the importance of reviving old structures and said

they're part of Kashmir's collective legacy.

"Faith is personal and I'm

RESPECTING PEOPLE OF OTHER FAITHS and their places of worship is a prophetic practice and we're obliged to do that. I've seen every person looking for creator in their own way. I believe religious people are better than those who deny the existence of God. While our ways of worship are different, the creator remains the same."

of the belief that everyone should've the freedom to practice his or her religion freely," the mason said.

"Respecting people of other faiths and their places of worship is a prophetic practice and we're obliged to do that. I've seen every person looking for creator in their own way. I believe religious people are better than those who deny the existence of God. While our ways of worship are different, the

creator remains the same."

Naseer believes at present he's the only one working in Muslim shrines, in a Protestant church and a Hindu temple.

"I think other than me it's hard to find a person who has worked at so many places with so much diversity," he said.

Naseer is amazed by the architectural differences seen at different religious places.

"Every religious place has a different style of architecture,"

he said. "Even two churches aren't built in the same manner. Whereas the architecture is different, the masonry work remains the same."

Naseer is fascinated by the historical structures like Jamia Masjid and believes that a craftsmanship void has been created in Kashmir over the time.

"Masons in the past were craftsmen of high calibre," he said. "They knew their job well. Their kind of work cannot be done in contemporary times."

Pointing towards the wooden arches of the historic St. Lukes Church, Naseer attributed the fading craftsmanship to the use of technological equipment and non-availability of time.

"Due to availability of time in the past, masons used to work altogether for **More on P6**

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'Half Of Covid Survivors Show One Symptom Even Two Years After Infection'

Press Trust Of India

Beijing- More than half of people hospitalised with COVID-19 still have at least one symptom two years after they were first infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to the longest follow-up study published in The Lancet Respiratory Medicine journal. The research followed 1,192 participants in China infected with SARS-CoV-2 during the first phase of the pandemic in 2020. While physical and mental health generally improved over time, the study suggests that COVID-19 patients still tend to have poorer health and quality of life than the general population. This is especially the case for participants with long COVID, who typically still have at least one symptom including fatigue, shortness of breath, and sleep difficulties two years after initially falling ill, the researchers said. The long-term health impacts of COVID-19 have remained largely unknown, as the longest follow-up studies to date

have spanned around one year, they said. "Our findings indicate that for a certain proportion of hospitalised COVID-19 survivors, while they may have cleared the initial infection, more than two years is needed to recover fully from COVID-19," said study lead author Professor Bin Cao, of the China-Japan Friendship Hospital, China. "Ongoing follow-up of COVID-19 survivors, particularly those with symptoms of long COVID, is essential to understand the longer course of the illness, as is further exploration of the benefits of rehabilitation programmes for recovery," Cao said in a statement. The researchers noted that there is a clear need to provide continued support to a significant proportion of people who have had COVID-19, and to understand how vaccines, emerging treatments, and variants affect long-term health outcomes. They evaluated the health of 1,192 participants with acute COVID-19 treated at Jin Yin-tan Hospital in Wuhan, between January 7 and May 29, 2020, at



six months, 12 months, and two years. Assessments involved a six-minute walking test, laboratory tests, and questionnaires on symptoms, mental health, health-related quality of life, if

they had returned to work, and healthcare use after discharge, the researchers said. The median age of participants at discharge was 57 years, and 54 per cent

were men. Six months after initially falling ill, 68 per cent of participants reported at least one long COVID symptom, according to the researchers. By two years after infection, reports of symptoms had fallen to 55 per cent, they said. Fatigue or muscle weakness were the symptoms most often reported and fell from 52 per cent at six months to 30 per cent at two years, the researchers said. Regardless of the severity of their initial illness, 89 per cent of participants had returned to their original work at two years, they said. The researchers noted that two years after initially falling ill, patients with COVID-19 are generally in poorer health than the general population, with 31 per cent reporting fatigue or muscle weakness and 31 per cent reporting sleep difficulties. COVID-19 patients were also more likely to report a number of other symptoms including joint pain, palpitations, dizziness, and headaches, they

said. Around half of study participants had symptoms of long COVID at two years, and reported lower quality of life than those without long COVID. In mental health questionnaires, 35 per cent reported pain or discomfort and 19 per cent reported anxiety or depression. Long COVID participants also more often reported problems with their mobility or activity than those without the disorder. The authors acknowledge some limitations to their study. Without a control group of hospital survivors unrelated to COVID-19 infection, it is hard to determine whether observed abnormalities are specific to COVID-19, they said. The slightly increased proportion of participants included in the analysis who received oxygen leads to the possibility that those who did not participate in the study had fewer symptoms than those who did, according to the researchers.

Why Award Honorary Doctorates, And What Do The Choices Say About Our Universities?

The Conversation

Universities like to associate themselves with exceptional individuals through the awarding of honorary doctorates, but this practice has often attracted controversy, creating headaches for university administrators. Honorary doctorates highlight uncomfortable but important questions about the purpose of the university and its role in reinforcing and perpetuating social inequality. The tradition and purpose of honorary doctorates Honorary degrees (usually, though not always, doctorates) are awarded by universities to recognise outstanding achievement in a particular field, or service to the broader community. While some universities have established separate honorary degrees, such as the Doctor of the University at Griffith University, most Australian universities have maintained the traditional system in which a range of degrees may be awarded honoris causa. This means no degree is actually undertaken, but the nominee receives the distinction in

In Australia, especially since the post-World War II dawn of federal funding for universities, honorary doctorates have occasioned public debate and sometimes protest. In August 1962, the Australian National University declined to award an honorary degree to King Bhumibol of Thailand, reportedly because of his lack of academic qualifications. This created diplomatic embarrassment for the Australian government in the context of an impending royal visit. The University of Melbourne stepped into the breach to make Bhumibol an Honorary Doctor of Laws in September 1962, which was judged a bad look in university circles. The Vice-Chancellor of Monash University, Louis Matheson, commented a little smugly in an internal memo that There is no subject to which a university should bring more delicacy and sureness of touch than the selection of its honorary graduates. Matheson was forced to eat humble pie when in 1967 a furor erupted over his university's honouring of Victorian Premier Henry



name anyway. A committee, usually including members of the university's senior executive, representatives of the university council and professors, receives nominations and determines which will be approved. Universities gain a number of benefits from conferring honorary doctorates. The acceptance of an honorary degree by an exceptionally distinguished person often generates publicity and brings reflected glory on the university, in the words of one former Vice-Chancellor, preserved in the Monash University archives. Honorary doctorates have long been used to foster advantageous connections with individuals, countries or organisations. The University of Oxford awarded the first recorded honorary doctorate in around 1478 to a brother-in-law of Edward IV in a clear attempt to obtain the favour of a man with great influence. Honorary degrees have, unsurprisingly, usually been awarded to well-known individuals. The honouring of less-known individuals, and members of socially disadvantaged groups, has been much rarer. Controversy and protest

Bolte, shortly after Bolte had sanctioned the controversial execution of Ronald Ryan. Monash's staff and student associations alike opposed the move, and the ceremony took place off-campus to minimise the risk of disruption by students. At a faux awards ceremony held by students on campus, a degree was awarded to a piglet. No pedigree for pigs was inscribed on the campus lawn. After the Bolte row, Monash determined to never again honour a politician in office. Other universities have discovered since that doing so doesn't always end well. The University of Adelaide's award of an honorary doctorate to Foreign Minister Julie Bishop in 2017 was overshadowed by student protests about planned fee hikes and funding cuts for universities. **Undermining standards?** It is often said handing out unearned doctorates devalues the university's highest academic qualification. The award of honorary doctorates to celebrities and especially sportspeople tends to raise eyebrows and draw bitter jokes from academics about when they should expect their honorary Olympic medal.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir (1st Call)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION Ganderbal
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
CIVILWORKS
SINGLECOVERSYSTEM (upto Rs.2.50 Crores)
EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-tender NIT No.38 of 2022-23 issued under endorsement No.1926-35
Dated:11.05.2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of the Work	Adv. cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class Of Contractor
2		3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Construction of cement concrete Drain from H/o. Syed Alam onwards a t Gutli bagh under MH-3054 Special Repairs.	Rs.3.15 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.6300/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Special Repairs	DEE
2.	Construction of R/Wall and P/L of RCC spun pipes at Ganiwan Raina Mohalla at Surfraw under MH-3054 Special Repairs.	Rs.4.04 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.8080/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Special Repairs	DEE
3.	Renewal/Restoration of road surface b.w.o P/L G-III and 25mm thick semi-dense in major Patches/Stretches (machine Mix to be laid mechanically/manually or with use of new technologies on Kalo Mohalla Gund under MH-3054 Renewal Coat.	Rs.4.76 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.9520/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Renewal Coat	DEE
4.	Renewal/Restoration of road surface b.w.o P/L G-III and 25mm thick semi-dense in major Patches/Stretches (machine Mix to be laid mechanically/manually or with use of new technologies of Serch Choudary Bagh Inc. Gori Mohalla Baderkung road under MH-3054 Renewal Coat.	Rs.4.81 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.9620/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Renewal Coat	DEE
5.	Renewal/Restoration of road surface b.w.o P/L G-III and 25mm thick semi-dense in major Patches/Stretches (machine Mix to be laid mechanically/manually or with use of new technologies of Pir Mohallah link Bonital under MH-3054 Renewal Coat.	Rs.4.87 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.9740/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Renewal Coat	DEE
6.	Renewal/Restoration of road surface b.w.o P/L G-III and 25mm thick semi-dense in major Patches/Stretches (machine Mix to be laid mechanically/manually or with use of new technologies on Wussan near Hospital road under MH-3054 Renewal Coat.	Rs.4.98 Lacs	Rs.200/=	Rs.9960/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Renewal Coat	DEE
7.	Improvement/Upgradation of road from Baba Canal to Shah Wali Kasana Pati link road at Yarmuqam b.w.o P/L GSB & G-II incl. construction of Drain / R-Wall from Water Tank (onwards) under MH-3054 Special Repairs.	Rs.5.31 Lacs	Rs.300/=	Rs.10620/=	10-Days	MH-3054 Special Repairs	DEE/CEE

Position of AAA - Accorded.
Position of funds - Available.
The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11-05-2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11/05/2022 from 6.55 PM.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	11/05/2022 from 6.55 PM.
4.	Bid Submission End Date	19/05/2022 upto 4.00 PM.
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	20/05/2022 at 10.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.
Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 3% of allotted cost at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security @ 3% of the allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP.
Note:- All bidders shall submit the uploaded Treasury Challan in Original before issuance allotment.
4. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bid of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division (tender receiving authority).
5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bids. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:- Any bidder/tenderer withdraws bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
6(A). Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
6.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bidders with submission process.
6.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate [DSC]" as per information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from many approved Vendor.
6.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
6.4 Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
6.5 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically / by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.
6.6 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including Bid Security Declaration, tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy. However in case of any clarification the bidders all have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
6.6(a) Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are forged/fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be recommended for blacklisting and debarred from taking part in tendering which the PWD/Other Departments for a period of one year in the first instance, besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.
The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
For item rate method the unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
The %age rate method requires the bidder to quote a percentage above/below/at par at the bottom of the BOQ percentage template for the work. The percentage quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
Price escalation on Taxes:- deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor of the gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in the user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines standard bidding document shall be followed.
Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded /submitted on the basis of which the Contract has been awarded are found fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor /bidder shall be blacklisted for participation in this division for a period of five years besides the Performance Security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.
Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
14.1 All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria/qualification information with their bids:- Copies of original documents defining constitution/legal status, place of registration and principal place of business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
Scanned copy of E-challan/Treasury receipt.
Scanned copy of Registration Card with latest renewal.
Scanned copy of Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.
Scanned copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the Latest Quarter i.e. January-March 2022/Qualifying Month i.e. March 2022.
Illustrations:-
The bidder has to upload the latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the Latest Quarter i.e. January-March 2022/Qualifying Month i.e. March 2022.
All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer /Superintending Engineer of Enlistment Registration Card
14.2 The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
Non attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be a cause for disqualification of the bidder.
All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including earnest money and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderbal

