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A wholesome meal for people on the go Turkish Burger

Bun Maska & Irani Chai JK Bank Lawns, Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard, Srinagar-1

G Quote

When you cease to dream you cease to live

-Malcolm Forbes

57

NEWS DIGEST

Three Militants, Associate Arrested: Police

Srinagar: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested three Lashkar-e-Taiba militants and an associate from the twin districts of Baramulla and Budgam in the Kashmir Valley. A police spokesperson said Police along with Army arrested two active militants of LeT in Baramulla. "Acting promptly on a specific information, Police along with Army arrested two active (militants) of LeT identified as Irshad Ahmad Mir son of Abdul Rehman Mir (a categorised militant) and More on P6

J&K Reports 11 New Covid-19 Cases

Srinagar- Jammu and Kashmir reported 11 new coronavirus cases on Friday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,54,325, officials said here. Ten cases were reported from Jammu division while one case was reported from Kashmir valley, they said. There are 71 active cases of the disease in the union territory. while the number of recoveries has reached 4,49,502, the officials said. The COVID-19 death toll in the union territory stands at 4,752 as no fresh fatality was reported in the last 24 hours. The officials also said there were 51 confirmed cases of More on P6

Youth Found Dead In Budgam

After Pandemic, Kashmiri Kids Grappling With 'Silent Epidemic'

Al-Misda Masoom

alha, 9, started to gain weight during the pandemic owing to sudden exposure to a sedentary lifestyle. He would wake up and follow a passive schedule. His routine included eating, attending online classes, watching television and playing games on his phone.

Even though his physical appearance was changing every day and was evident to

everyone that he was becoming overweight, his parents were in denial.

Whenever someone would point out that he has more weight for his age, his family would get offended and would think they're casting an evil eye on their baby.

Even though pandemic has passed, they're yet to realise the problem that's in front of them and the future implications of it. "We stopped telling his parents anything now.'



expressed one of his cousins. do care but they think we're "They just don't listen. We overthinking. I just hope they

do realise it soon before it starts to affect his daily life." Haunting the whole world since the virulent spring of 2020, the pandemic has slowed down and scarred countless lives. Not just scars are left behind but now another epidemic is waiting to engulf the people around the world. The sluggish lifestyle gift-

Now Jaste Mediterranean Flavour in Srinagar

ed by Covid has resulted in plump individuals in general and children in particular. According to research done

by Narayan Health Hospitals, childhood obesity is now an epidemic in India.

With 14.4 million obese children, India has the second-highest number of obese children in the world, next to China. The prevalence of obesity in children is 15%.

"In Kashmir, one in every three children is obese," Dr. Yasir Wani, Head of Pediatrics, District Hospital Pulwama, told Kashmir Observer. "It's a silent

Protests Flare Up In Many States Against Prophet Remarks

Clashes Break Out In UP; West Bengal **Press Trust Of India**

Lucknow/Ranchi: Protests erupted in several parts of the country on Friday against the derogatory remarks on Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh) by nowsuspended two BJP leaders. In several cities protests turned violent with security forces resorting to cane-charge, tear gas shelling and firing.

Authorities imposed prohibitory orders in parts of Ranchi as slogan shouting protesters carrying placards demanded the arrest of Nupur Sharma, former national spokesperson of the ruling BJP, and Naveen Jindal, a former head of the Delhi BJP's media unit.

Most of the protests including at the historic Iama Masiid in Delhi broke out after the Friday prayers and several arrests were also made by the police. Hundreds of protesters massed outside Jama Masjid and



Muslim women take out a march to protest derogatory remarks made against Prophet Muhammad in Srinagar, Friday (PTI Photo)

some of them gathered on the steps of the mosque. However, Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid, Syed Ahmed Bukhari, distanced himself from the protests saying "nobody knows who the pro-

minutes. In Uttar Pradesh, stones were pelted at policemen in Prayagraj and Saharanpur during the protests which were also witnessed in Bijnor. Moradabao

Spontaneous Shutdown, Protests In Srinagar

arts of Kashmir, including capital Srinagar, observed a shutdown on Friday over the derogatory remarks by BJP leaders against **Prophet Muhammad** (Pbuh) while the authorities snapped mobile Internet as a precautionary measure, officials said. Government forces have been deployed in strength at sensitive places in the city and elsewhere in the Valley for maintaining law and order, they said. City centre of Lal Chowk and adjoining area of the civil lines remained shut in protest. Downtown Srinagar too witnessed a complete shutdown with public

Curfew Clamped In Chenab Valley, Internet suspended



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Tension mounted in Jammu's Bhaderwah and some areas of Kishtwar prompting authorities to impose a curfew while parts of Kashmir observed a shutdown over the derogatory remarks against Prophet of Islam by now-suspended BJP leaders.

Internet services were snapped in the Bhaderwah and Kishtwar towns as a precautionary measure. Mobile Internet was also suspended in parts of Kashmir, they said. Sporadic incidents of stone-pelting were reported

people, violating restrictions, came out on the streets and threw stones at security forces while raising slogans.

There was a minor incident of stone-pelting in Bhaderwah town but it has been brought under control. No one was injured, a senior officer told PTI.

The protest started in Baderwah town of Doda on Thursday when hundreds of neonle staged a sit-in against

Srinagar: A youth was found dead on Friday under mysterious circumstances at Surasyar area of Chadoora in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. Latief Ahmad Teli of Dadompora was found unconscious at Surasyar during night hours and was brought to sub district hospital Chadoora where doctors declared him dead. officials said. They said police have taken More on P6

Two Gamblers Arrested In Sopore

Srinagar: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested two alleged gamblers in a raid in Sopore town of Baramulla district. Acting on specific information, a team from police station Dangiwacha carried out a raid and arrested two gamblers on the spot, a police spokesperson said. Besides playing cards, he said, an amount of Rs 15000 was recovered from the accused. The police identified them as Irshad Ahmad Shah and Javaid Ahmad Shah, both the residents More on P6

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testers were" and demanded action against such people. Senior police officials said

the protests were held peacefully and lasted for 15 to 20 Rampur and Lucknow. In Prayagraj, some motorcycles and carts were set on

fire and an attempt was made to set ablaze a More on P6

transport off the roads. However, traffic was plying in Civil Lines with offices and schools remaining open. More on P6

suspended BJP leaders Nupur Sharma and Naveen Jindal against Prophet. After intense negotiations,

the remarks made by now-

the protestors agreed to clear the road and More on P6 in Bhaderwah town. Some

Efforts On To Restore Peace In Bhaderwah: DGP

ammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Dilbag Singh said efforts are on defuse tension in Bhaderwah

town, rocked by protests over controversial remarks against Prophet Mohammad (Pbuh), and expressed confidence that the situation will return back to normal soon. Tension mounted in Bhaderwah and some areas of Kishtwar over the controversial remarks More on P6

ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN (OVER INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES). A case has been registered under IPC sections 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) at Bhaderwah police station."

Amnesty Asks Govt To Probe Recent Killings In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The government must ensure a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into the recent unlawful killings of civilians by armed groups in Kashmir, Amnesty International India said on Friday.

The human rights watchdog said the Indian authorities must take urgent steps for the protec-

Jammu and Kashmir have suffered from gross human rights violations and abuses committed by both state and non-state actors. The sheer impunity with which the human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been

systematically disregarded by Indian authorities must end if we are to fulfil the rights of victims and help ensure that such abuses against civilians are not repeated," said Aakar Patel, chair of Amnesty International India Board, in a statement.

The rights body demanded a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into the recent unlawful killings of civilians by armed groups in Kashmir.

The spate of targeted killings, including of both Hindus and Muslims, by militants in Kashmir started in May this year.

Scores of Kashmiri Pandits. employed under the prime minister's package in 2012, staged protests threatened mass exodus More on P6

Pahalgam Under Thick Security Blanket For Amarnath Yatra Augib Javeed

Pahalgam: Three weeks ahead of the annual Amarnath yatra, the prominent tourist resort of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district has been placed under a thick security blanked by the paramilitary forces.

The Amarnath Yatra is scheduled to start on June 30 from the twin routes -- traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

The troops including Border Security Force (BSF) can be seen patrolling most of the roads in the picturesque valley of Pahalgam-where the yatris will be enrouted to the holy cave. New pickets have come up at many places along the Anantnag- Pahalgam route where the government forces frisk the vehicles and subject the travelers to identification checks.

Temporary camps have also come up at different places in Pahalgam to accommodate the security personnel that have arrived for the security of the pilgrims.



The central forces and police commandoes also carry out regular search operations in the forest area of Pahalgam to keep a check on suspected persons.

It may be noted, the security forces killed a top Hizbul Mujahideen commander, who was active for around a decade, and his two associates in an encounter in the forest area of Pahalgam in southern Kashmir on 05 May.

Police had claimed that with the killing of Hizb commander, a major threat looming over the annual pilgrimage was averted. An official from the CRPF told Kashmir Observer that the government forces have taken

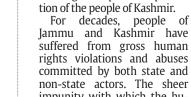
extra security measures following the encounter.

are expected to take part in the Amarnath Yatra this year. Reports said that over two lakh pilgrims have registered for the annual pilgrimage till now.

The government has already approved 50 companies of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) at specific locations along the route.

Scores of bullet-proof SUV police convoys and bulletproof bunkers have been deployed as part of the "biggestever" security blanket thrown to secure pilgrims. In view of the More on P6

Nearly eight lakh pilgrims



Govt To Clear Wage Arrears

Zaid Bin Shabir

Of Sweepers

SC Directs J&K

Srinagar: In a significant step that has brought relief to daily wagers, the Supreme Court last month had directed the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to clear the arrears of minimum wage of sweepers, who have been sustaining on meager monthly wages, in 8 weeks.

The apex court's divisional bench comprising Justices BR Gavai and AS Bopanna had also directed the erstwhile state for disbursement of the monthly wages to the sweepers from the month of May, 2022, a web portal, Livelaw.in reported.

Pertinently, tĥe apex Court's directions came while considering SLP assailing Jammu and Kashmir High Court's order of 2019 by which it "while refusing to entertain the LPA had observed that the same was an abuse of the process of law."

The bench in its significant judgment had also noted that "despite repeated directions the sweepers continued to be paid meager wages of INR 100 per month". More on P6

Remain 'Alert, he Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Friday asked the police heads of states and Union Territories to be prepared and alert as they will be on target. On Friday, MHA issued a statement to all state and Union **Prepared:** Territory police after several incidents of violence were reported from different parts of the country over the controversial remarks of suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma and expelled leader Naveen Jindal against **MHA** Tells Prophet Muhammad. A senior MHA official informed that they sent alerts to all state and Union Territory police to remain vigilant as they can be targeted during the violence. "We have asked the policemen deployed to **Police Chiefs** maintain law and order situation to be in proper riot gear. There will be a deliberate attempt to More on P6



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Women's Probability Of Being In Poverty More Than Doubles After Separation

The Conversation

hen a heterosexual relationship breaks down, women are at a much higher risk of falling **V V** into poverty than men especially if they have children to care for.

Our new research suggests that while a breakup, on average, reduces men's disposable household income by 5 per cent, on average women's household income decreases by almost 30 per cent.

We also found a woman's most important defence against falling into poverty after a separation is having a stable job and income before the breakup. This suggests policies aimed at better sup-

porting women to be employed, like promoting equitable access to childcare and flexible work hours, are crucial to reducing the higher risk of poverty women are facing.

In our study, we followed 947 women and 807 men who were legally married or in a de facto partnership before breaking up, and we looked at their income for up to five years after the split.

For comparison, we also analysed the incomes of 5,496 women and 5,369 men who were very similar to the separated couples before the split but who stayed together. We used a measure of household income that is adjusted (or equivalised) to reflect the needs of the household. This is because a larger household needs a higher income than a smaller household to sustain the same living standard.

Being in poverty was defined as having an equivalised household income below 50 per cent of the median across the country.

The study found that in the first year of separation the risk of being poor more than doubled for women (increasing from 9 to 22 percentage points). For men, the risk of poverty increased from 9 to 13 percentage points.

The least vulnerable were women who were employed before the break up and those with a tertiary education. The most vulnerable were women without a job before the break up, and older women with school-age children.

We also found not having a job before the breakup left women in a poverty trap because being separated reduces these women's chances of being employed, compared with the women who remained partnered. This effect is especially large when the woman has children.

This is likely due to an unfortunate interplay between childcare costs and the income support system, in which the loss of support payments and the extra cost of childcare erode the increased income gained from having a job.

This makes employment unattainable for exactly the group that needs it most: those who have been plunged into poverty by a



family breakdown.

Imagine a mother who lives with her two preschool-aged children and her husband. She takes up casual employment as a personal care assistant, and mostly works weekend shifts or occasional night shifts while leaving the children in her husband's care. This provides relief to the previously tight family budget, and she will likely extend her hours further when the children are a bit older.

Compare this to a mother who now lives alone with her two children of the same age, after separating from her partner.

