

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Friday 20 May 2022 | 18 Shawwal | 1443 Hijri | Srinagar | Vol:25 | Issue: 114 | Pages:08 | Price: ₹ 3

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P3 CITY

DECADE ON, NOOR JAHAN BRIDGE YET TO COME OF AGE

After missing several deadlines in the past nearly one decade, the work on the much-awaited Noorbagh-Qamarwari Bridge is going at snail's pace. The "New Noor Jahan Bridge" is being constructed

P5 THINK

IT'S OKAY TO MESS UP

Making mistakes happens to all of us in our careers. But some of us hold on to these mistakes longer than others. Maybe you lie awake at night still feeling queasy and anxious over the way you frustrated a client by accidentally giving them the wrong information. Maybe you are avoiding



P7 STATE

6% POPULATION IN J&K HAS NO ACCESS TO TOILET FACILITY: SURVEY

Six percent of the population in Jammu and Kashmir has no access to toilet facilities, the National Health and Family Survey (NHFS) has reported.



Quote!

Better a witty fool than a foolish wit

- Shakespeare

NEWS DIGEST

J&K Reports 11 New Covid Cases

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 11 new Covid cases on Thursday that took the infection tally to 4,54,170, officials said. Of the new cases, nine were reported from Jammu district while one each surfaced in Srinagar and Kupwara districts, they said. **More on P6**

Grenade Defused In Budgam

Srinagar: The government forces on Thursday defused a live grenade in Central Kashmir Budgam district. The grenade was spotted when a portion of land was being dug for the installation of an electric pole, reports said. A bomb disposal squad of **More on P6**

10 Teachers Suspended For Defying Orders

Srinagar: Chief Education Officer Kupwara Thursday put under suspension ten teachers for "negligence towards their legitimate duties". "As reported by Zonal Education Officer Kralpora, ten teaching officials have failed to report their actual place of postings till date despite **More on P6**

Govt Employee Dies In Road Accident

Srinagar: A Jal Shakti Department was killed on Thursday in a road mishap in Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Reports said that Mehraj-ud-Din son of Ghulam Nabi Shah, resident of Yaraholla Bonigam Qazigund was hit by a speedy tavera bearing registration number JK03C-7707 **More on P6**

'TERROR' FUNDING CASE

Delhi Court Convicts Yasin Malik

Quantum Of Sentence To Be Announced On May 25

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chief of banned JKLF Yasin Malik was on Thursday convicted by a Delhi court under the stringent anti-terror law in a case related to funding of militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir, after he pleaded guilty to all charges framed against him, news reports said.

Special Judge Praveen Singh posted the matter for May 25 to announce the quantum of punishment and also directed the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to assess Malik's financial condition to determine the amount of fine that could be imposed.

After the charges were framed in March, Malik on May 10 informed the court that he would not be contesting the charges levelled against him, including section 16 (terrorist act), 17 (raising funds for the terrorist act), 18 (conspiracy to commit terrorist act), and 20 (being a member of terrorist gang or organisation) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)



Act (UAPA) and sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 124-A (sedition) of the IPC.

Malik faces the maximum punishment of a death penalty, while the minimum sentence for the offences committed by him is life imprisonment.

The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) is a banned organisation under the UAPA.

The case pertains to the conspiracy by Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) chief Hafiz Saeed and separatist leaders, including members of the Hurriyat Conference, who had acted in connivance **More on P6**

Pak Summons Indian Charged' Affaires

Pakistan has summoned India's Charge d'Affaires here to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and handed over a demarche to him conveying Islamabad's strong condemnation of the framing of fabricated charges against Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik. The Pakistan **More on P6**

Convictions Won't Solve Kashmir Issue: PDP

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday said the conviction of JKLF chief Mohammad Yasin Malik is a part of the legal process and will not lead to the resolution of the Kashmir issue which is a political problem that cannot be solved by convictions. A Delhi court on Thursday convicted Kashmiri separatist leader Malik,

LG Holds High-Level Meeting In Srinagar

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting here at the Raj Bhavan, after his return from New Delhi.

Sinha convened an important security meeting at 19:45 hours

on Thursday with the top officials of the Jammu and Kashmir administration including Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir, besides other officers of police and administration, a local news agency KDC reported. **More on P6**

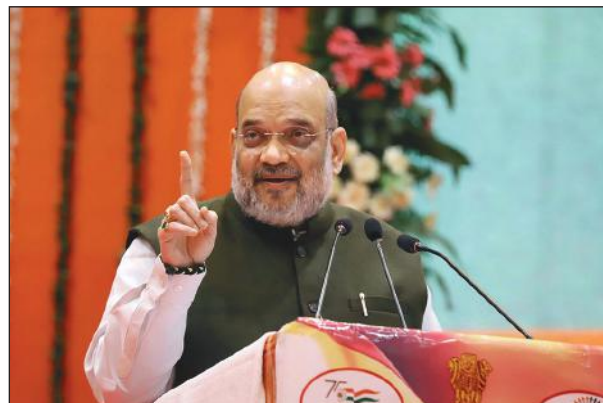
PM Abrogated Art-370 With Snap Of A Finger: HM

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday that Prime Minister Modi abrogated Jammu and Kashmir's semi-autonomous status with the snap of a finger in August 2019, showing how change comes if someone keeps the nation as a priority

"Prime Minister Modi abrogated Article 370 and Article 35A with the snap of a finger on August 5, 2019. Those who had said that there would be a bloodbath (khooon ki nadiyaan bahengi) could not even indulge in stone-pelting," Shah said here on Thursday.

He made these remarks while addressing the inaugural session of a three-day



international seminar on "Revisiting The Ideas of India from Swaraj to New India" at the Delhi University.

"PM Modi has shown how change comes if someone keeps the nation as a priority. Our idea of India also

revolves around 'surkashit (safe) Bharat', he added.

Referring to the surgical strikes and airstrike, the minister said that these actions showed the meaning of India's defence policy.

"Before Prime **More on P6**

More Central Forces In Kashmir Soon: Report

The government of India has decided to deploy additional central forces in Kashmir Valley following a spurt in militant attacks, especially after the killing of a Kashmiri Pandit employee in Central Kashmir's Budgam district last week, reports said Thursday. Quoting sources, New Delhi bases IANS reported that around 15,000 additional para-military force personnel will be deployed soon to tackle the security situation in the Valley and provide better security cover to the people there. This, the report said, will be in addition to the forces which will be **More on P6**



A young farmer plucks cherries from his orchard in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Thursday: KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Wine Shop Attack Case Solved, 5 Held: Police

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Thursday claimed to have solved the Baramulla grenade attack case on a liquor shop within 48 hours of the incident by arresting four Lashkar-e-Toiba militants and a militant associate.

On May 17, a burqa clad militant lobbed a grenade on the newly-opened wine shop at Dewan Bagh in Baramulla.

After lobbing the grenade, the militant returned to his waiting accomplice and fled from the spot on a motorcycle, the spokesman said.

He said the grenade explosion left four persons injured who were evacuated to GMC Baramulla hospital **More on P6**

Kashmir University Gets First Woman VC

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Union Territory administration on Thursday appointed Professor Nilofer Khan as the new Vice Chancellor of University of Kashmir.

The appointment of Nilofer as the new VC was ordered by J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha.

"In exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 12 of the Kashmir and Jammu Universities Act, 1969, I, Manoj Sinha, Chancellor, University of Kashmir, hereby appoint Professor Nilofer Khan, Professor, Department of Home Sciences, University of Kashmir, as Vice Chancellor of the University of **More on P6**

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LPG Price Hiked For Second Time This Month

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Cooking gas LPG price was on Thursday hiked by Rs 3.50 per cylinder, the second increase in rate this month following the firming of international energy rates.

Non-subsidised LPG now costs Rs 1,003 per 14.2-kg cylinder in the national capital, up from Rs 999.50 previously, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

This is the second increase in LPG rate this month and the third in less than two months. The price was hiked by Rs 50 per **More on P6**

LAC STANDOFF

'We Monitor Such Developments': MEA On Pangong Bridge

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A day after reports emerged that China was building a second bridge across Pangong Tso in eastern Ladakh, India on Thursday said the area where the reported construction is being undertaken is under the occupation of that country for decades.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India monitors such developments.

"We have seen media reports and other reports on the so-called bridge... somebody said second

bridge or if it is an expansion of the current bridge," he said.

Bagchi said India always felt that the area that is referred to in the reports is under the occupation of the Chinese side for decades.

He was responding to questions on the bridge being built by China in the Pangong Tso region.

Bagchi also said that India had various rounds of conversations with the Chinese side at the diplomatic and military levels and will continue to remain engaged.

"You are also aware that Foreign Minister Wang Yi was here in March this year and the external **More on P6**

Kashmiri Women Have Cellphone Edge Over Their Metropolitan Counterparts

Zaid Bin Shabir

Putting speculations to rest, fresh figures have revealed that women in Jammu and Kashmir are more advanced in using technology like cellphones than their counterparts in the much populous and progressive metropolitan cities of India.

This was revealed by a new data by Stats of India—an independent e-resource providing socio-economic statistical information of India.

According to the data, 75.2 percent women in Jammu and Kashmir own a mobile phone which is the 12th highest ratio in India.



In contrast, the ratio of women cellphone owners in metro cities including Delhi (73.8 percent) is much lower than J&K's total average.

The data has further revealed an

average difference of approximately 20 percent between J&K and several top metropolitan states.

The intricately sorted data has also debunked a common myth expanding among other states in

THE INTRICATELY SORTED DATA HAS ALSO DEBUNKED a common myth expanding among other states in India about the rights of women in J&K especially Kashmir being "restricted" by the male dominance before August 2019.

India about the rights of women in J&K especially Kashmir being "restricted" by the male dominance before August 2019.

A dissection of the data by Kashmir Observer makes it quite clear that most of the states raking up "women rights in Kashmir" are actually the

ones where women ownership of a mobile phone is quite low — 46.5% for Uttar Pradesh, 50.4% for Haryana, 50.1% for West Bengal, 48.1% for Gujarat and 50.2% for Rajasthan.

However, from the last NFHS (National Family Health Survey)—4 survey **More on P6**

Saudi Arabia Bans Carrying ZamZam Water In Bags

Agenceis

MAKKAH: Amid the restrictions that are currently still imposed on Hajj and Umrah pilgrims, Saudi authorities have now also banned the carrying of bottles of ZamZam holy water in checked-in baggage ahead of Dhul Hijjah, the holy month for the Islamic pilgrimage of Hajj.

On Tuesday, the General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) issued a notification of new guidelines officially banning Hajj and Umrah pilgrims from bringing bottles of ZamZam water inside checked-in baggage back to their countries.

Checked-in baggage is the luggage delivered to an airline for transportation. It is

inaccessible to the passengers during the flight. Pilgrims usually carry ZamZam bottles inside checked-in baggage and carry-on baggage.

The advisor dated May 17 obliges all airlines operating in Saudi Arabia to strictly ensure that no passengers traveling through Jeddah or any other airport in the Kingdom carry bottles filled with ZamZam water.

If any violation of the circular issued by GACA is found, it will be considered an explicit violation of the Government's orders. Strict legal action will be taken against violators who are caught violating the circulars.

The advisory applies to all airlines operating at Saudi Arabian airports including private flights as **More on P6**



Climate Change Making Extreme Heat Waves In India 100 Times More Likely: Study

Press Trust Of India

Climate change has made the record breaking heat waves in India and Pakistan over 100 times more likely, and also increased the chances that such events will occur more frequently in the future, according to a study by the UK Met Office.

The analysis released on Wednesday means extreme temperature events once expected every three centuries are now likely to happen every three years.

The study estimated the chances of exceeding the record temperature witnessed in April and May in 2010 -- which saw the highest combined average April and May temperature since 1900.

The attribution study, which determines the influence of climate change on a particular weather event, shows that the natural probability of a heat wave exceeding the average temperature in 2010 was once in 312 years. However, in the current climate scenario that accounts for climate change, the probabilities increase to once in every 3.1 years. The scientists estimated that by the end of the century, the probability of heat wave will increase to once every 1.15 years.

"With temperatures exceeding 50 degrees Celsius in recent days, it is clear the current heat wave is an extreme weather event affecting communities and livelihoods," Professor Peter Stott, Met Office Science Fellow in Climate Attribution, said in a statement.

Although a new record is thought likely, climate scientists will have to wait until after the end of the month -- when all the temperature records for the April-May period have been collated -- to see whether the current heat wave will exceed the levels experienced in 2010.

"Spells of heat have always been a feature of the region's pre-monsoon climate during April and May," said Nikos Christidis, who produced the study.

"Our study shows that climate change is driving the heat intensity of these spells making record-breaking temperatures 100



However, the heat looks likely to build again from mid-week, peaking later in the week or into the weekend, with maximum temperatures again likely to reach 50 degrees Celsius in some spots, with continued very high overnight temperatures

times more likely. By the end of the century increasing climate change is likely to drive temperatures of these values on average every year, Christidis said.

The scientists adopted the peer-reviewed risk-based methodology that infers probabilities of extreme events with and without the effect of human influence from large multi-model ensembles of climate model simulations.

They noted that extreme pre-monsoon heatwave has eased a little after peak temperatures reached 51 degrees Celsius in Pakistan on Sunday.

"However, the heat looks likely to build again from mid-week, peaking later in the week or into the weekend, with maximum temperatures again likely to reach 50 degrees Celsius in some spots, with continued very high overnight temperatures,"

said Paul Hutcheon, of the UK Met Office's Global Guidance Unit.

"Through the weekend temperatures are likely to lower again closer to average. There is also a continued enhanced risk of fires (largely from planned agricultural burning) in the region which would further add to the poor air quality. Some strong winds will lift dust plumes at times too, Hutcheon added.

Trained Sniffer Dogs May Accurately Detect Covid Infected Airport Passengers: Study

Press Trust Of India

Trained sniffer dogs can accurately detect airport passengers infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, according to a study published in the journal BMJ Global Health.

This method of detection is likely to be valuable, not only in the early stages of a pandemic when other resources might not yet be available, but also to help contain an ongoing pandemic, the researchers said.

