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Quote!

The best revenge is massive success

-Frank Sinatra

NEWS DIGEST

Mild Intensity Earthquake Hits Kashmir

Srinagar- A light intensity earthquake measuring 3.7 on the Richter scale jolted Kashmir on Saturday, although there were no reports of any casualty or damage to property. News agency IANS quoting officials of the disaster management authority reported the tremor struck at 12.37 a.m. "The latitude was 33.48 degrees north and **More on P6**

Two People Arrested With Arms, Ammo

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Saturday claimed to have arrested two persons after recovering arms and ammunition from their possession in South Kashmir's Anantnag district. Rahil Ahmed Malik and Shabir Ahmed Rather, both residents of Mehmodabad were arrested after incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including 1 Pistol, 1 Magazine **More on P6**

IED Defused On Baramulla Highway

Srinagar: The government forces detected and defused an improvised explosive device (IED) along a highway in North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Saturday, officials said here. Officials said that some suspicious box, suspected to carry an IED, was found at Bulgam Hygam near Timepass hotel in Sopore area of North Kashmir. Soon police and **More on P6**

Lightning Strikes Kill Soldier, Woman

Srinagar: A soldier and a woman were killed and three others injured on Saturday in two separate lightning strikes in the twin districts of Baramulla and Ganderbal districts. 32-year-old army man Lokendra Singh of 18 Rashtriya Rifles was killed when lightning struck his picket in the **More on P6**

Teen Girl Allegedly Commits Suicide

Srinagar: A teenage girl on Saturday allegedly suicide inside her house in Kawoosa village of Central Kashmir's Budgam district. 13-year-old (name withheld) from Kawoosa Khalisa village allegedly committed suicide at her home on Saturday afternoon, reports said. She was brought **More on P6**

Vehicles Without HSRP To Be Seized After June 15: Police

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two days after Transport Commissioner cautioned of stern action over the affixation of mandatory High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) in all the vehicles, the Jammu and Kashmir police on Saturday gave a 'final reminder' to the drivers to get the same done by June 15. "This is Final Reminder by Transport/Police/Traffic departments. Mandatory Affixation of HSRP to be done by 15th June 2022 on all vehicles," police said in a statement, adding, "Failing this all such Vehicles Without HSRP Shall be

Seized & RC may also be recommended for Suspension." The police statement came two days after Transport Commissioner, J&K, Bhupinder Kumar reviewed the progress regarding affixation of mandatory High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) and cautioned against any laxity by the drivers. Earlier on June 6, the Motor Vehicle Department also issued a public notice asking the vehicle owners to get HSRP affixed by June 15 to prevent their vehicles from being seized. "It was also informed in the meeting that a large number of **More on P6**

Protests Rock Many States Over Insulting Remarks Against Prophet

Two Dead In Ranchi, Howrah Simmers, Bulldozers Raze Properties of Accused in UP



A group of women hold a protest at Srinagar's Press Enclave against suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma's derogatory words against the Prophet. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

RANCHI/KOLKATA/LUCKNOW:

Two persons succumbed to

gunshot wounds in Jharkhand capital Ranchi and fresh demonstrations were held in West Bengal's Howrah on Saturday

as tension prevailed in several parts of the country a day after the violent protests against the derogatory **More on P6**

YouTuber Held For Enacting Nupur's Beheading

A Kashmiri YouTuber, whose video depicting the beheading of suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma had gone viral on social media platforms, was arrested here on Saturday for breaching public tranquillity and causing fear in the public, police said. Wani has deleted the video and apologised for it as well. Before his arrest, Wani

posted another video in which he said he did not have any intention of hurting the sentiments of people or any religion. "YouTuber Faisal Wani has been arrested. He had uploaded an incriminating video on YouTube which is against public tranquillity and has caused fear and alarm to the public in general. The FIR has been **More on P6**

Targeted Killings Aimed At Creating Unrest In J&K: LG

Says Govt's Policy Not To Spare Culprits, Not To Harm Innocents

Auqib Javed

Srinagar: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday minced no words to attack militants, saying that the target killings in the Valley were an act of desperation to provoke government forces to commit a mistake so that people could hit the streets in protest.

"Deepak jab bujhne lagta hai, toh uski love tez ho jati hai (When the flare is about to extinguish, the flames rise-up). This is the situation of militancy currently in Kashmir," Sinha said, while addressing a gathering in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Saturday.

The Valley has witnessed at least 18 targeted killings, including policemen, Kashmiri Pandits, teachers and Sarpanches, since January this year.

Sinha said that the target killings in the valley were an act of desperation on part of the militants to provoke government forces to commit a mistake so that people could hit the streets in protest.

"The society should condemn it. A woman teacher, who imparts education to children, is killed, if the society does not condemn it, then I think, we are shrinking away from our duties", Sinha said during a function in Kulgam district in south Kashmir.



He further added that the target killings are taking place deliberately in the hope that police and security forces commit a mistake, kill an innocent person, and the people come out on streets to protest. "However, the administration will not let that happen," he said adding that the "There will be no action against an innocent person by the police, security forces."

LG further noted that, the J&K administration follows the policy of 'gunahgaar ko chhodo mat, aur begunah ko chhedo mat' (Don't spare the culprit, but do not touch the innocent).

He said the road to progress and development goes through peace.

Calling upon people to condemn such attacks, the LG said that time has come for people to come forward and support police and security **More on P6**

Men A Little More Obese Than Women In J&K: Survey

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: Once considered a problem affluent to the Western nations, obesity has been rapidly spreading in recent years in Jammu & Kashmir as the latest data has flagged a worrying increase in the percentage of obesity and overweight across gender groups, particularly among men as the rate of such cases have worsened in the past half decade. Pertinently, several of J&K's nutritional indicators have also worsened since the fourth round of the NFHS, which was held in 2015-16. But the erstwhile state has hit a major

demographic milestone when the percentage of obesity increased at a vicious average among both men and women, according to the latest survey conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare between 2019 and 2021.

The future looks tense as more men in J&K are obese. The rate of obesity has increased with a worrying average of 11 percent among men. Dropping the big health alert for J&K, National Family Health Survey has noted that 31.7 percent of men in the UT are obese or overweight. The data in NFHS 2019-21, the fifth **More on P6**

Two Militants Killed In South Kashmir Encounters



File Photo

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two militants were killed in separate encounters with government forces in the twin districts of Kulgam and Pulwama in South Kashmir, police said Saturday.

A joint team of police, army's 9RR and the CRPF launched a cordon and search operation (CASO) in Khandipora area of Kulgam district on Friday night on the basis of specific information about the presence of a militant in the area, a police spokesperson said Saturday. He said that the hiding militant opened indiscriminate

fire upon the search team when they started advances towards the suspected spot. The joint party, he said, returned the fire setting off an encounter.

"However in order to evacuate the civilians trapped around the encounter site, the joint team ensured the evacuation of all civilians to safer places," he added.

In the ensuing encounter, the spokesperson said that Rasiq Ahmed Ganie, a categorized Hizb militant of Shouch village was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of encounter. As per police **More on P6**

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- Narendra Modi

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3 Tips I Learnt From A Career Coach To Stay Happier And More Focused

Sophie Hines | YOU Magazine

With the pandemic thankfully at its tail end and restrictions pretty much lifted in the UK, most of us should be feeling freer and happier than ever, right? And yet, when I speak to friends and colleagues, this doesn't seem to be the case – emotions range from feeling completely overwhelmed to just plain 'meh'. Clearly, the last few years have taken a big toll on our collective mental wellbeing.

Personally, the pandemic has left me feeling under pressure to make up for lost time – to suddenly be experiencing and achieving everything, an impossible task that instead leads to procrastination when I realise I just can't do it all. So, when I was offered the chance to speak to Sarah Negus, a best-selling author and spiritual business coach who helps successful entrepreneurs to reach their potential, I leapt at the chance. Here are some of the lessons I learnt from Sarah which might help you too...

Forget the 'shoulds'
With other people's achievements constantly paraded in front of us thanks to social media, it's easy to feel like there's a lot of things we 'should' be doing, from constantly adding new strings to our bow at work to turning every hobby into a money-making, impressive side hustle.

To drown out the shoulds and become more focused Sarah recommends coming up with a statement that encapsulates the impact you want to have on the world – it could be anything from 'I want to help people live healthier lives' to 'I want to forge meaningful connections with interesting people', but it must feel true to you.

'If nothing was in your way and you had all



the time in the world, what one thing would you do to make a difference?' Sarah asks. Once you've found your statement (chatting it through with a friend could help) then this can become the driving force behind what you do, helping you cut out any unnecessary noise. 'Ask yourself daily what you can do that day to build on your message' advises Sarah.

Stop procrastinating
Of course, all of us have tasks we have to do that might not feel super meaningful but are certainly necessary (filling in your timesheet, replying to boring emails etc).

Sarah recommends getting these tasks out of the way first before moving on to more meaningful activities, so that you can enjoy the delayed gratification and not have your least favourite tasks looming over you – after all, we often spend longer worrying about something than it would take to actually do it.

If you're procrastinating over things you actually want to do but can't seem to get round to, then this could be 'fear or failure or fear of change' says Sarah. This could be down to patterns set up in childhood, for example if we were often praised for getting A grades and now feel anything less than perfection

is mortifying, or conversely if you received critical reports at school that have now led to self-doubt. Whatever the patterns are, it's worth examining what's really causing you to procrastinate to try and release yourself from that subconscious programming.

Challenge your inner critic
Women tend to have particularly strong critical voices inside their heads, says Sarah, and this inner critic can be seriously detrimental to our wellbeing. 'Write down all the negative things you say to yourself, and then go through and question whether they are actually true' she says. "Once you see it all on the page you will see how mean you actually are to yourself, and also have the opportunity to challenge those assumptions. Then think of ways you can be kinder to yourself – number one being to stop talking to yourself in such a negative way'.

To drown out the shoulds and become more focused Sarah recommends coming up with a statement that encapsulates the impact you want to have on the world – it could be anything from 'I want to help people live healthier lives' to 'I want to forge meaningful connections with interesting people', but it must feel true to you.