No.1926-35
Dated:11-05-22

DIPK-1872/22

PUBLIC NOTICE

My mother's name has been wrongly written in my passport as Mugli while as her correct name is Mugli Bano . Now I have applied for renewal of my Passport and correction in Mother's Name. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Hilal Ahmad Tali
S/o Abdul Ahad Tali
Mother Name: Mugli Bano
R/o Tajpora Ossan Bangi Baramulla

BMG

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Where as a joint application has been received from owner. Shri : Ghulam Mohi ud Din Najar S/o: Ghulam Qadir Najar R/o: Chewdara Beerwah Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh S/o Mohd Akbar Sheikh R/o Chanthan Checkpora Beerwah Budgam, as Transferee) for transfer of Tavera Maxi Cab Carriage route permit No.389/CC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04A -8168. Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/ vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 808
Dated 11/05/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been received from one. Shri : Bashir Ahmad Bhat S/o: Late Ab. Khaliq Bhat R/o: Rajbagh Sgr. (Transferor) of LMV M-800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04A -0569. Chassis number 763898 Engine no. 281734 Model 2004. In favour of Shri. Gh. Qadir Sheikh S/o. Gh. Mohammad Sheikh R/o Chanapora Budgam. (Transferee) Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
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Dated 12/05/2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

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SMC Intensifies Anti-Encroachment Drive In City

Agencies

Srinagar: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has intensified anti-encroachment drives in the city.

During the drive goods displayed by street vendors and shopkeepers outside their shops were removed and seized on spot.

Commissioner SMC Mr Athar Amir Khan who was personally monitoring the drive passed on directions to intensify the drive on a regular basis.

Directions were given to the Chief Anti encroachment Officer to regularly clear the encroachments and the vendors who illegally occupy roads and footpaths causing many obstructions in smooth regulation of traffic.

Mr Athar has further directed that SMC and SDPO shall work in close coordination for continuous Anti encroachment drives to be held particularly in these busy market areas.

The Commissioner said that the drive will be intensified in every part of the city in the coming days and no street vendor or shopkeeper will be allowed to encroach upon roadside spaces and footpaths. (KNS)

Traffic Jams Irk Commuters In Srinagar

Srinagar: With authorities failing to streamline traffic in commercial hub Lal Chowk and other vital routes, commuters are facing tough time due to traffic jams for many hours.

Traffic jams during peak hours are witnessed on vital routes including Lal Chowk-Jahangir Chowk, junctions towards Natipora, Qamarwari and Sonwar route has become a norm. The problem is further compounded by closing down some of the important crossings and commuters are forced to take alternative roads.

"Frequent traffic jams signify the failure of authorities to streamline the system as not a single traffic cop deployed to streamline the traffic during evening hours here," Shabir Ahmad, a commuter said.

He said that every evening he has to "waste" an hour in traffic jams on the barbar shah bridge to cover the distance which otherwise is covered within 10 minutes.



Kashmiri laborers removing weeds from canal connecting Shalimar garden and Dal Lake in Srinagar. KO Photo Abid Bhat.

After Hawal, Dalgate Locals Fined For Roadside Parking

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Days after Hawal residents voiced their displeasure over fines for residential area parking, now residents from city's Dalgate area are up in arms against the traffic Department.

The residents from Dalgate locality say parking on the roadside is a norm and the locality does not have a proper parking facility.

In absence of a proper parking place, residents say they are forced to park their vehicles on the roadside.

"We've been parking in the same spot for years now, there are no signs suggesting 'No Parking'," said Sauliha



Yaseen Wani, a resident of Dalgate.

"Anyone gets fined randomly and there is no authority where we can contest

these undue fines," he added.

Locals say they park vehicles on the sidewalk because there's no space to accommodate the cars inside

the compounds.

They say in the last few months all they receive is an e-challan message with no details whatsoever as to why they were fined.

"Instead of harassing ordinary people on a daily basis, the authorities should ensure more parking spaces come up in the city" said Ali Mohammad, another resident from Dalgate.

Earlier, speaking to Kashmir Observer SSP Traffic Srinagar Muzaffar Ahmad Shah said that there was nothing unusual about the move.

"We receive complaints from different areas of the city about wrong parking and anyone found violating norms is fined" SSP Srinagar said.

Cyber Police Outsmarts Scammers, Retrieves 58 Lakhs

Observer news Service

Srinagar: Cyber Police Kashmir on Thursday said they saved Rs 58 lakhs from scammers.

Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone, Srinagar said they received two complaints from men hailing from North Kashmir's Bandipora District and South Kashmir's Awantipora District respectively, a police spokesman said.

The complainants alleged in their complaints that they were defrauded by online scammers of an amount of Rs 44 lakhs in online investment, trading scam. Both complainants received links of fake investment websites on their cell numbers wherein they were promised to get double monetary benefits.

The victims fell prey and accessed the website where they got themselves registered on said websites by opening e-wallets. After registration, duo victims were made to transfer the hefty amount of Rs 44 lakhs in the said wallets through various UPI/IMPS transactions. The victims after depositing the said amounts were unable to get benefits and also were not able to withdraw even their own amounts from the said wallets. The complainants then tried hard to reach out on available contact details of said company but all in vain.

"Accordingly, both complainants approached

Cyber Police Kashmir Zone, Srinagar for redressal of their grievance. Subsequently, the matter was taken up with bank authorities to ascertain the details of UPI/IMPS transactions. During analysis of transactions, it came to fore that the said amount had been settled through online payment gateways. The strenuous and timely intervention by the team of Cyber Police Kashmir Zone, Srinagar led to holding of the payment of Rs 44 lakhs in two different payment gateways and later on, the whole amount also got refunded into both these victim's bank accounts."

"In another complaint received from one businessman hailing from Srinagar vicinity wherein the victim was cheated by online fraudsters on the pretext of transportation of goods, services through an e-Commerce company web portal. The complainant was looking for goods-carrier services to transport the goods of his firm. Enticed by the offer, the complainant made an online payment of Rs 16 lakhs. On receipt of the money, the complainant was not able to contact the company again. Upon realizing that he was cheated by fraudsters through the above fake web portal, the complainant approached Cyber Police Kashmir Zone, Srinagar for redressal of his grievance."

Allochi Bagh Residents Protest Installation Of Smart Meters

Agencies

Srinagar: Residents of Allochi Bagh Srinagar on Thursday staged a protest demonstration against the "installation of smart electric meters in the locality.

The Residents, including men, women and children assembled at the main road and raised slogans against the installation of smart meters in the area.

The protesters said that the majority of the people in the locality are laborers and they can't pay the huge electricity tariff bills as the hike in cooking gas and other

daily items have already made life difficult for them.

"We are full of electricity resources but still we are made to suffer by such schemes. If the government wants to install meters in our localities, then it should give jobs to our children so that we can afford to pay power bills," said a female protester.

The protesters said that even the current bills are not easy to pay given their financial conditions and questioned how they would be able to pay huge bills.

Mushtaq Ahmad, a protester said,

"Sometimes we are not getting

the power supply for days together and still the department is delivering us tariff bills, and we are paying the same." He added.

He said we won't allow authorities to install these meters at any cost that will make their conditions much worse.

Another protester said that we don't have issues with the current system of installed meters and we are paying the bills despite power outages.

The protesting residents have urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to revisit the decision of installation of smart meters in the area. (CNS)

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc in shape of E-Challan (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Time and Date for Submission of E-Tender.	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1.	Up gradation of Zabbarwan Guest House by way of raising of 1 st Floor and complete renovation of Ground Floor (damaged portion of Phase II by way Steel Truss balance work) at main campus.	3	Rs.600/-	02-Months	11-05 -2022 to 23-05-2022 (6.00 PM)	24-05-2022 (11.30 AM)	"CEE" & "DEE"
2.	Utilization of Space in the First Floor of Humanities Block for the Department of Geoinformatics by way of Providing and Fixing of Aluminium partition at Humanities Block at Main Campus.	1.09	Rs.100/-	20-Days	11-05 -2022 to 23-05-2022 (6.00 PM)	24-05-2022 (11.30 AM)	"DEE"

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the web site www.kashmiruniversity.net / www.jktenders.gov.in.

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DATED:11/05/22.

DIPK-NB-813/22

Executive Engineer

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HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
11 Shawwal
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 56
ZUHR	12:27
ASR	5:21
Magrib	7:26
ISHA	8: 59

This Day In History

- 535- St Agapitus I begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 1110- Crusaders march into Beirut causing a bloodbath
- 1643- Battle of Grantham: English parliamentary armies beat royalists
- 1643- Heavy earthquake strikes Santiago Chile; kills 1/3 of population
- 1648- Construction of the Red Fort at Delhi is completed.
- 1779- War of Bavarian Succession ends
- 1830- Republic of Ecuador is founded, with Juan Jose Flores as president
- 1835- 1st foreign embassy in Hawaii forms
- 1846- US declares war on Mexico, 2 months after fighting begins
- 1861- Queen Victoria announces Britain's position of neutrality
- 1861- The Great Comet of 1861 is discovered by John Tebbutt of Windsor, New South Wales, Australia.
- 1865-Battle of Palmito Ranch, near Brownsville, Texas: final engagement of the American Civil War, Private John Jefferson Williams of B Company, 34th Regiment Indiana Infantry is last man killed
- 1884- Institute for Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) forms in New York
- 1890- Lord Salisbury offers Helgoland to Germany in exchange for Zanzibar, Uganda & Equatoria
- 1913- 1st four-engined aircraft built and flown (Igor Sikorsky, Russia)
- 1915-US Secretary of State Bryan sends a note to Germany demanding that Germany disavow the attacks on the Lusitania and make immediate reparations; however, the note is written only to 'pacify exited public opinion', according to Bryan
- 1916- 1st observance of Indian (Native American) Day
- 1918- 1st US airmail stamps issued (24 cents)
- 1927 "Black Friday" on Berlin Stock Exchange
- 1934- -Great dustbowl storm sweeps across US prairies
- 1940 German breakthrough at Grebbeline
- 1941-Martin Bormann is named head of Nazi Chancellery in Germany
- 1942- Helicopter makes its 1st cross-country flight
- 1943- German & Italian forces in Africa surrender
- 1943-German occupiers confiscate all radios
- 1945-US troops conquer Dakeshi Okinawa
- 1949- 1st British-produced jet bomber, the Canberra, makes its 1st test flight
- 1950- Diner's Club issues its 1st credit cards

From KO Archives

Drunk CRPF Jawan 'Escapes' From Kotbhalwal Jail

Shoots at Two Govt Employees, Goes Absconding

Jammu: Two government employees were injured when a Central Reserve Police Force personnel posted in highly guarded Koth Bhalwal jail- opened fire on them with his service weapon in Purkhoo area, here this morning. The assailant reportedly fled with the official weapon and four magazines from Kot Bhalwal jail before attacking the government employees. Though police and CRPF have launched a massive man hunt for his arrest he was said to be absconding till the last report came in.

Sources quoting, eyewitnesses said that Constable Dhokuo Dhmingel from Manipur of 26 Battalion was on guard duty when he went out of control and entered into verbal dual with his seniors at around midnight today.