A key finding was that the dogs were less successful at correctly identifying the Alpha variant as they had been trained to detect the wild type. This just goes to show how good dogs are at distinguishing between different scents, they said.

It is thought that dogs are able to detect distinct volatile organic compounds released during various metabolic processes in the body, including those generated by bacterial, viral, and parasitic infections.

The researchers from the University of Helsinki and Helsinki University Hospital, Finland, trained four dogs to sniff out SARS-CoV-2 in 2020.

Each of the dogs had previously been trained to sniff out illicit drugs or dangerous goods or cancer.

To test the dogs' detection skills, 420 volunteers provided four skin swab samples each.

The four dogs each sniffed the skin samples from 114 of the volunteers who had tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 on a PCR swab test and from 306 who had tested negative.

The samples were randomly presented to each dog over seven trial sessions.

The diagnostic accuracy of all samples sniffed was 92 per cent: combined sensitivity -- accuracy of detecting those with the infection -- was 92 per cent and combined specificity -- accuracy of detecting those without

the infection -- was 91 per cent.

Some 28 of the positive samples came from people who had had no symptoms, the researchers said.

Only one was incorrectly identified as negative and two were not sniffed, meaning that 25 of the 28 (just over 89 per cent) were correctly identified as positive; the lack of symptoms did not seem to affect the dogs' performance, they said.

The four dogs were then put to work sniffing out 303 incoming passengers at Helsinki-Vantaa International Airport, Finland, between September 2020 and April 2021.

Each passenger also took a PCR swab test.

The PCR and sniffer results matched in 296 out of 303 (98 per cent) of the real-life samples.

The dogs correctly identified the samples as negative in 296 out of 300 (99 per cent) PCR negative swab tests and identified three PCR positive cases as negative, the researchers said.

After re-evaluation with clinical and serological data, one was judged to be SARS-CoV-2 negative, one SARS-CoV-2 positive, and one a likely post-infectious positive PCR test result, they said.

Similarly, the dogs indicated four PCR negative cases as positive.

These were all judged to be SARS-CoV-2 negative.

Because the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 among the airport passengers was relatively low (less than 0.5 per cent), 155 samples from people who had tested positive on a PCR swab test were also presented to the dogs.

The dogs correctly identified just under 99 per cent of them as positive.

Had these spike' samples been included in the real-life study, the dogs' performance would have reached a sensitivity of 97 per cent and a specificity of 99 per cent, the researchers said.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION Ganderbal

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (for Road work/bridges/Buildings)

TWO COVER SYSTEM (above Rs. 2.50 Crores)

EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl-e-tendering Fresh NIT No:- 41 of 2022-23 of R&B Division Ganderbal issued under endorsement No.2168-75 Dated:- 14-05-2022

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis (as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs. In Lacs)	Bid Security Declaration	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of tender (Technical Bid)	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of Prefabricated Structure Halls for increasing in Capacity of Yatra Camps for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra at PTS Manigam.	282.82	Rs. 5500/=	Rs. 5,65,640/=	90-Days	24-05-2022 at 11:00 AM	AAV Class

Major Head of Account: Yatra
Position of AAA =
Position of TS =
Position of funds =

S. No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	Period of downloading of bidding documents	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	Bid submission Start Date	Bid Submission End Date	The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Chief Accounts Officer PWD(R&B) Kashmir.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)
1.	14-05-2022	17-05-2022, From 10.30A.M to 23-05-2022, upto 4.00 P.M.	21-05-2022 at 2.00 PM in the office of Superintending Engineer PW(R&B) Circle Ganderbal/Bandipora	17-05-2022 From 10.30 AM	23-05-2022 upto 4.00 P.M.	As per time specified in SBD.	24-05-2022 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PW(R&B) Circle Gbl-Bpr
8.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed						

1. 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 above schedule.

Note:- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury-challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.

2. The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged in favour of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ganderbal-Bandipora and 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ganderbal-Bandipora. The Performance Security i.e. 5% shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security after award of the contract for the Work is issued.

(The Date of Treasury Challan/Demand Draft must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).

The bidder who chooses the option of Demand draft shall upload the copy of DD for Rs. 5500/- In addition to this the bidder shall submit the demand draft through Registered post/courier latest by 22/05/2022. The department shall not be responsible for any delay in submission of DD due to any reasons.

2. Bidders can resubmit/withdraw the bids as specified.

3. The date and time of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Chief Engineer (R&B), Engineering Complex, The date for same shall be intimated separately.

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-

a) Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period issue of letter on intent.

c) In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

d) Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

6. 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 bid submission process.

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-2.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid. Documents which has/have not been uploaded shall into be entertained in 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.

7. All bidders shall upload Enlistment Registration Card Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer /Superintending Engineer.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of e-challan/Demand Draft in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.

(The Date of Treasury Challan/Demand Draft must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).

9. The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged in favour of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ganderbal-Bandipora and 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ganderbal-Bandipora. The Performance Security i.e. 5% shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security after award of the contract for the Work is issued.

10. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP. Bidders may contact office of the Superintending Engineer PW(R&B) Circle Gbl-Bpr or Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process.

11. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

12. 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 unless otherwise specified.

13. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

14. Defect Liability Period shall be 18 Months after date of completion.

15. All key construction material (i.e. cement, steel, bitumen, pipes etc.) shall have to be arranged by the contractor strictly as per specifications with the approval of Engineer-in-charge.

16. Qualification criteria for the work and other terms and conditions are contained in the bidding document available on website.

No: 2168-75
Dated: 14/05/2022

DIPK-2211/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderbal

از نیابت کتزر
مضمون درخواست : شوکت احمد بٹ ولد عبدالرشید بٹ ساکنہ موضوع ریم
براعطایگی DOB certificate بجن پسر شریب شوکت بٹ
اشہار براد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر ہذا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول
تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ پولیس سٹیشن کتزر و پوکیدار
علاقہ نے سائل کے پسر کی پیدائش اندراج نہیں کی ہے سائل شوکت
احمد بٹ ولد عبدالرشید بٹ ساکنہ موضوع ریم بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکے پسر
کی تاریخ پیدائش شریب شوکت بٹ 13.05.2021 کو ہوئی
ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی
عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد
گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار کتزر az k

PUBLIC NOTICE
My cast has been wrongly written in my driving license bearing DI No: 587/MVD/ANG as Gana While my correct cast is Garlie which need correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Imtiyaz Ahmad Ganie
S/O Ghulam Ahmad Ganie
R/O Odura Kulgma ma

Office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Shopian

NOTICE
Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr./Mrs Nisar Ahmad Waza S/o Mohammad Shaban Waza R/o Aglar Chirat Shopian (Party No 1st) as Transferee, (seller) owner of the vehicle Alto STD Bearing Regd. No. JK22B- 7325 (Commercial/ Non Commercial) covering under R/P NO: ----- And Mr./ Mrs Reyaz Ahamd Mir S/o Gh Mohd Mir R/o Pinglena Pulwama (Parti No 2nd) as Transferee (purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No. 1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with --. Before the case is disposed off on its merits, any body having objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned . No any representation/ objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.
No : ARTO/Spn/202/168
Dated 19-05-2022
S/D Asst Regional Transport Officer Shopian
ast

Office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Shopian

NOTICE
Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr./Mrs Fayaz Ahamd Dar S/o Gh Mohmmad Dar R/o Loseenow Shopian (Party No 1st) as Transferee, (seller) owner of the vehicle Bearing Regd. No. JK13B- 0796 (Commercial/ Non Commercial) covering under R/P NO: ----- And Mr./ Mrs Ajaz Ahamd S/o Layakat Ali R/o Kalaban Mendhar Poonch (Parti No 2nd) as Transferee (purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No. 1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with --. Before the case is disposed off on its merits, any body having objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned . No any representation/ objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.
No : ARTO/Spn/--
Dated 10-05-2022
S/D Asst Regional Transport Officer Shopian
ast

PUBLIC NOTICE
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Dr Riyaz Bashir Delivers Lecture On Medical Innovations At NIT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Famed cardiologist Dr Riyaz Bashir MD, FACC, who is Professor of Medicine, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, USA delivered an expert lecture on medical innovations at National Institute of Technology .

The event was organized jointly by MSME, Development Institute Srinagar in collaboration with MSME- Business Incubation Centre and IIED Centre.

The event was presided over by Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Rakesh Sehgal, and world-renowned cardiologist Dr Riyaz Bashir who is also Director, Vascular and Endovascular Medicine and co-inventor of the Bashir Endovascular Catheter was the chief guest on the occasion.

Prof. Sehgal also expressed his gratitude to Dr Riyaz Bashir for delivering a memorable lecture on medical innovations. Hosting such renowned personalities is the need of the hour, he said.

In his key address, Dr

Riyaz Bashir delivered his lecture on medical innovations and shared his aspiring journey from Kashmir to the USA with the young innovators.

“Our team is working on removing the blockage of lung arteries by a blood clot that results in pulmonary embolism – a condition requiring emergency care that affects thousands of patients across the globe,” he said.

Dr. Bashir further said existing treatments, however, may not fully remove the clot, necessitating the development of new therapeutic strategies for pulmonary embolism.

His team has developed a device known as the Bashir™ Endovascular Catheter (Thrombolix, Inc.), which effectively dissolves the clots in the lungs, with no major bleeding risk.

Dr Bashir also urged young innovators to focus on a problem and then try to find the best solutions possible. “Universe will conspire to make it successful if your intention is to help people and impact lives,” he said.

Govt Orders Inquiry Into ‘illegal promotions' By Ex-SMC Commissioner

Agencies

Srinagar: Government on Thursday inquiry into the “illegal promotions” and posts created and reduced by former Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation

“Sanction is hereby accorded to the appointment of Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat (IRS), Vice Chairman Lakes. Conservation and Management Authority Srinagar as an Inquiry Officer to conduct detailed enquiry into the matter of illegal promotions granted /posts created & reduced viz-a-viz., Order Nos. 966 &

968 of 2016 dated 14.06.2016 issued by the then Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation without approval of the Competent Authority,” reads an order by Dheeraj Gupta (IAS), Principal Secretary to the Government Housing and Urban Development Department. “He shall submit the report to this office, within a week’s time,” the order, a copy of which lies with GNS, reads.

“Further, it is ordered that the Joint Commissioner (Planning), Srinagar Municipal Corporation is appointed as Presenting Officer in the case.” (GNS)



Decade On, Noor Jahan Bridge Yet To Come Of Age

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: After missing several deadlines in the past nearly one decade, the work on the much-awaited Noorbagh-Qamarwari Bridge is going at snail’s pace.

The “New Noor Jahan Bridge” is being constructed at a cost of Rs 957 lakhs and the allotment cost of the approach roads is Rs 398 lakhs.

Although the work on approach road from Noorbagh side of the Bridge has begun, work on approach road from Qamarwari side is yet to kick off.

Officials say the Qamarwari side of the bridge hosts some concrete structures including the Fire Service Station which have to be raised to the ground to pave way for a smooth landing from the bridge.

For city dwellers and people from other towns thronging the city, the ride on the “cement bride” is bumpy as it is full of potholes.

Commuters say the pivotal bridge has developed huge potholes which not only affect the

“There were several reasons behind the stoppage of the work and it took a long time to remove the bottlenecks

passage of the vehicular movement but also damage the vehicles as well.

Once completed, the bridge will lessen traffic on the already existing “Cement Bridge” which over the period of time has served as an important link between Shahr-e- Khaas and other areas of North Kashmir.

It is pertinent to mention, the construction of the Noor Jahan Bridge started in 2011. Initially, the bridge was scheduled to be completed in the year 2014. Later, the deadline was extended upto March 2017 and then upto December 2018.

Speaking on anonymity, an R&B official said the contractor who was allotted the Bridge construction delayed the work many times.

“The contract for approach roads has been allotted to another contractor and work is going on in full swing” he added.

Executive Engineer, Roads and Building Department, Division I Srinagar Mohammad Masood Mir said there were many reasons the construction of the bridge got delayed.

“There were several reasons behind the stoppage of the work and it took a long time to remove the bottlenecks,”Masood said.

“There were several issues, which took long to be rectified,” he said, adding that the land issue was among the main bottlenecks that halted the work for a longer period.

“Many structures are to be removed and we are already on it,” he said.

He pinned hope the Bridge will be made motorable by the end of the year 2022.

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- PDD: 0194-2450213
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- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



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



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
18 Shawwal
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 49
ZUHR	12:27
ASR	5:24
Magrib	7:32
ISHA	9: 07

This Day In History

- 1916 Saturday Evening Post cover features Norman Rockwell painting
- 1918 - 1st electrically propelled warship (New Mexico)
- 1927- Saudi Arabia becomes independent of Great Britain in the Treaty of Jeddah
- 1943 - French, British and US victory parade in Tunis, Tunisia
- 1944 -US Communist Party dissolves
- 1954 - Chiang Kai-shek becomes president of Nationalist China
- 1955 - Argentine parliament accepts separation of church and state
- 1956 - Atomic fusion (thermonuclear) bomb dropped from plane at Bikini Atoll
- 1956 - Jordan government of Samir resigns
- 1959 - Japanese-Americans regain their citizenship
- 1963 - Sukarno appointed president of Indonesia
- 1965 - Pakistani Boeing 720-B crashes at Cairo Egypt, killing 121
- 1967 - 10,000 demonstrate against war in Vietnam
- 1974 - Soyuz 14 returns to Earth
- 1976 -USSR performs nuclear test at Sary Shagan USSR
- 1978 -US launches Pioneer Venus 1; produces 1st global radar map of Venus

From KO Archives

Grenade, Firing On Fateha Function

2 Killed, 18 Injured As Gunmen Attack Gathering

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- Unidentified gunmen attacked a memorial service in Bagh-e-Mahtab on the outskirts of the city this afternoon leaving two people dead and eighteen others injured.

The attack was carried out during the fourth day ceremony of the Kashmir Salvation Movement (KSM) chief's brother. Abdul Ghani Bhat, who was shot dead by gunmen on Saturday.

The gunmen struck at around 2:30 pm at Bhat's residence when the KSM chief and former Hizb-ul-Mujahideen divisional commander Zafar Abdul Fatah, was addressing a large number of people gathered there for Fateha khwani, the CNS said.