از نیابت رہبر پورہ با اجلاس وارک منظور صاحب
درخواست منجانب - منظم مشتاق ولا بیشتاق و قدری مشتاق اولاد مشتاق احمد میر سرائکان
رہبر پورہ تحصیل منظم بفرض حصول: RBA- مرٹیفیکٹ
اشہار برادر آگانی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندر عنوان (الصدر میں ساکلاں نے ایک درخواست RBA- مرٹیفیکٹ دفتر میں پیش کیا ہے جس کی فاور پورٹ جو کڑ پر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی۔ جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سرائک چھپکے پندرہ سالوں سے وہاں میں سکونت پذیر ہے۔ ساکلاں کے کنڈیک کی تفصیل منسلک ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آراءنی
1	مشتاق احمد میر ولد محمد جمال میر	48 سال	ملازم	LPC
2	شاہد زہیر مشتاق احمد میر	46 سال	گھر بی کام	
3	منظم مشتاق ولد مشتاق احمد میر	25 سال	زیر تعلیم	
4	لاہی مشتاق ولد مشتاق احمد میر	22 سال	زیر تعلیم	
5	قدیر مشتاق دفتر مشتاق احمد میر	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اسطور ساکلاں کا کنڈیک 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہیں۔ ساکلاں کے کنڈیک میں ایک سرکاری ملازم موجود ہیں۔ ساکلاں کے کنڈیک کے پاس دھڑا میں دو کنال آرائشی موجود ہے۔ اور ساکلاں کے کنڈیک کی سالانہ آمدنی تمام زراعی سے اٹھنے والا کھدہ پرستہ کم ہیں۔ اسطور ساکلاں RBA- مرٹیفیکٹ اجراء کرنے کی خواہش رکھتا ہے اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عترض ہو تو وہ بعد رسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا عترض یا عترض دفتر ہڈا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد کر رے میحا کو کوئی عترض یا عترض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار۔ rna

از عدالت ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ دیجا دل (تحصیلدار انتہا ناگ) با اجلاس عمر گھڑا صاحب
درخواست منجانب: سترہ بیٹو بیوہ غلام نبی ملک ساکنہ حلقہ مہمان قصبہ باغات انتہا ناگ بفرض اجرائی تاریخ فوقی مرٹیفیکٹ بنام: نظام نبی ملک ولد عبدالحکملک
اشہار برادر آگانی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندر عنوان (الصدر میں سالکہ مذکورہ بلائے عدالت ہڈا میں ایک درخواست حلقی بیان پیش کیا ہے سالکہ کے شوہر کا تاریخ وفات 03-03-2012 ہے اس شخص میں سر قلمت فوقتی ٹکائے کا جواہ ہے لہذا مرٹیفیکٹ مذکورہ کا اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عترض یا عترض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر دوران دفتر ی اوقات میں پیش کرے بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی عترض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ دیجا دل (تحصیلدار انتہا ناگ) rna

Public Notice

I would like to inform the general public that I have lost the Documents (RC) of my bike Pulsar 150 bearing RC No; JK18B-3011. If anybody has found the same hes/she is requested to return the same otherwise I have to apply for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection may file file in the office of the ARTO Kulgam within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ab Majid Rather
S/o Mohd Ramzan Rather inf
R/o Sungus Kulgam

Public Notice

It is for the information of general public and concerned authorities that SHRI RAM TRANSPORT COMPANY BRANCH OFFICE BATENGGOO 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
R/o . AHLAN GADOOLE

SAD DEMISE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father Haji Mohammad Subhan Wani R/O Palapora-Noorbagh, Srinagar who left for heavenly abode on June 11-06-2022 (Saturday). May almighty Allah shower his blessings on the departed soul. In this regard the congregational Fateha Khawani of the deceased will be observed on June 14, 2022 (Tuesday) at their ancestral graveyard Palapora at 9.00 am.

Breaved Family
Cell NO- 9811000127, 9419005833 inf

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Scholarships This Week

Scholarship Name 1: Born To Shine Scholarship 2022

Description: Born To Shine Scholarship 2022 is an opportunity offered by Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited with an aim to encourage and empower young girls to pursue the arts by providing them with the platform, training, and mentoring they need.

Prizes & Rewards: Worth INR 4 lakh over three years

Last Date to Apply: 25-06-2022

Application mode: Via email only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/BTS7

Scholarship Name 2:



The Leap Scholarship 2022

Description: The Leap Scholarship 2022 is an opportunity offered by the LeapScholar (a non-profit organization helping students to study abroad) to provide financial assistance to Indian students who want to grow both personally and professionally and accelerate their careers in a global environment.

Eligibility: Open for Indian citizens above 21 years of age who have a minimum IELTS score of 6 (with 5.5 in each band), more than 60% in 12th standard exams and more than 60% (or its equivalent) in undergraduate study. The candidates must be fresher or have 0-4 years of work experience with an admission offer from a designated

learning institute in the UK, US, Canada, Australia or Ireland for a full-time program of more than 8-month duration.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to 100% Tuition Fee

Last Date to Apply: 30-09-2022

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/TLS1

Scholarship Name 3: INSA Indira Gandhi Prize for Popularization of Science 2023

Description: INSA Indira Gandhi Prize for Popularization of Science 2023 is an opportunity offered by the National Science Academy (INSA) to encourage and recognize the popularization of science in the country.

Eligibility: Open for candidates having a distinguished career as a writer, editor, journalist,

lecturer, radio or television program director, science photographer and illustrator, which has enabled them to explain science (including medicine), research and technology to the public and knowledge of the role of science, technology and research in the enrichment of cultural heritage and in the solution of problems of humanity.

Prizes & Rewards: An honorarium of INR 25,000 per month, citation and a bronze medal

Last Date to Apply: 15-07-2022

Application mode: Offline application to - Executive Director, Indian National Science Academy, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110 002

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/IGP7

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SPECIAL SUB DIVISION GUREZ

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

3rd Call E-NIT No. 10/REW/2022-23/EE/SSDG/2320-30/E-tendering/Dated:-09-06-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K-tenders are invited on item rate basis 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 (INR)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Construction Of Fencing of Graveyard at Naibasti Kanzalwan.	2.68	200	10 days	5360	PRI Grants	DEE/Other
2	Construction of road from village Chuntuwari to graveyard at Kanzalwan.	2.49	200	10 days	4980	PRI Grants	DEE/Other

1. The NIT Consisting 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.	09-06-2022
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 10-06-2022 To 17-06-2022
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 10-06-2022 To 17-06-2022
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 17-06-2022
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

2. 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 0515-Rev:Misc] [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury 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).

3. The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.

4. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez.

5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

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

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

8. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez (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 must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.

9. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

10. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

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

12. In case of CRF and other specified project, the relevant guideline/ standard bidding document shall be followed.

13. Special Condition: As per Govt. Order No: 238 -FD OF 2021 Dated : 07-09-2021: Special Condition:

Participation/Allotments of works can be limited to members of Gram Sabha of each panchayat upto amount of 3.00 lacs only and participants should be registered with District Development Commissioner BANDIPORA

14. No Objection Certificate/ Bio Data for e- Tender Note: The below details are required for e-tendering participation in Panchayat (Annexure A)

15. Instruction to bidder (ITB)

1.1 All Bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualifying criteria/qualification information with the bids.

a. All bidders shall upload Copies of Original Documents defining constitution/Legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with.

b. Cell No. and Correspondence Address.

c. All Bidders shall upload Treasury Challan. and CDR/FDR 2% of Adv Cost.

d. All Bidders shall upload Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.

e. All Bidders shall upload Registration Card with latest renewal

f. All Bidders shall upload the latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e latest quarter.

g. All bidders shall upload verification certificate from concerned Chief Engineer/ Superintending Engineer of Enlistment Registration Card.

Letter No:- Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Kashmir's :-18484-516 Dated:-21-11-2020 and No:- BS/812-44 Dated 06-04-2021.

16. The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.

17. All the documents relating to the bid shall be in English language.

18. Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. 4 No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

19. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

DIPK-3771/22

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Special Sub Division Gurez

3-Day Sufi Festival

Tourism Deptt. Organises Sufi Musical Evening At SKICC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As part of the ongoing three day Sufi Festival, the department of Tourism organised Musical Evening at SKICC on Saturday.

The event was held at the back lawns to celebrate the rich musical and Sufi heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Renowned singers presented popular Sufi numbers amidst the applause from the audience.

The Musical Evening was attended by Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta; Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Bharadwaj, Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Rohit Kansal, VC, KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole; Secretary Tourism, Sarma Hafeez, Director Tourism Kashmir, Dr. G.N. Itoo, senior officers of Divisional administration and Tourism and Higher Education Departments 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.



Roadside barbers trim the beards of old men near Hazratbal Shrine in the city outskirts.

KO Photo Taha Wani

Panic After Fire Erupts At SMHS Hospital

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Patients and attendants were seen running for safety after fire erupted at SMHS hospital on Saturday afternoon. An official from Fire and Emergency

Services (F&ES) said, the fire broke out from Ward number 16 at SMHS hospital.

He said that the fire tenders have reached the spot and they successfully doused the flames.

There were conflicting reports on the emergence of the fire.

The attendants and hospital employees successfully managed to evacuate the patients of the ward to safer places.

Later, Hospital sources confirmed all the patients were evacuated safely and they later returned to the ward.

Craft Safari Steps Into the Streets Of Jamia Masjid

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Srinagar craft Safari of Handicrafts and Handloom Department on Saturday continued in the Jamia Masjid area of Downtown Srinagar.

Officials from the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Intellectuals, Academic Scholars, Journalists, Tour operators, Students and people from art loving fields started today's safari from the Namda Felt unit of Mr. Bashir Ahmad at Baha ud din Sahib as the Namda craft as the Department is trying hard for its revival and restore its potential to empower people associated with the craft.

The team visited the Crewel unit of Syed Noor ul lah Kashani at Shampora Khawaja Bazar where the craftsmanship of the artist was appreciated by all the participants of the Safari for its intrinsic work. Crewel is commonly used for drapery and upholstery in every household in the valley and across the country.

In his decades old dyeing karkhana the team met Mr. Nowshad Ahmad Wani who sits in a quiet street of Khawaja Bazaar where Wani sits arched in a corner. Spectacular colours have been created within his unit's shabby walls. He explained to the visitors



the process which involves the mixing and producing of the specific colours required for the dye, the soaking of fabric in boiling, coloured water and then drying the coloured threads. The dyeing industry is boosted by the Valley's handicraft industry, as the colourful threads which are used in designing of products.

The silverware items were appreciated by the team at the Karkhana of Mr. Tariq Ahmad Sofi who is one of the few artisans in the valley to create purely antiquated silverware. The traditional silverware with convoluted artwork has been of immense demand in the international market besides an aesthetic admiration in the domestic markets. From Quran cases, dry fruit boxes, flower vases, chinars, ornamental picture-

frames, cigarette cases, tumblers and others the silverware items are admired by Kashmiris.

The safari continued to the work place of Farooq Ahmad Sheikh at Saraf Kadal where the delicately hand carved motifs turned out to be a treat for eyes. Sheikh the master artisan in the wood carving craft is an epitome of creativeness and desire. He has been creating intricate designs and life size pieces for decades.

Kashmiri Copperware locally has been an indispensable commodity in Kashmir since ages. The age old art of crafting copperware was witnessed at the unit of Toufeeq Ahmad Dar who runs the unit of innovative copper products at his unit at Choundupora Nowhatta which has earned its own name all over the world.

CCIK Hails CS's Directions To Admin. On Traffic Management

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashmir CCIK hailed the direction of Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta impressing upon the officers of civil and police administration to devise a better traffic management plan within a period of 15 days.

CCIK President Tariq Rashid Ghani said traffic police and management is mostly visible at city centre Lal Chowk however the Shehre Khas, old city, has been ignored where roads are in dilapidated condition.

He urged the chief secretary to order macadamisation of the roads in the city, old city and outskirts on urgent basis as the commuters are facing tough times due to large potholes.

Earlier, CCIK delegation led by its President met Dr Kumar at his office at Secretariat and apprised him about the various issues residents in the old city are facing.

The CCIK assured full support to the administration in making the city not only clean but most beautiful.

The Chief Secretary listened to the suggestions patiently and assured us of making the old city a major attraction.

The Chief Secretary said they are making short, mid and long term solutions for traffic woes.

It was said that the procurement of high end traffic management equipment like highway patrolling vehicles, interceptors, motor bikes, body cameras besides other paraphernalia shortly is going to change this aspect of traffic policing to a larger extent in the UT of J&K.