When she thinks of taking up employment again, also as a personal care assistant, she finds her wage reduces the parenting payment that is currently her primary source of income. What little is left afterwards hardly covers the cost of childcare for her two children while she is at work.

This interplay of the income support system and childcare costs means a financially viable employment option for a partnered mother can easily become out of reach for a separated mother.

When separation creates poverty and therefore an urgent need for employment, the current system actually makes it harder for mothers to attain employment. The result is a poverty trap that can be hard to escape. And this trap looks worse for older women.

Our analysis showed women with very young children who had no job before separation have usually been out of the labour force for only a relatively short time. This could be expected to make it relatively easier to return to employment.

But women with older children and no job at separation have typically been disconnected from the labour market for longer. As a result, their job prospects are likely to have declined, or they may have to accept a pay which is too low to overcome the hurdles created by childcare cost and lost income support.

This advantage of younger women over older women is also reflected in the poverty rates. While women with children under the age of five suffer the largest spike in poverty rates immediately following separation, this effect largely disappears within three to five years. In contrast, while for women with older children the increase in poverty risk is somewhat smaller, it is much more persistent over time.

Are men better off after a breakup? The answer is yes and no. Men are also less well off after a relationship breakdown than before, but the decline is much less severe. Men's incomes aren't pushed below the poverty line as often.

One reason why men's household income falls less than women's is because they often live in smaller, and therefore cheaper. households after separation (since any children are more likely to remain with their mothers). Men may lose their partner's income and have to pay child support, but fewer people need to be sustained by this reduced income.

However, it is important to note that while men's income losses are smaller than women's on average, both men and women lose out compared to their pre-separation household income.

That's because two households simply need more resources than one the most obvious being the need for two places to live instead of one. If a household was already on a tight budget before the separation even if not below the poverty line it may be impossible to keep one or even both new households out of poverty without additional income sources. The income support system then is vital to fill that gap. However, the current rates of income support are below the poverty line. Combined with the barriers to employment that stem from higher childcare costs and reduced support payments, it means Aus-tralia's welfare system is ill-equipped to prevent poverty after a family breakdown. It is important we remove policy hurdles standing in the way of women's financial independence and that we also provide sufficient support when their income still falls short of preventing poverty.



از نیابت رنبیر یوره با اجلاس واسک منظور صاحب

آسان تیری لحد بیشبنم افشانی کرے سنزہ نورستہ اس گھر کی نگہبانی کرے منجانب حاجی معراج الدین صوفی ودیگراہل خانہ

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri :Mudasir Ahmad Joo S/O:-Ghulam Nabi Joo R/o: Wadipora Chadoora Budgam Registration No: JK04D 0715 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S HDFC Bank B/U Gole Market Karan Nagar



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that

objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.938

Dated 24-05-2022

Assistant Regional Transport officer

Eating Celery, Carrots May Reduce Air Pollution Toxins In Body: Study

Press Trust Of India

egular consumption of vegetables such as celery, carrots, parsnips, and parsley may reduce the impact of air pollution on human bodies, according to a study. The researchers from the University of Delaware in the US analysed how apiaceous vegetables protect the body from the accumulation of acrolein, an irritant to the lungs and skin with a strong unpleasant odour that is abundant in cigarette smoke and automobile exhaust.

They investigated how apia-ceous vegetables -- a family consisting of vegetables such as celery, carrots, parsnips, and parsley -- which are rich in phytonutrients. alleviated acrolein-induced toxicities through a series of tests.

The findings, published in The Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry, demonstrated that acrolein-induced oxidative stress might be decreased and its consequences minimised. The study found that apiaceous vegetables supported detoxification through an increase in antioxidant enzyme activity, said Jillian Trabulsi from the University of Delaware.

"The results suggest that apiaceous vegetables may provide protection against acrolein-induced damages and inflammation because, in the liver, the vegetables enhance the conversion of acrolein into a watersoluble acid for bodily

excretion," Trabulsi said in a statement.

The next step was to determine a reasonable dosage amount for humans. "When we calculated this. we determined the actual daily calorie amount of apiaceous vegetables for humans is roughly 1 and 1/3 cups per day, said Jae Kyeom Kim, assistant professor at Delaware.

"It doesn't require a high intake to see a difference. and this is an achievable amount in daily life," Kim said.

The research team stressed the importance of implementing behavioral changes in diet as a solution to combat the buildup of toxicants derived from air pollution. "Research has identified that it is the totality of nutrients in fruits and vegetables that support beneficial health outcomes, rather than a single nutrient," Trabulsi said. "Focusing on a healthy whole food diet is more impactful than relying on individual supplements,' the researcher added. People who are exposed to air pollution suffer from a variety of health problems. Illnesses such as pneumonia or bronchitis are examples of short-term repercussions. Irritation to the nose, throat, eyes, or skin as well as headaches, dizziness, and nausea are all symptoms of air pollution. Air pollution's long-term consequences can continue

for years or even a lifetime. They can even result in premature death.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SPECIAL SUB DIVISION GUREZ**

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NITNo. 63/2022-23/EE/SSDG/2248-57/E-tendering/Dated:-07-06-2022

For and on behalf of theLt. Governor, Union Territory of J&Ke-tenders are invited onItem Ratebasis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of Steel truss for additional accommodation for PHC Badugam Tulail	7.34	300	20 days	14680	BADP	DEE/CEE

Position of AAA:- Accorded

Position of funds: Committed

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated		
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.		07-06-2022	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	09-06-2022	(10:00AM) (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From	09-06-2022	(10:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	То	17-06-2022	(4:00PM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)		17-06-2022	(05:00 PM)
		In the office of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez		

- Bids must be accompany ed with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez Major Head 0059-Rev:Misc)[Tender Inviting Authority](Name of Work to be mentioned on the Trea-sury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dtd 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date)pledged to Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez(Tender receiving Authority).
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ within 2. 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- 3. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids. 5.
 - Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. 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 fomat with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

DIPK-3644/22

mcb

The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th under Below mentioned particulars

Name : Shaista Majeed D/o Abdul Majeed Pandit R/o Bandgam Magam



Details of Marks Certificate lost

Higher Secondary School Examination (class12th) Roll No 2402248 Session /Year Annual . 2017

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

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Anjuman Auqaf Decries Closure Of Jamia Masjid

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid termed the closure of historic Jamia Masjid for the Friday prayers today as unfortunate

"Once again, authorities did not allow Friday prayers at the Jama Masjid Srinagar and locked it down, turning away men and women who had come to offer Friday prayers at the Masjid, which is very unfortunate.

This morning police personnel came to Jama Masjid and closed the gates of the mosque and informed the Augaf that no Friday prayers will be allowed today," Anjuman Auqaf said in a statement.

KU Students **Protest Against** Anti Prophet **Statements**

Sved Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Students from School of Law, University of Kashmir held a protest on Friday against the blasphemous remarks by the suspended Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders.

The students holding placards assembled in the lawn of the Department and demanded strong punishment against leaders, who made blasphemous remarks.

The students raised slogans in favor of the Prophet of Islam and decried blasphemous comments against him.

'The Prophet of Islam is not only a source of blessing for Muslims, but for all of humanity" said a student.

'We should respect every religion and should refrain from abusing the people from other faiths'

Student protestors called on the government to take notice of the issue.



Protesters holding posters in city centre Lal Chowk against the blasphemous act by a suspended BJP leader. KO Photo Abid Bhat.

Srinagar Ranks Among 75 Top Districts Of India Under 'Eat Right Challenge'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Srinagar District has figured in top 75 Districts of the country in implementation of the 'Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts' of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

The Right to Eat Challenge was launched by the FSSAI, Government of India to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for the people.

The Eat Right Challenge was envisioned as a competition among Districts to recognize their efforts in adopting and scaling up various initiatives under Eat Right India.

These initiatives include strengthening food safety through the food regulatory environment, to provide safe and healthy food options by enabling the supply side

The Eat Right Challenge in Srinagar was carried out under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, Assistant Commissioner Food and Safety, Hilal Ahmad Mir was its Nodal Officer

3-Day Sufi Festival

The Targets fixed by Food Safety Standards Authority of India were satisfactory achieved, hence Srinagar District figured in top 75 District

The campaign ran from 01 August 2020 to 31 December 2021. In this, a total of 188 cities of the country were enrolled under FSSAL

The activities which were carried out under this challenge include Registration and licensing drives, surveillance drives, lifting of enforcement samples, special camps for consumer awareness, hygiene rating, clean street food, no food

waste certification, reusing of cooking oil, training to Asha and Anganwari workers, eat right campuses to promote eat right message.

Speaking in this regard, the Deputy Commissioner said that "The Eat Right Challenge activity was aimed to propagate the message of adopting healthy food habits among the masses to include fortified foods as nutria- cereals in their diets. He also stressed massive outreach to educate people and spread the message of safe, healthy and sustainable diets.



This Day In History

- 1774 Jews of Algiers escape attacking Spanish Army
- 1837 The Broad Street Riot occurs in Boston, fueled by ethnic tensions between English-Americans and Irish-Americans
- 1864 The Battle of Trevilian Station, the bloodiest and largest all-cavalry battle of the American Civil War, begins in Louisa County, Virginia
- 1864 Battle at Cynthiana Kentucky: General Hobsons unit caught
- 1864 Battle of Laurel Hill, West Virginia
- 1898 1st US Marines (600) land at Guantanamo Cuba during Spanish-American War
- 1901 Cook Islands annexed and proclaimed part of New Zealand
- 1913 Grand Vizir Mahmud Shevket Pasha is assassinated, resulting in continuing Young Turk terrorism until WWI
- 1917 King Alexander assumes the throne of Greece after his father Constantine I abdicates under pressure by allied armies occupying Athens
- 1920 Republicans nominate Warren G. Harding for US president
- 1934 Disarmament conference in Geneva fails
- 1935 Inventor Edwin Armstrong gives the first public demonstration of FM broadcasting in the United States, at Alpine, New Jersey 1940 - World War II: British forces bomb Genoa and
- **Turin in Italy**

JKAP Holds Workers Meet At Shalteng

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) held a workers' meeting at

aware of the developmental agenda of JKAP. He said, "Apni Party belongs to the people.

level and the people are well

Tourism Deptt. Organises Musical Evening, Painting Competition

Telwanpora Shalteng area of Srinagar on Friday.

Former member of assembly and JKAP District President for Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh presided over the meeting.

He urged the workers to enhance their public outreach programme to ensure the party agenda and policy is spread at the grass-root

Thus, we need to be in touch with them at the grass-root level. We ought to help the people in terms of highlighting their issues and problems and bring these issues to the notice of the concerned officials so that they are addressed properly. For this, we need to be active and vibrant in

our constituencies.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Hilal Mohi Ud din Bhat S/O, Sh. Gh Mohi Ud Diun Bhat R/O Abu Bakar Colony Bemina Srinagar and Masrat Rashid D/O Ab rashid shah R/O Ompora ,are the original transferee of Plot No.85 in Housing Colony, Ompora Budgam and have applied for extension of leasehold rights of above said plot in our favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.

1. Hilal Mohi Ud din Bhat S/O, Sh. Gh Mohi Ud Diun Bhat 2. Masrat Rashid D/O Ab rashid shah R/O Ompora Date 10-6-22

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of general public and concerned au-thorities that SHRI RAM TRANSPORT COMPANY BRANCH OF-FICE BATENGOO ANANTNAG lifted my vehicle SCORPIO bearing JK18.3628. The said company then sold my vehicle without informing me. The documents of the vehicle are still with me Now I am requesting the concerned authorities that appropriate action be initiated against the said company and the vehicle be released in my favour . **BILAL AHMAD NAIKOO** S/o. ABDUL GANI NAIKOO RNA **R/o.AHLAN GADOOLE**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Have have lost the Number plate for my vehicle bearing Regd No; JK05G-0830. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Mushtaq Ahamd Sheikh S/O Asadullah Sheikh ihw_r R/o Tirkanjan Baramulla

Observer News Service Srinagar: As part of the ongoing three day Sufi Festival, the department of Tourism organised

inf

Musical Evening to celebrate the rich musical and Sufi heritage of Jammu and Kashmir. The Musical Evening was attended by Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta; VC, KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole; Secretary Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez, Direc-

tor Tourism Kashmir, Dr. G.N. Itoo, senior officers of Divisional administration and Tourism Department and other allied departments besides a number of tourists and locals also attended the musical evening.



During the evening, renowned artists of Kashmir sang beautiful songs having mystic importance as well as depicting teachings of Sufis and Reshis of Kashmir.

During the day, a painting competition on the Sufi traditions was also held at Zabarwan Park here in which the participants

through their paintings depicted the rich Sufi heritage of J&K.