The attackers first hurled a grenade and then opened indiscriminate fire on the gathering, leaving two people, including Fatah and his two brothers Haji Ghulam Muhammad and Basheer Ahmad, injured.

Local residents and the police rushed the injured mourners to the SMHS and the Bones and Joints hospitals.

Two of the injured succumbed to their injuries at the SMHS hospital The deceased have been identified as Mirza Aslam Beig, son of Khizir Muhammad a resident of Bagh-e-Mahtab and Imtiyaz Mohi-ud-din son of Ghulam Mohi-ud-din of Lal Nagar Meethan. The police cordoned off the area and conducted house-to-house searches after the attack but the gunmen had made good their escape before the search operations began.

Among the injured where Special Police Officer Basheer Ahmad, Bilal Ahmad of Kralpora, Farooq Ahmad Dar and Mushtaq Ahmad Dar of Naupora, Sopore,Manzoor Ahmad Waar of Handwara, Shahnawaz Ahmad of Parravpora, Manzoor Ahmad of Dagarpora, Handwara, Aijaz Ahmad of Barzulla and Farooq Ahmad Parry and his son Basheer Ahmad of Parravpora. Talking to the CNS, Kashmir's inspector general of police, Javed Makhdoomi, said that a gunman had lobbed a grenade and opened fire on a mourner's gathering in Shankarpura.

Police and the BSF had been deployed in the area, but the assailants opened fire immediately after hurling the grenade, and guards deployed with Zafar Abdul Fatah also fired back, but the attackers escaped during the exchange of fire.

Abdul Ghani Bhat, for whom the memorial service was being held, was the elder brother of Zafar Abdul Fatah.

Fatah, whose real name is Zafar Akbar Bhat is a former divisional commander of the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen who was a key figure in the failed talks between Hizb and the Centre in 2000. He launched a separatist political party, Jammu and Kashmir Salvation Movement after giving up violence. He joined the moderate faction of Hurriyat Conference led by Mirwaiz Umer Farooq as a general council member. No militant outfit has claimed responsibility for today's attack or the killing of Bhat on Saturday.

The attack on the mourners came just minutes after several senior leaders' of both factions of Hurriyat Conference had left the house of Bhat after expressing sympathy with the bereaved family, the sources said. Chairman of National Front Nayem Ahmad Khan, chief of Anjuman-e-Shaire-Shiyan Syed Agha Hassan Jamaat-e-Islami leader Mohammad Ashraf Laway all belonging to hardline faction headed by Syed Ali Shah Geelani and Peoples Political Front president Fazal Haq Qureshi and Ghulam Nabi Shah, of Awami Action Committee, constituents of the moderate faction led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq had just left the house when the attack took place, the sources said.

(Kashmir Observer, 20 May, 2005)

DHSK, DAK Condole Demise Of Dr Muneer Masoodi

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather on Thursday condoled the demise of noted doctor, Prof. (Dr) Muneer Ahmad Masoodi, who passed away after a brief illness in Srinagar on Thursday.

“I am sad to learn about the demise of Dr Masoodi. May Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and grant him the highest place in Jannah,” he said.

Grieved over the death, the director said it is a great loss to Jammu and Kashmir's medical fraternity and his death has resulted in a great void in the medical field.

Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on

Thursday held a condolence meeting at Government Medical College, Srinagar to mourn the sad demise of Dr Muneer Masoodi former head of the department of community medicine GMC Srinagar who breathed his last today at SMHS hospital after a brief illness. Paying rich tributes to the deceased, DAK members prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and expressed heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family.

Saddened over the death, President DAK Dr Nisar ul Hassan said it is a great loss to the medical fraternity and his death has resulted in a great void in the field of medicine.

“A medical luminary, Dr Masoodi graduated

from GMC Srinagar and after completing his post-graduation joined GMC Srinagar and became head of the community medicine,” he said.

Dr Hassan said he was instrumental in shaping up the department of community medicine at GMC Srinagar.

“His contributions in the field of community medicine will be remembered for a long time,” he said.

“Currently, he was working as professor and head of community medicine at GMC Anantnag,” he added.

The DAK President said during his professional career he worked as Medical superintendent of SMHS hospital, Bone and Joint hospital and GB pant hospital.

Three Girls Injured In Accident

Agencies

Srinagar: Three young girls (name withheld) riding a Scooty were injured after the Scooty they were riding met with an accident near Security Line in civil lines locality of Srinagar on Thursday.

Two among them are the residents of Bemina Srinagar and one is from Lawaypora.

Hospital sources said three three girls aged 14 and 15 respectively were brought to the SMHS Hospital after they had sustained injuries in a road accident.

SAD DEMISE

We inform you the sad demise of Asma Firdous W/o Firdous Ahmad bhat R/o Batamaloo sgr who passed away on 19-05-2022. Her tazyat will be observed only for three (3) days

Khan News Agency

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ACCOUNTS OFFICER DISTRICT FUND OFFICE ANANTNAG.

TENDER NOTICE

Fresh sealed tenders affixed with revenue stamp worth Rs 5/- on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory are invited from reputed computer Hardware and Networking Dealers for internal LAN connectivity of the office of Chief Accounts Officer, District Fund Office, Anantnag as per details below.

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CANCELLATION NOTICE

It is notified for the information of all concerned that due to No-Response for the work Viz, “Strengthening/ Upgradation of Pehlipora Naidgund road and allied links (Agg Length 3.00 Kms)” advertised vide this office NIT No: Fresh/25/1213-22 /RnB/SPN/e-tender of 2022-23 Dated: 06-05-2022. As such the work is hereby cancelled and put to fresh tenders.

No: NIT/1732-36
Dt: 19-05-2022

DIPK-2276/22

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Executive Engineer
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Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the
Kashmir Observer LLP
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Budgam.
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
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K O V I E W

Inflation Monster

In April, the wholesale inflation in India rose to over 15 percent on an annual basis. Higher fuel and energy prices have contributed to this. The record inflation is affecting the common man badly, more so the lower middle class and poor families. Figures by the department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) present a grim picture. Food articles inflation in April stood at 8.35 percent, up from 8.06 percent in March. Similarly, fuel and power basket inflation rose to 38.66 percent from 34.52 percent in the previous month. The retail inflation in April has been the highest since May 2014 at 7.8 percent. This has meant that the cost of food, transport and healthcare have all risen by 50 percent since the middle of last year forcing people to cut down on their spending to make ends meet.

One major reason for this is the steep escalation in the cost of oil in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February. As things stand, the war has caused higher than expected inflation, supply chain disruptions and volatility in financial markets. And India can't be immune to this for long if the war drags on. And this is happening at a time when the world economy was gradually recovering from the debilitating fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic. The countries were slowly opening up and letting the economy function normally. International travel was also returning to pre-pandemic levels. India was taking steps toward a self-reliant economy also called Atmanirbharta. But the war has unraveled it all somewhat. It has set off destabilizing factors that are beyond any country's control as long as the war continues.

The United Nations on Wednesday said India is expected to grow 6.4 percent in 2022, well below the 8.8 percent growth in 2021. On the ground, this would translate into loss of lakhs of jobs at a time when the country is reeling from rampant unemployment. Coupled with inflation, this makes a combustible situation unless the government takes urgent steps to address it. More so, in India when the successive virulent waves of the pandemic have hemorrhaged the economy. The resumption of economic activity to pre-pandemic levels is important to restore the millions of jobs lost to the pandemic. At the same time, the world needs to work together to end the war in Ukraine. That alone will make a redeeming difference to the global economy and in turn to inflation.

OTHER OPINION

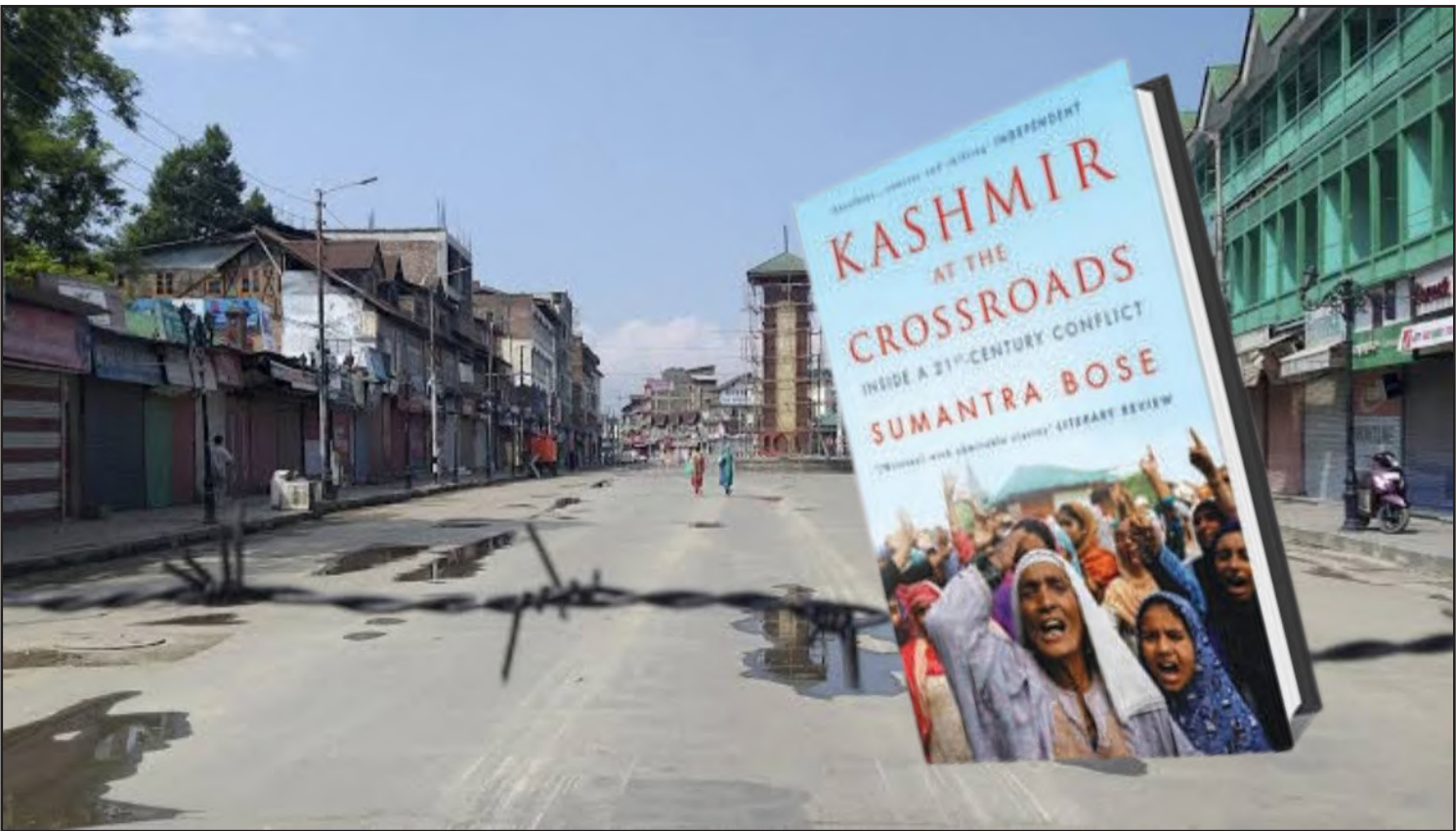
Costly Affair

On Tuesday, data released by the government showed that inflation at the wholesale level had risen to a staggering 15.08 per cent in April, up from 14.55 per cent in March, despite a high base effect. With this latest print, wholesale inflation has now been in double digits for 13 consecutive months. Coming just days after data released by the National Statistical Office that showed retail inflation as measured by the consumer price index had risen to an eight year high of 7.8 per cent in April, this latest data print only reaffirms the inflationary pressures in the economy.

The sharp spurt in wholesale inflation is driven by all major categories — primary articles, fuel and power and manufacturing — indicating how broad-based the price pressures are. All three sub-groups registered double digit inflation in April. The WPI food index has also risen to 8.88 per cent in April on the back of higher prices in vegetables, fruits, milk and spices. Considering that an increase in food inflation at the wholesale level tends to have a "significant" impact on inflation at the retail level, this is a matter of concern. As per the recently released report by the RBI on the state of the economy, high frequency price data on food items for the first half of May (1-12) indicates "an increase in cereal prices, primarily on account of a surge in wheat prices", a hardening of potato and tomato prices, and a "broad-based increase" in edible oils. This is worrying, as Ashima Goyal, member MPC, points out, "the history of past shocks in India shows food and oil price inflation together can give rise to second round effects". On the non-food side, the latest data also shows that manufacturing inflation rose to 10.85 per cent in April, up from 10.71 per cent the month before. With cost pressures on manufacturers continuing to rise, they are likely to pass them further on to end consumers, exerting upward pressure on prices at the retail level. And then there are also concerns over services inflation firming up as demand picks up.

In the first week of May, the monetary policy committee of the RBI had held an off-cycle meeting to raise the benchmark repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.4 per cent to tackle inflation. This implied that hikes of another 75 basis points would be needed just to revert to the pre-pandemic level — MPC member Jayanth Varma has said that "more than 100 basis points of rate increases need to be carried out". Considering current price trends which suggest that inflation will continue to remain elevated, and likely to breach the upper threshold of the RBI's inflation targeting framework for three consecutive quarters, the MPC is likely to frontload the rate hikes.

Indian Express



Kashmir after August 2019

In "Kashmir at Crossroads", Sumantra Bose chronicles the situation in J&K following the abrogation of Article 370

RIYAZ WANI

The prevailing situation in Kashmir confirms Bose's assessment: the last two years, as the police data reveals, have witnessed a drastic reduction in the influx of foreign militants even while over 500 militants have been slain by security forces since August 5, 2019

When Sumantra Bose first visited Kashmir as an adult in 1994 to learn about the conflict in the region as part of his studies at Columbia University, Kashmir was in the throes of an all-out separatist struggle. On average, ten people would die every day in militancy-related incidents. Massacres were not infrequent. Traveling through the region was hazardous. One could run into a cross-fire, bomb explosion or grenade attack, which have since killed thousands of innocent civilians. One could also rest assured of being stopped at security checkpoints every ten kilometers and frisked. Or worse, being put through an identification parade before an informant, a practice perfected in the then ubiquitous military crackdowns across the Valley.