Exhibition Of Women Entrepreneurs Kicks off At Nigeen Club

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A three day exhibition of women entrepreneurs was thrown open by Director Tourism G N Itoo on Saturday. Around 50 women entrepreneurs have put up their stalls at the three day exhibition. The items put up on display include homemade organic products, dried fruit and vegetables, jewelry, homemade pickles of vegetables and

mutton, honey, handicraft items, crockery and pottery items in eye-catching designs.

Interacting with the stall owners, Dr. Itoo expressed happiness over the range of products put on display by the women entrepreneurs. He exhorted them to design their products in such a way that not only gets more and more customers, including tourists, attracted but the local cottage industry and the artisans also get a breather.

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
12- Zil- Qaddah
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 34
ZUHR	12:30
ASR	5:30
Magrib	7:45
ISHA	9: 27

This Day In History

- 1547 - King Ferdinand of Austria subjects himself on Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent
- 1707 - Hungary declares itself independent under Ferenc Rákóczi II (aka Francis II Rákóczi)
- 1721 - England signs Treaty of Madrid
- 1727 - Spain underwrites Preliminary of Paris
- 1753 - Austria, Great Britain & Modena sign secret military treaty.
- 1951 - UN arm forces reach Pyongyang Korea
- 1963 - Vostok 6 launched, pilot is 1st woman cosmonaut
- 1980 - UN Security Council calls for South Africa to free Nelson Mandela
- 1982 - Fahd becomes King of Saudi Arabia after King Khalid dies at 69
- 1983 - NASA's Pioneer 10 becomes the 1st man-made object to leave the solar system
- 1990 - Boeing 767 sets non-stop commercial flight, Seattle to Nairobi Kenya.
- 1993 - Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani re-elected President of Iran.
- 2000 - President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea meets Kim Jong-il, leader of North Korea, for the beginning of the first ever inter-Korea summit, in the northern capital of Pyongyang.
- 2002 - The United States of America withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty
- 2006 - The US Senate issues a formal resolution apologizing for failure to create anti-lynching legislation
- 2007 - The Al Askari Mosque in Samarra is bombed reportedly by Iraqi Baathists, destroying the mosque's two ten-story minarets
- 2012 - A series of bombings across Iraq kill 93 and wound 300 people

From KO Archives

Militant Escape Case: Police Hunting For Ex-MLA

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - A National Conference leader and former legislator allegedly involved in facilitating a militant commander in crossing the international border to Pakistan, is absconding.

The police have conducted raids at several places to seek the ex-MLA. Gul Rafiqi, who represented the Hom-Shalib constituency, but have failed to trace him.

The raids were conducted at Rafiqi's residence as well as at the homes of some of his relatives, the KNS said.

Policemen in plain clothes scoured the MLA hostels in Jammu as well as Srinagar, but failed to turn up any clues about the ex-legislators whereabouts. Rafiqi's mobile phone, too is not functioning for the past three days. According to sources Rafiqi may be trying to obtain anticipatory bail.

He has disappeared despite being informed that he should present himself before the police, which is now raiding his habitual haunts and using its network of informers to track him down. A senior police officer told the KNS that a high level investigation was on in the matter of the escape of a divisional commander of the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen from the valley.

Three persons, including the Ex-MLA's then secretary, Farooq Ahmad Bhat, personal Security Officer Kewal Singh and driver Shyam are already in custody.

Rafiqi allegedly, helped the Hizb divisional commander, Mohammad Amin Baba, escape from the Valley by taking him, to Amritsar in his own official vehicle accompanied by two personal security officers.

Baba, who had reportedly managed to get a passport on fictitious Srinagar address, was allegedly escorted to Wagah border on May 2 this year where from he crossed over to Pakistan. Sources said the case came to light when the police were investigating a mine-blast in Anantnag and arrested a suspect Javid Ahmad. Hizb commander Baba was also a suspect and when the police questioned Javid about him they learnt that Baba had recently crossed over to Pakistan via Amritsar. When asked about the allegations against Rafiqi, National Conference President Omar Abdullah was quoted by news agencies as having said "if there is anything against him (Rafiqi), the law will take its course. We want an impartial probe in the matter." He however said that the Mufti Sayeed government had done nothing when militants were arrested from a minister's house. "He still remains minister. Where is the justice," he questioned.

(Kashmir Observer, 12 June, 2005)



ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Tel: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.iust.ac.in

AUCTION NOTICE

For the disposal/auction of the old condemned obsolete office equipments and furniture items

Sealed tenders are invited for disposal / auction of old condemned, obsolete office equipments and furniture etc. on "as is where is" basis (list of items enclosed). The items to be auctioned are located in the stores, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, Pulwama, J&K. Details for inspection, contact person, tender acceptance are as under:-

Date & Time for inspection of items	All working days (Monday to Friday) between 10-06-2022 to 15-06-2022 (between 10:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M)
Date & Time and place for acceptance of tender	In the tender box kept in the office of the Procurement and Stores, IUST, Awantipora, Pulwama, J&K during the office hours upto 12.00 noon on or before 16-06-2022
Date & Time for opening of tender/Allotment shall be made on the same date	16-06-2022 at 2.00 PM. An EMD for Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only) should be deposited with the tender in the form of an CDR/FDR for any scheduled bank in favour of "Finance Officer, IUST, Awantipora, Pulwama", payable at Awantipora

Detailed tender notice alongwith terms, condition and items to be auctioned is available on the university website: www.iust.ac.in
No. IUST/Reg_P&S/22/188
Dated 10-06-2022

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar (Procurement & Stores)

DIPK-NB-1594/22

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P)
DEPARTMENT SRINAGAR KASHMIR
Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 – email:- kashflori@rediffmail.com

Subject: - Extension No.01.

In view of poor response, the last date for submission of bids invited vide this office e-Tender Notice No.01 of 2022 dated.20.05.2022 for Outsourcing of Entry Ticketing System of Mughal Garden Jaroka Bagh is hereby extended as per the details given below: -

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	10.06.2022 from 03.00 PM to 22.06.2022 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	10.06.2022 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	22.06.2022 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	25.06.2022 at 02:00 PM

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid Tender Notice.

By Order

Sd/-
Accounts Officer
(Member Secretary)

DIPK-3776/22

No:-DFK/GS-624/943-45

Dated:-10/06/2022.

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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Twitter Talks



“These days,99% of Muslim experts on TV who are introduced as ‘Islamic Scholars’ have never studied Islam. They’ve no standing/support in the community they claim to represent. These uncouth creatures have been created by Sangh. They aren’t friends of Muslims but enemies of Islam”
@khanumarfa
“Why not involve citizens into this and take inputs from civil society/ traders / school associations and people who commute on a daily basis.There needs to be a holistic approach to any traffic plan not hit and trials”
@rjnasirkashmir

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Callous We

For decades, Kashmiris have been holidaying on nature’s capacity to absorb abuse, unmindful of the explosive backlash sure to come once the ever-indulgent mother’s limits are crossed. It would be hard to find a people so blessed with divine bounty and yet so criminally callous and heedless of their duty to protect and preserve it. A more conscientious society would have guarded its priceless gifts with a fanatic zeal, but not so the Kashmiris, who not only appear to have taken the blessings for granted but also appear to be absolutely unaware that they possess something special. The collective will of a society ought to be reflected in the leaders it chooses, the governments it forms and the institutions it creates. But all these several levels of organized social action in Kashmir - if they deserve such a name at all – are only a reflection of the public apathy to issues concerning nature and environment. The transitory mushrooming of NGOs who grab attention with their short-lived, if well-meaning, bursts of activity is no answer to the chronic and dire problems they wish to address. For instance, the dying Dal and other city lakes cannot be saved by a hyped day-long drive alone even if it pulls in the high and the mighty of the valley’s officialdom for laudatory speeches. Even two decade after the Dal’s sickness became public, it continues to be a receptacle of sewage, waste and trash, much of the latter in the form of the scourge of polythene. And as the High Court recently observed, encroachments in the blighted water-body continue apace right under the watch of agencies that have spent hundreds of crores of rupees in an ostensible bid to save the lake. Horrible as their plight is, the Dal, its sister Ni-geen, and the by now past-redemption Anchar and Khush-haal Sar Lakes are only the tip of the collective culpability of Kashmiris – the rot has spread far and wide, right from the civic disaster in the city and the disasters-in-the-making in rural Kashmir, where, among other things, villagers erect latrines on streams and rivulets. The assaults on Kashmir’s natural assets have been, and continue to be, a willful, criminal public enterprise marked by an equally criminal complicity of successive governments which have failed to put their foot down in the face of this large-scale vandalism. Even today, when the waters –highly polluted, in this case – have gone well over the heads, the bright sparks in the government blunder about blindly without a clue on what course to take. Now that the High Court has taken the city’s lakes into its own custody, some remedial action can be expected. Any government and civic authority worth the name would have forcibly banned polythene and other plastic waste from Kashmir over a decade ago. But as things stand here, the officialdom experiences brief spells of wakefulness in which it issues pious appeals to desist from the use of polythene, and then lapses back into its customary stupor. Mere appeals will not serve the purpose; what is required is tough action, and aggressive promotion of alternative mean. Given the dismal record of successive governments over the relatively simple polythene issue, it is not clear how the powers-that-be can tackle the more complex matters of scientific treatment and disposal of garbage, rampant commercialization of residential areas, copy-cat urbanization of rural Kashmir and the degradation of the valley’s ecological wealth in the countryside. In more enlightened societies it is the leaderships that set a benign agenda, mode and trend of development, and sell it to the public who cooperate willingly and wholeheartedly in what they rightly perceive to be in their ultimate interest. But Kashmir is a study in contrast. Here a remiss leadership is more than matched by an unthinking public who see the stark face of their depredations every day but don’t lift a finger to arrest it.

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



What’s Caste
Doing in Kashmir?

Amir Suhail Wani

Not long ago, one Facebook user from the so-called Non-Syed background updated his marital status. He had been betrothed to a Syed girl and no sooner did he put on this update that a Pandora box opened up where people questioned the legitimacy and social consent for this “Syed – Non-Syed engagement”. The fact remains that caste plays an overtly predominant and pervasive role in shaping our social matrix, in generating and maintaining the social hierarchies and acting as base and substructure on which are erected dozens of other patterns of power relationships, social mobility, economic wellbeing and a host of other factors. Caste system in South Asia in general and in Kashmir in particular, has hardened to such a degree and gained such an acceptance that any deviation there from is seen as no less than a rebellion. We do come across reports and incidents that prompt us to compare Syeds within Muslims with their Brahmin counterparts from Hinduism and likewise the lower tier castes (Also called Arzals) with Dalits and other “untouchables” within Hinduism. The case for caste, particularly in the Muslim context is one of irony and inversion. Muslims, at least the Ashraaf section (Syeds and other elite castes) have paradoxically invoked Islam itself in order to defend their claims to caste-based privilege and have fostered their case for caste by pitching their proximity to the Prophet of Islam (PBUH) and a sort of hidden sense of moral perfection. However, any serious student of Islam knows that idea of caste privilege does not align with Islam at all. The history of Islam and more importantly Quran – its canon doesn’t purport any such ideas, nor does it grant any sanction or legitimacy to such sickening claims, which tend to elevate the status of one individual or one clan over the other based on caste. How is it then that the religion which stands out in crusading spirit against the caste system went on to be used as the very cushion and bedrock to assert the su-