Pertinently, the three day Sufi Festival was inaugurated by Advisor to Lieutenant Governor. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar yesterday here with an aim to highlight and propagate the teachings of Sufis and Rishis in Kashmir.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE** DIVISION No: Ist SULIMAN COMPLEX DALGATE SRINAGAR

Notice Inviting e-Tendering GIST of e-NIT No: 03 of 2022-23

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer S&D Division Ist UEED Srinagar invites online e-bids from Registered Firms/Contractors/Genuine Manufacturers/Authorized Distributors/Dealers/ SSI Unit Holders for the following work.

S	Nam	ne of work	Cost of work	Cost of T/doc.	Time of		
N	D		(Rs. In lacs)	(In rupees)	completion		
	2		2		5		
1.	work	ply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 160 KVA DG Set and allied Electro-mechanical ks for Intermediate Pumping Station (IPS) Boulevard under the Scheme Construction of 2.21) Sewerage Treatment Plant for Raibagh Area of Zone-I of Greater Srinagar	21.52	500/=	1 Month		
2.	Supp work		20.94	500/=	1 Month		
IN	IMPORTANT DATES:-						

1 Date of publishing		09/06/2022	
2 Period of downloading of	f hidding documents	09/06/2022 to 29/06/2022 up-to 4:00 PM	
3 Bid submission Start Dat		09/06/2022 from 4:00 PM	
		29/06/2022 up-to 4:00 PM	
5 Date of Opening of Bids		30/06/2022 at 11:00 AM or any other convenient date.	
Tender Receiving Authority	:	Executive Engineer S&D Division I st Sulaiman Complex Dalgate Srinagar	
No: SDDI/CC/747-57 Dated: 9/06/2022	DIPK-3701/22		-/Sd Executive Engineer S&D Division I st Srinagar

1940 - World War II: First attack of the Italian Air force on the island of Malta

- 1942 German army defeated at El-Alamein, North Africa
- 1942 US and USSR sign Lend-Lease agreement during WW II
- 1943 British invades Pantelleria (a tiny island south of Sicily)
- 1944 15 US aircraft carriers attack Japanese bases on Marianas
- 1951 Mozambique becomes an oversea province of Portugal
- 1958 UN Security council sends observers to Lebanon



Old Muslim Neighbours

Observer News Service

AMMU- They have started visiting their land of birth as tourists. They stay the between 10 days and two months to escape from the scorching heat in the plains. Mohan Lal and his wife spent several days in Srinagar recently. On their return they were excited over the way their friends neighbours and other acquaintances, whom they met after over 17 years received them with love and warmth.

"We found as if we were part of the social fabric." said Mohan Lal. His wife, Laxmi said that we visited our ancestral house in Rainawari.

It brought hack the pictures of our childhood days playing with our Musim neighbours and friends." Mohan Lai said "We met scores of Pandits who had come to Srinagar not only from Jammu but from other parts of the country." They said that scores of families, which had not sold their houses had been staying there for the last two months.

They have decided to spent the summer months and return to the plains sometimes in September.

Dwarika Nath, who belonged to Anantnag district, said "I have been going to Kashmir for the last three years as a tourist. I do not stay in hotels or houseboats. I feel comfortable in the houses of my Muslim friends and neighbours.

Mohan Lal, who has been living in Jammu and Delhi for the last 17 years, said that "though we crave for returning to Kashmir for many among us the situation has changed to the extent that we may not be able to resettle ourselves permanently." He explained that children of a major section of Kashmiri Pandit community has, after coming out of various professional colleges are suitably settled and hence it will not be "feasible for them to return to Kashmir." Others who have returned from the valley in recent days said besides these domestic issues, the security scenario in Kashmir is still not conducive for their return and rehabilitation.

(Kashmir Observer, 11 June, 2007)

KASHMIR

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"Western calculations have gone awry. Russia was, evidently, well-prepared to counter sanctions. Inflation is zero, while western economies are struggling with blowback. Meanwhile, "Russian ruble is the world's best-performing fiat currency today" @bhadrapunchline

"For people who equate self worth with their work, taking a break, no matter how necessary it is, proves to be harder than going through the burnout itself" @Whoisthisnow

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Targeting Tehran

f one needed further evidence of the spiteful bias of the corporate Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the recent coverage of the elections in the West Asian nation and subsequent events were a prize specimen. To be fair, this bias is not confined to Iran but engulfs everything and everyone that rejects the global hegemony of one or the other power.

It is peculiar in the case of the Iranian nation because the latter has a fashioned a successful and thriving model of governance based purely on Islamic precepts. The system the Persian nation has fashioned is not monarchical, autocratic, or dictatorial - arrangements the West cohabits with comfortably - but wholly republican, evolving on structures rooted in the Islamic ethos. What evidently rankles the West is that Iran has consciously steered clear of prevailing systems and devised an indigenous and self-reliant model, opting to chart an independent course in statecraft and geopolitics as opposed to the servile regimes the powers deal with in the region.

Were it not for the tragic consequences of flooding the world with misinformation, the totally one-sided reporting of the aftermath of the election results would have been laughable for the crude attempts to depict events in the country as a counter-revolution. Couched in terms of political and human rights, the reportage mulishly ignored the phenomenal turnout of around 85 per cent and the logistical impossibility of manipulating the ballot at that scale. It was appalling to see media veterans shamelessly shutting their eyes to the other side of the story, particularly the groundswell of public support for the victorious candidate. Plastering the media space with voices opposed to the current scheme of things in Iran without allowing the other side to get in a word edgewise will eventually get exposed as an elaborate, engineered lie - and what will remain is the wonder of the purveyors of falsehoods surviving and going from strength to strength; but that is another subject. For thirty years the powers have been trying their utmost to unseat the revolution which they see as a real threat to their domination in that it offers a defiant alternative to the coercive, discriminatory and unjust world order they have put in place. They have tried everything, from liquidating the top leadership to imposing a bloody war and crippling sanctions to undermine the impact of the revolution and implode it from within, but failed miserably. So today they have been reduced to picking on trifles and blowing them out of proportion to create this bogey about a totalitarian regime steamrolling all liberties. Forgotten in this frenzy to whip up hysteria about the post-poll scenario in Iran is the fact that the nation has not missed a single election since the revolution, and has remained firm on the democratic path even when confronted with a life-and-death struggle to cope with the Western-backed war and the elimination of an entire crop of leadership. It must be particularly galling for Western powers to see Iran successfully rebuild its war-shattered economy and infrastructure, and make bold advances in fields as diverse as agriculture and space technology. The desperation in Western capitals at the resilience of the revolution has led to the investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in a grand project of destabilization aimed at propping up monarchist remnants, sundry terrorists and fringe malcontents to foment trouble in an otherwise smoothly functioning system.

Beyond Hate, Towards Understanding

Say No to Religious Hatred and Majoritarianism

Asad Mirza

or two weeks now, the largest minority in the country has been made uneasy due to a controversy that is not political but religious in nature. The incident is related to the controversial remarks made by some 'ambitious' politicians, trying to get noticed by their party's leadership for creating a surcharged and divisive atmosphere in the country on religious lines.

The unpleasant remarks against the most venerated personality in the Islamic community have affronted Muslims not only in India but also globally. Hurriedly, the establishment in India had to heed to the international outcry in crisis mode.

However, within India, instead of adopting a mature and sensible strategy to handle the crisis and assuage the hurt feelings of the largest minority community of the country, the media and politicians tried to portray these remarks as inconsequential. Infact, they were used as a litmus test for the minority's followers and the government refused to apologise till the courts stepped in.

What's worse is that Muslims in India were unable to respond to the crisis meaningfully.

A deeper look at the controversy exposes the need to have better responses in specific contexts. For instance, in the current volatile situation, the responses from Indian muslims could have been more meaningful and well strategised.

Claims and Rebuttals

It all started with derogatory remarks made by two spokespersons of the ruling-BJP party against (PBUH), Prophet Muhammad the most venerated personality amongst Muslims. He was blamed for marrying Hazrat Bibi Aisha (RA), when she was 6-years-old, and 9-years-old when the marriage was consummated.

Before we analyse the response of the Muslim community and its leaders to these remarks, let's have a brief look at the current situation of girls and women in other religions and what is the minimum age prescribed in their scripture



Since the day this controversy started, no Muslim leader worth his salt has spoken candidly or correctly against these derogatory remarks. Even Muslim members of most political parties kept mum, except two regional political parties and one individual leader. This teaches us yet again the lesson to be proactive and logic-oriented in our response instead of just being emotional

Khoula (RA), he pointed out that Aisha (RA)'s marriage was already fixed with the son of Muta'im bin Jubair. But when he talked to Muta'im bin Jubair, Muta'im said that since Abu Bakr has forsaken his ancestors' religion, he couldn't marry his son with Aisha (RA). Abu Bakr (RA) then accepted the proposal brought by Hazrat Khoula (RA).

Myriam Francois-Cerrah in her article written for The Guardian in 2012 on the issue opines that western and now even Indian media base their criticism on a saying attributed to Bibi Aisha herself (Sahih Bukhari volume 5, book 58, number 3894), and the debate on this issue is further complicated by the fact that some Muslims believe this to be a historically accurate account, and indeed it is. But before leveling charges we should also analyse the reasoning or motive behind this action.

She points out that, in seventhcentury Arabia, adulthood was defined as the onset of puberty. (This much is true, and case in Europe: five centuries after Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH), marriage to Aisha, 33-year-old King John of England married 12-yearold Isabella of Angouleme.) Interestingly, of the many criticisms of

itself translated into a verbal-bias

harboured against them. The per-

vasiveness of these sexist attitudes

in our colloquial conversations

only goes onto show that subordi-

nation or exclusion of women isn't

some violent spectacle that erupts

on some unfortunate Sunday. It is a

normalised attitude which is deeply

enmeshed in our everyday routines,

off-the-cuff conversations, stereo-

typed images and the social expecta-

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), made at the time by his opponents, none focused on Aisha's age at marriage, as that was the norm during those days

At the age of 25 Prophet Mu-hammad (PBUH) married his first wife Khadija bint Khuwaylid, who was a widow 15 years older to him. This marriage lasted for 25 years. He married her to encourage widow remarriage and care for destitute women in the emerging Muslim society, which was not a usual practice in that age

After Bibi Khadija's death in 619 CE, he married a total of 12 women over the remaining years of his life. All of Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) wives were widows, with the exception of Aisha.

Italian Orientalist Laura Veccia Vaglieri in her book An Interpretation Of Islam writes that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was a faithful husband to Bibi Khadija for twenty-five years, and did not marry another woman, except after her death. He at that time was fifty He married each of hi vears old wives thereafter for a social or political purpose; such that he wanted to honor the pious women, or wanted the loyalty of certain tribes so that Islam would spread amongst them. All the wives Muhammad

married were not virgin, nor were they young or beautiful. So how can anyone claim that he was a lustful man?

Hallett JP in her book Fathers and daughters in Roman society in Rome (1984), wrote that noble women in Rome or earlier Christianity were known to marry as young as 12 years of age

Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics mentions Manusmriti, in this regard explained by other authorities in (verses 9.88-89), Gautama (18-21) - 'A girl should be given in marriage before puberty.' and Va i ha (17.70). - 'Out of fear of the appearance of the menses, let the father marry his daughter while she still runs about naked. For if she stays in the home after the age of puberty, sin falls on the father.'

But this leads us to another issue to ponder over i.e, the physical and physiological status of our ancestors. Several scientific reports mention that our ancestors were much superior and stronger in physical health and girls attained puberty much earlier than as of now. Even recently, there were some medical reports mentioning that girls currently reach puberty at around 13, much earlier than our previous generation.

This whole episode teaches us to adopt a sincere and respectful attitude for different religions of the world in today's global village based on tolerance and coexistence and respect for others' religion, and avoid unfounded allegations.

Since the day this controversy started, no Muslim leader worth his salt has spoken candidly or correctly against these derogatory remarks. Even Muslim members of most political parties kept mum, except two regional political parties and one individual leader. This teaches us yet again the lesson to be proactive and logic-oriented in our response instead of just being emotional.

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

Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He was also associated with BBC Urdu Service and Khaleej Times of Dubai. He writes on Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. www.asad-mirza.blogspot.com

Hundreds of millions of dollars are being spent on the media to beam destabilizing propaganda into Iran to create disquiet and unease in the population.

If Teheran has been singled out for such ministrations, it is evidently paying for being the only dispensation in the region accountable to the people through a popular ballot. If such a big noise has been created about protests confined to a few quarters of the capital, what about the sheikhdoms and monarchies surrounding it where even a whiff of dissent is a capital crime? How does the West explain its comfortable relations with totalitarian monarchies in the region, and its animus against republican Iran?

The Western media, and its middle eastern copycats like the Al Jazeera and the Al Arabia, have got their hands on a situation they want to milk to the fullest, but sadly for them, the institutions in Iran will prove superior to individuals and sort out this mostly-engineered crisis with the resolve and sagacity they have displayed at highly critical hours. After all, what has been proved in the case of Iran is that the quest of national dignity and self-respect, if pursued with a dedicated leadership and acute foresight, can result in the working of wonders.