This didn't deter Bose. He spent weeks in the Valley to make sense of the situation as it existed on the ground. This resulted in his first book on the region, The Challenge in Kashmir. The book endures as an authoritative account of the nineties' Kashmir. Ever since, the author has made regular visits to the region to follow the evolving situation and bear an impartial witness to it in his books. It is thus only appropriate that the first book to appear about the situation in the Valley since the erasure of J&K's autonomy on August 5, 2019, be his.

In "Kashmir at Crossroads", Bose records the evolving situation in Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 that granted J&K its semi-autonomous status within the Indian Union. Although much of the book may sound familiar to the local journalists who have witnessed and covered Kashmir in the last two and a half years, Bose's is by far the most objective account of the situation in the region. That said, some narratives about the BJP's Article 370 move that have gained wide currency over the last two years have been more or less uncritically reproduced in the book. One such narrative is that the re-

vocation of Article 370 was the outcome of the BJP's push to fulfill its long-standing ideological agenda and electoral promise. It certainly is that but now largely in a rhetorical sense. More than an ideological goal, the withdrawal has turned out to be a part of an alternative settlement formula for Kashmir, one which does away with Pakistan as a party to the issue. What is more, so far the plan seems to be succeeding, with New Delhi largely crushing the separatist struggle within the Valley.

As for Pakistan, Bose traces its inaction following India's Kashmir move to the country's lack of options. Both war and escalation of sub-conventional warfare in Kashmir are said to

doesn't account for another widely circulated theory that Pakistan assisted the Taliban in driving out the US, still the world's sole superpower, whose ally it ironically was and from whom it received funds to fight the very Taliban.

Where do we go from here? As always, Kashmir is too volatile a place to predict what comes next. The protean nature of armed violence and civilian uprisings often sneak up on us unawares. And as rightly pointed out by Bose, an incendiary escalation of the conflict could be triggered by one or some combination of three eventualities: "Major insurgent strikes in Indian Jammu and Kashmir, large-scale deaths from Indian action

Although much of the book may sound familiar to the local journalists who have witnessed and covered Kashmir in the last two and a half years, Bose's is by far the most objective account of the situation in the region. That said, some narratives about the BJP's Article 370 move that have gained wide currency over the last two years have been more or less uncritically reproduced in the book

be the non-options for Pakistan as they are fraught with risks.

The prevailing situation in Kashmir confirms Bose's assessment. The last two years, as the police data reveals, have witnessed a drastic reduction in the influx of foreign militants even while over 500 militants have been slain by security forces since August 5, 2019, almost all of them Kashmiris. Pakistan has also reinstated the 2003 ceasefire along the Line of Control when normally the country, many observers argue, was expected to take advantage of Chinese incursions in Ladakh and increase ceasefire violations.. Is FATF a constraining factor? And also the country's beleaguered economy? What about its unhelpful geopolitical position? There's a ring of truth to this, but that

against renewed protests in the Kashmir Valley or a mass-casualty terror attacks in India".

But for now, New Delhi has managed the situation well. Despite persisting militancy, violence has been marginal to the scene. The civilian protests have all but disappeared. But as any long-time Kashmir observer would tell you, this hardly is a guarantee that the situation would remain unchanged. Or who knows, Kashmir may surprise us by not veering off drastically from its current course.

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

The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir 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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Minor's Rape, Collective Failure

In a very recent incident, a minor girl was kidnapped and harassed in the locality of Malbagh, in Srinagar. One of the three accused men was a juvenile. It is condemnable that even little innocent children are not safe in our society anymore. The same society which we claim to be highly pure and spiritual, the city of saints or 'pir vaer' is turning into a civilisation of monsters. We cannot blame the victim for her dressing now that the victim was a

mere child, what could she have possibly worn to provoke such a thing? Actually it is the general mentality of the masses that aids devils like these. What we do not realise is that we, as a society, incorporate disrespect for women in our daily lives, by doing and saying things to belittle women, sometimes even unknowingly. When we shush our little boys by saying, "men don't cry", "why are you crying?", "Are you a girl?" "Stop crying like a girl" etc, we are actually em-

bedding inside their heads, a sense of superiority complex over the female gender. This makes them think that women are weak and encourages and provokes them to commit crimes against them. It is a collective failure for us as a society that our women, even children are not safe in our own community. How can they be safe when we are particularly failing in giving our boys the most basic qualities of regard and respect? No one teaches their boys to behave well on a

road, but their daughters to bow their heads while walking down a road. It is our mentality that is fuelling harassment and crimes against women, not particularly the Internet and social media. Our women, children cannot be safe until we start giving our boys basic moral values and teach them to respect women no matter what.

Sarah Koul
koulsarah@gmail.com

It's Okay to Mess Up

How to stop obsessing over mistake at work

Monica Torres

Making mistakes happens to all of us in our careers. But some of us hold on to these mistakes longer than others.

Maybe you lie awake at night still feeling queasy and anxious over the way you frustrated a client by accidentally giving them the wrong information. Maybe you are avoiding co-workers on your team because you feel like they are all judging you for that error, even though it happened last week. If either of these scenarios sounds familiar, you may be prone to obsessing over mistakes.

What fuels these constant worries is the shame of feeling completely inadequate and fear of others discovering your lack of capabilities, said Tani-sha Ranger, a Nevada-based clinical psychologist. Once you start obsessing over mistakes because of your shame, it can steamroll into bigger problems like perfectionism.

"Shame often gives way to perfectionism, and perfectionism makes mistakes feel monumental. Essentially, 'If I don't do everything perfectly right then I am a failure and everyone will see my defectiveness,'" she said. "I've had many clients who struggled with obsessing over mistakes at work. [They lay] awake at night ruminating and beating themselves up over a mistake, not an intentional or careless mess-up, but a mistake."

There's a better way to acknowledge a mistake while still letting it go. Here's how:

1. PUT THE MISTAKE IN PERSPECTIVE.

After you make an obvious mistake at work, you may want the ground to swallow you up to save you from the embarrassment, shame and anxiety of facing your co-workers again.

If these worries are keeping you up at night, challenge those thoughts by getting more realistic with your thinking, suggested Shannon Garcia, a psychotherapist at States of Wellness Counseling in Illinois and Wisconsin.

"Will the world end? Nope," she said. "Will you get fired? Highly unlikely. Will you receive constructive feedback from your boss? Maybe. Will owning up to your mistake be uncomfortable? Probably. Have you survived past mistakes? Seems like it, if you're reading this. Will you survive this one? Yes!"

Sometimes accidental oversights do hurt your job performance, but it's important to not catastrophize what happened.

"Sure, it caused a delay. Yes, it may have cost the company some money. OK, it negatively impacted job performance. But is it actually the end of your career? Really? Likely not," said Ranger. "Shrinking things down to their right size, not ignoring/suppressing and also not overblowing or exaggerating, is an important part of letting things go."

If it helps, try putting yourself in the shoes of co-workers who have also made mistakes. Once you see the compassion and sympathy you hold for their slip-ups, you may be more inclined to be compassionate about your own.



When you make a big blunder at work, you may instinctually want to shut down, repress it, and forget it ever happened. If you feel the urge to withdraw, challenge yourself to do the opposite. Be the one to bring it up in conversation with co-workers or your boss

"When a co-worker has made a mistake in the past, is it something you've judged them immensely for? Did you spend your day thinking endlessly about their mistake? No. People at work are likely reacting the same way," Garcia said. "No one is thinking about this more than you are."

2. LEARN THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BEAT YOURSELF UP AS PENANCE.

To move past a mistake, you also need to rethink what it means to learn from a mistake. If you think turning over every angle of how an interaction with your boss could have gone better, for example, take a deep breath. Give yourself permission to release those thoughts, said organizational psychologist Laura Gallaher of the consulting firm Gallaher Edge.

People ruminate because they believe there are payoffs

to worrying so much; they think "A conscientious person would worry about this," Gallaher said.

"When you know that you can simultaneously be a conscientious person, and also forgive yourself to move forward, it will be easier to do so."

What Garcia tells her clients the most is "be nice to yourself," she said. Reframe your worries in a more positive light. "The fact that you are anx-

ious about it means you care. That's what your boss, co-workers and customers care about the most," Garcia said. "Try not to beat yourself up over it. Create an affirmation to repeat to yourself whenever those negative self-talk thoughts pop up: 'I accept my mistake, I choose to learn from it, and I am moving forward.'"

If you are stuck in the world of "could've/should've" in regards to your error, be honest with yourself about what you did not know.

Ranger says she works with some clients by asking them to consider why they supposedly "should have known better." "It's always so enticing to impose our current knowledge and wisdom on a past version of ourselves that could not have known to make that decision with the information we had at that time," she said.

3. DON'T HIDE THE MISTAKE. OWN WHAT HAPPENED, BUT DON'T TAKE ON OTHER PEOPLE'S JUDGMENT, TOO.

When you make a big blunder at work, you may instinctually want to shut down, repress it, and forget it ever happened.

If you feel the urge to withdraw, challenge yourself to do the opposite. Be the one to bring it up in conversation with co-workers or your boss.

"If it was something that inconvenienced them, apologize for it," Garcia said. "Then it's a conversation happening where you are involved, people are likely to be gracious, and everyone can move on from there."

It may sound counterin-

tuitive, but being transparent about your mistake and its impact can be healing. "It can feel like a cold shower -- before you do it, you fear it and feel uneasy or anxious," Gallaher explained. "In the moment of being open, it can feel unpleasant at first, but once it's over, you actually feel more refreshed 99% of the time. Taking accountability without blaming anybody is the most healing."

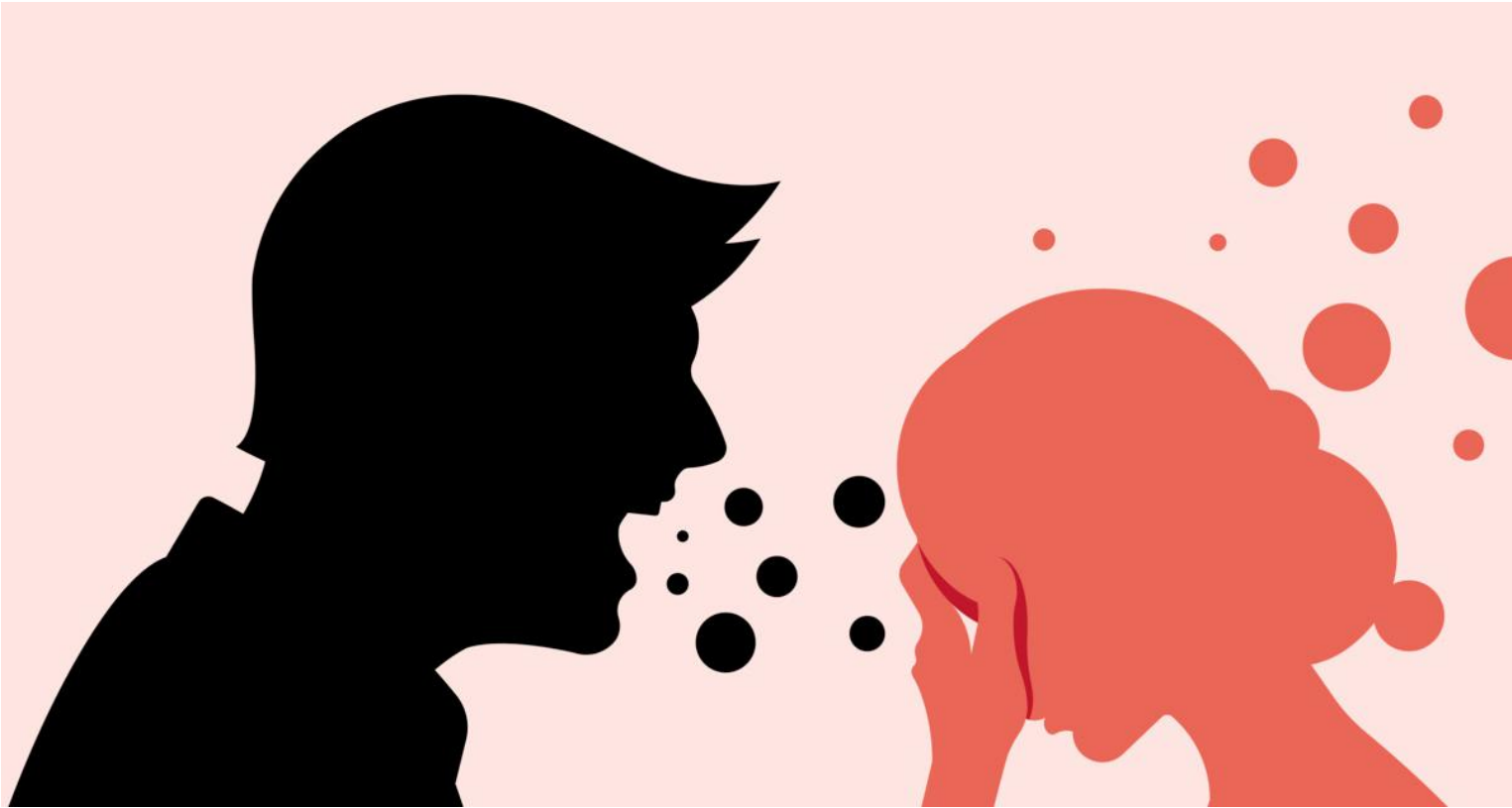
Once you model being open and accountable, it may encourage others to do so as well. "Most of the time, when you lead with self-accountability, that vulnerability is courageous, and courage is contagious: People usually respond with their own self-accountability as well," Gallaher said.

Of course, sometimes being honest about a mistake can also inspire eye-rolling judgment and harsh criticism from mean-spirited colleagues. You should hold yourself accountable for your mistake, but the judgment of your peers is not something you need to take on, too.