How is it then that the religion which stands out in crusading spirit against the caste system went on to be used as the very cushion and bedrock to assert the superiority of Syeds over Non-syeds and has been so invoked in die casting the caste matrix that there seems to be no escape or exit from the system as it exists now

periority of Syeds over Non-syeds and has been so invoked in die casting the caste matrix that there seems to be no escape or exit from the system as it exists now. Here, a few things can be asserted and few reasons can be alluded to which seeded and garnered the caste system in an egalitarian religion like Islam. It is true that Arabs were smitten by their racial superiority in Pre-Islamic times and so much was their sense of superiority heightened that they derogatorily described Non-Arabs as Ajamis.However, the Islamic call to egalitarianism, solely governed by individual piety and God-centeredness was quick to suppress the Arabic arrogance of racial superiority. It seems now that this suppression was temporary and superficial for the vast majority as we see within the life of Prophet (SAW) and immediately after his death, people started re-invoking caste, clan and tribal centric slogans to gather people around them, to agitate their infernal emotions and to thwart them against one another under these trifling pretexts. With the spread of Islam beyond the geographic contours of Arabia, the missionaries carried with themselves not only the message of Islam, but a sense of Arab superiority too. This holds true to lesser degree for early Islamic missionaries and

more to later missionaries from Persia and central Asia and it were these missionaries who brought Islam to the Indian subcontinent and to Kashmir. These missionaries, mostly belonging to the upper caste as they were with the added element of Syed genealogy inadvertently became the repositories and flag bearers of new faith in new geographies.This fuelled their sense of superiority and no wonder that for long stretches of time, until very recently, they continued to have monopoly over religious, social, political and educational institutions. The caste consciousness brought with itself an increase of gulf between various castes giving birth not only to elements like psychological superiority but the social issues of out-casting, mistreating and marginalising castes at the lower rungs of caste hierarchy. Researchers argue that the elite Hindu castes like Brahmins and Rajputs, who converted to Islam were also adjusted in the higher echelons of caste matrix and this way, they were able to maintain the perks and

Islam leaves out the consideration of caste but the sanctity and religious legitimacy that has been granted to caste in issues of marriage lacks Islamic precedent and sanction

privileges their former religion offered them, notwithstanding the egalitarian ideal of Islam. Having said too much of the histrionics of the caste system particularly with reference to South Asia, we must also sensitise ourselves to the issues emerging from the system of caste hierarchy and investigate a panacea, if any, to the problem. In their recent article for Kashmir Observer, Tabia Masoodi and Al Misda Masoom depicted how casteism is complicating the issues of marriage in Kashmir. Indeed, the caste system is most blatantly spotted within the institution of marriage. We have seen caste considerations breaking good matches in mar-

riage. While there’s scope for reasoning and reaching a consensus on all matters, caste is a deal breaker in most cases. To begin with, Syeds, almost invariably, are strongly against Caste-Exogamy and see any “Syed – Non-Syed” marital relationship as deviation which defiles the lineage and brings into it the elements of impurity. This definition of “Non-Syeds” as “The Marital Other” has seen a historical continuity in South Asia, though there is nothing in Quran and Sunnah to lend any legitimacy to this line of argument. Piety, conduct and character are the sole and defining determinants which govern the dynamics of marriage in Islam. Islam leaves out the consideration of caste and the sanctity and religious legitimacy that has been granted to caste in issues of marriage lacks Islamic precedent and sanction. However, caste is a social reality and there is no denying the fact that castes do, to an extent, reflect and govern the modes and mores of an individual and clan. But to grant to this single fact so much of importance and sanctity that it becomes the sole deciding factor in our marriages and to additionally grant it a religious legitimacy is in contradiction to both the religious and social spirit. Not everything can be substantiated by data and empirical evidence. At times, we have to assign due importance to individual testimonies when the testimonies are too large in number and keep coming from different individuals now and then. It is based on these individual testimonies that one is driven to believe that caste echelons, particularly in villages, play an indispensable role in determining the social acceptance, social mobility and social stature of an individual. There are reports where the masses from so called lower castes are subjected to treatment too close to Hindu version of “Untouchability”. This is despite the fact that the first Muazzin of Islam was a black Ethiopian slave. This makes one assert that the roots of caste are embedded in our historical and cultural mores and religion is not to be blamed for. Caste system has a strong influence on our ways of socialisation and how our peer groups are formed and the rules that determine the nature of our relationship with our friends, colleagues and peers from other castes. The issues of caste are equally prominent within Ajaalafs and Arzaals themselves. This is to say that if Syeds conceptualise the entire non-Syed populace as “The Other”, there are subdivisions within “Non-Syeds” themselves which again govern and determine their inter-

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

The author is a writer and columnist based in Srinagar

Just Say No to
“Friend-Shoring”

RAGHURAM G. RAJAN

win.” Hollowed-out small towns in the American Midwest attest to the downside of offshoring production. It has ever been thus: Across the advanced economies, today’s rust-belt towns and cities initially grew by putting traditional craft workers elsewhere out of work. With the right policy support, however, trade need not leave people or communities behind. In Scandinavia, firms constantly focus on upgrading their workers’ skills so that they are ready for change. These are the basic, Economics 101 arguments in support of free and fair trade. But in recent years, global supply chains have displayed new vulnerabilities. In their desire to maximize efficiency, companies have sometimes overlooked resilience. Climate disasters (including floods, droughts, and wildfires) and shocks like the pandemic-induced lockdowns have highlighted “just-in-time” supply chains’ many chokepoints. As a result, firms are now considering whether they should increase their inventories as an additional buffer. They are also looking for ways to reduce chokepoints by diversifying production locations across countries, and to increase flexibility by making inputs more substitutable. Such private-sector responses can preserve the viability of global supply chains. If any forthcoming friend-shoring mandates were to apply such a broad categorization, they would have devastating effects on international trade. After all, friend-shoring will typically mean trading

presidency. Even more to the point, existing economic interdependencies can make geo-strategic rivals more reluctant to launch missiles at one another. Many observers have noted that China will think twice before invading Taiwan now that it has seen the damage that sanctions are doing to Russia. But if China were to prepare for an invasion, it would start by reducing its reliance on Western economies, a process that Western friend-shoring would inadvertently advance. Economic entanglements may be messy, but they help keep the peace. Finally, friend-shoring would tend to exclude the poor countries that most need global trade in order to become richer and more democratic. It will increase the risks that these countries become failed states, fertile grounds to nurture and export terrorism. The tragedy of mass emigration will become more likely as chaotic violence increases. Friend-shoring is an understandable policy if it is strictly limited to specific items directly affecting national security. Unfortunately, the term’s public reception already suggests that it will be used to cover much else. Views expressed in the article are the author’s own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer: The article was originally published by Project Syndicate The author is former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the author, most recently, of The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind (Penguin, 2020)



MOVIE REVIEW

Of Mehmood, Angrezi and Immigrants

"Mei, Mehmood" succinctly explores the workings of this language capital and how the social prestige attached to it continues to plague the psyche of people

Tooba Towfiq

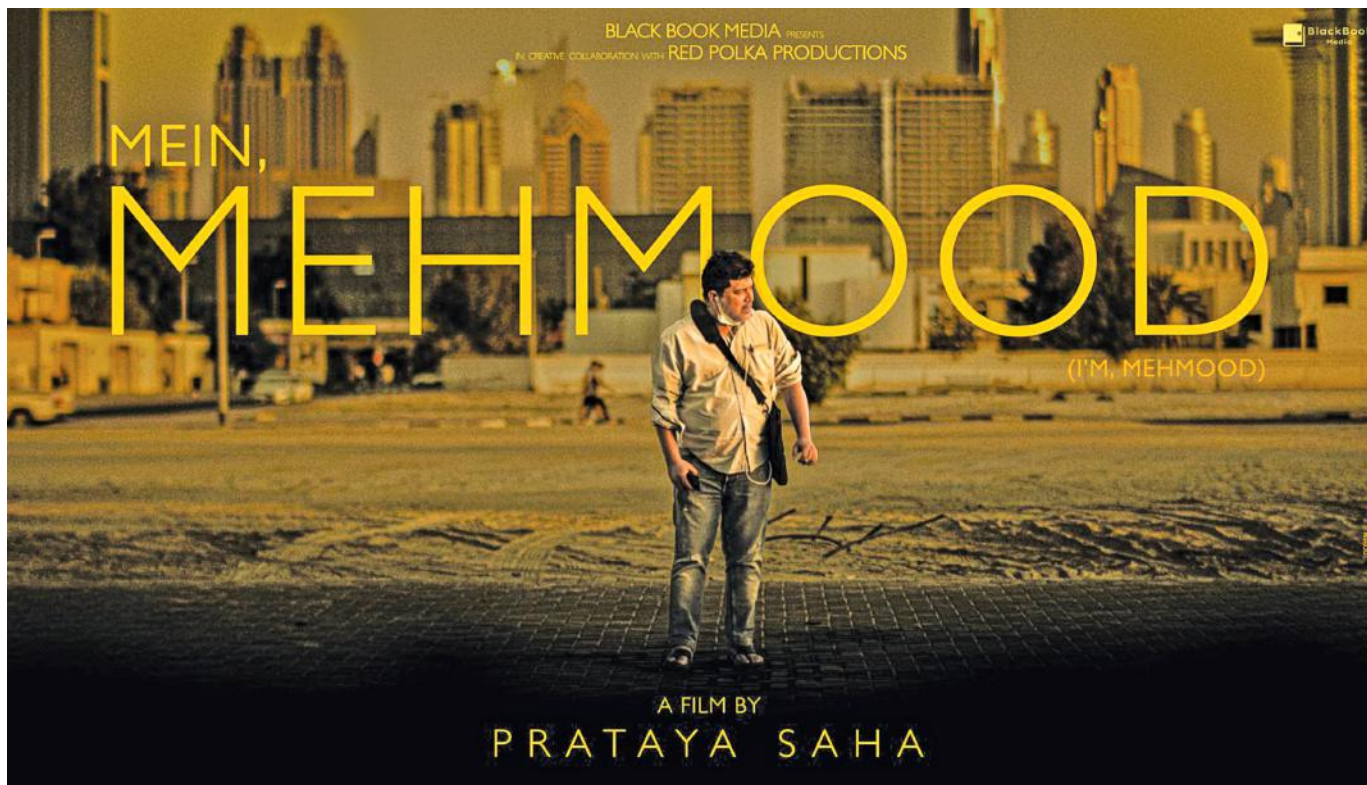
When Mehmood finds himself with a basket full of rejections while his English-speaking counterpart bags profitable targets – the third-world audience can easily catch the central argument of Pratya Saha's short movie, "Mein, Mehmood". Indeed, English still remains a language of power in the postcolonial world. This is explored by Saha through the story of a middle-aged Indian immigrant working in Dubai.

Dubai is the new age's "happy" getaway. It has taken over the might of the American skyscrapers and become luxury's first home. This is perhaps why it is inviting many for merry and work. Even as the picture-perfect poster of this place sits symmetrically, it is interspersed with an unfamiliar crowd that often puts the colours into question.

This modern-day idyll is questioned in Saha's movie which unpacks the struggles of South Asian immigrants, one shot at a time. Saha's Dubai isn't warm and welcoming as it is in popular advertiser's imagery. The tall skyscrapers aren't promising. They bring out the sublime irony of Saha's protagonist, Mehmood's helplessness.

Mehmood, who works as a tele-caller in a tourism company, is seen juggling life amidst the pandemic. He is seen repeating monotony to achieve sales targets to earn money and send it to his family back in India. Mehmood's difficulty is primarily shown to be his inability to speak in English, even as his clientele is mostly Hindi/Urdu speaking. This is a crucial point in understanding the commentary on English that the story is trying to make.