> The article is an editorial from KO's archives and was originally published on 23 Nov, 2010

Notwithstanding the age difference, as perceived by the current generation's mindset, it is worth mentioning that when the marriage proposal was put forward to Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA), by Hazrat

BC of commonly used phrases about women in Kashmir: Veariv gai qabar, tset aasi ya zeeth, yi cha bardaash Karin - In-laws' home is a grave, uncomfortable or comfortable — bear with it

shoob – Grace, a Son

koor cha luk hund maal – Daughters are others' assets/property

Khodah soozyinas rut Khareedaar - May she get a nice customer as her husband

kouri mohnyui - A gendered handicap

Khodah pholneavnai dyekas te potras – May your fate — your husband and your son flourish

In Kashmir, the debate over language usually circumambulates the concerns of social heritage and the need to preserve it. Largely seen as a mode of transmission of values, culture and collective history; language is hardly scanned for its power of creating our world-views, organising our social lives and shaping our sense of wrong and right. Consequently, we become the peddlers of 'prejudicial and exclusionary behaviours, almost as a part of our genetic and social duty.

Being a part of a society, one tends to internalise and exhibit normalised yet abnormal proclivities. Consequently, we busy ourselves with internalising every piece of learning that falls on our ears from diverse media and are content with modelling ourselves on the template that social mechanisms turn all of us into.

However, women hardly have the privilege of remaining oblivious to the struggles they face. Each attitude that oppresses women finds



women seems like an invasive yet unchallenged norm.

These samples of conventional wisdom imagine her as some tradable and perishable commodity to be sold off, lest it diminishes in value. Such idiomatic expressions put a women's existence subservient to that of a man. Her worth and value is considered contingent upon the health of relations she shares with men as a daughter, mother or a wife

Being a part of a society, one tends to internalise and exhibit normalised yet abnormal proclivities. Consequently, we busy ourselves with internalising every piece of learning that falls on our ears from diverse media and are content with modelling ourselves on the template that social mechanisms turn all of us into.

neighbourhood is exalted to shoob, one can't help but mourn the existential rejection women are subjected to in Kashmir. From extreme marginalisation of bint-e-Hawwa in the briefest pleasantries like, Khodah pholneavnai dyekas te potras, to objectifying statements like Khodah soozvinas rut Khareedaar and koor cha luk hund maal; devaluation of – not as an individual.

The normalisation of such discriminatory language is so internalised that women participate and in some cases encourage such views. In fact, even with the awareness of these misgivings in our language, expressions like kouri mohnyui seem harmless in the face of the monstrous and fulminating phrases like, Veariv gai qabar, tset aasi ya zeeth, yi cha bardaash Karin.

Very often, these leitmotifs of subjugation use the garb of religion and morality to bludgeon women into submissiveness. They champion misogyny in the name of religion and turn the word of God to the task of Satan. Ironically, the ideals of docile and submissive women glorified in public discourses clash with the strong and principled figures of Islamic history who fought for Haq/ Rights. The values of fierceness and bravery of Prophet's (peace be upon him) female companions like Hz Nusaiba binti Kaab (r.a), the political merit exhibited by the likes of Queen of Sheeba and countless other figures have rarely ever shaped the ideals upheld and celebrated in our society.

Reading carefully into the workings of language, the fault of sexism is hardly a fault of Kashmiri language per se. Misogyny is itself a language with a deep-seated, multipronged attitude that manifests itself in a myriad of ways; language only betokening one of them.

Awareness and sensitisation on the issue, although gradual are contributing toward the much-needed erasure of devaluing language. We as a society are required to revisit how language continues to be used as a tool of inhibition rather than liberation. Preserving our heritage doesn't merely entail wholesale and lazy emulation of symbols of the past. It must involve screening them to criticism before handing them down to progeny

Rhetorically the significance of language in imagining our worlds couldn't be put more eloquently than Hafez in this verse:

"The words we speak become the house we live in"

tions directed at women. Every time a boy's birth in the

Think Opinion Analysis Essays

Rana Safvi's "Tales from Quran and Hadith"

66 How can a religion so beautiful and forgiving ever be 'terrifying' or 'horrifying' to people? Clearly the lack of awareness and content regarding the concept of Islam that reflects through the holy Ouran and Hadith is the reason why the common masses mostly tend to misapprahend it, or not comprehend it at all. Rana Safavi's has done admirably in bringing out the grace of Islam in this must read book, while keeping in check the authenticity of the stories

Sarah Koul

In today's time when Islam is constantly being misinterpreted and tainted as malign, this manifestation of hate needs to be combated potently by bringing out the true core of islam to the common masses. Lately, anti-Islamic prejudice has taken on new forms and has become a toxic everyday reality for muslims across the world. Islam is often regarded by its believers as the religion of 'peace, love and brotherhood', while the contradictory notion rules the contemporary world filled with islamophobia.

Rana Safvi's book does not only bring out the true essence of Islam but also reflects the impeccable beauty of it by portraying stories from the holy quran and hadith that paint the messages of love and mercy as a much needed aspect.

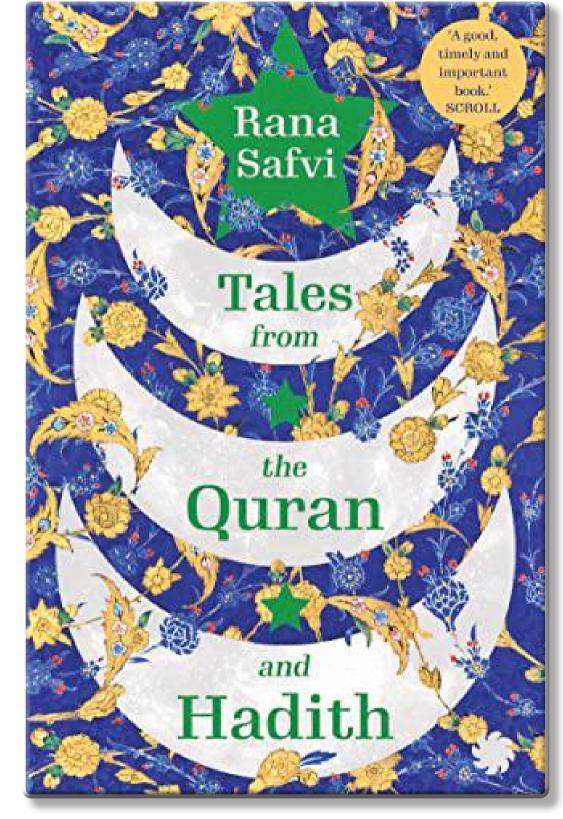
Islam is often misconceived as a practice of certain commandments like nimaz, roza and hajj only. However, its essence lies beyond these. It is a way of life.

The Quran and hadith teach us the valuable lessons that make us human, emphasize on virtues of mercy, faith, love, brotherhood and pave the way for us to perfect ourselves as humans.

Safavi writes in her book's preface, "It (Quran) is a collection of stories that reveals the entire range of human emotions, failings, misgivings, sorrows and happiness" and successfully delivers these lessons.

Her book is a much needed glimpse into the construct of islam, making it accessible to the lay reader and she has favourably achieved it. The book comprises 20 short stories, collected from the Quran and the Hadith. Some deal with pivotal subjects like creation of man or revelation of Quran, while others are light hearted tales featuring prophets, magical beings, great warriors and wise old men, emphasising upon universal virtues like patience, faith and compassion. Clearly, the underlying conjecture of all these stories revolves around the significance of humane morals of compassion, sympathy and consideration for others humans, it clearly reflects that there is no place for hatred, animosity or contempt in the religion of peace.

Stories such as "Zamzam Za-



mzam" help us understand and cherish Islamic festivals and customs such as the Eid Al Adha and of the famous Hajj pilgrimage. It explains why the cities of Medina and Mecca are holy, and the reason behind practices such as the reverence of the Kaaba or stoning of the shaytan.

Specifically, the South-Asian take on women in Islam is very narrow and constricted, they interpret the religion as an entity that shuns women and does not recognise them as an equal being. But the ignorant masses are devoid of the reality of Islam, which is the first religion that provided equal rights to muslim women.

Islam elevated the position of women in society and treated them on an equal footing with men, and in some cases, as a mother for instance, clearly gave them precedence over men. Islam has given women a share of inheritance. Before Islam, women were not only deprived of that share, but were themselves considered as property to be inherited by men. Out of that transferable property Islam made an heir, acknowledging the inher-ent individuality of women. Some of these tales portray women such as Khadjida (R.A), as a successful merchant or Bilquees the queen of Saba as strong and steadfast, while women in Islam are mostly misinterpreted to be oppressed and denied of respect and rights, which is a complete sham. The story of "The dog and the prostitute", reflects how Islam is the epitome of mercy and forgiveness, of how a sinful prosti-tute's selfless small act of kindness towards a dumb animal earned her lord's forgiveness and a place in heaven. How can a religion so beautiful and forgiving ever be 'terrifying' or 'horrifying' to people? Clearly the lack of awareness and content regarding the concept of Islam that reflects through the holy Quran and Hadith is the reason why the common masses mostly tend to misapprahend it, or not comprehend it at all. Rana Safavi's has done admirably in bringing out the grace of Islam in this must read book, while keeping in check the authenticity of the stories.

The author is an intern at Kashmir Observer

Future of Books

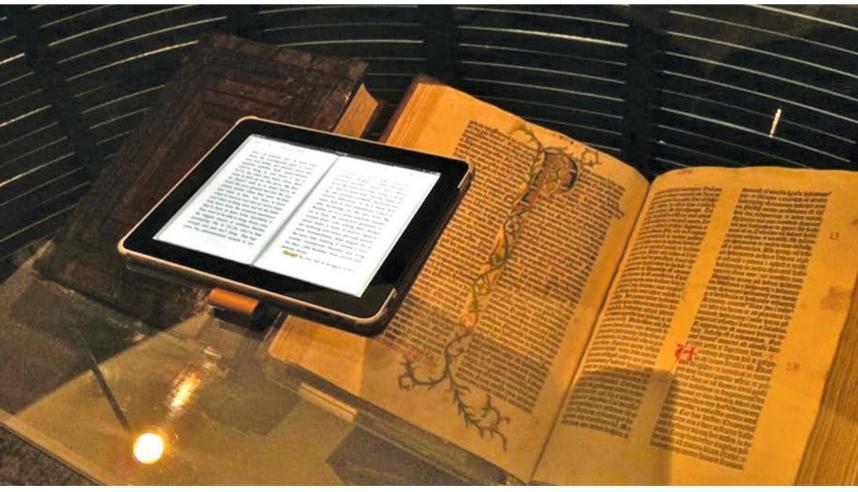
John Potts

The cultural transformation brought about by digital convergence and networked communication has been dizzying, and, for many, disorienting. None of the old certainties – political, corporate, economic – seems to hold, and the future – including the future of writing – is thrown into doubt.

In this strange new world, white is the new black, and up is the new down. Entire industries are imperiled, or at least obliged to build new business models in order to survive.

When digital information can be transmitted instantly across the internet and downloaded for free, the old structures, businesses and media forms are simply bypassed and left to wither. Unless new business models for online publication can be concocted, entire tranches of media forms are at risk of disappearing. This includes long-standing vehicles for writing as the newspaper, the magazine and the book, all endangered "old world" technologies.

Writing began on clay tablets in Mesopotamia around 5,000 years ago. Other vessels for the written word have included wax, ivory, metal, glass, papyrus, parchment and, finally, paper. Today, large bodies of digital information are archived "in the cloud", that is, in networked repositories of computer servers, waiting to be downloaded or accessed by reading devices. Is writing about to dissipate completely into the cloud, leaving behind its material base? Will oldfashioned writing formats such as the print newspaper and the book be vapourised, unloved and unGoogled, replaced by their immaterial successors?



Who still buys the newspaper?

Let's look first at the Fourth Estate, or rather Estate 4.0, in its largely online incarnation. The first printed newspaper was published in Germany in 1609, the Gothic font of the New York Times and Sydney Morning Herald mastheads bear a trace of these early years of newspapers. Once a daily necessity, today, only 23% of the Herald's readership is buying the paper version of the paper.

Every year I survey my

It's easy to see why there is distaste for printed news among the internet generation: the paper is by necessity yesterday's news, and you have to pay for it. The online version of the same newspaper, by contrast, features current breaking news, video features, readers' questions, input and blogs – and often it's free

undergraduate media studies students on their reading habits. Their responses are indicative of the "digital natives" who have grown up with the internet and social media. Only 5% regularly buy or subscribe to a print newspaper; in some years the figure is as low as 2% (those 2% are also the rare exceptions in their generation, conscientious objectors to Facebook).

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The online version of the Herald, like other online news outlets, features "most read"

stories and "most watched" videos. These are often celebrity items and sensational crime stories, while news items tend to be shorter and international news can sink down the contents page.

What is front page news in the hard copy may be hidden online. I've had conversations on current events with a friend, based on my reading of the Sydney Morning Herald paper, and her reading of smh. com.au – it became apparent that we had read quite different versions of the news.