"Dhmingel was dead drunk and all of a sudden he started teasing his senior officers", sources said adding, "The jawan fired few shots in air and later ran away with his official weapon and four magazines".

On reaching Purkhoo area along Jammu-Poonch road the accused entered into the premises of reservoir-cum-overhead water tank and demanded some cash from the employees of PHE posted on duty on gun-point.

It was reliably learnt that one of the employees Sham Lal gave him Rs 50 but it did not satisfied the dunked jawan. "He opened the nozzle of his gun injuring the PHE employees", sources said.

They injured were identified as Sukhdev Singh Daily-wager and Sham Lal Pump operator, bot employees of the PHE. They were rushed to Government Medical College Hospital Jammu, where their condition was stated to be critical.

The accused trooper; ran away with the gun from the spot and disappeared from the area. A massive man hunt was immediately launched by police and CRPF to track down the jawan but no breakthrough made till filing of this report.

(Kashmir Observer, 13 May, 2007)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Beware, More
Covid Outbreaks

Unlike some other countries, the Covid-19 pandemic in India is well under control. In the last twenty four hours, just 2,827 coronavirus infections were reported in the country. This has created hope that the pandemic may be on its way out. But there is also a danger that there could be more region-specific or nationwide outbreaks. It won't be prudent to rule out the fourth wave and go about our lives without following Standard Operating Procedures or take lightly the advent of new highly transmissible virus strains. In January-February, the third Covid wave triggered by Omicron caught on despite a predominant majority of the country having been vaccinated. However, the vaccination did substantially reduce the hospitalizations and deaths. It remains to be seen what level of transmissibility and the virulence the new variants possess. More so, when vaccination is already over one year old and its effect may be wearing thin. This is already happening in China and some other major countries.

As things stand, despite the sudden spike in the cases, the number is too low in India to be taken seriously yet. So, the coming days and weeks will be crucial as to the trend of infections. Any significant rise in the cases will require government intervention just as China has done in Shanghai. The world's biggest city has been under lockdown for some time. However, India is unlikely to go that far as unlike Beijing, New Delhi doesn't follow zer-Covid policy.

It is thus premature to rule out more Covid waves and we have to be prepared for them. The world has been through several successive waves of the pandemic which have infected millions and claimed hundreds of thousands of lives. With the abating of the Omicron wave which broke out early this year, there was a temporary sense of relief across the world. The economies started re-opening in most parts of the world. But fresh surges in some countries should be a warning that the virus is here to stay for some more time. In fact, it has already become endemic now.

So far, Covid-19 has turned out to be a very stubborn virus. Despite full vaccination by a large mass of people across the globe, the outbreaks have not stopped. Here's hoping that the new Covid variants become milder so that people can live with them. But meanwhile, the governments and the people can't afford to let their guard down. There is a need to continue to follow Covid precautions in public.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Remember to forget

Upala Sen

Okay, so the World Health Organization (WHO) has now gone ahead and said that more people in India died during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021 than have been counted. The number WHO is citing is 4.8 million, which is roughly the same as the population of Ireland. The official number from India is half a million, which is a little less than the population of Sikkim.

There is data and there is data and there is methodology and methodology. And beyond all that is life and death. The WHO report has not gone down well with the Indian authorities. "Preposterous" and "untenable" are some of the adjectives that have been levelled by the chief of India's Covid Working Group, N.K. Arora. He has defended the "robust system" of civic registration instead, spoken about the Indian definition of Covid death and how 40 lakh people had not knocked at the government's door for compensation, which would have been the case if the WHO figures were accurate. The Union health ministry started to talk about "mathematical models" and if at all they should be used while projecting excess mortality numbers. Data based on hearsay evidence, said AIIMS Delhi director, Randeep Guleria. We are disappointed

NITI Aayog member (health) Dr V.K. Paul said, "We are disappointed with what WHO has done." One would think even the dead are disappointed, Mr Paul. So what if there were not so many of them as the WHO claims? So what if some of them did not suit this parameter or that, or if they had a comorbidity too many? I bet they are disappointed that no one took this opportunity to say — "We don't agree with these numbers but we agree that we lost many of our own. We grieve their deaths — parents, children, siblings, spouses. We will take cognisance of every opinion from every corner of the world that can help us do better in these fragile times. And hereafter, on such and such date, we shall observe a minute's silence nationwide in their memory. We shall grieve in unison and work while we grieve because the pandemic has taken away much but it has also left behind learnings."

No one said as much.

Telegraph India

How US Domestic Terrorism
Policy Perpetuates Islamophobia

Maha Hilal , Katie Wylie

In large part, we can attribute this to the social construction of terrorism, nearly universally accepted in the years since the launch of the "war on terror". Who gets investigated for suspected terrorism, who gets prosecuted, and who gets convicted are all inextricably linked to the social constructions that have primed us to feel we know who "does" terrorism; who is a terrorist



Ringo Chiu / Reuters

During his inaugural address last year, US President Joe Biden cited "a rise in political extremism, white supremacy, domestic terrorism that we must confront and we will defeat". Speaking in the shadow of the Capitol Hill insurrection that had occurred just two weeks earlier, Biden added that "to restore the soul and to secure the future of America requires more than words".

It was no surprise that he addressed this issue, as the aim of the Capitol rioters was to overthrow the results of the election and keep former President Donald Trump in office at all costs. But many wondered whether Biden would truly act, and what that response might look like. The US has no domestic terrorism statute - and existing tools to prosecute homegrown terrorism have rarely focused on the threat posed by white extremists.

Extremist violence can no longer be swept under the rug by diverting attention towards the threat of so-called Islamic terrorism

In June 2021, the Biden administration released its "National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism". This apparent prioritisation of the issue came as white supremacist violence was occupying a more central place in the public imagination and the political landscape, both due to the Capitol insurrection and violent clashes in cities across the country during the Trump administration.

A shift in media coverage was certainly part of the explanation, but this new policy focus was also rooted in a distinctly changing reality. As white nationalist rhetoric has gained steam in mainstream political discourse, extremist violence can no longer be swept under the rug by diverting attention towards the threat of so-called Islamic terrorism.

But the Biden administration's agenda largely ignores the glaring reality that those criminalised by the existing legal structures for combating domestic terrorism have almost exclusively been Black, indigenous and people of colour, especially Muslims. Biden benefits from the perceived newness of both the threat of domestic extremism and efforts to combat it. This administration has centred the tumultuous political environment of the Trump years, and especially the rise of violence from his supporters in groups such as the Proud Boys.

Historical roots

It was during the Obama administration, however, that the US launched its Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) programme to facilitate domestic counterterrorism efforts. While the growing threat posed by white supremacist ideology was largely ignored - despite the fact that its growth has been credibly attributed to a backlash stemming from Obama's election - CVE has been devastating

for Muslim communities.

During the Obama administration, widespread surveillance of Muslim communities was authorised and normalised, as law enforcement agencies targeted Muslims who had neither committed a crime nor given any indication of planning to do so, on the basis of blatantly Islamophobic criteria such as religiosity or having a beard - presented as an indication that they were prone to extremism and violence.

In 2018, Trump cancelled the CVE programme, a move widely seen as a pre-emptive attempt to shield his base from potentially being targeted for white nationalism. Yet, given the programme's history - alongside two decades of "war on terror" infrastructure that almost exclusively targets Muslims - this possibility still feels remote. It would certainly constitute a major break from US law enforcement history, in which Black and Muslim communities have been consistently targeted at far greater rates than whites.

The fact is, neither the threat posed by domestic terrorism, nor the specific menace of white supremacist violence, is remotely new. In his strategy document, Biden seemingly acknowledges this, stating: "This is the domestic terrorism threat America faces today - one with the distinctive imprint of today's digital age as well as longstanding roots in domestic terrorism challenges throughout our country's history. Tackling that threat comprehensively and persistently demands appreciating both its historical lineage and its distinctively modern form."

Biden had an opportunity here to speak to the historical roots of white terrorism, going back to slavery and Jim Crow. Instead, he seemingly aimed to promote the perception that the historical threat has been replaced with something new and different. White supremacist violence is a threat that has been with us from the founding of the country, and in that sense, Biden was right to invoke history - but his committed attempts to link this particular threat to the Trump era, and his obscure language, point to an unwillingness to address the issue for what it is.

Targeting Muslims

Of course, Biden's use of the word "history" could denote a deeper understanding of the shape of American violence. Still, history gives us no evidence that such a theoretical understanding has ever resulted in anything remotely consequential being done to address white supremacist violence. That's why these efforts to curb domestic terrorism have rightly been critiqued for what the assumed consequence will be: further and continued targeting of BIPOC communities, and Muslims in particular, in the context of national security.

In large part, we can attribute this to the social construction of terrorism, nearly universally accepted in the years since the launch of the "war on terror". Who gets investigated for suspected terrorism, who gets prosecuted, and who gets convicted are all inextricably linked to the social constructions that have primed us to feel we know who "does" terrorism; who is a terrorist.

For more than two decades, since the Bush administration invaded Afghanistan, we have been told repeatedly that "the terrorists" are Muslim - and this association has been fully absorbed into the domestic landscape. The national-security-obsessed paradigm that grew out of those early days has expanded to transform a wide variety of US institutions and policies, from immigration services, to surveillance, to the widespread use of informants to obtain federal terrorism prosecutions.

Simply put, there was an intentional effort post-9/11 to construct terrorism as a uniquely Muslim crime, meaning that efforts to designate white supremacist violence as terrorism have never really stuck.

A recent court verdict illustrates how far the reality of our approach to domestic terrorism is from the language of the Biden administration and others who insist that the threat of white supremacist violence can and should be countered under that label. Two men charged with plotting to kidnap Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer in 2020 were acquitted on all charges last month, while two other defendants saw the case end in a mistrial.

Their lawyers had raised the entrapment defence based on the use of FBI informants. An entrapment defence generally always fails with a Muslim defendant in the US. Rather, the use of informants and provocateurs has been enabled by policies such as CVE, and has largely gone unexamined by courts, which have accepted that the government's stated interest in national security should be taken at face value, even when the facts do not align.

The leeway granted to the Justice Department and its lawyers in such cases apparently does not extend to those with white defendants - and that comes as no surprise.

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 the Middle East Eye

Dr. Maha Hilal is a researcher and writer on institutionalised Islamophobia and author of the book Innocent Until Proven Muslim: Islamophobia, the War on Terror, and the Muslim Experience Since 9/11. Katie Wylie is the editorial and content manager of the Muslim Counterpublics Lab



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

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Eid Leftovers

We are all aware of the fact that Eid is celebrated with extravaganza and fever in Kashmir every year. Every household spends thousands preparing for the festival, food, new clothes, shoes, furniture etc. We keep a check on almost everything we have to do before Eid comes and certainly we do not celebrate the festival without being completely prepared for it. What we mostly forget is that while we might have sufficient

resources to be able to celebrate the festival with full fever, there are sections of the society which don't. Infact, there are many people who cannot even afford a proper meal for eid. Children who do not even have anything clean to wear, leave apart wearing new clothes for eid. Children who have to walk barefoot because they cannot afford to buy shoes. People who have to work even on Eid in order to put a single piece of bread on their table at night. Just because Al-

lah (SWT) has bestowed us with uncountable blessings, does not mean that we simply ignore the conditions of our fellow human beings. We spend so much money buying an excessive amount of eatables which rot in our stores and fridges after Eid ends simply because there is too much for a single family to consume. People should take an initiative and distribute the leftover food or bakery and sweets among these underprivileged people. That is the absolute least we

can do. They deserve that and it is certainly a right of theirs. Compassion and sympathy is what makes us human, and if we cannot even show compassion towards fellow human beings then we are really far from being humane. Even if we cannot do much, we can still do a little to contribute to humanity. Feeding the poor is one of the greatest deeds man can ever perform and your leftovers can be someone's best meal.