"Let them know what you intend to do differently to try to prevent something like this from happening in the future, and then accept that they may move on or they may not. It is outside of your control," Ranger advised. "Taking on other people's emotions is detrimental to yourself and makes it difficult for you to treat yourself with the kindness and compassion you deserve from you."

The article was originally published by HuffPost

Toxic Trap



JAMIE DUCHARME

It's a common refrain: relationships are hard work. Fights are normal and rough patches are par for the course.

True as that may be, however, these platitudes can distract from legitimate causes for concern in one's social and romantic life -- including signs that a relationship may have become, or always was, toxic.

Here's what you need to know about toxic relationships, and how to tell if you're in one.

WHAT IS A TOXIC RELATIONSHIP?

Dr. Lillian Glass, a California-based communication and psychology expert who says she coined the term in her 1995 book Toxic People, defines a toxic relationship as "any relationship [between people who] don't support each other, where there's conflict and one seeks to undermine the other, where there's competition, where there's disrespect and a lack of cohesiveness."

While every relationship goes through ups and downs, Glass says a toxic relationship is consistently unpleasant and draining for the people in it, to the point that negative moments outweigh and outnumber the positive ones. Dr. Kristen Fuller, a California-based

family medicine physician who specializes in mental health, adds that toxic relationships are mentally, emotionally and possibly even physically damaging to one or both participants.

And these relationships don't have to be romantic: Glass says friendly, familial and professional relationships can all be toxic as well.

WHAT MAKES A RELATIONSHIP TOXIC?

Fuller says people who consistently undermine or cause harm to a partner -- whether intentionally or not -- often have a reason for their behavior, even if it's subconscious. "Maybe they were in a toxic relationship, either romantically or as a child. Maybe they didn't have the most supportive, loving upbringing," Fuller says. "They could have been bullied in school. They could be suffering from an undiagnosed mental health disorder, such as depression or anxiety or bipolar disorder, an eating disorder, any form of trauma."

That was the case for Carolyn Gamble, a 57-year-old, Maryland-based motivational speaker who says she fell into toxic relationships after a tumultuous childhood marked by losing her mother to a

drug overdose, and suffering physical abuse at the hands of her father. When she grew up, she found some of the same themes in her marriage to her now-ex-husband, who she says became verbally and emotionally abusive. "I realized in this life, regardless of the cards that we're dealt, sometimes there are things that we have to let go," she says.

Sometimes, Glass says, toxic relationships are simply the result of an imperfect pairing -- like two people who both need control, or a sarcastic type dating someone with thin skin. "It's just that the combination is wrong," she says.

Heidi Westra Brocke, a 46-year-old chiropractor living in Illinois, is familiar with these mismatches. Brocke considers herself an empath and a people-pleaser, and grew up "assuming everybody was nice and everybody wanted what was best for you." Instead, she says her personality attracted controlling partners who forced her to sacrifice her needs for theirs, and constantly work for approval that never came.

Though they had very different stories, both Brocke and Gamble say they endured toxic relationships for years -- underscoring that no two bad relationships are exactly alike.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS OF A TOXIC RELATIONSHIP?

The most serious warning signs include any form of violence, abuse or harassment, which should be dealt with immediately. But in many cases, the indicators of a toxic relationship are much more subtle.

The first, and simplest, is persistent unhappiness, Glass says. If a relationship stops bringing joy, and instead consistently makes you feel sad, angry, anxious or "resigned, like you've sold out," it may be toxic, Glass says. You may also find yourself envious of happy couples.

Fuller says negative shifts in your mental health, personality or self-esteem are all red flags, too. These changes could range from clinically diagnosable conditions, such as depression, anxiety or eating disorders, to constantly feeling nervous or uncomfortable -- especially around your partner. Feeling like you can't talk with or voice concerns to your significant other is another sign that something is amiss, Fuller says.

You should also look out for changes in your other relationships, or in the ways you spend your free time, Fuller says. "You may feel bad for doing things on your own time, because you feel like you have to attend to your partner all the time,"

she says. "You cross the line when you're not your individual self anymore and you're giving everything to your partner."

Finally, Fuller says concern from family or friends should be taken seriously, particularly since people in toxic relationships are often the last to realize it. Brocke says that was true of her relationships, which perpetuated the damage for years.

"By the time I actually started realizing I was in something that wasn't healthy, it was so normal to me that it didn't seem like that big a deal," Brocke says. "You get paralyzed in it, because you're just used to it."

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU'RE IN A TOXIC RELATIONSHIP?

If any of those red flags sound familiar, it's time to take action. If you feel that you're in physical danger, you may need to involve the authorities. The National Domestic Violence Hotline is also available for 24/7 guidance at 1-800-799-7233.

If the harm is emotional or mental, you'll have to decide if it's possible to work through the issue. If underlying triggers such as depression or trauma are influencing one or both individuals' behaviors, Fuller says therapeutic or medical treatments may help. Glass agrees that getting to the root of the problem is important, but says that sometimes, the answer may be to walk away.

"I really am a firm believer that you have to try to work everything out and understand why the person is toxic. You may be able to live with it -- but on the other hand, you may not," Glass says. "[If you can't], you've got to get out of it. We have to not put ourselves in that position."

Brocke and Gamble took that advice in their own lives, and both say they're better for it. Brocke is now happily remarried and coaches women who are leaving toxic relationships. Gamble is purposefully single and runs a nearly 7,000-person toxic relationships support group on Facebook.

"Love should never cost you your peace. It should never cost you your joy. It should never cost you your happiness," Gamble says. "If there's more negative in the situation than positive, something has to change."

The article was originally published by Time

Fuller says people who consistently undermine or cause harm to a partner -- whether intentionally or not -- often have a reason for their behavior, even if it's subconscious. "Maybe they were in a toxic relationship, either romantically or as a child. Maybe they didn't have the most supportive, loving upbringing,"

SC asks Varanasi civil court not to proceed with Gyanvapi hearing till May 20 as counsel indisposed

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the civil court in Varanasi to not proceed with hearing the Gyanvapi case till it takes up the matter on Friday.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud, Surya Kant, and PS Narashima was informed by advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain that lead counsel Hari Shankar Jain for the Hindu devotees in the civil suit is indisposed for Thursday, as he was discharged from the hospital on Wednesday.

We accordingly direct the Trial Court to strictly act in terms of the above arrangement and to desist from taking up further proceedings in the suit in view of the consensus which has been arrived at between the parties, the bench said in its order.

The bench directed for the listing of the matter before it on May 20 at 3 pm and said that the Registry may seek the administrative directions of the Chief Justice of India so that the Bench may be constituted.

At the outset, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain mentioned the matter and urged the court to take up the matter for a hearing on Friday.

Senior advocate Huzefa

Ahmadi, appearing for the Committee of Management Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, said several applications have been filed across the country to "seal" various mosques, and in the Gyanvapi case in Varanasi, the hearing is going on and an application has been filed to "demolish" a wall around the wazukhana' (ablution room).

Ahmadi said he cannot oppose adjournment on the grounds of the health of a counsel but an undertaking should be given that Hindu devotees will not proceed with the civil court proceedings.

He said that it is necessary that the Trial Court which is continuing to hear the proceedings today may desist from doing so until this Court takes up the proceedings on Friday.

Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain said they are assuring the bench that the Hindu parties would not proceed with the hearing before the civil court at Varanasi and would not press any further until the Court takes up the matter on Friday.

The bench noted in its order that the proceedings have been mentioned by advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain, who appears on behalf of the original plaintiffs, namely, the first to

fifth respondents (female Hindu devotees who have filed the suit) in the proceedings before this Court under Article 136 of the Constitution.

On May 17, the top court had directed the district magistrate of Varanasi to ensure the protection of an area inside the Gyanvapi-Shringar Gauri complex where a 'Shivling' is said to have been found during a survey and allowed Muslims to offer namaz' and perform religious observances.

Balancing the equity, the top court had while hearing a plea of the Committee of Management Anjuman Intezamia Masjid which manages Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi, passed the order and refused to stay the ongoing proceedings before the lower court.

It had said it needs to balance the rights of contesting parties and clarified that the order of the civil judge (senior division), hearing the plea of petitioner Hindu devotees, directing authorities to ensure the protection of the area would not restrict and impede the rights of Muslim to offer Namaz and to perform religious observances.

This is an interim arrangement till counsel for the plaintiff is here. We need to balance

the rights of contesting parties. The order of May 16, 2022, to the extent that DM, Varanasi shall ensure the protection of area where Shivling' is said to be found will not impede upon the rights of the Muslims to offer Namaz' and perform religious observances, the bench had said in its order passed on Wednesday.

The apex court order had come after it was informed by solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Uttar Pradesh government, that the plaintiff's lawyer Hari Shankar Jain had suffered some cardiac issues and was hospitalized in Varanasi.

The Muslim side has been referring to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 and its Section 4 which bars filing of any suit or initiating any other legal proceeding for a conversion of the religious character of any place of worship, as existing on August 15, 1947.

On May 17, the Varanasi civil court, which had ordered the videography survey of the Gyanvapi Masjid complex, removed Advocate Commissioner Ajay Mishra for displaying "irresponsible behaviour towards the discharge of his duties" and granted time till today to the

commission to file the survey report.

The removal order by District Civil Judge Ravi Kumar Diwakar had come on an application moved by Special Advocate Commissioner Vishal Singh who informed the court that Mishra had "deployed a personal cameraman RP Singh who was giving the wrong byte in the media on a regular basis".

The civil court is hearing a suit by a group of women seeking permission for daily worship of Hindu deities whose idols are located on an outer wall of the mosque.

The mosque management committee had opposed filming inside the mosque and also accused the court-appointed commissioner of partiality. Amid the opposition, the survey was stalled for a while.

The video graphics survey of the mosque was ordered on April 18, 2021, by the civil judge (senior division) Varanasi following the plea by Delhi residents Rakhi Singh, Laxmi Devi, Sita Sahu, and others.

The original suit was filed in 1991 in the Varanasi district court for the restoration of the ancient temple at the site where the Gyanvapi mosque currently stands.

HDFC Bank opens over 1,060 branches in semi-urban and rural areas

Agenceis

Mumbai: HDFC Bank announced it has carved out Rural Banking function to penetrate deeper into Bharat. Tasked to take banking products further in the hinterland, Rural Banking will consolidate the bank's existing initiatives in this direction, and take it closer to the last mile.

Carved out of Retail Branch Banking as part of the bank's 'Future - Ready' project, the Rural Banking business focuses on semi-urban and rural areas, a large part of which remains untapped.

Anil Bhavnani, has been appointed National Rural Banking Head. The Bank has at present 50 percent of its 6,342 branches in semi-urban and rural areas, and the remaining 50% in metro and urban areas. The bank also works with Village Level Entrepreneurs of Common Service Centres as an extension of the bank's branches in far-flung areas.

The Rural Banking business offers an entire bouquet of products and services in semi-urban and rural areas. Towards this, the bank will expand its distribution in the rural areas, partnered with the Institute of Rural



Management, and will build new products and services related to rural transport economy, forest economy, agri economy, and other allied activities, to focus on providing one stop shop solution to small farmers, workers, and traders.

"We are excited to take the bank's world-class products and services to the remotest corner of India," said Anil Bhavnani, Sr Executive Vice President and National Rural Banking Head, HDFC Bank.

"This is both a challenge and an opportunity and I am very excited to take this up. For many years now, the bank had 50% of its branches in semi-urban and rural areas. With this enhanced focus, we will open more branches this financial year in Semi-Urban and Rural areas." (KNT).

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Delhi Court

with active members of banned Hizbul Mujahideen, Dukhtar-e-Millat and others to raise, receive and collect funds domestically and from abroad through various illegal channels, including hawala.

The funds were for the purpose of separatist and militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir to cause disruption in the Valley by way of pelting stones on security forces, systematically burning schools, damaging public property, and waging war against India.

According to the NIA, the investigation established that Malik was the head of the JKLF, and was involved in militant activities in the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state.

In 2016, he, along with other Hurriyat leaders, formed a self-styled group called 'Joint Resistance Leadership', whereby they started issuing directions to the masses to hold protests, demonstrations, hartals, shutdowns, road-blocks and such other disruptive activities which would push the entire society into chaos and lawlessness, the NIA said.

He was also involved in raising funds from LOC traders and various entities based abroad, and distributing those funds among militants and stone-pelters for funding stone-pelting and demonstrations, the agency said.

The NIA, which had registered a suo moto case on May 30, 2017, filed a charge sheet on January 18, 2018 against over a dozen people.

The court had earlier also formally framed charges against Kashmiri separatist leaders, including Farooq Ahmed Dar, alias Bitta Karate, Shabbir Ahmad Shah, Masarat Alam, Aftab Ahmad Shah, Altaf Ahmad Shah, Nayeem Khan, Md Akbar Khanday, Raja Merajuddin Kalwal, Bashir Ahmad Bhat, Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali, Sheikh Abdul Rashid and Naval Kishore Kapoor.

The charge sheet also named the Lashkar chief and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, who have been declared proclaimed offenders in the case.

Except for Watali, all others are in judicial custody. A prominent businessman, Watali has been shifted to a home which has been declared a jail. This relaxation was made as he was suffering from a deadly disease.

Malik is also facing other cases, including two in the CBI that pertains to the gunning down of IAF personnel in 1990 and the kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of the then Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed in 1989.

The trial against the remaining accused persons in the case shall continue as they have pleaded not guilty before the court.

Pak Summons

Foreign Office, in a late-night statement on Wednesday, said that Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Malik is currently imprisoned in Delhi's Tihar jail.

The Indian diplomat was conveyed Pakistan's grave concern that in a bid to suppress the voice of the indigenous Kashmiri leadership, the Indian government has resorted to implicating them in fictitious and motivated cases, it said.

The Indian side was also conveyed Pakistan's deep concern over Malik's incarceration in Tihar jail since 2019 under inhuman conditions, it said.

Pakistan calls upon the Government of India for acquittal of Malik from all baseless charges and immediate release from prison so that he can be reunited with his family, recuperate his health and return to normal life, the Foreign Office said.

Malik recently pleaded guilty to all the charges, including those under the stringent Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), before a Delhi court in a case related to alleged terrorism and secessionist activities that disturbed the Kashmir Valley in 2017.