The future of the book

What of the venerable printed book? a vehicle for writing far older than the newspaper dating to the first century. The CEO of Amazon, Jeff Bezos, has said "the physical book and bookstores are dead". Already given the rather disdainful descriptor of "p-book", the oldfashioned printed book will inevitably be replaced, according to Bezos and other Captains of Post-industry, by the Kindle, iPad and other new vessels for digital text.

Here, though, the digital natives are not marching to the drum-beat of digital progress. Those same undergraduate students who have abandoned the newspaper profess a love for the printed book: only 4% use e-readers instead of "p-books". Their common complaints about e-readers include the strain of reading continuously from a screen, the difficulty of reading in certain light conditions, and the distractions from the text due to other information sources on tablets. There is also an enduring affection for the tactility of handling a printed book, and for the sheer materiality of the book – as an object that can be written on, bent, bookmarked, and added to your personal library.

Perhaps this will change as an even younger generation goes to school knowing only e-text books – but even small children seem to have a love for holding, folding, and tearing paper books. Journalism looks to have an increasingly online destiny, but the future of printed books is not yet all used up.

The author is Professor of Media, Macquarie University. The article is being reproduced by arrangements with The Conversation

NEWS

Capitol Riot Panel Blames Trump For 1/6 "Attempted Coup"

Agenceis

Washington: The House panel investigating the January 6 insurrection at the US Capitol laid the blame firmly on Donald Trump on Thursday night, saying the assault was hardly spontaneous but an attempted coup and a direct result of the defeated president's effort to overturn the 2020 election.

With a never-before-seen 12-minute video of extremist groups leading the deadly siege and startling testimony from Trump's most inner circle, the 1/6 committee provided gripping detail in contending that Trump's repeated lies about election fraud and his public effort to stop Joe Biden's victory led to the attack and imperiled American democracy

Democracy remains in danger, said Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., chairman of the panel, during the hearing, timed for prime time to reach as many Americans as possible.

"January 6 was the culmination of an attempted coup, a

brazen attempt, as one rioter put it shortly after January 6, to overthrow the government, Thompson said. "The violence was no accident.

The hearings may not change Americans' views on the Capitol attack, but the panel's investigation is intended to stand as its public record.

Ahead of this fall's midterm elections, and with Trump considering another White House run, the committee's final report aims to account for the most violent attack on the Capitol since 1814, and to ensure such an attack never happens again.

Testimony showed on Thursday how Trump desperately clung to his own false claims of election fraud, beckoning supporters to the Capitol on January 6 when Congress would certify the results, despite those around him insisting Biden had won the election.

In a previously unseen video clip, the panel played a quip from former Attorney General Bill Barr who testified that

he told Trump the claims of a rigged election were bull. In another, the former presi-

dent's daughter, Ivanka Trump, testified to the committee that she respected Barr's view that there was no election fraud. I accepted what he said.

Others showed leaders of the extremist Oath Keepers and Proud Boys preparing to storm the Capitol to stand up for Trump. One rioter after another told the committee they came to the Capitol because Trump asked them to.

President Trump summoned violent mob, said Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., the panel's vice chair who took the lead for much of the hearing. When a president fails to take the steps necessary to preserve our union or worse, causes a constitutional crisis we're in a moment of maximum danger for our republic.

There was an audible gasp in the hearing room when Cheney read an account that said when Trump was told the Capitol mob was chanting for Vice President Mike Pence to be hanged for refusing to

block the election results. Trump responded that maybe they were right, that he deserves it.

At another point it was disclosed that Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., a leader of efforts to object to the election results, had sought a pardon from Trump, which would protect him from prosecution.

When asked about the White House lawyers threatening to resign over what was happening in the administration, Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner scoffed they were whining.

Police officers who had fought off the mob consoled one another as they sat in the committee room reliving the violence they faced. Officer Harry Dunn teared up as bodycam footage showed rioters bludgeoning his colleagues with flagpoles and baseball bats.

In wrenching testimony US Capitol Police officer Caroline Edwards told the panel that she slipped in other people's blood as rioters pushed past her into the Capitol. She suffered brain injuries in the melee.

It was carnage. It was chaos.

she said.

The riot left more than 100 police officers injured, many beaten and bloodied, as the crowd of pro-Trump rioters, some armed with pipes, bats and bear spray, charged into the Capitol. At least nine people who were there died during and after the rioting, including a woman who was shot and killed by police.

Biden, in Los Angeles for the Summit of the Americas, said many viewers were going to be seeing for the first time a lot of the detail that occurred.

Trump, unapologetic, dismissed the investigation anew and even declared on social media that January 6 represented the greatest movement in the history of our country.

Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee tweeted: All. Old. News.

Emotions are still raw at the Capitol, and security was tight. Law enforcement officials are reporting a spike in violent threats against members of Congress.

WHO: COVID Origins Unclear, But Lab Leak **Theory Needs Study**

Agenceis

London: An expert group drafted by the World Health Organisation to help investigate the origins of the coronavirus pandemic says further research is needed to determine how COVID-19 first began, including a more detailed analysis of the possibility it was a laboratory accident.

That stance marks a sharp reversal of the U.N. health agency's initial assessment of the pandemic's origins. WHO concluded last year that it was extremely unlikely COVID-19 might have spilled into humans from a lab. Many scientists suspect the coronavirus jumped into people from bats, possibly via another animal. In a report released Thursday, WHO's expert group said key pieces of data to ex-

plain how the pandemic began were still missing. The scientists said the group would remain open to any and all scientific evidence that becomes available in the future to allow for comprehensive testing of

all reasonable hypotheses. Identifying a disease's source in animals typically takes years; it took about 15 years for scientists to find the species of bats that were the natural reservoir for SARS, a relative of COVID-19.

WHO's expert group also noted that since lab accidents in the past have triggered some outbreaks, the highly politicized theory could not be discounted. Former U.S. President Donald Trump speculated repeatedly without evidence that COVID-19 was started in a Chinese lab. He also accused WHO of colluding with China to cover up the initial outbreak, citing the U.N. health agency's continued public praise of the country.

WHO's expert group said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus sent two letters to senior Chinese government officials in February requesting information, including details about the earliest human cases of COVID-19 in the city of Wuhan; it's unclear whether the Chinese responded.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

After Pandemic, Kashmiri

epidemic. Gen Z is a burger generation. All they eat is junk, be it outside or at home."

The notion is that junk is only the fast food or the packed food provided outside the comfort of home, but actually, junk is all the unbalanced diet that the kids are provided with, Dr. Waniwarned."And junk can be made at home also, like parents here feel that rice is all kids needs and maggie is quite prevalent and liked not only by kids but parents are also fine with

The statistics show a drastic increase in childhood obesity cases in the valley. But despite being a matter of grave concern, most parents turn a blind eye to the problem.

Adif, another victim of this silent epidemic, is a second-grade student whose parents are in denial. His physical appearance is enough to justify that he's unfit at a very young age.

The changes in his body started to be noticeable from the past year. He has started to consume a lot of junk, decreased his physical activities, and increased his screen time.

"Last year, he was in fine shape, but now he has changed a lot," Sana, one of his relatives, said."I talked to his mother as I was very concerned about his health, but she's not ready to accept the reality. She loves to see her baby getting fluffy."

Shagufta, a dietician at Srinagar's GB Pant Hospital, told Kashmir Observer that healthy is not a synonym with more weight, in fact in most cases it is the opposite of it.

"People here have a liking for a chubby kid," he said. "Parents need to understand that if there's a significant changes in their child's body mass, there's no harm in getting him checked. There're a lot of implications of obesity even in adulthood. Parents seek medical attention after the child has other complaints like thyroid or diabetes, which should not happen at such a young age. Moreover, parents have started to introduce their children to technology at a very young age, be it for pacifying the babies by giving them mobile phones or during their feeding times. With the increased screen time children have decreased their physical activities leading to obesity.' Shayan, 13, has been diagnosed with cholesterol and is at risk of obesity. His parents first thought that he's becoming healthy till he developed breathing issues and was not able to perform his daily activities normally. Now he has started his treatment and is doing followups religiously.

control an irate mob near Hanuman temple on the city's Main Road, an official said.

Police fired in the air besides resorting to lathi-charge to control the mob which spilled out on the road after Friday prayers in a mosque located close by. The protesters shouted slogans and pelted policemen with stones.

Asked about the number of policemen and civilians injured in the violence, Ranchi Deputy Commissioner, Chhavi Ranjan told PTI that the exact number is being ascertained.

Drone surveillance was also being carried out in the affected area to keep an eye on miscreants.

The apex child rights body National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) said children were used in many of the "violent demonstrations" witnessed on Friday and that it would take strict legal action.

Hundreds of protesters blocked roads in different parts of Howrah district in West Bengal. Some agitators clashed with personnel at Dhulagarh, Panchla and Uluberia when they tried to lift the blockade on National Highwav-6.

Police had to baton charge to disperse the crowd at Dhulagarh and Panchla, where the demonstrators pelted stones in retaliation, causing damage to nearby cars, police said.

The protesters also blocked railway tracks between Fuleswar and Chengail stations in the Howrah-Kharagpur section from 1.22 pm, a South Eastern Railway official said, adding four trains were cancelled, while two were diverted due to the agitation.

Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar appealed for peace, and sought an urgent update on the law and order situation by the state's chief secretary.

The Hurrivat Conference headed by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, while condemning the repeated closure of the historic Jamia Masjid in Srinagar for Friday prayers by the authorities, alleged that anti-Kashmir and anti-Muslim measures are a hallmark of the central rule.

Remain 'Alert, Prepared

disturb peace in the country. Police and, if required, the paramilitary will also need to be on alert mode to counter any untoward situation," the official said.

He added that several instructions have been issued to keep a watch on fringe elements posting provocative speeches.

"We have asked state police to identify the influencers posting live videos of violence and provocative speeches. Take required action against such people," he added.

The MHA has asked all the states to take preventive actions, keep a check on borders and identified sensitive areas.

The order have been issued after the violence broke out in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj and protests were held at Moradabad, Saharanpur and Firozabad

Meanwhile, several other states including Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Punjab, Hyderabad, and Gujarat also faced massive protests against the leader's controversial remarks.

Curfew Clamped

entered the neighbouring Jama Masjid. Purported video clips of the inflammatory speeches went viral on social media. The poice have registered a case and warned people against taking the law into their own hands.

the afternoon and they have been asked to persuade members of their communities to maintain peace.

Cleric Adil Ganai, who has been booked for making inflammatory and hate speeches in Bhaderwah on Thursday, tendered an apology for hurting the sentiments of a particular community.

"It was not against a community but a particular individual. Despite that, I hurt the feelings of a community, I apologise", he told reporters. Ganai said it was the result of an emotional outburst. "I apologize for that."

Taking to Twitter, former chief minister Omar Abdullah said, "I hope cooler heads prevail. Jammu and Kashmir has enough problems without adding to them with communal tension spreading in and around Bhadarwah. I appeal to everyone to maintain calm and ask my party colleagues to help normalise the situation at the earliest.

Efforts On To Restore

against the Prophet by two now-suspended BJP leaders, prompting authorities to impose a curfew and snap internet services there. Singh said people should behave responsibly and maintain communal harmony.

"We are holding talks with them (people). Additional director general of police (ADGP) and the divisional commissioner have been sent to that area. They are both in Bhaderwah. The situation is being watched. We will soon bring it to normalcy, the J-K Police chief told reporters during a visit to Kathua to review arrangements with regard to the forthcoming Amarnath Yatra

department of the J&K government had issued an SRO-460 which clearly notified that the monthly wages of the unskilled workers should not be less than 6,750 per month.

It is pertinent to mention here that the sweepers who have been working in the sub-centres, primary health centres (PHCs), sub-district hospitals (SDHs), and district hospitals in almost all the districts of J&K, particularly in the Valley, have had the same fate where the minimum wages per month were not more than Rs 300.

In 2016, the Health Department, civil secretariat [Communication No: HD/NG/06/2011 dated 4 August 2016] recommended a hike in the wages of the consolidated health workers.

Workers being paid Rs. 100 were supposed to get Rs. 500 per month and those who were paid Rs. 500 a month were recommended wages of Rs.1,000 per month and a wage of Rs. 1,500 was fixed for the workers who were already being paid Rs. 1,000 per month. The maximum wages were fixed at Rs. 3,000 a month, which would be paid to only a handful of drivers.

However, the increase till now hasn't been implemented by the government, except for a handful of drivers who now receive a salary of Rs.3000 per month.

Pahalgam Under

targeted killings, the security agencies have also reworked their strategy to ensure the safety of the pilgrims.

The official said CRPF will be equipped with high-tech gadgets being used "first time" during the annual pilgrimage of Hindus amid specific concern regarding the use of "sticky bombs".

The official said the vatra will have a five-lay

"I'm glad that I realised how severe it could be," said Shayan's mother. "I know we started the treatment very late but you know it is better late than sorry.