Unlike South Asian immigrants in US,



While struggling immigrants find quite a space in the aware critiques of the "American dream", how many have ventured to deflate the bubble of the "green pasture" possibilities in places like Dubai? This enterprise throws open new questions to understand the status of the post-colonial world in new contexts

where language barrier becomes a hindering factor, in Saha's movie English is dominantly attached to prestige. This makes the movie a strong postcolonial work which investigates the persisting and ever continuing colonial hangover of the language for South Asians.

Besides being the coloniser's language and enjoying power as a residue of the imperial legacy globally, English had been framed as a superior language by British colonisers. Additionally, when English was privileged as a medium of education in British India, a select group of elites were able to avail it. Moreover, English education also created a section of elite Babus, a class of fluent English-speaking people. This educated elite went on to become the future leaders of India and it is this first generation that also enjoyed most positions of power after

independence from foreign rule.

In the Post-Colonial context, however, English continued to remain the language of power and of the "powerful". As such, it carried with it not only a connotation of social capital but also potentials of economic mobility. Perhaps this explains the many English language coaching institutes that have sprung up across the subcontinent.

"Mei, Mehmood" succinctly explores the

workings of this language capital and how the social prestige attached to it continues to plague the psyche of people. That Mehmood fails to meet his monthly targets while his colleague finishes well in time, even as they had Hindi/Urdu speaking clientele, goes on to show the double standards that dictate our lives.

The movie brilliantly shows the interlinks between power, education, prestige and social capital. It is not just a lack of English education that creates hurdles in the way of Mehmood but also the element of prestige that he couldn't flaunt to his potential customers. It also explores the internalised colonial hangover that is not residual but quite unabashedly operational within our communities. To have a South Asian immigrant face problems at the hands of those who share the same ethnicity is a telling comment on

Unlike South Asian immigrants in the US, where language barrier becomes a hindering factor, in Saha's movie English is dominantly attached to prestige. This makes the movie a strong postcolonial work which investigates the persisting and ever continuing colonial hangover of the language for South Asians

the uncritical "progress" of people.

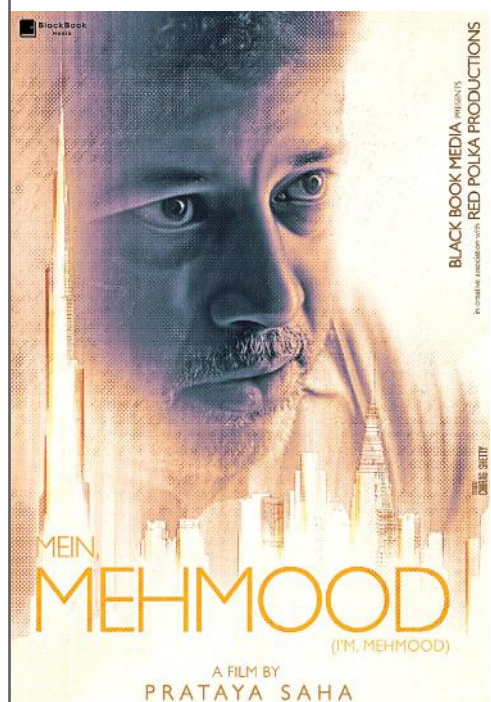
It is this class of Brown Sahib's that Macaulay, the orientalist who had advocated English had set out to achieve. It is a pity that even after having access to education, people still thrive in the Babu complex and judge their own.

In addition to a telling comment on the irrational power attached to English, the movie shows the every day struggles of an immigrant. This is done in simple yet impactful scenes. It throws open a Pandora's box of issues that immigrants have to face. Not only do they struggle far from their roots but find themselves uprooted in more than one way. Identity, marriage, family and life – an immigrant risks all. The displacement affects every aspect of their life as they're left chasing after the promises of green pastures. From fake smiles to sombre days, "Mein, Mehmood" shows all in only 11 minutes.

The movie's success in saying a lot in less is to be credited to the lead actor Ozair Abdul Aleem, who lends to the role a depth that goes beyond expressions. Together with Pratay Saha's story and direction, the story stands as important and relevant as ever.

While struggling immigrants find quite a space in the aware critiques of the "American dream", how many have ventured to deflate the bubble of the "green pasture" possibilities in places like Dubai? This enterprise throws open new questions to understand the status of the post-colonial world in new contexts.

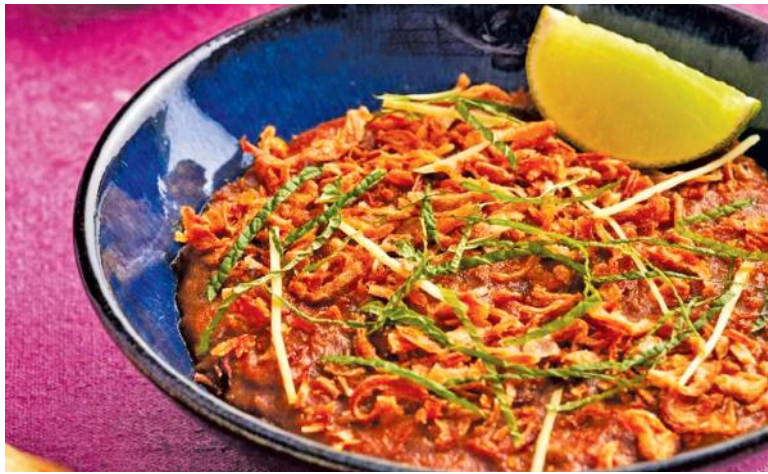
The author is the Opinion's Editor at Kashmir Observer



BEHIND THE SCENES



Hearty Haleem



INGREDIENTS

- 500 gms mutton, boneless, cubed
- 650 gms tomatoes or 4 to 5, chopped
- 170 gms daliya or broken wheat
- 2 ½ tbsp or 30 gms masoor dal or red lentil
- 2 ½ tbsp or 30 gms moong dal or yellow split pigeon peas
- 2 ½ tbsp or 30 gms channa dal or Bengal gram
- 6 ½ tbsp or 80 gms ghee/clarified butter
- 4 tsp or 25 gms haleem masala (check the recipe or can be store bought)
- 2 tsp or 15 gms yellow chilli powder
- 1/2 tsp or 7.5 gms turmeric powder
- 4 ½ cup or 1 l mutton/lamb stock
- 2 tbsp or 20 gms ginger-garlic paste (an equal portion of both)
- 2 brown onions, sliced length-wise
- Salt to taste

METHOD

1. Wash the lentils and soak them in water for about 2 to 3 hours.
2. Then, put the lentils in a pot and boil them with 2 cups of water. As you cook, add half a teaspoon of turmeric.
3. In a separate pan, boil the daliya (broken wheat) in 1 cup of water, adding half a teaspoon of turmeric powder.
4. Cook the dal and daliya separately, taking around 30 to 40 minutes. Then drain the excess water using a strainer and cool them down.
5. Once the mix cools down, blend them into a fine purée. Strain the purée and set it aside.
6. Take a pan, heat some ghee, around 30 grams or 2 ½ tablespoons and sauté the mutton pieces. Toss and turn the pieces regularly, ensuring the sides sear well. Cook them just enough to lock the water in but make sure not to caramelise them. Note: You can marinate the mutton with salt, a tablespoon of yoghurt, red chilli powder, turmeric powder and other spices, cover it and refrigerate for an hour.
7. Then, remove the seared mutton from the pan and transfer it into a pressure cooker.
8. Deglaze the pan (the one you cooked mutton in) with the mutton stock and add it to the pressure cooker. Note: Deglazing
9. means adding liquid to a hot pan, which allows all of the caramelised bits stuck to the bottom of the pan to come off.
10. Pressure cook the mutton on a medium flame, cooking it for 12 to 15 whistles. Once the mutton is done, strain it. Separate the stock, cool down the cooked mutton and stock separately.
11. Using a meat hammer or any sturdy equipment, pound the mutton to break it into tiny pieces. Note: You can use a heavy rolling pin or even the base of a large pan to beat the meat. Just make sure to plastic wrap the meat first before pounding for hygiene purposes and also so that it does not scatter around. After breaking down the meat into tiny pieces, add it to the stock to retain moisture.
12. Then, take a pan and heat the remaining ghee, around three tablespoons. Add the ginger-garlic paste and sauté it.
13. Once the paste turns translucent, add the haleem masala and yellow chilly powder and cook. At this point, add some stock, a few tablespoons and cook the spices with it. This way, the masalas won't burn.
14. Next, add in the sliced tomatoes and cook.
15. After the tomatoes are done, please remove them and strain the mixture using a fine chinois (sieve or filter).
16. Then, add the strained tomato mixture

into a pan and the dal and daliya puree that was kept aside, and cook them together on medium heat—followed by adding the mutton, stock and sliced brown onions to the pan. Cook further on medium heat for about half an hour.

17. Cook till the mutton mixes well and the whole mixture reaches a porridge-like consistency.
18. At this point, taste the haleem to check seasoning and spice levels. Then add salt or other spices according to your preference.
19. Garnish with chopped mint and julienned ginger.

To make a small jar of haleem masala, you will need 2 tablespoons of coriander seeds, 2 tablespoons of cumin seeds, 1 tablespoon of caraway or ajwain seeds (carom seeds), 1 tablespoon black cumin seeds, 2 crushed bay leaves, crushed, 2-inch cinnamon stick, 2 black cardamoms, 8 green cardamoms, 8 cloves, 2 tablespoons fennel seeds, 15 red button chillies, 1/2 teaspoon black pepper, 1 teaspoon turmeric powder, 1/2 tablespoon of salt or according to taste.

Dry roast the whole spices and blend them to a fine powder. Haleem masala recipe has been adapted from food blogger Mariam Sodawater of recipe52.com

Recipe courtesy: Chef Gaurav Yadav, Robaru Indian Restaurant, Dubai – Gulf News



KODAK MOMENTS



A young boy sits with Kangri in Lolab Valley.

Picture credit: Rayees Dar

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Report: Israel deploys radar systems in UAE, Bahrain to counter ‘threats’ from Iran

Agenceis

Tehran: Tel Aviv regime has deployed radar systems in some West Asian countries as part of joint cooperation with the region's Arab states to counter what the Israeli media claims to be "missile threats" from Iran.

"Israel has deployed radar systems in several countries in the Middle East, including the UAE and Bahrain," Channel 12 said on Thursday, claiming the measure was in line with joint cooperation in confronting "Iranian missile threats" and creating an early warning system.

The media also said the US administration was seeking to establish a security alliance consisting of Israel and a number of Persian Gulf countries, including those that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

"It is a defense-security co-operation agreement between Israel and several Arab countries

against threats from Iran," the Channel 12 news said. "Under the emerging agreement, the United States will work on cooperation between Israel and six Persian Gulf states, in addition to Egypt, Jordan and Iraq. It is a joint proposal between The Democratic and Republican parties and will be tabled on Thursday in the House of Representatives."

According to the Israeli channel, members of US Congress had already put forward a bill requiring that the Republican and Democratic parties have submitted the bill to Congress, recommending that the Pentagon work with Israel and the Arab countries to incorporate air defense capabilities to "counter the threats from Iran." The bill was the latest attempt inside

the Beltway to improve military cooperation between Israel and West Asia after normalization of ties between the occupying regime and some Arab countries.