India has repeatedly told Pakistan that Jammu and Kashmir was, is and shall forever remain an integral part of the country. It also advised Pakistan to accept the reality and stop

all anti-India propaganda.

Convictions Won't

who had earlier pleaded guilty to all charges, including those under the stringent Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), in a militancy funding case.

"While the development is the part of legal process, we must not lose sight of the fact that it can't and won't solve the political problem called the Kashmir issue," a spokesperson of the PDP said while reacting to Malik's conviction.

The spokesperson said there have been convictions and people hanged out of turn but that did not lead to the resolution of the Kashmir issue.

"Will this conviction lead to resolution of the Kashmir issue? he asked.

It also depends on who is facing justice. We have seen different parameters being used. Those who killed the father of this nation are worshipped. Just yesterday someone who killed a (former) PM was released, he said.

The spokesperson was referring to the Supreme Court ordering the release of A G Perarivalan, who was in jail for over 30 years after being convicted in the assassination of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991, invoking its extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to do "complete justice" in a pending case.

Mosques are being bulldozed and minorities lynched. We hope justice is delivered on equal parameters, he said.

PM Abrogated Art-370

Minister Modi, India did not have a defence policy. Even if it existed, it was a shadow of foreign policy.

"Earlier, terrorists would be sent to attack us and there were similar attempts to do so with the Uri and Pulwama attacks. But with the surgical strikes and airstrikes, we showed what the defence policy meant," he said.

The home minister also stressed that India "worships peace", "wants peace" and has cordial relations with every country in the world. "India is a geo-cultural country and the people will not understand the idea of India until they understand this," he said.

"Some people call India a country of problems, but we believe that our country has the potential to solve millions of problems."

"From 2014 to 2022 under PM Modi, India achieved several things and crores of poor people started considering themselves as part of the country," he said.

Shah said that some people talk about the human rights of those involved in terror attacks, but those who die due to such acts also have human rights.

The Union Home Minister also said that Universities should be a platform for exchange of views and not become spaces for ideological conflict.

Shah said that if a particular ideology is a cause for strife, it is "not an ideology and definitely not India's ideology".

"Universities should become a platform for exchange of views and not become spaces for ideological conflict. An ideology progresses through ideas and discussions.

"No one remembers those who destroyed the universities of Nalanda and Taxila.

It is said that the library of Nalanda University burnt for months. But the thoughts from those universities continue to live on even till now," he said addressing the students.

He also advised the youths to understand their duties towards the country and spoke about India's defence policy.

India did not have a defence policy before Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power and even if it existed, it was a "shadow" of the foreign policy, Shah said.

The home minister praised the New Education Policy and said that it is the first such initiative that has been "welcomed by all" and has been "unopposed".

Talking about the "5+3+3+4 scheme" outlined in NEP, he said that it is very important that children are taught their mother tongue in

the first five years.

"One should learn French, various Chinese languages, but if I don't study Gujarati, Hindi, I won't be able to connect with my roots...," he added.

Noting that DU has been a witness to various struggles and how they reached their logical conclusion, he hoped that the university would continue to do so.

"For me, it is a matter of pride that DU has invited me to present my views. I was in a dilemma for a couple of minutes about whether I should go or not, but then I decided that I have to go and I should talk to people.

"It's a big achievement that you have managed to retain your relevance even after 100 years... From Hari Singh Gour (the first VC of DU) to Yogesh Singh I congratulate them all," he said.

More Central

deployed for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra. The report said that the decision to deploy more central forces came after Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir in high-level meetings held Tuesday in New Delhi.

The meeting was attended by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande, and senior officials of the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

In the meetings, Shah asked security forces to ensure zero cross-border infiltration to "wipe out terrorism" in the union territory.

"It is learnt that the Home Minister was unhappy over the handling of the security situation in J&K and asked the intelligence grid to provide more specific information of terrorists and to go for a coordinated counter-terror operations based on the specific intelligence inputs," the report said.

Quoting sources, the report also said that the recent killings of minority community members have created fear among them and therefore, it was important to provide fool-proof security shield to all and to initiate counter-militancy operations quickly.

"The terror threat also looms over the Amarnath Yatra which commences on June 30 after a hiatus of two years, so, the security agencies need to work in tandem," sources told IANS.

Wine Shop Attack

by police and army personnel.

One of the injured persons succumbed to injuries while one critically injured person was shifted to SKIMS Soura, where his condition is reported to be stable.

During investigation of the attack, police assessed various evidences at the scene of crime and some critical leads came to the fore including the grenade lever, the spokesman said.

"CCTV footage from nearby cameras was also obtained which helped to reconstruct the sequence of events pre and post the incident. On the basis of human and technical intelligence, few suspects were picked up and interrogated," he said.

The spokesman said during sustained interrogation, the breakthrough was achieved by arresting four militants and one of their associate of the so-called "Falcon Squad" module of the LeT.

"On the basis of further investigation and disclosures made by these militants, various locations were raided and multiple recoveries were effected including one motorbike, used in the commission of the militant act," he added.

The spokesman said the consignment of weapons and explosives was received by these militants a few days before they carried out the attack on the wine shop.

"The same group was earlier involved in various militant acts as was disclosed and brought out during the investigation which include last year's grenade attacks in town Baramulla, various firing incidents in and around Baramulla, transportation of proscribed weapons and explosives etc," he added.

LG Holds

Quoting sources, the report said that the security of minorities in the valley was one of the key agendas of this meeting.

The security preparedness for the annual pilgrimage (Amarnath Yatra) that is also scheduled to begin on June 30 after the COVID-19 pandemic was also discussed in the meeting.

On Tuesday LG participated in the meeting convened by Union Home Minister, Amit Shah in New Delhi to take stock of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir following a spurt in militant attacks, especially the killing of a Kashmiri Pandit employee Rahul Bhat.

LPG Price Hiked

cylinder on March 22 and again by the same quantum on May 7. Since April 2021, prices have risen by Rs 193.5 per cylinder.

Petrol and diesel prices however continue to be on freeze for the 43rd day in a row. The pause followed rates being hiked by a record Rs 10 per litre in a matter of 16 days beginning March 22.

Non-subsidised cooking gas is the one that consumers buy after exhausting their quota of 12 cylinders at subsidised or below-market rates.

However, the government pays no subsidy on LPG in most cities and the price of the refill that consumers, including the poor women who got free connection under the much-talked Ujjwala scheme, is the same as that for non-subsidised or market price LPG.

Non-subsidised LPG costs Rs 1,002.50 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Mumbai while it is priced at Rs 1,018.50 a bottle in Chennai and Rs 1,029 in Kolkata.

Rates differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as VAT. Prices are higher in states with higher taxes.

Alongside, oil firms also hiked the price of commercial LPG cylinders - the ones used by establishments like hotels and restaurants - by Rs 8 per cylinder to Rs 2,354 per 19-kg bottle. On May 1, the price of a commercial LPG cylinder was increased by Rs 102.50 to Rs 2,355.50 but on May 7 it was reduced to Rs 2,346.

International oil prices have been on the rise this year. They jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel in March before shedding some of the gains. Brent was trading at USD 110.13 per barrel on Thursday.

To compound things, the Indian rupee tumbled to Rs 77.74 to a dollar, making imports costlier.

India relies on overseas purchases to meet about 85 per cent of its oil requirement, making it one of the most vulnerable in Asia to higher oil prices.

While India has surplus oil refining capacity, it does not manufacture enough LPG to meet domestic demand and imports significant quantities from nations such as Saudi Arabia.

On Wednesday, an oil ministry official stated that the Saudi LPG prices have gone up by 33 per cent while domestic rates have increased by only 11 per cent.

'We Monitor Such

affairs minister conveyed our expectations to him," he said.

"And the external affairs minister had said talking to the media subsequently then that the friction and tensions that arise from China's deployments since April 2020 cannot be reconciled with a normal relationship between two neighbours," Bagchi said.

"So we will continue to remain engaged with the Chinese side, both at diplomatic and the military levels to ensure that the directions given by the two ministers are implemented fully," he added.

People familiar with Chinese construction on Wednesday said China is building a second bridge in an area held by it around the strategically key Pangong Tso in eastern Ladakh.

The bridge is being built amid the lingering standoff between the Indian and Chinese armies at several friction points in eastern Ladakh for over two years.

Kashmir University

Kashmir for a period of three (03) years with effect from the date she takes over charge, on the terms and conditions to be notified separately," reads an order by the LG.

Pertinently, Nilofer has headed department of Home Science, and has also discharged her duties as registrar KU and has also worked as in-charge VC of the varsity.

Kashmiri Women

(2015-16), most states have made gains in women cellphone ownership.

In the 2015 survey, only four states had above 75% women with mobile phones while as in the latest survey, 12 states are above 75%. In the previous NFHS survey, J&K's recorded ratio was 54 percent.

The latest data has also revealed that top states/UT's like Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Punjab, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra and Madhya Pradesh are all lagging behind J&K in terms of women owning a mobile phone.

Saudi Arabia Bans

well as to all airlines departing from Saudi Arabian airports.

The new regulations will certainly surprise the pilgrims who will perform Hajj this year as they will get a smaller share of ZamZam water that can be taken home after performing the annual rituals.

In 2014, disappointment and protests spread among the congregation due to the regulations issued at the time limiting the number of bottles and cans of ZamZam water that pilgrims could carry from the initial 10 liters per person to only 5 liters per person.

Aab-e-ZamZam is water from the ZamZam well located in the Masjid Al Haram, Makkah, which is considered a miraculously generated source of water that has great religious significance among Muslims. Traditionally, pilgrims often bring it back to their respective countries in large numbers after performing Hajj or Umrah.

J&K Reports

There are 54 active cases while the overall recoveries have reached 4,49,364, officials said.

The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,752. No Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, they said.

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

Grenade Defused

Budgam police was immediately called in who destroyed the grenade without causing any damage.

10 Teachers

various reminders time and again given to them by the Zonal Education Officer concerned," reads an order.

"Now in view of the non-compliance of orders, non-seriousness and sheer negligence shown by them towards their legitimate duties and as recommended by Zonal Education Officer concerned, the teaching officials are placed under suspension with immediate effect and are attached to their actual place of postings," the order reads.

The suspended teachers, as per the order are i) Shameema Bano (RRet), Bibi Mehoona (TG-II), Koser Parveen (TG-II), Tasleema Akhter (TG-II), Mohd Iqbal Shah (RRet), Ayjaz Ahmad Mir (3rd RRet), Sajad Ahmad Wani (TG-II), Haleema Bano (TG-III), Asif Ali (TG-II) and Mohd Yousuf Wani (TG-II). (GNS)

Govt Employee

in his native village. He was subsequently removed to a nearby health facility where the doctors however declared him as brought dead on arrival.

Confirming the incident, a police official told a local news agency GNS that the victim was a Jal Shakti Department employee. "We have registered a case into the incident for due investigations", the official said.

DAY-8: KP's Continue To Protest Against Rahul Bhat's Killing



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Protests by Kashmiri Pandits (KPs) over the killing of their colleague Rahul Bhat by militants continued for the eighth consecutive day on Thursday at Sheikhpora Budgam.

The KP's who are on a sit-in at Pandit colony Sheikhpora against the killing of their colleague, for the eight days, have been demanding their relocation to a safe environment.

Protesters continued their sit-in at Pandit Colony Sheikhpora and during day hours they came out on Srinagar- Budgam road to register their protest. However, they peacefully went back into the colony after the intervention of officials.

"Nothing concrete has been done in the past one week. That's why we are protesting on roads," a protester said. "We will continue our protest until the government takes some strong steps to protect us and send us to safer locations," a protester said. "Till

government fulfills all our demands, protests will continue."

He said the prime demand of protesters is that the government should give an acceptable compensation to the family of slain Rahul Bhat and relocate KPs to safer locations. "The government should think about the safety of all Kashmiri minorities and also Kashmiri Muslims," the protesters said. Other protesters echoed similar concerns and demanding immediate redressal of their grievances.

The KP members are up in the arms since past one week in the wake of the killing of their colleague Rahul Bhat. Rahul was killed inside Tehsil office Chadoora, Budgam by militants last week.

He is survived by his parents, wife and a little daughter. J&K administration has announced job for Rahul's wife and announced that it will bear all education related expenses of his daughter—(KNO)

All J&K Colleges To Get NAAC Accreditation, PAC This Year: Kansal

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Principal Secretary Higher Education Department Rohit Kansal complimented the Government Degree College Baramulla and Government Degree Colleges Kupwara and Pulwama.

While GDC Kupwara and Pulwama have been accredited with A grade on the National Assessment and Accreditation exercise conducted by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), GDC Baramulla is poised to be granted autonomous status shortly.

He also congratulated the other institutions which had successfully completed the accreditation process. While GDC Women Anantnag and GDC Nowshera had secured a B+ ranking, GDC SPMR Jammu, GDC Doda, Char-e-Sharief had completed the process with a B ranking. Kansal made a special mention of the efforts of the Principals of these colleges and their entire staff.

GDC Baramulla is only the third Higher Educational Institute in J&K after Government College for Women, Parade Ground Jammu and Islamia College of Science and Commerce, Srinagar to receive autonomous status.

Kansal reiterated that all the degree colleges in J&K would apply for accreditation or provisional registration (PAC) under the NAAC framework this year.

He said that the NAAC accreditation was only the first step towards greater autonomy and educational excellence of all Higher Educational Institutions in J&K. He said that the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) had laid out a clear road map and vision for progressively greater autonomy of all Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) and it was for the HEIs to follow suit and take advantage of the opportunities made available by the NEP-2020.

As per NEP-2020, a stage-wise mechanism for granting graded autonomy to colleges will be established. Colleges will be encouraged, supported, and incentivized to gradually attain the minimum benchmarks required for each level of accreditation. Over a period of time, it is envisaged that every college would develop into either an Autonomous degree-granting College, or a constituent college of a university. Autonomous degree-granting Colleges (AC) would be large multidisciplinary institutions of higher learning granting undergraduate degrees and primarily focused on undergraduate teaching. Autonomous degree-granting Colleges would evolve into Research-intensive or Teaching-intensive Universities.