Dietician Shugufta also mentioned that most of the patients don't follow the prescribed diet and won't come for routine check-ups.

Another such case of delayed treatment is Zofiq, a class tenth student.

He was in sixth grade when his weight started to increase due to the large consumption of junk food. As a result of his weight, his appetite increased, and in turn, his weight continued to grow

"We all tried to warn his parents but they were happy that he has started to eat," said Zofiq's uncle.

His condition deteriorated to a point where doctors said that if he continued to take the same kind and amount of food, he's at risk of having a stroke. After that, his parents realised the gravity of the situation and stopped his junk intake.

"It took us one year to control his diet," said Sanam, Zofiq's sister. "He used to cry for junkfood but as much as it broke our hearts to see him like that we knew it was necessary."

Protests Flare Up

police vehicle, a police official said.

Police used tear gas and lathis to disperse mobs and peace was later restored, the official said, adding that one policeman was hurt in Prayagraj. In Saharanpur, protesters demanded the death sentence for Nupur Sharma.

Prohibitory orders were imposed in parts of Jharkhand capital Ranchi after some policemen and others were injured while trying to

In Gujarat, protests were held in some areas of Ahmedabad and Vadodara. Shops and markets in Muslim-dominated Dariyapur and Karanj areas in Ahmedabad remained shut while in Darivapur, several men and teenagers gathered on a main road with placards proclaiming love for the Prophet and demanding the arrest of Nupur Sharma.

Protests were staged in several cities of Maharashtra though no untoward incident was reported from anywhere.

"A law needs to be formulated to punish people who hurt religious sentiments...We will fight on this issue with complete strength," AIMIM MP Imtiaz Jaleel told protesters in Aurangabad.

In Panvel city in Navi Mumbai, at least 3,000 protesters including around 1,000 women took out a march, demanding the arrest of Sharma and lindal.

A protest was also held at Shivaji Chowk in Vashi, where a delegation submitted their demands to the Vashi Police Station. Similar protest gatherings or marches were held in Thane, Solapur, Nandurbar, Parbhani, Beed, Latur, Bhandara, Chandrapur and Pune.

Protesters in Hyderabad were seen holding placards that read "Arrest Nupur Sharma."

Several students of Jamia Millia Islamia staged a demonstration on the varsity campus in Delhi and demanded the arrest of Sharma.

The BJP on Sunday suspended Sharma and lindal after their derogatory comments on the Prophet sparked a huge furore including in the Arab world.

Spontaneous Shutdown

Authorities have shut down the Internet on mobile devices in many areas as a precautionary measure to stop rumour-mongers, officials said, adding there were no reports of any untoward incident in the Valley so far.

Meanwhile, protests erupted at several places here on Friday with the Hurriyat Conference alleging that anti-Muslim measures have become a hallmark of the government.

Protests were held at Lal Chowk, Batamaloo, Tengpora and other places in the city.

Holding placards, men, as well as women, staged protests after the Friday congregational prayers, officials said.

They said the protests were peaceful with no untoward incident being reported from anywhere.

Authorities had snapped the internet on mobile phones in Srinagar as a precautionary measure to prevent rumor-mongering.

However, tension increased around midnight when two women, who came out of the mosque, claimed that they were roughed up by the security forces who were implementing the curfew in the town.

Stones were pelted at the security forces who had to later lob tear gas shells and resort to lathi charge.

Tension eased after senior officials, including the additional deputy commissioner, assured the protestors that an enquiry would be held to probe into the allegations levelled by the two women

Additional Director General (ADG) of Police Mukesh Singh visited the Baderwah town along with the Divisional Commissioner of Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, and other officials to assess the situation.

Later, he told reporters that preventive measures have been taken to ease the situation and requested the media not to visit areas where stone-pelting had taken place as it could flare up the situation.

"Security forces have been deployed in large numbers in Bhaderwah town. The situation is under control. Anyone who tries to vitiate the atmosphere will face stringent action," Singh said.

The ADG held a meeting with all security agencies, civil administration and the Army to assess the situation and asked them to take stringent action against the miscreants.

A route march was held in Masjid Mohalla, Sadar Bazar and Pasri Bus Stand in Bhaderwah town. Singh added.

Officials said the protests were peaceful with no untoward incident reported from anywhere so far.

Union minister and Udhampur MP Jitendra Singh appealed for peace and harmony.

"Curfew has been imposed in both Doda and Kishtwar districts as a precautionary measure." Divisional Commissioner, Jammu region, Ramesh Kumar told PTI.

Registering FIRs, the police have warned that anyone found violating law and order will not be spared.

"Action has been taken (over inflammatory speeches). A case has been registered under IPC sections 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) at Bhaderwah police station," a police official said.

"Anyone who takes the law into his own hands will not be spared," he said.

The divisional commissioner and the DIG will hold a meeting with religious leaders in

He said curfew has been imposed as a precautionary measure to maintain peace and appealed to people to not get misled by provocation.

People should behave responsibly. If someone does anything wrong, action is taken against that person. It is not wise to come on roads at the instigation of someone and do acts which cause damage to communal harmony,' Singh said.

Expression of resentment on being instigated is alright to a level but no such step should be taken wherein police have to use force and take stringent action, the DGP said.

He said some people do not behave responsibly and do acts that disturb law and order.

"They speak very wrong. They should not speak like that. If someone hurts people's feelings, there are aberrations," Singh said.

Curfew has been imposed in Bhaderwah to stop such an activity, he added.

SC Directs J&K

Notably, in November 2021 Kashmir Observer had reported that the Jammu & Kashmir administration had sought details of the unskilled workers along with financial implication for the implementation of much awaited Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

In an order, the Health & Medical Education Department directed the seven listed heads of various departments "to furnish the details of the unskilled workers along with financial implications for the implementation of Minimum Wages Act,1948".

Addressing the order, the Under Secretary to the Government, Javaid Ahmad Malik asked the seven entities to treat the matter as "Most Urgent" and directed them to furnish the demanded details of unskilled workers (parttime workers/consolidated safaiwallas/helpers) within a week's time.

"So, that the matter may be taken up with the Finance Department for their concurrence." reads the order, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer.

Pertinently, the order had come into action three days after Kashmir Observer had highlighted the issue in its weekly Inkishaf program titled, "Covid Warriors or Bonded Labourers?"

The report highlighted how J&K government was violating its own Minimum Wages Act, 1948 that provides a minimum wage to the labourers working in the organized sector and bars their exploitation. The report had also highlighted how the J&K Government was paying a monthly wage of Rs 200 per month to the unskilled workers.

Notably, in 2017, the labor and employment

security system with drones, radio frequency identification (RFID), and hundreds of CCTVs to secure the Amarnath yatra vehicles.

The government has decided to provide multi-tier security cover by getting 300 additional companies of paramilitary forces to Kashmir.

Amnesty Asks

after the killing of Rahul Bhat.

Bhat's killing sparked demonstrations by around 6,000 Kashmiri Pandit employees at various places. They demanded they be relocated outside the Valley.

Three Militants,

Zahid Bashir son of Bashir Ahmad, both residents of Nehalpora Pattan area of Baramulla," he said.

He said incriminating materials, arms of ammunition including two Chinese Pistols, 18 live rounds and two magazines have been recovered from their possession.

Earlier police said that a hybrid militant and an associate of the outfit were arrested in Budgam. He said acting on specific information, Police along with 62RR and 43Bn CRPF arrested the hybrid militant Mudabir Ajaz son of Ajaz Ahmed Rather of Gulshanabad Hyderpora and the associate as Syed Muntaha Mehrai son of Syed Mehrajudin of New Colony Ompora.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the arrested duo was involved in providing transportation & logistic support to the LeT militants besides, transportation of arms & ammunition across the district Budgam," he said.

"Incriminating materials, arms of ammunition including one Chinese grenade and 35 AK rounds have been recovered from their possession." he said.

He said a case (FIR No. 190/2022) under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Budgam and investigation has been initiated.

J&K Reports 11

mucormycosis (black fungus). Youth Found

cognizance of the incident and initiated investigation. Body will be handed over to family for last rites after postmortem, they added (KNO)

Two Gamblers

of Batsuma Rafiabad.

"Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 67/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Dangiwacha and investigation set into motion," the spokesperson added.

STATE

'Unnatural Offence': Court **Upholds 3 Years Jail Term To Man**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A court in Pulwama district on Friday upheld three years rigorous imprisonment and fine of Rs. 5000 awarded to a convict for 'unnatural offence' with a minor child in the south Kashmir district in December 2010.

While deciding the Criminal Appeal, Abdul Rashid Malik, Principal Sessions Judge Pulwama, upheld and maintained the conviction and sentence against the convict, Javaid Ahmad under Section 377 RPC by the Trial Magistrate.

complainant lodged a written report at police station Awantipora to the effect that on 10 December 2010 the victim, a minor child, was taken by the convict to some unknown place on a cycle and subjected him to unnatural act. The victim did not disclose the incident to his family however after some days when be experienced pain while passing stool, his mother took him dered compensation of Rs.1.00 to the doctor where the victim revealed the whole incident to der J&K Victim Compensation which he was subjected by the Scheme 2013 which was in force accused. "While upholding the at the time of incident. (GNS)

conviction, the Court observed that delay in lodging the First Information Report per se is not a mitigating circumstance for the accused (now convict) when accusations like the one in the case are involved.

The court said the delay in lodging the First Information Report cannot be used as a ritualistic formula for discarding prosecution case and doubting its authenticity. "It only puts the court on guard to search for and consider if any explanation has been offered for the delay. On 13 December 2010, the Once it is offered, the Court is to see whether it is satisfactory or not," the court said underlining that in case, if the prosecution fails to satisfactorily explain the delay and there is possibility of embellishment or exaggeration in the prosecution version on account of such delay, it is a relevant factor. The court also underlined that victim's plight cannot be ignored. The Court orlakh in favour of the victim un-

Rain Brings Temp Down In Kashmir, Jammu Swelters

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Fresh rains and gusty winds lashed parts of Kashmir Valley even as the minimum and maximum temperature recorded a drop at most places in J&K on Friday.

A meteorological department official here said that Srinagar and other parts received fresh rains from the evening. There were gusty winds at places and thunderstorm at scattered places. However there was damage to any property reported. Amid rains, Srinagar recorded a maximum of 27.1°C against yesterday's 30.5°C. Jammu continued to sizzle even as it recorded 43.3°C against 43.6°C on June

9, season's highest temperature for the winter capital so far. Earlier Srinagar received 8.7 mm of rainfall in last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, mainly

since last evening. During the time, he said, Qazgind received 4 mm of rain, Pahalgam 11.2

However rains eluded most parts of Jammu region with only Banihal in Ramban district receiving 1.4mm of rainfall, the official said.

Meanwhile, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 14.6°C against 15.4°C on the previous night, he said. The temperature, he said, was above normal by 0.3°C during this time of the year for the summer capital.

Qazigund recorded a low of 13.0°C against 11.2°C on the previous night. The tempera-ture was 0.1°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

the previous night. The temperature was 1.3°C above normal for the famous resort in south season, he said.

Devise Better Traffic Management

Plan Within 15 Days: CS Tells Officers

12.6°C against 13.2°C on the cial said. "There is no forecast of previous night. It was 0.5°C any major rain this week," said mm, Kupwara 0.6 mm, Kuke- above normal for the place in the official. (GNS)

rnag 0.6mm and Gulmarg 8.2 south Kashmir during this time of the season, the official said. Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.8°C against 9.0°C on the previous night, the official said. While 8.8°C is normal for the world famous skiing resort during this time of the season, the official said that the temperature was 4.0°C below normal for the famous place in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of 12.5°C against 12.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.1°C below normal for the district, the official said.

Jammu recorded a low of Pahalgam recorded a mini-mum of 9.5°C against 7.1°C on vious night, the official said. The vious night, the official said. The temperature was 5.3°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low Kashmir during this time of the of 15.2°C, Batote recorded a low of 19.3°C while Bhadarwah had Kokernag recorded a low of a minimum of 15.5°C, the offi-

Union Minister Visits Indian Int'l Trade Saffron Spice Park At Pampore



Observer News Service

PULWAMA: Under the Union Government's third public outreach programme, the Union focus on farm mechanization Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Kailash Choudhary on Friday visited Indian International Trade Saffron farmers to enhance their pro-Spice Park, Pampore where he duction manifold. inspected various departments

of the processing unit. On the occasion, the Minister said that the Central Government is ready to provide all possible help and support to the farmers. "With the existence of Spice Park, the income out of has doubled. Center will provide all kind of facilities and assistance to the farmers for a prosperous life," he added.

Choudhary said that the Government of India and the J&K at uplifting socio-economic government is keen to widen status of the people. Only selfthe growth of agriculture as sufficient villages can help fulfil well as horticulture sectors that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's are vital towards transforming vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' lives of the farming community. He maintained that these sectors can transform the economy of the UT tremendously over the next decade by creating numerous job opportunities, reducing poverty and backwardness besides increasing the production har Bharat scheme to ensure to facilitate optimum economic infrastructure development in growth in a peaceful and ecofriendly manner.