"Israel will cooperate and coordinate on military and security measures with many countries without diplomatic relations, whose laws have recently banned measures that promote normalization and relations with Israel," the Journal said.

The Israeli media report came on the same day Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett visited the United Arab Emirates, his second official trip to the Persian Gulf country since the two sides formally normalized in 2020 under the so-called Abraham Accords brokered by then US President Donald Trump.

Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan were other countries to normalize at that time.

To the Palestinians, it was a "stab in the back."

Goyal Reviews Arrangements For Amarnath Yatra

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A senior government official on Saturday reviewed the facilities for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra here and directed that there should be swift passage at checkpoints for pilgrims on way to base camps.

Additional Chief Secretary, Home, R K Goyal also directed the concerned officials to ensure appropriate security arrangements at Yatri Niwas and other vulnerable points.

The 43-day-long yatra to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath is scheduled to start on June 30 from the twin routes traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

Chairing a high-level meeting of civil and police administration here, Goyal asked the officers to ensure that all pilgrims have a swift passage at the checkpoints and no devotee should have to wait for long.



Goyal enquired about the arrangements and back up plans for providing reliable accommodation, water, electricity, registration, prepaid cards, traffic management, parking,

transport, toilet facilities and security services, an official spokesperson said.

Regarding accommodation of pilgrims in case of heavy rush or stoppage of yatra due

to any reason, the meeting was informed that there are 32 lodgement centres having a capacity of 15,000 people and nearly two dozen langar (community kitchen) facilities in Jammu district.

Similarly, Kathua has 31 lodgement centres having capacity of more than a thousand people, Samba has 22 lodgement centres with 8000 people capacity, Udhampur has 36 lodgement centres with 9,000 persons capacity and Ramban has 13 lodgement centres having capacity of 8,000 people for accommodation, the spokesperson said.

Regarding Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagging, the spokesperson said the tagging of vehicles will be done at Lakhnapur the gateway to Jammu and Kashmir in Kathua district while individual tagging will be done at Jammu.

The senior officer also visited yatri niwas at Bhagwati Nagar and registration counters at different sites here.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Protests Rock Many

remarks by BJP's now-sacked two functionaries on Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh).

Authorities suspended the Internet and tightened security in the affected districts as they cracked down on protesters allegedly involved in violence and clashes with police personnel on Friday, with nearly 240 people arrested in Uttar Pradesh alone. Cases have also been registered in Delhi, Maharashtra and other states.

In UP's Kanpur and Saharanpur on Saturday administration demolished parts of the properties of three persons accused of participating in protests that broke out against the disparaging remarks made by two BJP leaders.

While a bandh was observed on Saturday in the Jharkhand capital on a call by Hindu outfits against the violence, around 2,500 police personnel were deployed and the internet was suspended in the district.

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren formed a two-member committee, comprising senior IAS officer Amitabh Kaushal and Additional Director General of Police Sanjay Latkar to investigate the violence that left two persons dead and at least 24 people injured, a senior official told PTI.

The committee has been asked to submit its report to the state government in a week, he said.

Mohammad Mudassir Kaifi (22), who had gunshot wounds on his head, and 24-year-old Mohammad Sahil, with bullet injuries on neck, died during treatment, an official of state-run Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences said in Ranchi.

"Both were residents of Ranchi," he said, adding that eight others are in the ICU.

Ranchi's Deputy Inspector General Anish Gupta said a Special Investigation Team has also been set up to probe the incident. "Three FIRs have been lodged so far. Search operations are on to arrest the persons involved in the violence," he said.

On Saturday, the Kanpur Development Authority demolished a four-storey high-rise building owned by a close aide of the main accused in the violence that broke out last week, PTI reported.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Anand Prakash Tiwari told PTI that the demolished building is owned by Mohammad Ishtiyak, a close aide of the prime accused in the case Zafar Hayat Hashmi.

In Delhi police registered a case in connection with Friday's protest outside Jama Masjid and under section 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of the Indian Penal Code and further investigation is underway, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Shweta Chauhan said.

Fresh violence was reported in the Panchla Bazaar area in West Bengal's Howrah district as protesters clashed with the police, set ablaze several houses and also vandalised a BJP party office.

Protests had erupted in several parts of Howrah district on Friday with people indulging in stone-pelting, setting police vehicles on fire and damaging public property.

Internet services have been suspended across the district till June 13 and prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC imposed in several areas such as Uluberia, Domjur and Panchla till June 15.

On Saturday, authorities suspended internet services in parts of Murshidabad district also till June 14.

The West Bengal government effected a police reshuffle in Howrah district, appointing Praveen Tripathi, Additional CP of Kolkata Police, the new Commissioner of Police of Howrah City and other officers.

The decision was taken during an emergency meeting held in the state secretariat over the current situation in Howrah district.

BJP's West Bengal unit president Sukanta Majumdar was arrested on Saturday afternoon near the toll plaza on Vidyasagar Setu when he was on the way to violence-hit Howrah district. "His visit could have created a law and order situation. This is a preventive arrest," a senior police officer told PTI.

Majumdar, the MP of Balurghat in Uttar Dinajpur, said the situation in West Bengal was fast turning into that in Kashmir.

Following Majumdar's arrest, BJP leaders and workers hit the streets in Kolkata, Uttar Dinajpur, Cooch Behar, Birbhum and Jalpaiguri districts.

BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh, however, managed to enter Howrah and visit the areas where offices of his party were

attacked.

Nupur Sharma was suspended by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) while another leader, Naveen Jindal, was expelled over their insulting remarks on Prophet Mohammad.

The comments led to an intense backlash in several Islamic countries and calls for a boycott of Indian products. There have been protests in many Indian cities as well, while multiple FIRs have been registered against Sharma.

Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim demanded the arrest Sharma.

"She should be arrested immediately. BJP is trying to vitiate the atmosphere of the country," he said.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi accused the BJP of not taking timely action against Sharma. He said that nobody should indulge in violence over the issue and police should also not take the law into their hands.

"Nupur Sharma is not being arrested. As per the law, she should be arrested. Why don't you arrest her and take legal action against her?"

"The BJP's action of suspending her for violating the party's constitution did not resolve the issue, and one should also think of the Indian Constitution," the Owaisi said.

Union minister Ramdas Athawale appealed to people, especially Muslims, to maintain peace and said the government and police are keeping an eye on those trying to trigger communal violence in the country.

"The BJP has already taken action against the two leaders and therefore, there is no need for an agitation. People need to maintain calm," the Union minister of state for social justice and empowerment said in Jammu.

Uttar Pradesh police said it had arrested 237 people from various districts. In Saharanpur and Prayagraj, police officials said action will be taken against those arrested under the stringent National Security Act.

Among those arrested, 68 were held in Prayagraj and 50 in Hathras, Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said in a statement on Saturday.

He said 55 people were arrested in Saharanpur, 28 in Ambedkarnagar, 25 in Moradabad, eight in Firozabad, and three is Aligarh.

UP Chief Minister Adityanath, who has often spoken of how under his rule the state has been rid of frequent riots, issued a stern warning.

"Strictest action will be taken against the anti-social elements involved in the chaotic efforts to spoil the atmosphere in various cities in the past few days," he said while issuing directives to officials.

"There is no place for such anti-social people in a civilised society. No innocent should be harassed, but not a single guilty should be spared," he said.

Meanwhile, the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) demanded that high-resolution cameras be installed inside and outside every mosque and madrasa.

VHP working president Alok Kumar said those trying to pollute the peaceful and harmonious atmosphere of the country will have to understand that India is run by the Constitution and not by the Shariat.

The religious places, from where the alleged violent mobs came out and indulged in rioting, must also own up to their responsibility, the VHP working president said.

Besides, the VHP also demands that high-resolution video cameras be installed inside and outside every mosque and madrasa as well as in the Muslim-dominated areas for monitoring of the activities in these places, the outfit's national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said.

In Maharashtra, several cases were registered in connection with Friday's protests.

An FIR was registered at Panvel city Police station under section 37 (1) (3), 135 of Maharashtra Police Act (violating prohibitory orders) against the protesters. Cases were also registered at Ganesh Peth Police Station at Nagpur city, City Chowk in Aurangabad city, Shahada in Nandurbar, Kotwali Police Station at Ahmednagar, Sadar Bazar at Jalna and Sadar Bazar at Solapur.

A case had been registered against over 100 demonstrators who staged an agitation in Aurangabad. They have been booked under section 149 (unlawful assembly) and other relevant provisions of the IPC and Motor Vehicles Act, an official from the Begumpura police station said.

A large number of Muslims staged a protest in front of a police station in Nashik city demanding action against a netizen for allegedly

posting derogatory material about Prophet Mohammad.

Senior police officers, including commissioner of police Jayant Naiknavare, rushed to the spot and pacified the protesters.

A case was registered under section 153 (Wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot), and other charges under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at the cyber police station.

BJP's controversial Bhopal MP Pragya Singh Thakur came out in support of Sharma, saying that if anybody insults Hindu deities, then such people would be told the "truth".

After Thakur's comments made here on Friday, the opposition Congress in Madhya Pradesh sought a clarification from the BJP on its stand.

In the wake of the violent protests, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said he has directed police to take all steps to maintain law and order in the state.

"Presently, the situation is peaceful in the state. The police have been instructed to deploy the forces in sensitive areas," the chief minister said.

Curfew Continues

on to restore complete peace in the region with the cooperation of the public.

Kumar, along with Additional Director General of Police, Jammu, Mukesh Singh, visited the curfew-bound areas of Doda and Kishtwar for the second day in running to take stock of the situation. Restrictions were imposed as a precautionary measure in Doda and Kishtwar, especially in Bhaderwah following certain social media comments and posts (that created tension). The situation is well under control and there was no untoward incident reported from anywhere, Kumar told reporters in Bhaderwah town.

He said police have registered FIRs based on various complaints and the identification process of the accused is on. Strict action as per law will be taken against all those involved (in creating communal tension).

Urging the people to maintain communal harmony, he advised them to avoid irresponsible comments on social media.

Kumar said the situation in the entire Chenab valley region comprising Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban district is fully under control.

There was no major stone pelting incident reported from anywhere. We are holding talks with representatives of the people and are hopeful of restoration of normalcy within the shortest possible time, he said.

The additional director general of police said they had talks with public representatives who made certain suggestions to bring back normalcy.

We will have complete normalcy within a day or two with cooperation of the public, Singh said, adding directions have already been passed to allow patients to reach hospitals and students to appear in board examinations. Medical shops are also functioning normally, he said.

YouTuber Held

registered under sections 505 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code at the Safa Kadal police station," police said.

Wani's arrest came after he deleted the viral video and issued an apology in a new video posted on his YouTube channel "Deep pain Fitness".

"I had uploaded a video last night about Nupur Sharma. It was a VFX video which went viral all over India and an innocent person like me got implicated. I never have any intention to hurt any other religion, because Islam teaches us to respect other religions," Wani said in the new video.

He said he deleted the controversial video after it went viral.

"I respect all religions. Yes, I had made that video, but I had no intention to violate anything. I deleted the video last night itself, but I apologise for it. I am sorry," the YouTuber said in the video with folded hands.

"If anyone is hurt because of this, I am extremely sorry. I had no intention to hurt anyone," he added.

Describing himself as a simple person, Wani expressed hope that the second video would also go viral "so that my apology reaches everyone".

"I am an innocent person and do not want to be implicated," he said.

Wani's now-deleted video posted on his channel showed the bare-bodied YouTuber wielding a sword and beheading a photo of Sharma.