Farheen Khan

MINDFUL FRIDAYS

What is Childhood Emotional Neglect?



Wasim Kakroo

“
When a child's parent or parents fail to adequately meet their child's emotional needs, this is known as childhood emotional neglect. Emotional neglect is not the same as emotional abuse in children. Abuse is frequently premeditated; it is a conscious decision to cause harm to another person. Emotional neglect can range from a deliberate disrespect for a child's feelings to a failure to act or notice a child's emotional needs

Since children do not have a vocabulary and/or mental faculty available to them to express how they feel when they are neglected by their parents/family members/caregivers, we as adults may overlook the impact of our neglect on the mental health of such neglected children until the neglect they felt during their childhood does not show its detrimental effects vividly in their lives as adults and by that time, it might be too late or it might become too difficult to undo the damage. The failure of parents or caregivers to respond to a child's emotional needs is known as childhood emotional neglect. Neglect like this can have long-term as well as short-term, almost immediate implications.

It is critical for parents, teachers, caregivers, and others to understand why childhood neglect happens. It's also useful to understand what it looks like in a child who is experiencing it, as well as what can be done to fix it or assist a child in overcoming it.

Continue reading to see why this occurs in childhood and what it can lead to in adulthood.

WHAT IS CHILDHOOD EMOTIONAL NEGLECT (CEN)?

When a child's parent or parents fail to adequately meet their child's emotional needs, this is known as childhood emotional neglect. Emotional neglect is not the same as emotional abuse in children. Abuse is frequently premeditated; it is a conscious decision to cause harm to another person. Emotional neglect can range from a deliberate disrespect for a child's feelings to a failure to act or notice a child's emotional needs. Parents who emotionally neglect their children may still provide care and all the necessities, such as good food, good schooling, toys etc to their children. They just miss out on or mishandle the emotional needs of their children.

An example of CEN would be a child who tells their parent how sad they are about a friend at school. Instead of listening and helping the child to deal with the difficult feelings, the parent dismisses it as a childhood game. Such a child may gradually learn that their emotional needs are unimportant and hence may cease asking for help.

Children's reactions to emotional neglect can be subtle. It's possible that parents are unaware of their actions. Similarly, other important people in the lives of children such as teachers may struggle to identify the subtle signs. Severe cases are more easily detected and may attract the most attention. Less serious ones may go unnoticed.

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF CHILDHOOD EMOTIONAL NEGLECT?

Parents who are not physically violent but emotionally neglect their children are usually going through a difficult time themselves in their personal lives. Connecting with others becomes incredibly difficult in times of stress, and parents may find themselves unable to create secure bonds with their children. When parents are dealing with mental illness, intense stress, or external pressures such as work, spousal abuse, poverty, or police service, they may be unaware that they are neglecting their children emotionally.

Parents may emotionally neglect their children for the following reasons:

1. Parents who have been neglected or abused as children may not know how to care for their children.
2. A parent's absence from the family may be due to work, military service, or jail.
3. Addiction or mental illness might make it difficult for a parent to pay attention to their child.
4. Extreme stress and/or violence in the family can disrupt parent-child relationships.
5. A parent's death, or any traumatic death in the family, might create an outpouring of grief throughout the family.

HOW DOES CHILDHOOD EMOTIONAL NEGLECT AFFECT THE MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN?

Emotional neglect in children can manifest itself in a variety of ways, from subtle to overt. At first, much of the damage caused by emotional neglect is undetectable. However, the consequences may become apparent over time.

The following are the most common symptoms of emotional neglect in children:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Apathy
- Failure To Succeed
- Aggressiveness
- Hyperactivity
- Developmental Delays
- Substance Abuse
- Low Self-Esteem
- Withdrawing From Social Interactions And Activities
- Seeming Uncaring Or Uninterested
- Poor Emotional Intimacy Or Closeness

WHAT IMPACT DOES CHILDHOOD NEGLECT HAVE ON ADULTS?

Adults who have been emotionally neglected as children may have to face its consequences as adults. They may

have difficulty in relationships later in life, feeling chronically distant and misunderstood. They may not know how to deal with their emotions as adults because their emotional needs were not met as children.

The following are some of the most common consequences of childhood neglect in adulthood:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Depression
- They May Be Emotionally Unavailable
- Difficulty Regulating Emotions
- Perfectionism
- Increased Sensitivity To Rejection
- Dissociative Tendencies
- Increased Likelihood For Eating Disorder
- Avoiding Intimacy And Closeness
- Feeling Deeply, Personally Defective
- Feeling Empty And Hollow Inside
- Lacking In Self-Control
- Feeling Shame And Guilt
- Hostile And Aggressive Behaviors
- Having Trouble Trusting Or Relying On Others
- Lack Of Clarity About What Others Expect Of You And What You Expect Of Yourself

Adults who were emotionally neglected as children may become parents who neglect their children emotionally. They may not know how to nurture emotions in their children since they never learnt the value of their own emotions while growing up as children.

People of all ages can overcome the effects of emotional neglect in the short term and prevent future complications by receiving effective treatment and recognizing their own experiences of childhood emotional neglect.

HOW TO TREAT CHILDHOOD EMOTIONAL NEGLECT?

Childhood emotional neglect may make it hard for such an individual to understand emotions and relationships, hence effective healing from Childhood Emotional Neglect should include activities such as working on and building emotional intelligence, developing appropriate emotional regulation skills, and forging healthy relationships. Certain symptoms may be alleviated by medication prescribed by a psychiatrist, but healing from neglect requires more effort than just taking medicines.

There are certain modes of therapy that can be offered to such individuals who have been affected by Childhood Emotional Neglect:

1) INDIVIDUAL THERAPY:

One of the best methods to heal the effects of Childhood Emotional Neglect is to find a therapist who has an experience of working with attachment, trauma, and neglect. Individual therapy

will equip one with coping skills as well as regulating skills so that they manage the symptoms of childhood neglect they are currently experiencing.

Effective therapy will also help the client to delve into the past to identify patterns of early neglect that may have been beneficial at some time in the past, such as a child withdrawing to avoid the pain of a parent rejecting their needs for attention or love. Therapy can reveal how a pattern of shutting down that was beneficial as a child becomes problematic as an adult, preventing a person from connecting with partners or even their own children. Individual therapy can also provide a secure atmosphere in which a person can learn and practice how to feel and regulate their emotions.

2) FAMILY THERAPY:

The impact of one family member's struggle on the entire family system is recognised in family therapy, particularly family therapy based on a family systems approach. As a result, healing occurs when the entire family works together to grow and heal. To establish a more healthy structure, family therapy encourages members to listen to one another and collaborate.

Parents can use family therapy to heal wounds from their own childhood while also modifying their parenting to create a new pattern of emotional wellness in the family. If needed, family therapy can be done alongside individual therapy.

3) PARENTING WORKSHOPS:

Parenting workshops can be a great approach to help parents develop the skills they need to nurture their children emotionally. Attendees learn about child development, healthy discipline, and strategies to emotionally nurture and support their children in parenting programmes. Parenting workshops can be especially beneficial for parents who have been abused or neglected as children. There are also several parenting books and tools available on the internet that can help such parents to develop healthy parenting practices.

Childhood Emotional Neglect can harm a child's self-esteem and mental health. It can instill in them the belief that their feelings are unimportant. The effects of this neglect might be severe and long-lasting. Treatment for Childhood Emotional Neglect can help such neglected children overcome feelings of emptiness and inability to manage their emotions. Parents can also improve their relationships with their children in order to break the intergenerational cycle of abuse.

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SC Says Right To Live In Shared Household Not Restricted To Matrimonial Home

New Delhi: In an important verdict safeguarding the interest of woman victims of domestic violence, the Supreme Court Thursday gave a wide interpretation to the term right to reside in a shared household' under the law, holding it cannot be restricted to only actual matrimonial residence, but can be extended to other homes irrespective to right over the property.

A bench of justices M R Shah and B V Nagarathna, while hearing a plea of domestic violence victim after she was widowed, dealt with the unique situation of Indian women who live at places different from matrimonial homes, such as the workplaces of their husbands..

"There could be several situations and circumstances and every woman in a domestic relationship can enforce her right to reside in a shared household irrespective of whether she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same and the said right could be enforced by any woman under the said provision as an independent right....," the bench said.

It held that the even in the absence of a Domestic Incident Report of a protection officer under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, reliefs such as right to reside in the shared matrimonial homes can be enforced.

"It is held that Section 12 (under which a woman seeks reliefs under the Act), does not makes



it mandatory for a Magistrate to consider a Domestic Incident Report filed by a Protection Officer or service provider before passing any order under the DV Act.

It is clarified that even in the absence of a Domestic Incident Report, a Magistrate is empowered to pass both ex parte or interim as well as a final order under the provisions of the DV Act, Justice Nagarathna said, writing 79-page judgement.

The bench also answered a legal question whether it was mandatory for the aggrieved woman to reside with those persons against whom the allegations have been levied at the point of commission of domestic violence.

It is held that it is not mandatory for the aggrieved person, when she is related by consanguinity, marriage or through a relationship in the nature of marriage, adoption or are family members living together as a joint family, to actually reside with those persons against

whom the allegations have been levelled at the time of commission of domestic violence, it said.

If a woman has the right to reside in the shared household under the law and such a woman becomes a victim of domestic violence then she can seek reliefs under the provisions of DV Act including enforcement of her right to live in a shared household.

Dealing with the question whether there should be a subsisting domestic relationship between the victim and the accused family members, it said there should be a subsisting domestic relationship between the aggrieved person and the person against whom the relief is claimed with regard to the allegation of domestic violence.

However, it is not necessary that at the time of filing of an application by an aggrieved person, the domestic relationship should be subsisting, it said, adding if the accused, at any point of time, had lived with the victim then she

is entitled to file an application claiming relief under the law.

The bench set aside the verdicts of the High Court of Uttarakhand and the trial court which had held the widow was not entitled to any relief under the law as there was no Domestic Incident Report of a protection officer before the trial magistrate.

The top court dealt with the expression the right to reside in a shared household' in the context of Indian women and said it needed expansive interpretation and cannot be restricted to actual residence.

Even in the absence of actual residence in the shared household, a woman in a domestic relationship can enforce her right to reside therein, it said.

The interpretation can be explained by way of an illustration, it said, adding if a woman gets married then she acquires the right to reside in the household of her husband which then becomes a shared household within the meaning of the DV Act.

In India, it is a societal norm for a woman, on her marriage to reside with her husband, unless due to professional, occupational or job commitments, or for other genuine reasons, the husband and wife decide to reside at different locations. Even in a case where the woman in a domestic relationship is residing elsewhere on account of a reasonable cause, she has the right to reside in a shared household, it said.

Kolkata Metro Rail Works Blamed For Cracks In Houses; 87 People Shifted

Kolkata: Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim on Thursday visited Bowbazar area where cracks appeared overnight in a number of houses when tunnelling was going on to extend the underground Metro Rail network and blamed the agency executing the project for the problem which has led to evacuation of people from the damaged buildings.

Hakim, also the urban development minister, claimed that the cracks on houses at Durga Pituri Lane were likely to have occurred owing to continuing soil settlement in the area triggered by an accident over two and half years ago during tunnelling work by the Kolkata Metro Railway Corporation (KMRC).

Stating that its priority is to prevent further cracks in buildings, the KMRC said that 87 people of 21 families from at least nine damaged houses at Durga Pituri Lane in the congested Bowbazar area have been shifted to nearby hotels.