The MoS said that Central Government brings hope for the agriculture sector of Jammu-Kashmir that aims at doubling the farmers' income in a planned of High Yield and High Density present on the occasion.

CHILD RIGHTS IN J&K

Chairman NCPCR Chairs Inter-Departmental Review-**Cum-Consultative Meeting**

crops, use of modern technology and other measures," he said. The Minister said that the

government has also laid special which is another area instrumental in transforming the agriculture sector which will help

During his visit, Choudhary met and listened to the issues of various stakeholders including saffron growers, NRLM beneficiaries, progressive farmers and FPOs. They put forth their demands and projected many other issues of public concern. saffron production of growers The Minister assured the delegations speedy resolution of their genuine issues.

"Government of India has already been working on various flagship programmes aimed and for that it was important to focus on small farmers," he said. To help farmers increase their income, the government has announced an agriculture infrastructure fund of nearly Rs 1.50 lakh crore under the Atmanirbvillages, the minister said.

Deputy Commissioner Pulwama Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary, SSP Awantipora, Director Horticulture, Director Agriculture, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Awantipora, Tral besides manner. "The strategy is to focus progressive farmers and other on encouraging the cultivation concerned officers were also

Observer News Service established in all the 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir. SRINAGAR: Chairman National Commission for Protection of explored ways to bring out-of-Child Rights (NCPCR), Priyank Kanoongo on Friday chaired education. an inter-departmental reviewcum-consultative meeting to quired about the status of the monitor the Child Rights in Jammu and Kashmir

Jammu's Pluralistic Ethos Will **Defeat Hate Mongers: Rana**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Cautioning against machinations of straining the time tested inclusive and pluralistic ethos of Jammu, senior BJP leader and former MLA De- secular fabric of the region. vender Singh Rana on Friday called for identifying, exposing and isolating the elements inimical to peace and tranquility.

Jammu's tryst with harmony is strong enough to withstand enough to thwart the designs of the vicious onslaught of hate peace-breakers by maintaining mongers, Rana said while inter- unity and brotherhood.

acting with the people at Palpad during his visit to the area.

He said pluralistic Jammu's ethos of inclusiveness and harmony is the strong citadel against forces who want to disturb the Rana said the people, irrespective of region and religion, are sagacious enough to see through the attempts of dividing the society and resolute

AAP Condemns Attempts Of Vested Interests' To Create Communal Divide For Political Motives In J&K

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Aam Aadmi Party on Friday condemned attempts of certain vested interests to create a communal divide for political motives in Jammu and Kash- ate their attempts of creating mir and appealed to people not communal polarisation for vote

to fall prey to such divisive forces. Jammu Chamber of Com-

The comments come after ten- public good. It

communal violence engineered

by vested interests, he said. Cautioning the vested political interests to refrain from fishing in the troubled waters of J-K, Singh said people will not tolerbank politics.

Faith and politics should be merce and Industries (JCCI) too kept separate. This general rule appealed to people to maintain need to be followed by all in peace and communal harmony. the interests of the nation and was generally sion mounted in Bhaderwah and believed that most sinister and some areas of Kishtwar in J-K ominous parties were those over the controversial remarks which used religion and Gods against Prophet Mohammad by to control the people and to Jammu Chamber of Comcommunal harmony and broth- merce and Industries (JCCI) exerhood which can't be allowed pressed serious concern over the prevailing situation in Bhapoliticians for promoting their darwah town and appealed to people to play their crucial role in combating growing tendencies of intolerance and hate. It said that societal renaismunal tension in Bhaderwah sance holds key to bind comand Kishtwar, Singh urged the munities and regions together, especially in a diverse state like

Observer News Service SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday impressed upon the officers of civil and police administration to devise a better traffic man- and "our management of traffic agement plan within a period

of 15 days. necks to come up with lasting solutions for all of them. The Chief Secretary was

speaking in a high level meeting held to deliberate over the traffic management in the J&K. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary,

Home; Principal Secretary, PWD; Commissioner Secretary, Transport Department; Transport Commissioner; IG Traffic; DIG Traffic, SSP Traffic Kash-

Dr Mehta emphasised upon

proper application of scientific knowledge. He maintained that civilized societies have better solutions for their problems should reflect our civility."

He underscored the need He asked them to carryout a of having short, mid and long scientific study of all the bottlewoes. He asked for strict implementation of using High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) on vehicles only for their effective monitoring. He enjoined upon the enforcement agencies to utilize their men and machinery efficiently to bring about enforcement on ground. a substantial improvement in coming days.

The Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Home stressed on better management of traffic. He the fact that the present situmir, SSP Traffic Jammu besides ation calls for more stringent installation of automatic traffic other concerned officers from enforcement at all levels. He fa- signals, use of interceptors couand technology for manning

the officers to erect barriers also gave his suggestions reand diversions on roads after garding the better management of traffic in the UT. He asked for creating minimum barriers and simplifying the enforcement tactics. He made out that our efforts should be empowering instead of authoritative in nature.

The Commissioner Secretary, Transport informed the meeting that J&K has some 18.5 lakh vehicles out of which around 16.5 lakh have HSRPs affixed on them. He further revealed that all the vendors have the capacity to meet our requirements and the target can be met smoothly after renewed

The IG Traffic informed the meeting about various measures being taken in the UT for enumerated that e-challaning police and civil administration. voured for using modern tools pled with other technical and technological interventions are

two now-suspended BJP leaders. achieve power," he said.

"We have an age-old history of to be subverted by reckless narrow parochial political interests." AAP leader and former minister Harsh Dev Singh said.

Flaying the reports of compeople not to fall prey to nefarious designs of disruptive forces. Jammu and Kashmir.

"Vested political interests are in J-K," he alleged.

We need to unite to face the onslaught of the enemy rather than falling in the trap of op- was hatched by some unscruportunist politicians. We have pulous elements to divide the to give the message of unity and brotherhood. The freedom that we obtained is the result century-old communal harof the united struggle of people mony and brotherhood of the belonging to various religious people of the town, he said. faiths," Singh said.

We cannot trivialise the su- vigilant from anti-national eleresorting to hate campaign and ties for their vested interests.

Addressing media persons engineering communal divide here, Arun Gupta, president, JCCI, said that the situation in Bhadarwah is grave.

"A well-planned conspiracy people and make them fight (against) each other to destroy

He urged the people to remain

preme sacrifice of our valiant ments who are trying to create jawans and freedom fighters by wedge between the communi-

the officers to ensure that there the roads and ensuring smooth is no unauthorized parking on roads anywhere. He asked them tions. He observed that popular affected in terms of choking of roads so needs better enforce- vehicles have these within the to change this aspect of traffic ment of traffic rules.

The Chief Secretary urged

given deadline.

going to bring in the necessary flow of traffic on them.

respite for commuters. He also emphasized on opti-It was said that the proto identify places for parking mumutilization of the available curement of high end traffic of vehicles at all the busy loca- parking spaces for brining in management equipment like the desired change on ground. highway patrolling vehicles, market and tourist places hav- He asked them to accelerate the interceptors, motor bikes ing highest footfall are badly process of affixation of HSRP body cameras besides other across the UT so that all the paraphernalia shortly is going policing to a larger extent in the

The Principal Secretary, PWD UT of J&K.

Cong MP Hit Out At Centre For Its Failure To Secure Innocent People In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Hitting out at the BJP-led Centre for its "failure" to secure the lives of innocent life and property of innocents Kashmir," she said. people in Kashmir from targeted killings, Congress Rajya Sabha MP Amee Yagnik on Fri- time leading to atmosphere of day demanded adequate secu- panic among the common peo- ties in Kashmir. rity measures for the safety of minorities in the valley.

She also expressed concern over the prevailing atmosphere sult of terror, they are seeking zational affairs, especially the of religious tension in Jammu migration and transfer in Jam- ongoing process of organization and Kashmir and elsewhere in mu for the first time after 1990.

the country under the present

"It is unfortunate that this kind of situation has emerged 'The BJP government at the in Kashmir when BJP was claim-Centre has failed to secure the ing near complete normalcy in

She demanded an adequate security measures for the safety of innocents especially minori-

Yagnik was responding to media queries here after taking The AICC leader said as a re- stock of the the party's organielections

Member Secretary NCPCR, Director General Women & Child Development, Mission Director Integrated Child Development Services, Director Social Welfrom Home Department, Health in, the United Nations Conven-& Medical Education, School tion on the Rights of the Child, Education, Rural Development which India ratified in 1992. & Panchayati Raj Department and Labour & Employment Department.

NCPCR was briefed department- thereof authority under Juvenile wise steps being taken to protect Justice Act, 2015, Protection of child rights in the Union Territory and the process adopted by Act, 2012 and Right to Education the concerned departments in Act, 2009. facilitating implementation of Child Rights and prevention of

crimes against children. nile Justice Boards have been possible help.

school children into mainstream

Resides the meeting

The Chairman NCPCR enimplementations of various legislations, programmes, policies The meeting was attended by etc with regard to child rights in J&K.

He directed the concerned departments to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes and administrative mechanisms are in fare Department Kashmir, Mis- consonance with the child rights sion Director Integrated Child perspective as enshrined in the Protection Services and officers Constitution of India as well as

> He maintained that the body monitors the implementation of major child related acts as men-

On the outset, Chairman tioned in these respective acts Children from Sexual Offences

> He stressed upon the training and sensitization programmes for all stakeholders which in-

It was given out that District clude officers from these de-Child Protection Units, Child partments for which NCPCR Welfare Committees and Juve- would extend their maximum

JK Govt Launches Pioneering Interventions To Push 'One District One Product' Under PMFME

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In its endeavor to ers. The approved list incorpopromote manufacturing and exports, Jammu and Kashmir government is vigorously working mutton and poultry processing; on specific interventions like en- Kishtwar and Doda for walnut hanced marketing, technologi- processing; Ramban for honey cal innovations, latest designs to push "One District One Product" under PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Samba for mushrooms. (PMFME) scheme, an official spokesperson said Friday.

rated Jammu for dairy products; Rajouri for spices; Poonch for processing; Udhampur for pickles and jam; Reasi for organic vegetables; Kathua for spices and

For Kashmir division, he said, the approved list incorporated District One Product" under PM- ma for saffron; Shopian for ap-

for dairy products; Kupwara for with their promotion and export walnut; Ganderbal for honey; Bandipora for processed poultry this ambitious scheme was to and mutton.

centrally sponsored initiative 'One District One Product'

as well. The aim of launching

and encourage investment.

a component of Atmanirbhar opportunities besides creating an formalization of the sector. Bharat Abhiyaan (ABA) to boost ecosystem that promotes success

taking into account the feedback es; Srinagar for flowers; Budgam boost traditionally produced government through Agriculture that "We are enhancing people's flagged off from Budgam un-received from various stakehold- for exotic vegetables; Baramulla perishable indigenous products Crop Clusters, Agriculture Export access to financial products, der the scheme. A truck car-Crop Clusters, Agriculture Export access to financial products, der the scheme. A truck car-Policy and National Rurban Mission in J&K.

> foster balanced regional devel- with the central funding of 60 Pertinently, the Jammu and opment, enable holistic socio- per cent and state funding of Kashmir government launched economic growth, boost exports 40 per cent, is working tremendously towards strengthening This innovative initiative is gen- unorganized micro food pro-(ODOP) under PM FME scheme, erating enhanced employment cessing units besides promoting

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj micro food processing indus- and encourage local producers Sinha, while talking about dif-In J&K, he said, the list of "One Anantnag for trout fish; Pulwa- trial sector in the UT. The ODOP to go global in J&K. This scheme ferent initiatives launched by scheme was introduced in 2020 is also complementing the exist- J&K administration for develop-FME scheme was finalized after ple; Kulgam for apple and spic- by the Center government to ing promotional efforts of the ment of industrial sector, said Kashmiri walnuts was recently platforms.

promoting One District One rying 2,000 kg of walnuts was Product, institutional credit to "PMFME, being implemented women, youth, SMEs, handi- the One District One Product crafts, horticulture and various other priority sectors."

Food Processing Industries, Pashupati Kumar Paras, unveiled six brands including Kashmiri chilli, as part of 'One District-One Product' (ODOP) strategy under centrally sponsored scheme PMFME.

The first consignment of

dispatched to Bengluru under (ODOP) initiative of the ministry of Commerce and Industry. Recently, Union Minister for There is immense potential for this product to make its place in the local and global markets.

Under the initial phase of ODOP programme, 106 products have been identified from 103 districts across 27 states and 68 products out of the 106 products are available on big e-commerce

BJP regime.

people who have been victim of targeted killings for quite some ple especially minority", Yagnik told reporters here.