Sharma was suspended by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) while another leader, Naveen

Jindal, was expelled over their insulting remarks on Prophet Mohammad.

The comments led to an intense backlash in several Islamic countries and calls for a boycott of Indian products. There have been protests in several Indian cities as well, while multiple FIRs have been registered against Sharma.

Two Militants

records, he said, Ganie was involved in several crime cases including attacks on police/security forces and "civilian atrocities".

The spokesperson also claimed recovery of incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 303 rifle along with 23 rounds, Pistol along with 31 rounds, 1 hand grenade from the

"All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at the encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any," he added.

Meanwhile, an unidentified militant was killed in a separate encounter in neighbouring Pulwama district, police said.

"One terrorist killed. Operation is underway. Further details shall follow," the Kashmir Zone Police tweeted quoting Vijay Kumar IGP, Kashmir.

The encounter broke out in Drabgam area of the district on Saturday evening after a search operation launched by a joint team of police and army in the village.

According to reports, a few militants are believed to be trapped in the village that has been placed under siege by the government forces.

Targeted Killing

forces in their campaign to root out militancy.

Earlier, the LG inaugurated Eklavya Model Residential School and laid foundation stone for a new Tribal Youth Hostel at Kulgam. He also inaugurated the District Civil Services Library cum Reading Room on the occasion.

The LG highlighted the government's efforts in empowering all the sections of the society, especially those who were neglected for decades, and making them key partners in J&K's development journey.

"In the last 21 months, we have set in motion a growth process that will be able to eliminate issues like poverty, illiteracy and unemployment in the years to come and turn the weaker section into the wheels of national progress," he said.

He noted that Cluster Tribal Model Village, livelihood units, infrastructure projects, access to healthcare through new mobile medical units, tribal sub-centres and various other path-breaking initiatives are giving a ray of hope to this disadvantaged section of society.

"Our efforts at making the tribal youth more skilled and capable are going to be the biggest driver of inclusive growth in the future. We are in the process of designing several new schemes. In the long run as tribal community catch up their social indicators, we will ensure that no one is left behind," Sinha said.

He cited the achievement of Kulgam's Tanveer Khan, second rank holder in Indian Economic Service (IES) and said the administration would provide the facilities and resources needed to nurture such talents in every household of the Tribal community.

The LG said that the UT administration decided a year ago to instill confidence in the tribal youth by creating avenues for their training and skilling in all modern professions so that they can become an integral part of the changing economic-social system of the world.

"Today 800 youths of tribal community are being trained in various vocational programs. The Tribal Department has started the 'Wings to Fly' program for the tribal youth to train them to be pilots, cabin crew and ground staff at the airports," the LG said.

"In the last financial year a record Rs 31.12 crore was earmarked for scholarships of tribal children and in this financial year it has been increased to Rs 45 crore," he added.

The LG further said that new hostels, smart schools and other livelihood generation programmes and initiatives such as the establishment of Van Dhan Kendras, Tourist Village Network and Mini Sheep Farms will open new vistas of opportunities for the tribal youth.

"The political reservation for the Tribal community being implemented after decades will prove to be an important step towards social

equality and making the tribal community politically empowered," he said.

He also directed the Tribal Affairs department to ensure that maximum benefit of these schemes reaches the youth of the Tribal community.

Vehicles Without

HSRP plates are ready and lying with the vendor and telephonic calls have also been made to the owners to affix the same in their vehicles," an official spokesperson said Thursday.

"It was also informed that the Motor Vehicle Department is in regular touch with other law enforcement agencies like Jammu and Kashmir Police and Jammu and Kashmir Traffic Police, who are also ensuring the implementation of the said scheme," he added.

Men A Little

in the series, shows that among all age groups, the highest spike in obesity was reported among men whose percentage stood at 31.7 percent in 2019-21 from 20.5 percent in NFHS-4, 2015-16 report.

For women who are overweight or obese, the rate was recorded at 29.4 percent in NFHS-5 which is almost akin to the rate recorded in NFHS-4 (29.3).

This is followed by the category of "Men who have a high risk waist-to-hip ratio (≥0.90) (%)" where the percentage was recorded at a grueling 60.7 percent. In this group, too, the number was higher in urban areas where the percentage stood at 66 percent compared to rural J&K where the rate was recorded in the fifth edition of the NFHS series.

As per NFHS-5 report, in the category of "Women who have high risk waist-to-hip ratio (≥0.85) (%)" the rate was much higher compared to men as the percentage for women was recorded at 87.8 percent. In this category, the rate was higher in Urban J&K where the percentage settled at 89.2 percent compared to rural J&K 87.3 percent.

The report has further revealed that the percentage of Women whose Body Mass Index (BMI) is normal was recorded at 66.4 percent while for Men whose Body Mass Index (BMI) is normal stood at 64 percent.

The Government of India in November last year had also released the factsheets of key indicators on population, reproductive and child health, family welfare, nutrition and others for India including J&K, clubbed under phase two of the 2019-21 NFHS-5.

Mild Intensity

longitude 75.59 degrees east. The epicenter was 5 km inside the earth in Pahalgam region." Seismologically, Kashmir is located in an earthquake prone region and temblors have wreaked havoc here in the past.

On October 8, 2005, an earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale killed over 80,000 people on the two sides of the Line of Control.

Two People Arrested

and 11 Pistol rounds were recovered from their possession at a checkpoint established at Khudahmam Dooru, a police spokesperson said Saturday.

"In this connection, a case vide FIR No. 51/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Dooru and further investigation initiated," he added.

IED Defused On

Army's S2 RR rushed to the spot and subsequently called Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS). As a precautionary measure, a police officer said that traffic through the area was suspended.

The object turned out to be an IED and was safely defused by the BDS, he said. Traffic through the area has also been restored. "A case has been registered."

Lightning Strikes

famous ski resort of Gulmarg during the intervening night of June 10-11, reports said Saturday. In a similar incident, a woman was killed and three others injured in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

Gulshana Begum was killed and three others injured after lightning struck their mud hut in Wanghat forests in Kangan area, reports said.

Teen Girl Allegedly

to the Sub district hospital (SDH) Magam in suspicious condition where the doctors declared her brought dead. Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident and started further investigation in this regard.

Rain Dips Mercury Below Normal In Kashmir

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Following fresh rains last evening, minimum temperature settled below normal in Kashmir Valley barring Pahalgam on Saturday.

A meteorological department official here said Srinagar received 15.9 mm of rainfall in the last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, mainly since last evening. During the time, he said, Pahalgam received 2.0 mm, Kupwara 5.0 mm, Kokernag 0.4 mm and Gulmarg 21.4 mm. However rains eluded Jammu even as there was slight drop in the night temperature in the region.

Amid the rain spell, Srinagar recorded a low of 13.3°C against 14.6°C on the previous night, the Met said. The temperature, he said, was below normal by 1.0°C during this time of the year for the summer capital.

Qazigund recorded a low of 12.2°C against 13.0°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.7°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

Pahalgam recorded a minimum of 10.5°C against 9.5°C on the previous night. The temperature was 2.3°C above normal for the famous resort in south

Kashmir during this time of the season, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 11.5°C against 12.6°C on the previous night. It was 0.6°C below normal for the place in south Kashmir during this time of the season, the official said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.5°C against 4.8°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 4.3°C below normal for the famous place in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Kupwara town in north Kashmir recorded a low of 11.7°C against 12.5°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.9°C below normal for the district, the official said.

Jammu recorded a low of 28.5°C against 31.0°C on the previous night, the official said. The temperature was 2.8°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 16.4°C, Batote recorded a low of 17.5°C while Bhadarwah had a minimum of 15.6°C, the official said. "There is no forecast of any major rain this week," said the official.

Amarnath Yatra

Govt Provides Full Year Insurance Cover Of Rs 5L For Horses, Ponies



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Saturday announced full year insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh for horses and ponies for their services in the annual Amarnath yatra scheduled to start from June 30.

The announcement in this regard was made by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Saturday in a meeting with the officers of Labour and Animal Husbandry Departments, an official spokesperson said.

Pole, he said, also asked the officers to increase registration of labourers and ponies to achieve the target before June 14th.

"The Div Com directed officers of the Labour Department to register 16,000 labourers to achieve the target of 35,000 labourers to provide services during the yatra period. Similarly, he also asked the Animal Husbandry Department to register an additional 5000 ponies to provide services for Shri Amarnathji Yatra," he said.

The Div Com, according to the spokesperson also directed Assis-

tant Labour Commissioners and District Animal Husbandry officers to conduct camps in districts to register labourers and Ponies," Pole, he said, instructed Deputy Director Animal Husbandry Department Jammu to register ponies coming from Marwah Wadwan, Dacchan areas and other seven districts of Jammu division.

"He directed for identification of feed shops for animals on both routes to Amarnath cave and also stressed for medical checkup of animals before registration," he said, adding that the Div Com said full year insurance cover of Rs 5 lac shall be provided for Horses and ponies for their services in Amarnathji Yatra.

According to the spokesperson, Pole directed District Officers to depute staff for assisting the Department in Ganderbal and Anantnag for smooth execution of activities.

"Div Com emphasized on officers to ensure that yatris are not overcharged by service providers. Besides, asked to conduct labour welfare camps at the service station of Amarnath Yatra," he added.

In J&K, Only 1418 Teachers Trained To Educate Children With Special Needs: Report

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir only 1418 teachers from the Department of Education are trained to teach the Children with Special Needs (CwSN), reveal the report.

According to an official report, a total of 1418 teachers from the Department of Education are trained to teach the CwSN across Jammu and Kashmir that includes 1088 male and 330 female teachers.

However, the report further

reads that there were a total of 3031 such teachers from all government and unaided and aided private schools. Among the total number of such educators 1745 are male and 1266 are females.

It also states that the number of trained teachers to teach CwSN were more in recognized unaided private schools than the government-run-schools wherein 1547 such educators were imparting education to the specially abled students.

In Kendriya Vidyalaya or Central Schools, a total of 12 trained

teachers were working in these schools that includes nine male and three female educators.

Likewise, Jawahar Navodaya and Vidyalaya, a total of 14 teachers were trained to teach the CwSN that includes 12 male and only two female educators.

The official figures further reveal that in Jammu and Kashmir a total of 11 teachers from Madarsa recognized by Wakf board and Madarsa Board were trained to teach the CwSN that includes five male and six female teachers—(KNO)

50,000 Buildings In Jammu To Get Solar Power Plants Soon

JAKEDA To Install 200 MW Grid Tied Rooftop Solar Power Plants On 50,000 Residential Buildings In Jammu City

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday approved the installation of 200 MW of grid-tied rooftop solar power plants under the "Solar City Mission" in Jammu.

The decision was taken in the Administrative Council, which met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday, an official spokesperson said.

Under the project, he said, 200 MW grid-tied rooftop solar power plants will be installed on 50,000 residential buildings in Jammu city by the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) under its "Solar City Mission" at an estimated cost of Rs 1040 crore. The project will be completed by March, 2024 and will have a lifetime of 25 years.

"The decision has been taken to implement the Government of India's Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Scheme, Phase-II for the residential sector in Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that the electricity needs of the city are fully met from solar energy," he said.

The spokesperson said that the Rooftop Solar Programme will provide subsidized installation of solar power panels on residential houses at the cost of Rs. 58,739, Rs. 53,995, Rs. 52,594, and Rs. 51,309 for Category-A (Up to 1 kW), Category-B (> 1 kW to 2 kW), Category-C (> 2kW up to 3 kW), and Category-D (> 3 kW up to 10 kW), respectively.