A top KMRC official said that the situation occurred despite precautionary measures as the agency had faced a similar situation earlier.

There is some irresponsibility on their (KMRC) part. During a meeting following the accident in 2019, the KMRC had said that it took the total engineering responsibility of that area," the mayor told reporters during a visit to the spot.

A tunnel boring machine (TBM) had hit an aquifer on August 31, 2019, in Bowbazar area leading to severe ground

subsidence and collapse of several buildings.

Soil settlement can occur after two to three years, Hakim said.

The KMRC, the executing agency for the East-West Metro project, has failed to take the responsibility, Hakim claimed and added that it should have taken care of the buildings before cracks developed in them.

Tunnels of the long awaited corridor, which will connect Salt Lake Sector-V in the East and Howrah Maidan in the West, pass under Bowbazar. Most of the buildings in that area are over a century old.

The mayor said that the director general of the Building department of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation has been asked to assess how safe it would be to let the damaged buildings exist and a decision will be taken soon.

He said that the KMC and the KMRC will hold joint meetings to assess the fate of those buildings.

KMRC general manager, administration, A K Nandy said that engineers have been working in the Metro tunnels passing below the affected area since Wednesday night and the reasons for the cracks can be ascertained only after their assessment.

"We are assessing the reasons for the cracks and working to prevent damage to any more buildings in the area. Our main priority now is to prevent any further cracks in the affected houses and other buildings in the area," he told PTI.

Measures were taken by the KMRC to stop water seepage in

the affected area.

Director (project) of the KMRC, N C Karmali, said that water seepage took place "despite taking all precautions when we were excavating by grouting below the TBM tunnel."

He said that the rainfall that occurred in the past few days might have contributed to the excess water content in the soil.

The incident occurred during ongoing work for joining the tunnels coming from the Sealdah side in the under-construction East-West corridor and the Esplanade side in the existing North-South corridor, Karmali said.

In August 2019, several houses at Durga Pituri Lane and adjoining areas were damaged owing to land subsidence caused by the aquifer burst leading to evacuation of a number of people.

One of the two TBMs used for the two-way tunnelling work was damaged beyond repair owing to the accident and the remaining tunnelling work was done using one TBM.

Tunnelling work for both up and down lines between Howrah and Sealdah was completed over two months ago, Nandy said.

The 16.6 km long East-West Metro corridor is partially operational between Sector V station and Phoolbagan.

Out of that length, underground corridor constitutes 10.8 km between Howrah and Phoolbagan with the tunnel passing below the Hooghly river, while the rest is elevated corridor, according to a KMRC official.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Govt Shifts 10 More

Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Member, J&K Services Selection Board.

Peerzada Zahoor Ahmad, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Anantnag, has been transferred and posted as Member, J&K Services Selection Board.

Anu Behl, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Udhampur, against an available vacancy.

"Dr. Subash Chander, JKAS, Registrar District Samba, shall hold the charge of the post of Programme Officer, ICDS, Samba, in addition to his own duties, till further orders," reads an order.

Amarjeet Singh, JKAS, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts) Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department.

Ankur Mahajan, JKAS, Principal, Excise & Taxation Training Institute, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Kathua, against an available vacancy.

Wasim Raja Dar, JKAS, Additional Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bandipore, against an available vacancy.

Sukriti Sharma, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts), Jammu. She shall also hold the charge of the post of Principal, Excise & Taxation Training Institute, Jammu, in addition to her own duties, till further orders, the order reads.

Shakeel Maqbool, ICAS, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Enforcement (North), Kashmir, is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Recovery), Kashmir against an available vacancy. He shall continue to hold the charge of the post of Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Enforcement (North), Kashmir, in addition to his own duties, till further duties.

Militants Escape

late last night itself after there was no fresh contact with the militants.

The encounter had erupted on Wednesday after the government forces launched a cordon-and-search-operation of the area based on a specific input about the presence of militants.

As the joint team approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired upon their forces, triggering off the encounter, he said.

KP Employee Shot

bullets were shot at his shoulder while a single bullet had pierced through his chest which had caused fatal injury to the internal organs," SMHS Medical Superintendent, Dr Kanwaljeet Singh told Kashmir Observer.

Bhat, he said, was brought in a serious condition to the hospital.

"However, even before we could operate upon him, he succumbed to his injuries," he added.

Police said that two militants carried out the attack on Bhat using a pistol.

"Preliminary investigation reveals that 2 terrorists are involved in this heinous crime & have used pistol for committing this crime, the Kashmir Zone Police tweeted.

A hunt has been launched to track down the assailants.

Hitherto unknown outfit, 'Kashmir Tigers', has claimed responsibility for Bhat's killing.

There has been a spurt in attacks on non-Muslims and outsiders living in Kashmir since

the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

As many as 14 people belonging to Jammu and Kashmir's minority community, including Kashmiri Pandits, were killed by militants between August 2019 and March 2022.

Those targeted by the extremists included prominent businessmen, sarpanchs and block development council members in various parts of Kashmir.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and political parties in Kashmir condemned Bhat's killing.

"I strongly condemn the barbaric killing of Rahul Bhat by terrorists at Budgam. Those behind this despicable terror attack will not go unpunished. J&K Govt stands in solidarity with the bereaved family in this hour of grief, Sinha tweeted.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) tweeted, "We unequivocally condemn the killing of Rahul Bhat ji, who was working as an employee in revenue dept Budgam. Despite deployment of security forces in every nook & corner of the valley, even govt offices aren't safe. Our thoughts, prayers are with the family in this hour of grief."

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah said, "I unequivocally condemn the murderous militant attack on Rahul Bhat. Rahul was a government employee working in the Tehsil office in Chadoora where he was attacked. Targeted killings continue & a sense of fear grows unchecked. My heartfelt condolences to Rahul's family. RIP"

"This young man had his entire life ahead of him & to know that his life was so cruelly extinguished today is tragic," he said.

BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur strongly denounced the cowardly act by militants.

The attackers must be brought to justice, he added.

The Congress, while condemning the killing, said the perpetrators of such heinous crimes should know that they cannot achieve anything by such inhuman acts.

The Peoples Conference led by Sajad Lone also condemned the killing and extended sympathies and unwavering support to the family of the victim.

While strongly condemning the attack, Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Attaf Bukhari said that it is very tragic to see this senseless bloodshed of innocents.

"Our fellow Kashmiris are suffering due to acts of violence and there seems to be no end to this madness, he said.

"Such targeted killings of members of minority community is reprehensible and the people of Kashmir won't accept this bloodshed," he added. (With PTI inputs)

Killing Sparks

the killing of Rahul Bhat, a community member, by unknown militants inside Tehsil office Chadoora earlier in the day.

Chanting slogans, the protesters alleged that the government has failed to secure lives of the community members in the Kashmir Valley. The protesters also blocked the highway, leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded on the either side.

"Are we brought to Kashmir to face bullets? Is this our rehabilitation? We don't want such jobs where we have to lay down our lives. We will resign enmass and move back to Jammu," a woman protester said.

"We have been brought here to work, to teach students. What's our crime? Why are we being killed?" another protester said, adding that they have nothing to do with the politics and are simply in Valley to do their jobs.

The protesters alleged that for over a decade, the BJP government has failed to rehabilitate the Kashmiri Pandits who left the Valley after eruption of militancy in early 90s.

"We feel insecure because of such attacks. Now we have to think whether we should go to office or not," a protester said.

As the highway remained blocked for several hours, senior police officers, including Inspector General of police (IGP) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar also reached the spot to pacify the protesters.

Family Says

"His body should be returned immediately and an inquiry ordered into the incident to identify all those who are involved in his cold-blooded murder, his father Bitu Bhat said at his Durga Nagar residence in the outskirts of Jammu.

Wails and shrieks filled the house as mourners including neighbours and relatives rushed to comfort the family after hearing about the killing of Bhat, who was in his early 30s.

I was at a hospital accompanying my ailing brother when a family friend called from Kashmir and informed me about the incident. I tried to contact the deputy commissioner of Budgam and the concerned police officers but my calls went unanswered, the father told the media persons trying to put up a brave face and hold up his emotions.

He said it was the responsibility of the deputy commissioner to at least inform the family as his employee was killed inside his office chamber in broad-daylight.

If a person is shot inside his office, nobody is safe in the valley when such a thing has happened it is a glaring example of the government's failure. Those serving (among the Kashmiri Pandits) there are doing it at their own risk as the government has failed to provide security to them, he said.

A relative of Bhat broke down before the media. They have taken our children for dying there and not for jobs.

Bhat is survived by his parents, wife and a minor daughter. His wife and daughter were putting up with him at Sheikhpora migrant colony in Budgam district.

Rakesh Koul, the BJP municipal councilor in south Kashmir's Mattan, said the selective killings by militants is a cause for concern for the whole community, especially those who are serving in the valley.

We have risked our lives and returned to Kashmir with a hope to rebuild a connection with our roots, he said, as he tried to console the bereaved family members.

Bhat's neighbours said he was a thorough gentleman and the news of his killing came as a shock for them.

'No Change' In

on trade with India, the ministry clarified. It further said that the Post of Minister (Trade and Investment) in New Delhi exists for more than two decades and has no connection with the operationalisation of trade with India or otherwise in the current context.

The current cycle for selection of Trade and Investment Officers (TIOs), including New Delhi, was initiated in December 2021 and the final recommendations of the Interview Board were sent to the Prime Minister's Office on January 4, 2022 which was during the previous government's term led by Imran Khan.

The present government has given the final approval on the recommendations of the previous government for selection of 15 TIOs, the ministry said.

The appointment of Minister (Trade and Investment) New Delhi, therefore, may not be seen in the context of any relaxation of trade restrictions with India, it said.

Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked since New Delhi abrogated the Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5,

2019.

India's decision evoked strong reactions from Pakistan, which downgraded diplomatic ties and expelled the Indian envoy. Pakistan also halted bilateral trade with India.

India has categorically told the international community that the scrapping of the Article 370 was its internal matter. It also advised Pakistan to accept the reality and stop all anti-India propaganda.

India has told Pakistan that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Islamabad in an environment free of "terror, hostility and violence".

NIA Charges 4

Shalabughi is charged with various sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Arms Act read with Indian Penal Code, while the rest three were booked under different sections of Arms Act and IPC, the spokesperson said.

The NIA said the case was registered against members and cadres of Jamaat-e-Islami, J&K, for their involvement in separatist and secessionist activities, even after its declaration as unlawful association on February 28, 2019.

"They had been collecting funds domestically as well as from abroad through donations, particularly in the form of Zakat, Mowda and Bait-ul-Mal" purportedly to further charity and other welfare activities but had instead used it to encourage violent and secessionist activities," the spokesperson said.

The NIA had registered the case suo-moto on February 5, 2021.

"Investigation in the case has revealed that accused Shalabughi has been soliciting funds and organising meetings in the name of JEL, J&K. In these meetings, he has been giving hateful anti-India speeches and exhorting people to donate according to their status," the spokesperson said.

The NIA said the Lone brothers had acquired firearms and ammunition, with "ulterior motives" from the co-accused persons.

Further investigation in the case continues, the spokesperson said.

168 Militants Active

Last year, 495 over ground workers (OGWs) were apprehended, while 87 OGWs were nabbed in the first four months this year.

"Ceasefire violation, infiltration bids or any other misadventure attempted by the adversary will be met firmly and strongly," the officer said.

Train To Connect

Jammu and rest of the country during 2023, providing efficient connectivity to Kashmir valley with other parts of the country by rail. The all-weather and cost-effective connectivity shall be a boon for economy of J&K," the spokesperson said.