SPORTS

OASIS Educational Institute Wins Matches In U-17 Cricket Tournament



9). the OASIS U-17 boys de-

feated Burn Hall School Sri-

nagar. Batting first, the team from BHS played well and

boys made 102 runs with 7

match at SP College Ground was

played on June 6 between OA-

SIS and Boys Higher Secondary

School Pandrethan. The Pan-

drethan boys made 91 runs in 8

overs, which was chased down

by the OASIS boys who made 92

Another Inter Zonal Under-17

wickets in hand.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: OASIS Educational Higher Secondary Educational Institute (Boys Wing) has been made 101 runs of score in 10 on a winning streak in the Inter overs of match. The OASIS Zonal Under-17 Cricket Tournament being played at the SP College Ground, here.

The team defeated Delhi Public School (Srinagar) on Friday. Batting first, DPS boys made 96 runs in the 13-over match, while the OASIS team chased down the target, making 97runs with 4 wickets in hand.

Earlier, on Thursday (June with 7 wickets in hand.

Jashn-e-Gurez: District **Bandipora Wushu Championship Begins**



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: A two day Wushu Championship being organised by District Wushu Association Bandipora under the guidelines of J&K Wushu Association commenced on Friday in Dawar, Gurez of Bandipora.

The mega sports event was declared open by Chief Guest, Principal Higher Secondary School Dawar, Abdul Majeed Dar along with Guest of Honour, Abdul Qavoom Bhat Director Mountaineering Institute Bandipora ASA (International Mountaineer).

The Championship is the part Valley. of Mega Sports Festival Gurez On behalf of District Wushu 2022 (Jashn-e-Gurez) in which boys as well as girls are participating.

India, SA Reach Odisha As Cuttack Gears Up For **Sunday's T20I**



Press Trust of India

BHUBANESWAR: Players of the Indian and South African cricket teams reached Odisha on Friday amid tight security ahead of their T20I game at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack on June 12.

around 2 pm as hundreds of cricket enthusiasts gathered to welcome them.

bers at the airport, outside their sure a smooth match on Sunday hotel and on both sides of the and practice on Saturday. The road between the two places preparations to make necessary for one glimpse of the cricket-

Press Trust of India

The players were welcomed at the airport by members of the Odisha Cricket Association (OCA). They were taken to the hotel in special buses amid tight security.

Ahead of the Sunday's match, Director-General (DG) of Odisha Police SK Bansal along with The two teams landed at the senior officers of the police and Biju Patnaik International Air- the district administration took port (BPIA) in Bhubaneswar stock of the arrangements at the Barabati Stadium.

"All arrangements have been made to provide foolproof se-Fans gathered in large num- curity to the players, and en-

arrangements started a month back," Bansal told reporters.

SA's Historic Win Over India

follow the guidelines regarding entry and exit routes. A security mock drill was conducted for the first time ahead of the international match.

Cuttack Collector BS Chayni said that a large number of VIPs and dignitaries are expected to come to the stadium for the match.

been invited, he may come to the stadium too. However, we are yet to receive any official communication in this regard," Chavni said.

He also urged spectators to

Tickets have been sold on both the online and offline modes, OCA secretary Sanjay Behera said.

"As the chief minister has

ENG vs NZ: Kiwis Make Strong Start To 2nd Test

Kane Williamson out with COVID-19



Reuters

NOTTINGHAM: England's Joe Root dropped a catch and Zak Crawley let slip another chance as New Zealand reached 195-4 at tea on the opening day of the second test at Trent Bridge on Friday.

England had grabbed back-toback wickets just before lunch after a strong start by the visitors to what could be a decisive clash in Nottingham.

COVID-19-struck Without captain Kane Williamson and put in to bat after losing the toss, a changed New Zealand made the highest opening test stand at the ground since 2005 before fering from Daryl Mitchell, who both openers departed in the remained unbeaten on 24, when space of two balls.

England captain Ben Stokes scorer Will Young (47) caught by a diving Crawley at second slip. New Zealand had been 84-0 and it was 84-2 when stand-in

captain Tom Latham (26) was caught by Matthew Potts off James Anderson at midwicket. The visitors went in for lunch

at a solid 108-2 from 26 overs, a far cry from their 39-6 on a difficult opening day of the first test at Lord's.

Anderson and Stokes each took a pair of wickets, with the captain's two for 40 coming from 12 overs.

New Zealand were 161-3 when Ben Foakes caught Nicholls (30) behind off Stokes and the Black Caps slipped to 169-4 after the wicket keeper repeated the feat with Devon Conway (46) from an Anderson delivery.

Crawley dived across Root in a failed bid to catch Nicholls and Root missed an easier ofthe batsman was on one.

England, unchanged from the provided the breakthrough, team that won by five wickets taking the ball and having top at Lord's, had opted to bowl to make the most of the conditions on an overcast morning.

Latham took on the captaincy after Williamson tested positive for COVID-19 and went into isolation on the eve of the match. The final test is at Headingley

from June 23.

Portugal, Spain Win To Set Up **Nations League Final 4 Battle**



46 balls as South Africa chased Sports atmosphere and opportunities for this sport in Gurez down a target of 212 in a canter in the first T20I against India. Van der Dussen, who al- press conference. though played only three Association Bandipora, Padma

ternational.



Dussen said at the post match "Indian conditions are differ-

Van der Dussen, who stitched a match-winning partnership with Miller, had initially struggled in

ing stars. Van Der Dussen Credits IPL For

sociation for providing the op- Education Department and JK portunity and a platform to the Tourism by making this event youth of Gurez Valley to prove successful.

more than 290 players including Shri, Faisal Ali Dar thanked all Departments for their full cooperation, coordination and Speaking on the occasion, sports-friendly measures ad-Chief Guest lauded the efforts opted by the District Adminisof District Wushu Association tration, Indian Army, Depart-Bandipora and J&K Wushu As- ment of Youth Services & Sports,

their mettle at the national and

ley are immensely talented and

they deserve more opportunities

to exhibit their talent and bring-

ing events to Gurez Valley shall

help in realising the dream of

whelming participation of peo-

ple from Gurez Valley and locals

thanked District Wushu Associa-

tion Bandipora and J&K Wushu

Association for creating such

players waiting in wings. The event witnessed over-

international level in Wushu. He said, Youth of Gurez Val-

DC Kupwara Flags-Off Bicycle Rally

Says cycling best tool for physical fitness of youth



Observer News Service

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Khalid Jahangir on Friday flagged off a bicycle rally from the DC Office Complex, here to mark the celebration of 'World Bicycle Day'.

The District Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Officer Kupwara and other concerned officials were present at the occasion

The bicycle rally covered a distance of 5 kilometres and went through Garrison Camp Zangli and culminated at District Police Lines, Kupwara. The rally was held under the banner of Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav.

The function was organised bv the District's YSS Department in which a large number of students from various schools participated enthusiastically.

lid Jahangir said that revival of the nation.

cycling is the need of the hour as it is the best tool for physical fitness of youth. He said the rally envisages to popularise the usage of cycle to solve the dual issues of pollution and unhealthy lifestyle, besides enhancing and promoting the spirit of nationalism and brotherhood qualities

among youth. Khalid Jahangir said that the District Administration is making concerted efforts for channelizing the hidden talent of the youth, adding that the administration has already issued a sports calendar and students of different age groups are participating in sports activities across the district.

Assuring all possible support from the District Administration, the DC said that the Youth Services and Sports Department has to play a greater role in building the physical and mental fitness Speaking at the occasion, Kha- of youth, which is the future of

games for the Rajasthan Royals this season, feels staying in India for the past couple of months, helped the majority of the South Africans players to to that and that goes for everycope with extreme conditions, one," he added. while also providing them with a fair idea as to how to tackle the Indian bowlers.

"Definitely (IPL has helped). I watched a lot of IPL games, did not get much of an opportunity idea what their bowlers would

ent to what we have in South Africa. I spent two month here,

been in these conditions, been in the heat, so had acclimatised

The likes of Quinton de Kock, David Miller, Kagiso Rabada

and Anrich Nortje were all part of the league this season, which was played entirely in India. "We had a lot of guys in the to play but I had a pretty good IPL this year and that's helped luck is the part of the game." us in the first game to adapt do and the conditions," van der quicker and get over the line."

his unbeaten 75-run knock.

"I struggled to get the pace of the wicket, I was under pressure. But David continued his form from the IPL and played a brilliant innings, put pressure on the bowlers and just pulled me through.

"He hit one or two sixes and the momentum swung towards us. I was obviously lucky, you got to acknowledge that. But "When I was dropped, I knew I had to make India pay."

IPL Media Rights: Amazon Pulls Out; Star, Viacom18, Sony, Zee In 4-Way Race

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The much-anticipated duel between Jeff Bezos and Mukesh Ambani for acquisition of one of world's costliest sporting properties won't materialise now as OTT giants Amazon on Friday pulled out of IPL media rights bidding, scheduled to start on Sunday.

Reliance Industries Limited owned Viacom18 is considered to be one of the strongest contenders both in TV and digital space.

Bezos-funded Amazon was expected to be one of the biggest bidders in digital space but pulled out of the race without revealing the reason.

"Yes, Amazon is out of the race. They didn't join the tech-Indian sub-continent. nical bidding process today. As far as Google (YouTube) is concerned, they had picked up the bid document but didn't submit it. As of now, 10 companies bined TV and digital rights for (TV and streaming) are in fray," overseas markets. a senior BCCI official told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

A four-way battle

There are four specific packages in which e-auction will be conducted for 74 games per and digital market," the official season for a five-year period said. from 2023-2027 with a provi-

sion of increasing the number ers, primarily for digital space are: Times Internet, FunAsia, Dream11, FanCode while Sky The Package A has Indian Sports (UK) and Supersport sub-continent exclusive TV (South Africa) will be vying for (broadcast) rights while Packoverseas TV and digital rights.

The last time, Star India age B covers digital rights for bought rights for both TV and The Package C is for 18 sedigital with a composite bid of Rs 16,347.50 crore but this time lected games in each season for digital space while Package the composite base price is more than Rs 32,000 crore. D (all games) will be for com-

All bidders will have to make separate bids for each package, "Let's make it clear, the Viathis time.

com 18 JV (Joint Venture), cur-As of Friday, some of the big rent rights holder Walt Disney players who are involved with the bidding process, feel that Rs 45,000 crore (USD 5.8 billion (Star), Zee and Sony are the four contenders for the packages with solid footprints in both TV approx) is the amount that BCCI could expect which will be a two-and-a-half times increase Some of the other contend- in valuation.

Agencies

MADRID: Portugal and Spain

picked up victories in the Nations

League on Thursday to set up a

battle between the Iberian neigh-

bours for a spot in the Final Four.

of the lead in Group 2 of the top-

tier League A by defeating the

Czech Republic 2-0, while Spain

earned a first win and moved

into second place by edging past struggling Switzerland 1-0 in

Portugal, the inaugural cham-

pion in 2019, is two points ahead

of Spain and three in front of the

Czechs after three matches. Only

the group winners make it to the

Final Four, while the last-placed

It was the second consecutive

a draw against Spain, last year's

Portugal opened the scoring

with João Cancelo's low shot

minute, and Gonçalo Guedes

teams will be relegated.

runner-up to France.

Geneva.

Portugal took sole possession

added to the lead five minutes later from inside the area after an assist by Bernardo Silva.

Defender Pepe made his 127th appearance, joining Luis Figo for third-best all-time for Portugal. The duo are behind the 145 appearances of João Moutinho and the 188 of Ronaldo.

Spain got on the board in the 13th minute with Pablo Sarabia redirecting a cross by Marcos Llorente for a goal that had to be confirmed by video review to check for offside.

Portugal will close play in the June international window in Switzerland on Sunday, while Spain host the Czech Republic.

In the second-tier League B, Erling Haaland drew a blank in Norway's 0-0 home draw with Slovenia. Haaland arrived as one win for Cristiano Ronaldo's Por- of the Nations League's leading tugal after it had opened with scorers with three goals.

In League C, Kosovo defeated Northern Ireland 3-2, Greece routed Cyprus 3-0, Gibraltar drew 1-1 with Bulgaria and from a narrow angle in the 33rd Georgia defeated North Macedonia 3-0.

Zidane To Be Named PSG **Coach Next Season: Reports**

Reuters

7inedine Zidane will replace Mauricio Pochettino as Paris St Germain coach next season, French radio station Europe 1 reported on Friday without citing any source. PSG were not immediately

available for comment. French radio station RMC later

on Friday said that Zidane and PSG were "close to finding an agreement", also without citing any source. France Info, however, reported a source at the club said no agreement had been found with the 1998 World Cup winner.

Pochettino, who was appointed 18 months ago, has failed to help the Ligue 1 club break drid at the end of the 2020-21 new ground in the Champions season.



League, with PSG being eliminated in the last 16 by Real Madrid this season.

They wrapped up the Ligue 1 title in April to secure their only trophy of the campaign.

Zidane, 49, has been without a club since he departed Real Ma-



of matches to 94 in the final two years.