The higher educational institutes will have the autonomy and freedom to move gradually from one category to another, based on their plans, actions, and effectiveness. The Accreditation System will develop and use relevant norms. NEP-2020 is an ideal roadmap for achieving excellence with these Assessment and Accreditation exercises under NAAC as a valuable means to achieve this end.

The NAAC conducts assessment and accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) such as colleges, universities or other recognised institutions to derive an understanding of the 'Quality Status' of the institution. NAAC evaluates the institutions for its conformance to the standards of quality in terms of its performance related to the educational processes and outcomes, curriculum coverage, teaching-learning processes, faculty, research, infrastructure, learning resources, organisation, governance, financial well being and student services. The NAAC accreditation is the ultimate parameter of the quality of an institution on a diverse array of parameters.

6% Population In J&K Has No Access To Toilet Facility: Survey

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Six percent of the population in Jammu and Kashmir has no access to toilet facilities, the National Health and Family Survey (NHFS) has reported.

Shopian is the only district with 100 percent access to toilet facility, while just 82 percent of the population in Kathua district has access to toilet facility.

According to the NHFS data, in Anantnag 100 percent urban population and 98.4 percent rural population has access to toilet facility. In Budgam, 100 percent urban and 97.9 percent rural population has access. In Bandipora these numbers are 100 percent for urban and 96.1 percent for rural, Baramulla 99.3 percent urban and 99.9 percent rural, Doda 100 percent urban and 90.7 percent rural, Ganderbal 100 percent urban and 98.7 percent rural, Jammu 99.3 percent urban and 88.2 percent rural, Kathua 95.8 percent urban and 79.3 percent rural, Kishtwar 100 percent urban and 87.5 percent rural, and in Kulgam 100 percent urban and 98.4 percent rural.

Similarly, in Kupwara 100 percent urban population has

access to toilet facility and 99.7 percent of the rural population, while in Pulwama 100 percent urban and 99.8 percent rural, Poonch 100 percent urban and 88.6 percent rural, Rajouri 98.5 percent urban and 89.5 percent rural, Ramban 89 percent urban and 91 percent rural, Reasi 100 percent urban and 83 percent rural, Samba 100 percent urban and 85.3 percent rural, Srinagar 99.6 percent (urban) population and in Udhampur 97.2 percent urban and 90.1 percent rural population have access to toilet facility.

In total, 99.4 percent urban population and 92.5 percent rural population, which means 94.4 percent of the total population in J&K, has access to toilet facilities.

As per religion, 89.8 percent Hindus, 96.7 percent Muslims, and 77.2 percent people of other religions have access to toilet facilities.

Among specific communities, 89.8 percent people belonging to Scheduled Castes, 84.5 percent people belonging to Scheduled Tribes, 93.1 percent people belonging to Other Backward Classes have access to toilet facilities in J&K.

Safe sanitation is one of the foundations of a healthy, comfortable, and dignified life. Households without proper sanitation facilities have a greater risk of diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery, and typhoid than households with improved sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households, the survey notes.

"Six percent of all households and 8 percent of rural households do not use a sanitation facility; they use open spaces or fields. In Jammu & Kashmir, 94 percent of households have access to toilet facilities, with higher accessibility in urban areas (99%) than in rural areas (93%). Access to a toilet facility ranges from 85 percent among scheduled tribes to 96 percent among groups that are not scheduled tribes, scheduled castes, or other backward classes," the NHFS survey reports.

"Access to toilet facility exceeds 80 percent in all districts of Jammu & Kashmir. It varies widely across the districts, ranging from 82 percent in Kathua district (79% in the rural areas) to 100 in Shopian district," it adds—(KNO)

H&ME Dept Warns Employees For Bringing Political Recommendations For Transfers

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Health and Medical Education Department on Thursday warned all its employees not to bring any recommendations from the political or any other dignitaries for their transfers and postings.

"In the weekly review meeting of the Health and Medical Education Department taken by Principal Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department on 17th of May, 2022, in Civil Secretariat, Jammu, it has been observed that some Medical Officer and para medical staff get recommendations from different political and dignitaries for their

transfers and postings," reads an order by Navin K. Choudhary (IAS), Principal Secretary to the Government Health and Medical Education Department.

"This has been viewed very seriously as it amounts to breach of service conduct rules, besides it causes undue interference in the functioning of the Department and is also in violation of the circular instructions issued by the General Administration Department vide Circular No. 05-GAD of 2017 dated 02.02.2017," the order noted.

"It is, therefore, enjoined upon all the Heads of the Departments falling under the Administrative control of

Health and Medical Education department that they shall impress upon all the officers/officials working under their control, not to bring any recommendations from the political or any other dignitaries for their transfers and postings," the order reads, adding, "It also needs to be impressed upon them that such recommendations would attract disciplinary action." However in case there are any compelling circumstances which warrant the transfer of any officer/official, the case shall be brought to the knowledge of the Administrative Department, through "proper channel", the order added. (GNS)

Hyderpora 'Encounter'

HC Reserves Verdict On Father's Plea Seeking Son's Body

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Thursday reserved verdict on a petition filed by the father of Amir Magray, one of the four persons killed in an "encounter" at Hyderpora area of Srinagar last year, seeking the return of his body for last rites.

Amir's father, Mohammad Latief Magray had filed the petition through counsel Deepika Singh Rajawat in December last year. A bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar reserved the verdict after hearing the parties, a local news agency GNS reported.

Referring to the exhumation and return of the bodies of two others, a building landlord and a doctor

with whom Amir was working as an office peon on November 18, the petitioner pleaded the high court to direct the respondents, including the Union Home Ministry, J&K administration and the Director General of Police to hand over his son's body for burial near his residence at Ramban.

Magray had met Lieutenant Governor on 7th of December 2021 to press for the demand of return of the body and making the magisterial probe public.

The petitioner said he and his wife are grieving and restless as the respondents have not even

given them a chance to see the face of their son the last time.

Expressing his wish to bury his son close to his house in Ramban district, the petitioner wants to ensure burial of his dead son within a prescribed period after exhumation and in an atmosphere required to maintain peace.

Head of the SIT, DIG Sujith K Singh at a presser earlier this year said that investigation has revealed that Amir was closely associated with the foreign militant 'Bilal Bhai', "who was killed in the operation while trying to flee". (GNS)



Tomar To Unveil Honey Testing Labs Today

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar will inaugurate honey testing lab & processing units in three districts of Jammu and Kashmir, besides Tumkur in Karnataka, Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, Pune in Maharashtra & Uttarakhand on the occasion of World Bee Day on Friday.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India is celebrating World Bee Day on 20th May, 2022 at Tent City -II, Ekta Nagar, Narmada, Gujarat.

The MoA&FW is observing this significant day to promote beekeeping for the benefit of small farmers of the country under the guidance of Prime Minister.

The Union Agriculture Minister will also inaugurate Honey Testing Lab & Processing Units to be setup in J&K in Pulwama, Bandipura and Jammu, Tumkur in Karnataka, Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, Pune in Maharashtra & Uttarakhand in virtual mode from Gujarat.

The UN General Assembly declared 20th May as World Bee Day in order to create awareness on the pivotal role of bees and other pollinators in keeping people and the planet healthy.

Union Agriculture Minister will be Chief Guest at this event. Kailash Choudhary and Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Ministers of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Agriculture Minister, Govt. of Gujarat, Sushri Mateja Vodeb, Ambassador, Embassy

of the Republic of Slovenia, Sushri Konda Reddy Chavva, FAO representative in India, senior officers of MoA&FW, GOI and Government of Gujarat & all related stakeholders associated with honey production will participate in the programme.

During this celebration, many stalls will be set up by Beekeepers, Processors and different stakeholders of beekeeping sector in the Exhibition to showcase the diverse varieties of honey bee and different products in beekeeping sector. A stall will also be set up by the Indian Bank, the implementing agency for 'Madhukranti' Portal for the live Registration of Beekeepers on the Portal during this event.

Technical sessions on "Production Technology and Research & Development of Scientific Beekeeping- Experience Sharing and Challenges" and "Marketing Challenges and Solutions (Domestic/ Global) & Discussion" will also be held to upgrade the scientific knowledge of beekeeping among farmers/beekeepers.

The programme is aimed at promoting and popularizing beekeeping nation-wide. National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM) of the Govt. of India under AatmaNirbhar Bharat is implemented through the National Bee Board for overall promotion of scientific beekeeping & entrepreneurship among small & marginal farmers, infrastructure development for postharvest management and support for research & development and to achieve the goal of "Sweet Revolution".

Former Congress MLA Shiv Dev Singh joins BJP

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Former MLA and senior Congress leader Shiv Dev Singh along with his hundreds of supporters joined the BJP at the party headquarter here.

He joined the party in the presence of J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina and party General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul.

Ravinder Raina welcomed the former MLA into the BJP and said that the prominent political personalities are increasingly joining the saffron party as they feel inspired and influenced by the BJP's nationalist policies.

He said that as a BJP activist, one has the full liberty to work for the society and the nation

with a pure heart.

Raina said other political parties have ditched the masses of Jammu & Kashmir but the dedicated great leaders of BJP, Praja Parishad & Jana Sangh sacrificed their lives to safeguard the region and ensured that the J&K remains an integral part of India.

He said that Shiv Dev Singh has returned to his original home.

Ashok Koul greeted the new entrants, saying that the BJP's policy is aimed at the country's progress. He welcomed them for being a part of Nation's development journey.

Shiv Dev Singh said that he was associated with the organization since childhood, and now he is feeling that he has returned to his original home.

CS Urges For Mapping Of All CSSs Department-Wise



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday laid focus on accessing more and more funds under CSSs from the Ministries and improving implementation of the Schemes on the ground to fulfil the objectives of equitable and inclusive development in J&K.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta said that CSSs are efficient agents of change and the departments need to re-orient their focus towards perspective planning for improved performance.

He made these observations in a meeting called for reviewing the implementation of CSSs during the year 2021-22 and for laying out a road map for maximising the potential of CSSs in the year 2022-23.

The meeting was attended by various Administrative Secretaries and DDCs.

The Chief Secretary said that there are more than 200 CSSs, and each one of these CSSs needs to be mapped department-wise and the concerned department needs to prepare a perspective plan for implementing those schemes for the welfare of the people.

He lauded the performance of the departments in accessing more funds under CSSs in the year 2021-22 as compared to in the year 2020-21.

Earlier, the Finance Secretary

made a small presentation on the implementation of CSSs in the UT and informed that there is around 50% increase in the BEs of CSSs in the year 2022-23 over those in 2020-21.

While sharing the details of the expenditure performance of the departments, Bhardwaj informed that departments like Law, Social Welfare, Science & Technology, Information Technology, Agriculture Production and Rural Development have incurred expenditure of 80 % and above of available funds under CSSs during the year 2021-22.

He further informed that 15 districts in the UT have incurred expenditure under CSSs over 90 % of available funds in the fiscal year, 2021-22.

Citing that post 2019, although there have been reduction in audit paras across the departments due to introduction of transformational changes in the financial systems in J&K, the departments must ensure that all audit paras are replied in a timely manner.

The Chief Secretary advised the Finance Department to coordinate with AG and the departments for clearing all audit paras in a timely manner.

Dr. Mehta asked the departments to prepare an annual calendar, indicating the list of number of projects that can be completed in the next fiscal year along with the timelines for regular monitoring.

“AAO SCHOOL CHALEIN” Drive Records 1.50 Lakh Enrolment In Govt Schools

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Fulfilling its commitment towards ensuring inclusive education in Jammu and Kashmir, the government has transferred Rs 165.09 lakh into the bank accounts of eligible Children with Special Needs (CWSN) through DBT in 2022, an official spokesperson said Thursday.

He said these allowances have been disbursed on account of different allowances like escort allowance, reader allowances and stipend for girls.

Besides, he said, a 3 day workshop in collaboration with JKBOSE was organized in March 2022 to extend board accommodations to CWSN on the pattern of CBSE. The workshop was attended by more than 30 experts in the field including from CBSE and NCERT.

"The Right to Education (RTE)

Act, introduced in 2012, allows Children With Special Needs to pursue mainstream education (inclusive education) irrespective of their impairment. The Act says that a child with 'disability', as defined by the Persons with Disability Act 1995 and the National Trust Act, has the right to free and compulsory education as per the provisions of Chapter V of the PWD Act," he said.

Under the Special Enrollment Drive "AAO SCHOOL CHALEIN", the spokesperson said that 1.50 lakh students were enrolled in government schools of Jammu and Kashmir during the winter session.

He said that the drive emphasized on strengthening of pre-schooling of children in the age group of 3 to 5 years and focus on increasing overall enrolment in government schools by re-enrolment of dropout

students and the children who have never been enrolled in school.

"Besides, TALAASH APP has been launched for digitized survey of out of school children to mainstream them. All the drop out and out of School Children shall be mapped with the nearby Educational Institutions so that they may also get the job opportunities after getting proper education," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the School Education Department would soon be launching "Students Mentorship"- Student Teacher Engagement for Educational Reinforcement (STEER) programme.

Under the initiative, he said, the teachers shall play the role of Mentor for every ten students of Primary School in the first phase. He said the idea is to achieve excellence in the education sector besides improving the academic standards in the basic classes.

"The same shall be replicated among the higher classes in a phased manner while evaluation and assessment shall be monitored through Mentoring portal developed for the purpose," he added.

Terming Education as a catalyst for growth and development of the Nation, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, underlined the importance of making new educational reforms so that no one remains deprived of this fundamental right of education.

"We are working hard towards bringing in reformative innovations in the education sector to achieve bigger goal like "Education for All", he maintained.

The government is taking comprehensive measures to

YSS Organise Kho-Kho, Kabaddi & Volleyball Competitions



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) on Thursday organised Inter School Zonal Level Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Volleyball competitions for U-14 and U-17 Boys at Wangipora Sumbal Ground.

In Kho Kho U-14 Boys MS Shiganpora-A took first position, while MS Wangipora took the second position. In Kabaddi U-17 Boys, HSS Nowgan clinched the first place and New Green Land took the second position. Certificates were awarded to winners & Runners up of these competitions. Similarly in another activity of the Department, Inter School Zonal Level Competitions in the discipline of Kho-Kho for U-14 and U-17 Boys were organised in the premises of BHSS Yaripora. 264 Student players Participated from different schools of the zone.