The GM Northern Railway, he said, briefed the Chief Secretary about the works that have been finished, or nearing completion, works under progress, and the adherence to the set timelines to dedicate the project to the people at the earliest.

"Chief Secretary was informed about the work on the intervening 111 kms of Katra-Banihal section which is going on in full swing despite challenging and inhospitable terrain," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the Chief Secretary while appreciating the Railways for the work done with respect to connecting the Jammu and Kashmir region with the rest of India, observed that the railway line will act as a catalyst for the overall development, progress, and prosperity of the region and shall play important role in rapid industrialization, movement of raw materials, boost trade and

tourism, besides providing opportunity for employment generation.

Mehta, he said, assured all possible support and cooperation from the UT administration to finish the project within the given timeline.

"General Manager NR also thanked the Chief Secretary for the UT administration's support that has been extended to the Railway for executing the several projects and finishing those in a time-bound manner," the spokesperson added.

62. 2 Square Km

official gazette, in consultation with local people and adhering to the stipulations given in this notification for approval of the competent authority in the Union territory government," the notification states.

It is worthwhile to mention that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had put the draft proposal for declaring ESZ around the sanctuary in public domain on June 7, 2021.

Surrounded by Jhelum Valley Forest Division (Baramulla) in North and forest division of Poonch and Pir-Panchal in South, the Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary was declared as a Wildlife Sanctuary on March 14, 1987.

The protected area is an abode of rich faunal and floral bio-diversity with varied species like endemic Himalayan musk deer common leopard , Asiatic black bear, Himalayan brown bear red fox , Himalayan snow cock , Kashmir flying squirrel , Himalayan marmot , Kashmir vampire , Himalayan Langur , Himalayan monal) and Chakoor etc--(KNO)

Meet 'The Only Mason'

years on a project. Back then, people had patience and time. But today, life is moving fast and people are in a hurry. The use of machines in masonry is the prime factor responsible for the erosion of art and craft."

Done with the renovation work at St. Lukes Church, Naseer's appetite for working at worshipping places is only growing.

He's now looking forward to restore some more structures he proudly calls "part of our collective history and legacy".

CISF Constable

a resident of Maksuspur District Saran East Zone, Bihar was found dead in his room at NHPC Bandipora on Thursday morning, sources told a local news agency KDC.

Police in this regard said that the body of the deceased has been shifted to a control room for a post-mortem to ascertain the cause of his death.

Single New Corona

the overall recoveries has reached 4,49,321, officials said. The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,751, No Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, they said.

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

Standardized Baggage

a circular issued here has informed that, Hajj Committee will be providing Standardized Baggage to the Hajj Pilgrims, for which they have to confirm their baggage delivery address through Hajj Committee of India App or website latest by 14th May, 2022.

"Pilgrims are requested to go through the detailed circular available on the Haj Committee of India website www.hajcommittee.gov.in," he added.

Youth Found Dead

Gul son of Gul Mohammad Darzi of Malknag Anantnag. A police official said that proceedings have been launched. Body will be handed over to the family after medico-legal formalities, he said.

Two Top Hotels In Srinagar Slapped Fine For Overcharging

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The department of tourism on Thursday slapped a fine on two top hotels in Srinagar over exorbitant rates and other service deficiencies.

According to an official spokesperson, a team of officers of the Tourism Department conducted checks of various hotels in the city to check the services and their pricing being offered to visitors.

During the checking, he said, the team of officers slapped fine on two hotels, Taj Vivanta and Lalit Grand Palace for exorbitant rates and other service deficiencies.

"The units were also served notices that action under relevant clauses of J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act and other legal action would follow for the violations and if course corrections are not done," he said.

The spokesperson said that the team of officers comprised

Deputy Directors, Registration Kashmir, Assistant Directors, Headquarters and Recreation, Assistant Director, Enforcement and other officials.

"It may be recalled that the Department, after receiving several complaints by tourists and locals of overcharging and other service deficiencies constituted a Central Committee of officers to regulate the tourism services across Kashmir and ensure that proper services are delivered at reasonable prices," he said, adding that the drive of the Committee is planned to intensify in coming days.

"The Department has cautioned all the service providers against overcharging, cheating or touting while appealing them to conduct their business within the highest hospitality traditions of the place and not let the law enforcing agencies take any action against them for any violation," the spokesperson added.

Er Aijaz Hussain Discusses Hajj Preparations With LG



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Member, District Development Council, Srinagar Er. Aijaz Hussain discussed arrangements, and preparations by the Hajj Committee of India (HCI) for the smooth conduct of Hajj pilgrimage, with the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, here on Thursday.

Hussain, who was recently nominated as a member of Hajj Committee of India (HCI) also briefed the Lt Governor about various issues of public importance in his constituency, particularly streamlining of functioning of stone quarries for

facilitating the general public, an official spokesperson said.

He said Hussain also apprised the LG about the slew of activities, arrangements, and preparations by the HCI for the smooth conduct of Hajj pilgrimage.

"While interacting with the DDC member, the Lt Governor congratulated him for being nominated as a member to the Hajj Committee of India, and asked him to work with dedication and zeal for ensuring proper arrangements for Haj pilgrims of J&K UT," the spokesperson said.

The LG, he said, assured him of proper redressal of all the genuine issues he presented.

Union Minister Reviews Functioning Of Cooperative Department



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State (MoS) for Cooperation and Development of North Eastern Region, B.L. Verma on Thursday held a detailed review of functioning of Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Department here.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, J&K Cooperatives Department, Yasha Mudgal; Registrar Cooperative Societies, J&K, Shafqat Iqbal, Director Finance, Sukhwant Kaur, Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Jammu Dr. Nirupa Rai, Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad, Joint Director Planning, Madan Gopal Sharma, Additional Secretary, Kewal Krishan and other senior officers of Cooperative Department.

Speaking during the meeting, the minister highlighted that under the guidance of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi & Home Minister, Amit Shah, the country is experiencing the revival of the Cooperative movement to alleviate the problems faced by poor and marginalised section of the Society.

The Minister remarked that in recent years, the Central Government has made significant efforts to facilitate development of women as well as youth by associating them with Cooperatives.

While reviewing different schemes of Cooperative Department, the Minister impressed upon the officers that steps should be initiated to maximize the number of cooperative societies across J&K with special focus on registration of PACS at Panchayat level for benefiting the common masses at large. He advised the officers to generate maximum awareness among

the masses about different schemes of cooperative department in order to attract more youth

Complimenting the department for growth of Super Bazaars, the Minister lauded the scheme of establishing one Super Bazar in each district. He asked officers to bring technological innovations in already established Super Bazaars for transparency and ease of customers.

While reviewing the facilities and functioning of Cooperative, the Minister appreciated the idea of establishing one cooperative school in each District and asked the officers to expedite the process. The Minister directed that the said schools be equipped with best modern facilities like labs, library and smart classrooms.

Giving a detailed presentation on progress of Cooperative department in J&K, Yasha Mudgal informed the minister that the three tier structure of cooperative societies already in place in J&K. She further informed the minister that 595 awareness camps were held at different locations across J&K for the benefit of the masses in the previous financial year 2021-22.

The Secretary also apprised the minister that the cooperative department is focusing on establishing women centric co-operative societies in collaboration with National Rural Livelihoods Mission.

She further informed the Minister that the department is contemplating the registration of PACS at each Panchayat of UT of J&K in addition to the existing 594 PACS. It was given to understand that the department has revived 138 defunct Cooperative Societies in the previous year.



SECURITY PERSONNEL INSPECTING Tehsil office Chadoora after unidentified militants shot dead a Kashmiri Pandit employee on Thursday afternoon.

KO PHOTO/ABID BHAT

Private Schools To Face Fine For Non-Compliance Of FFRC Orders

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG), Manoj Sinha in the newly notified rules has said that the Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC) shall impose fine to those private schools who do not comply with the orders issued by the Committee.

According to reports, Principal Secretary, School Education Department has in a notification said, "In exercise of the powers conferred by section 29 with sections 20A, 20B and 20C of the Jammu and Kashmir School Education Act, 2002, the LG of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir makes several rules."

One of the rules issued by the Sinha reads, "On non-compliance of the order of the committee, the chairperson shall impose a fine on private school equivalent to 1 percent of the total revenue generated in the preceding year for the first time of non-

compliance and 3 percent for the second time of non-compliance and 5 percent for the third time of non-compliance."

"If the Private School continues to violate the order consecutively three times, the private school shall be put under the non-admission category and if the private school fails to comply with the orders of the committee, it shall recommend the appropriate authority to take over the management of the school," it reads.

The notification however reads that it shall be ratified by the committee in its next meeting within 15 days.

It reads, "If the private school fails to refund the amount as ordered by the committee or fails to pay fine as imposed, the chairperson shall order to recover the amount as an arrear of land revenue by Tehsildar concerned (Revenue Officer)."

"The amount so recovered shall be paid to such persons

as mentioned in the order and the amount of the penalty to be deposited in the government treasury in such manner as may be ordered by the Chairperson," reads the notification

Stating the powers and functions of the committee, the authorities said that it shall fix, determine and regulate the fee to be charged and collected by private schools and to hear complaints with regard to the charging and collection of fee in excess of the fee determined by the committee.

"If the Committee, after obtaining the material comes to the conclusion that the private school has charged and collected fee in excess of the fee fixed determined and regulated by the Committee, it shall recommend to the appropriate authority for the cancellation of the recognition or registration of the private school or for any other course of action as it deems fit in respect of the private school," it reads—(KNO)

BJP Hits Out At Mehbooba For Linking Lanka Situation To India

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Slamming former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti for her recent tweets where she warned the Indian economy of going the Sri Lankan way, the BJP on Thursday said her statement came under the purview of "treason."

"What happened in Sri Lanka should serve as a wake-up call. Since 2014, India is being whipped into a communal frenzy & imagined fears. It is treading the same path of hyper nationalism & religious majoritarianism. All at the cost of disrupting social cohesion & economic security," Mehbooba had tweeted on Wednesday.

Taking objection to this, former deputy chief minister Dr Nirmal Singh told reporters here, "Mehbooba's statement smells of a big conspiracy against the country and the Bharatiya Janata Party condemns this in the strongest terms. All of this cannot be allowed. All this comes under the purview of treason."

He said the only thing com-

mon between Kashmir and the Sri Lankan episode was that some party leaders preferred "family over nation", and asked the leaders of the Peoples Democratic Party and the National Conference "not to test the country's patience".

Alleging that the dynastic politics in Jammu and Kashmir had "weakened India", he said, "Their blind love for their family and neglect of the ambitions and aspirations of the common man has led to a terrible mess. What hurts Mehbooba and the others after the abrogation of Article 370 is the loss of their fiefdoms and emergence of a naya Kashmir", where the power lies in the hands of village panchayats, and not the writs of Mehbooba and her colleagues," he said.

Singh alleged that the PDP and NC leadership was troubled to see peace in Jammu and Kashmir, and were instigating the youth as elections in the union territory are likely in the near future. "There is also Pakistan's support in this," he alleged.

Further, he said Mehbooba was

trying to "ignite communal tensions" with her "hate speeches" in an attempt to regain lost political ground.

"Her agenda has failed in Kashmir, where investors are coming and tourism is growing. And now, Mehbooba is instigating the youth of Kashmir towards stone pelting and separatism," he said.

"Is Mehbooba Mufti not misleading Kashmiris against the order of the Supreme Court? Vapi Masjid, Ayodhya, Taj Mahal are judicial issues, are they misleading the Muslim Ummah against the respected court? This is a shoddy ploy to humiliate the courts in India," he added.

Singh said that Indian judicial system represented highest values imparting unbiased judgments on every crucial issue.

"It will spare nobody, be it Yasin Malik or any other involved in anti-national or anti-social activities. The people of Jammu and Kashmir will never accept their version as the youth is eyeing for development that is visible after August 5, 2019," Singh added.

JK Bank Profit Declines To Rs 112 Cr In Jan-Mar Quarter

Press Trust Of India



SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Bank on Thursday reported a net profit of Rs 112.20 crore for the January-March quarter of FY2022 against Rs 315.75 crore in the year-ago quarter. Total income of the bank rose to Rs 2,209.40 crore in the fourth quarter from Rs 2,108.01 crore in the year-ago period, according to a regulatory filing.

A bank spokesman said that the strong showing was despite the bank funding its liabilities including non-financial ones on voluntary basis by making one-time provisioning.

For the full 2021-22 fiscal, the bank reported a net profit of Rs 501 crore, registering a growth of 16 per cent year on year.

The spokesman said this was the highest annual profit registered by the bank since 2014-15 fiscal.

With Cost of Deposits improving from 4.10 per cent to 3.65 per cent year on year basis, the Bank's NIM was recorded at 3.50 per cent for the year ended March 2022. "The CD and CASA Ratios stood at 61.37% and 56.56% respectively for the reviewed financial year," he added.

The spokesman said the Bank's gross and net NPA as percentages to gross and net advances improved considerably to 8.67 per cent and 2.49 per cent respectively when compared to 9.67 per cent and 2.95 per cent, recorded last year.

NPA Coverage Ratio of the Bank witnessed marked improvement to 84.26 per cent when compared to 81.97 per cent a year ago.

After raising over Rs 1,100 crore as capital during the FY 2021-22, the Bank's Capital Adequacy Ratio

witnessed marked improvement from 12.20 per cent to 13.23 per cent, thus ensuring availability of growth capital in addition to maintaining the regulatory requirements.

Posting growth of over 5 per cent in its business, the bank's deposits have increased by 6 per cent to Rs 1,14,710.38 crore while advances have grown to Rs 70,400.68 crore.

Commenting upon the annual financial results, Bank's MD and CEO Baldev Prakash said the numbers speak for themselves.

"And the story is that after long we have surely strengthened and stabilized as a financial institution. We have left the worst far behind us as it's after seven long years, the Bank has consolidated its balance-sheet and clocked over Rs 500 crore as annual profit. Our YoY and QoQ growth in business is consistent and provides the bank requisite drive to grow and leap ahead with more strength and confidence," Prakash said.

"Preferring stability and consolidation of balance-sheet over profits, the Q4 numbers express our resolve to strengthen balance-sheet while making sustained profits, as we have provided for our liabilities besides making voluntary provisioning for some non-financial obligations that were not mandated and could be met over a period of next five years as per the board approvals," he added.

Prakash said this has been done consciously to provide enough headroom for delivering better returns to the investors while going forward.

CSC Services To Be Extended To Citizens Through FPS Network

MoU Signed Between FCS&CA & CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a significant step towards improving public service effectiveness, a MoU was signed between the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, to extend all types of CSC and PDS services to the citizens through the network of Fair Price Shops (FPS), here on Thursday.

The MoU was signed by Additional Secretary, Department of FCS&CA, Jugal Kishore Anand, on behalf of the Department and Shahnawaz Rashid, on behalf of the CSC, e-Governance Services India Limited, in presence of Commissioner Secretary, Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Zubair Ahmad.

Government of India has identified few initiatives for leveraging e-PoS devices of FPSs to promote their financial viability. One such initiative

is providing CSC services through FPSs. It is in this backdrop that the J&K Government entered into a MoU with CSC for leveraging e-PoS devices of FPSs to deliver their services. This step can be seen as a win-win situation for all the stakeholders, particularly FPS dealers and the beneficiaries, as the CSC services will be delivered to beneficiaries at the door step, even to the far off places. The FPS dealers in turn shall earn additional revenue in shape of service-charge against the services delivered through their FPSs. Availing of this initiative has been kept optional for FPSs.

FPS dealers will collect the service-charge from the beneficiaries against each service delivered. The service-charge for each service on Digital Seva Portal has been fixed by the respective departments, while as the service-charge for PDS services shall be defined by the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs.

AMARNATH YATRA

Snow Clearance Underway At Baltal Track

Agencies

GANDERBAL: Almost 90 percent snow has been cleared from Baltal track leading to Amarnath Shrine while work on the remaining portion is underway.

According to officials of the concerned agencies, 14 km road length which is the the shortest track to holy cave via Baltal in Ganderbal is almost through except snow clearance at one or two places.

They said that they will replace

six vital wooden bridges with steel bridges for a smooth yatra. Besides, three helipads for choppers from Baltal to the cave are also ready for carrying pilgrims.

The snow clearance on a portion of track from Sangam to Panchtarni is going on at full pace and will be made through within a week or so, the official added.

Besides the tile work on the path from Baltal to Domail has been completed and the work on extension up to Railpathri is also going on.

'Govt Ensuring Adequate, Affordable Medicare To People At Doorsteps'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government is working tirelessly to augment and expand healthcare network in the Union Territory so that the ailing populace is facilitated with best medicare at their doorsteps, an official spokesperson said Thursday.

He said that the abrogation of Article 370 from the erstwhile state further accelerated the growth and development scenario in J&K with complete implementation of several revolutionary policies and interventions in the Union Territory.

He said that the J&K administration is focusing special attention on three areas 'Prevention, Better Treatment and Care' besides ensuring several incentives for poor patients of the UT.

"In this regard, seven new medical colleges, two AIIMS, nearly 1000 healthcare and wellness centres,

five new nursing colleges have been established in J&K besides introducing BSc paramedical courses and increasing medical seats by almost more than 100 percent," he added.

The spokesperson said that the focus of the government is not only on creation of best of the best private hospitals in Jammu and Srinagar but also on strengthening hospitals in districts and other remote areas.

He said that the UT administration launched J&K Health Care Investment Policy (HCIP) to encourage private players to set up healthcare infrastructure in the Union Territory.

"This Healthcare Investment Policy aims to materialize the UT government's commitment of providing quality healthcare to its citizens at their door steps. Besides, the document ensures availability of complete gamut of healthcare services in primary, secondary and tertiary care centers to people of the UT," he said.

"Meanwhile, the new Unani Medical College and Hospital has been set up with a cost of Rs 32.50 crore at Ganderbal with financial assistance of Rs 17 crore from the Ministry of Ayush under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Rs 18.25 crore from the J&K government and Rs 38.82 lakh under National AYUSH Mission to make the college operational. The college has an intake capacity of 60 students in BUMS course besides having hospital of 60 bedded facilities," he added.

Notably, the spokesperson said that AYUSH ministry has sanctioned several other projects in J&K under National AYUSH Mission and erstwhile centrally sponsored schemes including a Government Ayurvedic Medical College at Akhnour, five 50 bedded integrated Ayush Hospitals in the districts of Kupwara, Kulgam, Kishtwar, Kathua and Samba besides upgrading existing infrastructure of 35 standalone Ayush dispensaries

and promoting 571 Ayush dispensaries as health and wellness centres in a phased manner under the flagship programme of Ayushman Bharat by 2023-24.

Speaking on transformation taking place in health sector of J&K, Lieutenant Governor said that the government is introducing new reforms for developing a balanced healthcare ecosystem that promotes social equality besides ensuring easily accessible quality health facilities for all.

"This important stride in the healthcare sector truly symbolizes PM Narendra Modi's vision of self-reliance, achieving excellence in modern health facilities for remote locations and reducing the urban-rural divide to deliver services at people's doorsteps", added the LG.

LG maintained that 'Our efforts of reforming the healthcare sector have been impressive. We have addressed

the health infrastructure issues with a comprehensive and long term national vision under the guidance of Prime Minister and even the far-flung areas now have adequate, affordable and reliable healthcare facilities'.

Jammu and Kashmir has one of the highest budget allocations in the country. Some of the worth mentioning health infrastructure projects included two new AIIMS with a project cost of Rs 4000 crore one each at Jammu and Kashmir division. Besides, seven new Government Medical Colleges are being established with a total cost of Rs 1595 crore, ten new Nursing Colleges with an approximate cost of Rs. 60 crore and 5 nursing colleges have been upgraded. Similarly, two State Cancer institutes worth Rs 240 crore are coming up one each at Jammu and Kashmir division and 274 projects under CAPEX are being carried out to create unparalleled healthcare infrastructure.

J&K Football Trials For Women's U-17 National C'ship



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Football Association (JKFA) on Thursday announced that its going to hold selection trials for Under-17 Women's Junior National Championship team from May 17 to May 19 at Srinagar and May 16 to May 18 at Jammu.

"This Association has to depute a selected Women's Football Team of J&K UT for participation in the Women's Junior (U-17) National Football Championship 2022 scheduled to be held from 15th of June 2022 at Guwahati Assam," the JKFA said in a statement.

"In this connection three days

trials will be held at Synthetic Turf TRC Srinagar from 17th to 19th May 2022 from 3 pm onwards for Kashmir Province. Similarly trials for Jammu Province will be held from 16th to 18th May 2022 at GGM Science College," the statement added.

"Players born on or after 1st January, 2005 and not later than 31st December, 2007 will be eligible to participate in the Championship. The players should be fully vaccinated (both doses). The players are informed to bring along with them the original DOB Certificate issued by the SMC and a copy of vaccination Certificate (Covid-19)," the statement concluded.

DAY 3: YSS Cricket Tourney In Full Swing



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The YSS inter District UT level cricket tournament is going on in full swing with matches played on Thursday at various venues here.

The tournament is being played on league cum knockout bases. 19 teams from 19 districts of the UT are participating in the mega tourney. The Department of YSS has deputed about 200 officials for the successful conduct of the tournament and directions have been passed on to the officials on duty to keep a close vigil on the performance of the players as the better ones would be groomed further with the help of advanced coaching by the department of YSS.

At Kashmir University grounds, the first scheduled match at this venue was played between Udhampur and Jammu. Udhampur after winning the toss and elected to bat first and kept a target of 146 runs to their opponents. Trying very hard to chase the target, the Jammu team was not lucky enough to touch the mark and collapsed on 141 runs. Ganesh was declared as the man of the match. Udhampur won this interesting match by a small margin of 4 runs.

In another match between Kathua and Samba. Samba won the toss and elected to bat first. Samba scored 242 for 7 wickets. In reply, Kathua got all out on just 99. Rajat took 5 wickets and made 22 fast runs and was declared man of the match.

In another match played at Amar Singh College ground, Shopian outplayed Budgam by 26 runs. Shopian after winning the toss chose to bat first and scored 145 for 3 wick-

ets. Ruhaid Rasheed from the team scored impressive 67 runs.

At SP College ground, Rajouri locked horns with Ganderbal. Ganderbal won the toss and elected to bat first. Gandarbali while showing some excellent play on the ground set a huge target of 189 for their opponents. Toufee Ahmad, the all-rounder, batted very well and scored a meaningful 53 for his team. He took 3 wickets as well. Sahil scored 51 while as Ashfaq's 36 runs also helped the team to score 188. Rajouri struggled to chase the target and were bowled out for just 132. It was Rashid Khan who stood very from and scored 40 runs for his team Rajouri.

In another scheduled match for the day Pulwama outshined Poonch by a huge margin of 99 runs. Pulwama, after winning the toss decided to bat first and set 171 on the scoreboard.