In Devsar sports zone of the district, Volleyball competitions were organised for the age group of U-14 and U-17 Boys, in which 359 students participated. All

the Zonal Officers awarded the meritorious participants with medals and certificates.

In another South Kashmir district, Inter-Zonal District Level long distance race for all age groups was flagged off for Boys from Bundzoo Bridge and it ended at CHS Pulwama, where a short but an impressive felicitation ceremony was held and the meritorious athletes were felicitated by DYSSO Pulwama and other officers and officials of the Department.

The long-distance race proved an eye-catching activity for the local spectators and sports lovers. Athletes from all sports of zones of the District participated in the activity. The felicitation cum award ceremony began with the speech of DYSS Officer Pulwama who enjoined upon all the participants and the officials about the benefits of the early morning running and its long lasting effects on daily life. The event ended smoothly as all the arrangements were put in place in advance.

Inter School Tournament Concludes At Bhaderwah



Observer News Service

BHADERWAH: An Inter School Zonal Level Tournament for U-19 Boys organised by Department of Youth Services and Sports in the disciplines of Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Badminton, Chess, Carrom and Athletics concluded on Thursday at Government Higher Secondary School Boys, Bhaderwah.

About 137 student players, drawn from different Higher Secondary Schools of zone Bhaderwah participated in the tournament in a well disciplined manner.

The main motive of the tournament was to select the best talent in each discipline for their further participation in Inter Zonal District Level tournaments.

District Youth Services & Sports Officer Jaffer Haider Sheikh advised the student players to stay in touch with games as Inter Zonal District Level tour-

naments will start soon at the district headquarter.

The Chess final was won by Prince Kotwal of HSS Chinta by defeating Pratyush Bhat of HSS Boys Bhaderwah, while Danish Singh of HSS Boys Bhaderwah won the Carrom final by defeating Danish of HSS Bhalra.

The HSS Boys Bhaderwah Volleyball and Kabaddi teams won the finals of both disciplines by defeating the respective teams of GHSS Saringal.

The matches were officiated by Aftab Alam PEM, Abdul Haq PEM, Murtaza Qadir PETs, Gulshan REK, Nidhay Sharma REK, Subash, Rattan Lal PET, Susheela Kumari PET, Ramesha Kumari PET, Asha Devi PET, Renu Bhalra PET, Sanjay Kumar, Suresh Kumar PET, Nirmal Singh, Tariq Sussain PET, Tariq Mehmood PET, Reeta Devi PET, Waqar Ahmed REK besides others staff of Sports Department and the schools.

Boxer Nikhat Zareen Becomes World Champion

Fifth Indian woman to achieve feat

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Indian boxer Nikhat Zareen emerged world champion with a comfortable 5-0 victory over Thailand's Jitpong Jutamas in the flyweight (52kg) final of the Women's World Championships in Istanbul on Thursday.

The Telangana boxer out-punched her Thai rival to win via unanimous 5-0 verdict.

With this win, Zareen became only the fifth Indian boxer to be crowned world champion.

Six-time champion Mary Kom (2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2018) Sarita Devi (2006), Jenny RL (2006) and Lekha KC (2006) are the other pugilists who have won the world title.

Apart from Zareen's gold, Manisha Moun (57kg) and debutant Parveen Hooda (63kg)

will return home with bronze medals.

A 12-member Indian con-



tingent was sent to participate in the competition and while the medal haul has decreased by one, an Indian has been crowned world champion after four years, Mary Kom had last won the gold in the 48kg in 2018 edition.

Happiest Phase Of My Life: Virat Kohli

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: In a declaration that is not commensurate with his current form, Virat Kohli says he is "actually" going through the "happiest phase" of his life, when he is not receptive to either success or failure.

He is "not finding any self-worth or value" in what he is doing on the field now, a far cry from the man known for his intensity and passion, things that made him a cricket icon, besides his incredible range of shots with the bat in his pomp.

Kohli has not scored a hundred in competitive cricket for nearly three years and current edition of IPL happens to be his worst.

"I'm actually in the happiest phase of my life. I am not finding any self-worth or value in what I do on the field. I'm way past that phase. This is a phase of evolution for me," Kohli told Star Sports.

The former India skipper, who also gave up captaincy at Royal Challengers Bangalore last year, is enduring his worst run with the bat, leaving his millions of fans concerned.

He has had a disappointing IPL-15 so far with the bat having managed only one half-century in 13 matches for RCB. Kohli has bagged three golden ducks already this season and has managed just 200 runs at an average and strike rate that fail to define a player of his calibre.

At the same time though, the 33-year-old refuses to believe that the drive is not there.

"... Not to say that I don't have



the same drive, my drive will never die down. The day my drive goes away, I'll not be playing this game.

"But to understand that some things are not controllable, the only controllable you have are things that you can work towards, which is working hard on the field and in life as well and from that point of view, I feel that I am in the most balanced space that I have ever been and I am happy with who I am and how I am leading my life."

For Kohli, on-field success or

failure is increasingly becoming irrelevant.

"I am not finding any source of encouragement or disappointment by what happens on the field.

"So, this has not been about myself, this is about the fact that I have not contributed to my team's cause as much as I would have wanted to or I pride myself to, and that is something that always disappoints me, not what I do as an individual.

"It's because I don't want to let my team down."

Royals Seek Another Buttler Show Versus CSK In IPL 2022

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Having gone off the boil in the last few games, Jos Buttler would be eagerly waiting to pounce on an inexperienced Chennai Super Kings attack in order to clinch a play-off berth for Rajasthan Royals in the IPL here on Friday.

A win will take Sanju Samson's men to 18 points and help them steer clear of any permutations or combinations for a top-four finish.

In fact a win will ensure a top-two finish for Royals as they will then enjoy a superior Net Run Rate (NRR) of +0.304 compared to Lucknow Super Giants' +0.251.

In this backdrop, Royals would like to turn the heat on a lacklustre CSK, who can turn out to be 'party poopers' in their final game.

To prevent that, Buttler, who is currently leading the batters' chart with 627 runs, will need to do better than register scores of 22, 30, 7, 2 -- his contribution in the last four games.



The Royals' success in the tournament has got a lot to do with brilliant starts from Buttler, who has three hundreds and as many fifties -- most of his runs were scored during the first half of the tournament -- and Yuzvendra Chahal's 24 wickets.

Most of CSK's senior players like MS Dhoni (206), Ambati Rayudu (271) and Robin Uthappa (230) haven't had a great IPL and that has been the biggest failure of the 'Yellow Brigade'.

The bowling suffered a lot because of the absence of an

injured Deepak Chahar and the inability to retain Josh Hazlewood. It was wafer-thin in terms of experience and they paid the price.

The Royals' bowling attack, perhaps, is one of the best in the tournament with the spin duo of Chahal (24 wickets and ER of 7.76) and Ravichandran Ashwin (10 wickets at 7.15) creating plenty of trouble for the batters.

The Royals' qualification is in their own hands and they would like to keep it that way with a win against Chennai Super Kings.

FIFA Picks 6 Female Referees, Assistants For Men's World Cup

Agencies

GENEVA: Female referees will make World Cup history this year by working games at a major men's tournament for the first time in Qatar.

Three female referees and three female assistant referees were announced Thursday by FIFA among 129 officials selected for World Cup duty, including one man who caused controversy when refereeing a chaotic African Cup of Nations game in January while suffering with heatstroke.

French referee Stéphanie Frappart already worked men's games in World Cup qualifying and the Champions League, after handling the 2019 Women's World Cup final. She also refereed the final of the men's French Cup this month.

"As always, the criteria we have used is 'quality first' and the selected match officials represent the highest level of refereeing worldwide," said FIFA Referees Committee chairman Pierluigi Collina, who worked the 2002 World Cup final. "In this way, we clearly emphasize that it is quality that counts for us and not gender."

Salima Mukansanga of Rwanda

and Yoshimi Yamashita of Japan are also on the list of 36 referees preparing for the 64 games at the tournament, which will be played from Nov. 21-Dec. 18.

The 69 assistant referees include Neuza Back of Brazil, Karen



Díaz Medina of Mexico and Kathryn Nesbitt of the United States.

"I would hope that in the future the selection of elite women's match officials for important men's competitions will be perceived as something normal and no longer as sensational," Collina said.

Among the male referees is Janiny Sikazwe of Zambia, who blew the final whistle at an African Cup group match after 85 minutes and again 13 seconds before the 90 minutes were complete, with Mali leading Tunisia 1-0.

About 30 minutes after the match, officials ordered the teams

back on the field to restart play but Tunisia refused. The result was later ratified by the Confederation of African Football despite an official protest by Tunisia.

The match was played in heat and humidity in Cameroon, and Sikazwe later explained he started to become confused in the intense conditions.

Sikazwe will be working at his second World Cup after handling two group games at the 2018 tournament in Russia.

The extreme heat in Qatar led FIFA to decide in 2015 to move the tournament to the cooler months in the Gulf emirate.

FIFA has picked 24 men to work on video reviews. The VAR system made its debut in 2018.

FIFA said 50 referee-and-assistant trios began preparing in 2019 for World Cup duty, with the project affected by limits on international travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two referees were picked from each of Argentina, Brazil, England and France.

All the officials -- who were not allocated into specific teams of three -- face future technical, physical and medical assessments this year, FIFA said.

Jofra Archer Ruled Out For Entire Season

Stress fracture rules pacer out of Test vs India

Press Trust of India

LONDON: England pace spearhead Jofra Archer has been ruled out of the entire season due to a stress fracture on his lower back, the country's cricket board said on Thursday, which means he will miss the Test against India in July.

"After being diagnosed with a stress fracture to the lower back, England and Sussex seamer Jofra Archer has been ruled out for the rest of the season," the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said in a statement.

The worst part is that he is indefinitely out of competitive cricket as the ECB has not set any specific time-frame for his return.

"No time-frame has been set for his return. A management plan will be determined following further specialist opinion over the coming days."

India are scheduled to play a Test match (carry over from previous series) along with six white-ball games in the month of July.



The 27-year-old Jofra, who last played international cricket in March 2021 in an away series against India, had undergone an elbow surgery and then made a comeback to county cricket for Sussex before suffering a stress fracture.

The last competitive match that he played was a T20 game against Kent at Hove.

The Barbados-born Jofra has so far played 42 international matches for England across three formats and has 86 wickets to his credit.

FRENCH OPEN 2022

Alcaraz Threatens To Upstage Djokovic & Nadal

Reuters

PARIS: Record champion Rafael Nadal is locked in an all-time Grand Slam battle with world number one Novak Djokovic going into the French Open but both could end up being upstaged by teenage sensation Carlos Alcaraz.

Nadal, a 13-time title-winner on the Parisian red clay, is far from his unstoppable best as he nurses a chronic foot injury that flared up again in the build-up to Roland Garros. The Australian Open champion suffered early exits in Madrid and Rome with his most recent tournament win back in February.

Counting out the wounded 35-year-old Spaniard, however, comes with a risk warning as his comeback win from two sets down over Russia's Daniil Medvedev at this year's Australian Open final proved.

Nadal's astounding triumph meant he became the first male player to reach 21 Grand Slam titles, pulling ahead of Roger Federer and Djokovic on the all-time list.

Djokovic, who had missed the Australian Open following his refusal to be vaccinated for COVID-19 and his subsequent deportation amid a media frenzy, is desperate to win in Paris and pull level with Nadal's major haul.

The Serb, who also turns 35 later this week, appears to be back on track after his turbulent start to the year, clinching the title in Rome last week with a straight sets win over Greek world number four Stefanos Tsitsipas.

Djokovic is also no stranger to



comebacks on the big stage, winning the title in Paris last year after battling from two sets down to outlast Tsitsipas.

The Greek, who thrives on this surface having won his last three titles on clay, has long been tipped as a Grand Slam winner and came agonisingly close last year. But he will also be looking over his shoulder at the 19-year-old Alcaraz who looks set to jump the queue.

The teenager has taken the tennis world by storm this year with four titles, including in Miami and Madrid, and will arrive in Paris established as one of the title favourites.

The big-smiling Spaniard, a qualifier only 12 months ago, may look stunned by his progress this year but he shows no signs or interest of slowing down as he storms up the world rankings.

"Yes, I am ready to win a Grand Slam and to go for it," the world number six said, who beat both Nadal and Djokovic en route to the Madrid title earlier in May. "It is a goal for me this year, to try to get my first Grand Slam. Let's see what is going to happen at Roland Garros."

Milan Close In On First Serie A Title In 11 Years



Reuters

MILAN: It has been 11 years since AC Milan won their last Serie A title, but they need only draw at Sassuolo on Sunday to take home a Scudetto which has been elusive for far too long for a club of their grandeur.

The day has been a long time coming for Milan fans, with the club last winning the title under Massimiliano Allegri in 2010-11, before suffering a spectacular fall from grace.

Just four years after their 18th Serie A triumph, the seven-time European Cup winners finished 10th in the standings, spending an incredible seven seasons outside the top four of the Italian top flight between 2014 and 2020.

Their decline was not helped by matters off the pitch, with various changes in ownership after former Italy prime minister Silvio Berlusconi relinquished control.

After Allegri's departure in 2014, no fewer than six permanent coach-

es in five years tried and failed to turn things around, before Stefano Pioli came in to steady the ship.

Progress under Pioli has been gradual, building to this weekend's moment of truth.

Milan hold a two-point lead over Inter Milan going into the final round of Serie A fixtures. Given they have a better head-to-head record over their bitter rivals, one point is all they need for a 19th top-flight title.

Should Milan slip up against mid-table Sassuolo on Sunday, champions Inter know victory at home to Sampdoria will see them sneak over the line, led by a manager who has sprung a final-day surprise before.

Elsewhere in Serie A, Juventus, guaranteed fourth place this term, finish off a disappointing campaign with a trip to Fiorentina on Saturday, while AS Roma can make sure of qualification for next season's Europa League with victory at Torino on Friday.