At Eidgah playfield, Reasi won the toss and elected to bat first. Reasi scored magnificent 141 runs in the allotted 20 overs on the loss of 9 wickets. However, their opponents Ramban won the match in the 18th over on the loss of 4 wickets. Amir was the highest scorer on the team.

In another match held at Amar Singh College between Udhampur and Shopian. Udhampur scored 115 runs while as the Shopian could only chase 100 runs against them. Udhampur won the match by 15 runs.

In the same venue, match between Samba and Rajouri was held. Samba scored 179 runs for 2 wickets. Rajouri scored only 122 and lost by 57 runs.

Few other matches were in progress when this report was filed.

GDC Shopian Holds Annual Cycle Race Event



Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The Physical Education and Sports department of Imtiyaz Memorial Government Degree College Shopian on Thursday organised an Annual Cycle Race event.

The race was flagged-off by Prof. Tajamul Islam at 6:30 am in presence of teaching and non teaching staff of the college. The race was started from college campus and culminated at Cause way Sehpora, Shopian.

In the event, Wani Salman of 5th Sem bagged 1st position, Sajad Ahmad Mir of 2nd Sem and Aaqib Ahmad Dar of 2nd Sem secured 2nd and 3rd positions respectively. Adequate and elaborate ar-

rangements were made by the Sports Committee of the college to make the event a memorable and a successful one with the help of Health department.

Later, the prize distribution ceremony was held at college campus where the first, second and third position holders were awarded trophies and medals by the senior faculty members along with Convener Sports Committee of the college.

Principal of the college applauded the efforts of Convener Sports Dr. Umar Farooq and Syed Latief Sharief (Physical Director) for making the event a successful one. He also praised the efforts of Health department in smooth conduct of the programme.

IPL: RCB Take On Inconsistent Punjab

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Royal Challengers Bangalore, who have found much-needed momentum towards the business end of IPL, will back themselves to ride past an inconsistent Punjab Kings and get closer to a play-off spot here on Friday.

Having put up complete performances in their last two games, RCB seemed to have figured out their best combination.

Barring Virat Kohli, all of their batters are in top form with uncapped Rajat Patidar and Mahipal Lomror complementing seasoned pros like skipper Faf du Plessis, Glenn Maxwell and Dinesh Karthik, who has been among the best finishers in the tournament alongside Gujarat's Rahul Tewatia.

The bowling packs a punch too in the presence of in-form pacers Josh Hazlewood and the ever-reliable Harshal Patel. Mohammad Siraj has not been at his best but trust him to deliver when the team wants it the most.

Punjab, who have three games left, need to win all to have a shot at the top-four finish. They had started their campaign with a win over RCB and are on 10 points with five wins and six losses.

The fact that they have not been able to win two games in a row sums up their inconsistent run.

Shikhar Dhawan and Bhanuka Rajapaksa have delivered at the top, so has Liam Livingstone and Jitesh Sharma in finishing the innings.

On the bowling front, Sandeep Sharma has been tidy but could do with some wickets in the powerplay. Lead pacer Kagiso Rabada has done well to take 18 wickets but has gone for close to 9 runs per over.



Power Failure Leaves CSK Without DRS



MUMBAI: The Decision Review System (DRS) was not available for nearly two overs at the start of the IPL match between Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings due to power failure at the Wankhede Stadium here on Thursday.

Due to a power cut at one of the floodlight towers, the DRS was not available for 1.4 overs at the start of the Chennai Super Kings innings during which they lost three wickets. Opener Devon Conway (0)

and Robin Uthappa (1) were out LBW off the deliveries of Daniel Sams and Jasprit Bumrah and CSK could not take the review as DRS was not available.

Just after Uthappa's wicket, the DRS was available and the players were apparently told by the umpires about it.

One of the floodlight towers went off just before the toss, which was delayed by a couple of minutes.

Mumbai Indians won the toss and asked CSK to bat. (PTI)

IPL Gives India More Finishing Options In Karthik & Tewatia

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: IPL form can't be the sole criteria for a national call-up but Dinesh Karthik and Rahul Tewatia with their stellar shows as finishers for their respective franchises have certainly made a strong case for themselves in the coming months leading up to the T20 World Cup.

The ICC event in Australia is still more than four months away but the selectors and team management will soon have to decide on their core group of players, starting with the five match home series against South Africa next month.

The finisher's job is only gaining significance in the power-packed modern game and the Indian team is definitely in need of players who can go ballistic from ball one.

With Ravindra Jadeja being the only established finisher in the Indian team, IPL performers like Karthik and Tewatia sensed an opportunity and have made full use of it.

Tewatia has built a reputation of winning games from improbable situations while Karthik, who had made his India debut way back in 2004, has shown insatiable hunger to make another comeback.



Former India chief selector MSK Prasad feels both Karthik and Tewatia must be tried in the series against South Africa beginning on June 9 besides calling for Hardik's return.

"Hardik, Jaddu, Karthik and Tewatia are my top four for the finisher's role. DK and Tewatia has been brilliant in this IPL and Hardik has made a good comeback. The World Cup is still some time away but the likes of DK and Tewatia should get their opportunity.

"If you look at DK, he has consistently done well for India in the T20 format, Nidahas Trophy being

the highlight," Prasad told PTI. Tewatia had received an India call up last year but failed a fitness test.

Among other players who should be tried in other roles against South Africa including young pacer Umran Malik, reckons Prasad.

"Shami and Bumrah are your frontline pacers but you also need a bowler who can regularly clock 150 kmph. Umran has been doing that. It is also heartening to see Kuldeep and Chahal doing well for their IPL and should be back bowling together for India," said Prasad.

Nepali Sherpa Breaks Her Own Record By Reaching Mount Everest Summit For 10th Time

Agencies

KATHMANDU: A Nepali Sherpa broke her own record as the most successful female climber of Mount Everest by reaching the summit of the world's highest peak Thursday.

Lakpa Sherpa and several other climbers took advantage of favorable weather to reach the 8,849-meter (29,032-foot) summit early in the morning, her brother and expedition organizer Mingma Gelu said. He said she was in good health and was safely descending from the peak.

Sherpa, 48, never got a chance to get a formal education because she had to start

earning a living by carrying climbing gear and supplies for trekkers. Thursday's successful ascent was her 10th — the most times any woman has climbed



Everest — and she has always said she wanted to inspire all women so they too can achieve their dreams.

A native of Nepal, Sherpa lives in the U.S. with her three

children in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Another Nepalese Sherpa guide, Kami Rita, reached the summit for the 26th time Saturday, breaking his own record for the most climbs of Everest. Rita led a group of Sherpa climbers who fixed ropes along the route so that hundreds of other climbers and guides can make their way to the top of the mountain later this month.

Hundreds of foreign climbers and an equal number of Sherpa guides are set to attempt climbs of Everest in May, the month when weather conditions in the Himalayan peaks are most favourable for climbing. (AP)

Sri Lanka Tour Still On Despite Unrest: Cricket Australia



Agencies

MELBOURNE: Cricket Australia on Thursday said its all-formats tour of Sri Lanka is still going ahead despite a heightening of tension due to civil unrest in the south Asian island nation.

Australia's government has advised nationals to reconsider their need to travel to Sri Lanka after unrest followed this week's resignation of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Australia's cricketers are due to travel to Sri Lanka in June and July to play three Twenty20 internationals, five one-day games and two Test matches. An Australia A tour of Sri Lanka is planned at the same time.

A Cricket Australia spokesman said the sporting body, the federal government and Sri Lankan

cricket officials were "keeping a close eye" on developments in the country.

Cricket Australia said the players and support staff had been briefed and, with three weeks until the squad's departure date, "there are no changes to the schedule." On Wednesday, Sri Lanka's president promised to appoint a new prime minister, empower the Parliament and abolish the all-powerful executive presidential system as reforms aimed at stabilizing a country engulfed in a political and economic crisis.

In a televised address, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said he condemned attacks on peaceful protesters by mobs who came to support his brother and former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, who resigned Monday. (AP)

McCullum Hired To Coach England's Test Team

Agencies

LONDON: New Zealand cricket great Brendon McCullum was hired as head coach of England's Test team on Thursday in another bold appointment coming soon after the decision to select all-rounder Ben Stokes as captain.

The 40-year-old McCullum, who currently coaches Indian Premier League team Kolkata Knight Riders, has never been in charge of a Test team and only retired from playing in 2019.

He was regarded as the catalyst behind New Zealand's emergence as a major force in the Test game as the Black Caps won the inaugural World Test Championship last year and his preference for attacking cricket will be welcomed by Stokes at the start of a new era for England.

McCullum's first series with England will be against his native New Zealand in June, with the opening test beginning June 2 at Lord's.

England has won only one of its last 17 Tests, a run that includes a humiliating 4-0 series loss in the Ashes Down Under. That sparked a rush of dismissals and resignations at one stage, England didn't have a captain, coach or head of men's cricket but the leadership roles have been filled now, with Stokes replacing Joe Root as captain and Key the replacement for Ashley Giles.

"He has a recent history of changing cricket culture and environments for the better," Key said of McCullum, "and I believe he is the person to do that for England's red-ball cricket."



McCullum takes the position previously held by Chris Silverwood, who oversaw the Test and limited-overs teams. The ECB has decided the red-ball and white-ball duties should be split going forward.

"In taking this role on, I am acutely aware of the significant challenges the team faces at present," McCullum said, "and I strongly believe in my ability to help the team emerge as a stronger force once we've confronted them head-on."

"I've enjoyed several robust conversations with Rob Key about the direction of travel for the team and have found his enthusiasm contagious. I'm no stranger to bringing about change within a team environment, and I can't wait to get started."

McCullum described Stokes as "the perfect character to inspire change around him."

"I look forward to working closely with him to build a successful unit around us," McCullum said.

McCullum will travel to England after the Knight Riders complete their IPL group campaign on May 18, subject to obtaining a working visa. (AP)

Ukraine Returns To Football Field With Friendly Win In Germany



Agencies

MONCHENGLADBACH: Ukraine is back on football.

The Ukrainian men's national team returned to action Wednesday for the first time since the invasion by Russia, beating German club Borussia Mönchengladbach 2-1 in a charity fundraiser.

The friendly was a chance for the Ukrainians to get back into form ahead of a World Cup qualifying playoff game against Scotland next month, but also to show their team is still going, despite everything.

The squad for the unusual club-versus-country friendly was assembled from Ukrainian clubs whose league seasons were frozen on Feb. 24 on the morning, Russian troops, invaded.

Ukraine has banned men of the fighting age from leaving the country during the war, so the players needed special permission to travel. Some have been touring Europe for weeks, first with the Dynamo Kyiv and Shakhtar Donetsk clubs playing in fundraising games, then at a national team training camp in Slovenia.

Coach Oleksandr Petrakov said when the Ukrainian anthem was

sung before the game, "I had tears in my eyes."

"Thank you to the Ukrainians who came and supported us," he said, "and thank you to the Germans."

The crowd of 20,000 at the game contained many Ukrainians — they were given free tickets — who roared their appreciation when winger Mykhailo Mudryk rounded the goalkeeper and scored in the ninth minute to give Ukraine the lead.

Gladbach responded five minutes later with a powerful shot from Ireland youth international Conor Noss to level the score.

Substitute Oleksandr Pikhonok gave Ukraine the win in the 82nd with a low shot from just outside the box. Both of Ukraine's scorers were representing the national team for the first time.

Ukraine hadn't played since beating Bosnia-Herzegovina 2-0 on Nov. 16 and had to reschedule games because of the war.

If Ukraine beats Scotland in the playoff in Glasgow on June 1, it will face Wales four days later in Cardiff for a place at this year's World Cup in Qatar. (AP)