He said that the Central Sector Scheme provides a central subsidy component of 40% of the project cost and a state subsidy component of 25% of the project cost for the installation of solar power panels, below 3 kW capacity, beyond which the central subsidy component re-



mains at 20%.

He further said that the subsidy will be provided to the beneficiaries through the DBT mode.

"These rooftop solar power plants will be connected to the grid on a net metering basis. The investments made by the beneficiaries will be recovered at a rate of 25% annually on account of the saving of energy, with a payback period of approximately 4 years," he added.

With the implementation of the project, the spokesperson said that J&K will benefit from the generation of approximately 280 million units of energy annually, with a corresponding reduction in carbon emissions of approximately 5.44 million tons, besides reaping gains from savings on account of inter-state transmission losses to the tune of 224 million units.

He said that the generation of solar energy through the Rooftop Solar Programme will also help the energy-deficit UT of J&K in supplementing its energy needs, while assisting the DISCOMs in achieving the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) Targets of 10.5% as fixed by the Government of India.

"The project will also provide employment opportunities to local youth. Based on employment estimates, it is calculated

that the 1 MW rooftop solar PV project generates a total of 40 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs over the 25 years expected lifetime of the project, which includes highly skilled personnel for business development, design, sales, procurement, and project management; one-time jobs for construction and installation of the rooftop PV system; and unskilled resources required annually for cleaning activity of the plant," he said.

"A number of additional job roles are also created by solar PV grid-connected projects in secondary and tertiary roles vis-à-vis manufacturing and supply of system equipment such as inverters, cables, trackers, and other parts. As such, around 8000 jobs will be generated through the project," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the scheme mandates implementing agency, viz. JAKEDA to provide regular quality supervision and certification of the quality of material to be installed; periodic monitoring of physical progress and third-party quality checks from MNRE approved test centres; provide free maintenance for a period of 5 years post installation; install bi-directional net-meters; and ensure project completion within the given timelines.

Maharashtra Police Handover Alleged Militant Operative To JKP

Press Trust Of India

NAGPUR: An alleged Jaish-e-Mohammad operative who was interrogated for over two weeks by Maharashtra Anti Terrorism Squad for conducting reconnaissance of the Dr Hedgewar Smriti Bhavan in Nagpur last year has been handed over to Jammu and Kashmir police, an official said on Saturday.

Raees Ahmed Sheikh Asadulla Sheikh (26), a resident of Awantipora town in the northern Union Territory's Pulwama district, has provided vital information on JeM plans to "create terror" in the state by targeting vital installations, the official claimed.

He is a "hybrid" militant who takes part in subversive activities of Pakistan-backed groups while leading a normal life overground, the official said, adding that carrying out reconnaissance of the RSS-linked memorial was his first "out of state" operation.

"Raees came here on a Delhi-Mumbai-Nagpur flight on July

13 last year and checked into a hotel in Sitabuldi area. He carried out the reconnaissance on his own as the person his handler said would meet him did not do so. On July 14, Raees took an autorickshaw, reached Reshimbagh with the help of Google Map, and carried out reconnaissance of Smriti Bhavan by behaving as if he was talking to someone on the phone," he said.

"He was rebuked by his handler for the poor quality video of the memorial.

However, he was unable to carry it out again due to fear of police. He then went to Santra Market, returned to his hotel in the evening and left for Srinagar on July 15," the official added.

The case linked to the reconnaissance was registered under provisions of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act at Kotwali police station here and it was then transferred to the Maharashtra ATS in March this year, the official informed.

RTI Movement Takes Up Land Acquisition, Issue Of Young Lawyers With Attorney General Of India

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement (legal cell) has taken up land acquisition on Srinagar Ring Road project and other issues connected with application of central laws in J&K post article 370 abrogation with Attorney General of India

A delegation led by Advocate Badrul Duija Executive Member RTI Movement legal cell met K K Venugopal, the Attorney General of India at his office in New Delhi on Saturday.

Advocate Badrul Duija handed over a written memorandum to Attorney General of India who ensured assistance regarding payment of issue of Fair compensation to farm-

ers and landowners of Srinagar Ring Road who have been asking for payment of fair compensation as per the central act made applicable to J&K post article 370 abrogation.

"He also ensured support for Environment related matters in J&K especially tree replantation, besides Attorney General of India was briefed about the plight of Junior advocates across India particularly in Courts of Jammu & Kashmir. The Attorney General of India assured Advocate Badrul Duija that he will discuss the issue with Chairman Bar Council of India and will suggest to constitute a committee at National level to address grievances of young lawyers," said Dr Raja Muzaffar Chairman RTI Movement in an official statement

Cong Plans Protest In Jammu Against BJP's 'Politics Of Vendetta'

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Congress will hold a peaceful sit-in here against the BJP-led central government's politics of vendetta on June 13, the day when its leader Rahul Gandhi will appear before the Enforcement Directorate in connection with a money-laundering case, a party spokesperson said on Saturday.

The decision to stage a peaceful dharna' on June 13 outside party headquarters at Shaheedi Chowk here was taken at a meeting of senior party leaders, chaired by Pradesh Congress Committee president G A Mir, the spokesperson said.

He said the sit-in protest will start at 9.30 am by senior leaders and activists from different areas and followed by another batch of senior

leaders and workers, if need be, till Gandhi's return from the ED office.

It was decided in one voice that the party shall solidly stand behind the leadership of (Congress president) Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and aggressively fight against the politics of vendetta by the BJP government against the party, especially Gandhi family, the spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, the meeting also condemned the attempts to provoke religious clashes in the country and in Jammu and Kashmir and appealed to the people to defeat the designs of divisive forces trying to create division and hatred in the society.

The meeting demanded stern action against the forces of provocation who want to create communal divide under the nose of BJP government in the country and in J&K, the spokesman said.

E-Filing Help Desk & Mega Legal Services Camp Inaugurated At Anantnag

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Justice Ali Mohammad Magray, Judge, J&K High Court and Ladakh, who is also the Executive Chairman Legal Services Authority JK and Justice Sanjay Dhar, Judge, J&K High Court, who is also the Administrative Judge for District Anantnag on Saturday inaugurated E-Filing Help Desk at District Court Complex Anantnag and Mega Legal Services and Awareness Camp at Kokernag, here.

On reaching Anantnag, the duo was presented Guard of Honour at District Court Complex, Anantnag.

While briefing the press, they said that the e-Filing Help Desk will help in speedy filing and disposal of court cases and litigations could be filed from any place round the clock, adding that e-Filing system enables electronic filing of legal papers. Using e-filing, cases (both civil and criminal) can be filed before the High Courts and District Courts that have adopted e-Filing systems.

They further said that introduction of e-Filing is aimed at promoting paperless filing and saving time and cost by adopting tech-



nological solutions to file cases before courts in J&K.

After inaugurating the Mega Legal Services Camp at Kokernag, the duo inspected the stalls installed by various departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Handloom & Handicrafts, Social Welfare, Revenue, Forest, ICDS, and received the feedback from the officers with regard to the implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes.

On the occasion, the duo distributed category certificates, hearing and prosthetic aids and Tiller Keys among the beneficiaries.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Magray said that such programmes help in creating legal awareness among masses, which helps in delivering speedy justice.

He said that for speedy and true justice it is imperative for the general public to know their legal rights duties adding that this programme has been organised to know the problems of the general public with regard to overall development of the area, besides the legal rights of the general public.

He further said that need of the hour is to do door to door survey for better implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes, adding that J&K Legal Services has been playing a vital role to ensure optimum implementation of all the schemes and Public Service Guarantee Act, besides J&K Legal Services Authority is aimed to create legal awareness among all sections of the

society including tribal and specially abled people.

With regard to intervention of technology in agriculture and allied sectors, Justice Magrey said that technology has revolutionised this sector and J&K Legal Services Authority has a vital role in implementation of technology in Agriculture and Allied Sectors. He stressed upon the heads of all the departments to ensure deliverance of services in a time bound manner, adding that action would be taken against the officers who do not ensure deliverance of services in time.

With regard to the Forest Rights Act, Justice Magrey said that benefits as per law would be given to the deserving. He also said that schemes in Diary, Fisheries, Sheep, Agriculture & allied sectors is providing dozens of employment generation schemes for the public especially the tribals and need of the hour is to create mass awareness with regard to the schemes, adding that J&K Legal Services Authority is playing a vital role in creating mass awareness with regard to the schemes in these sectors.

J&K Receives Reward Of Rs 100 Cr For Achieving 100% Rural Electrification Before Deadline

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has received a reward worth Rs 100 crore from the Government of India for achieving the target of 100 per cent electrification ahead of timeline, an official spokesperson said Saturday.

Pertinently, he said, the Union Territory had achieved another milestone under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana 'Saubhagya' with J&K accomplishing the 100 per cent target of rural electrification that too before deadline.

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, launched Saubhagya scheme on 25th September 2017 to achieve universal household electrification covering every village and every district in the country. The scheme outlay was Rs 16,320 crore including gross budgetary support of Rs 12,320 crore.

The scheme provided last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas besides providing Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) based standalone system for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible villages/habitations.

The J&K Power Depart-

ment Development proactively worked hard in ensuring electrification to every village which is visible from the fact that almost 3,57,405 households have been electrified in whole of the UT.

Despite facing many natural barriers like hilly terrains and difficult topography of the region, J&K government fulfilled the dream of inhabitants living in these places to see the light of bulb. For the first time, after 73 years of independence village Saddal of Udhampur district and Ganouri-Tanta village of Doda district saw the light of an electric bulb ending decades of darkness from the lives of villagers.

Similarly, villagers in far flung and hilly border areas of Nowshera sub division in Rajouri are experiencing a big transformation in their lives after receiving electricity under the government's Saubhagya scheme. This area was deprived of power supply from the last seven decades.

"We are grateful to the government for launching ambitious schemes like Saubhagya which has made our lives comfortable and convenient in incredible ways. Earlier, our children could not study due to lack of electricity. We

had to go to another village to get our mobile phones charged," said Abdul Hamid, a resident from the area.

Under the SAUBHAGYA scheme, Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) organized camps in village or cluster of villages to facilitate on-the-spot filling up of application forms including release of electricity connections to households. BRSIDES, DISCOMs/Power Departments also adopted innovative mechanisms like dedicated web-portal and mobile app for collection and consolidation of application form in electronic mode and also capturing process of release of electricity connections.

In another significant move by the government, GARV (Grameen Vidyutikaran) App was launched which aims to monitor transparency in implementation of electrification schemes. Also, Grameen Vidyut Abhiyantas (GVAs) have been appointed by the government to report progress through GARV app.

Besides, mobile apps like 'Gram Jyoti Doot', 'Urja Vistar' have been devised for fast track release of power connections. 'Saubhagya Rath' in all districts, is being lauded as an innovative practice by the Power Ministry.

Govt Approves Adoption Of SOR For Engineering Depts

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the adoption of Schedule of Rates (SOR)- 2022, for engineering departments in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Administrative Council approved the introduction of Schedule of Rates (SoR-2022) for Civil Works in all engineering branches of Public Works Department, Government Departments, Public Sector Enterprises, and Government Organizations associated with civil works in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Schedule of Rates (SOR) is a key document for all Engineering Departments which provides basic inputs for cost estimation, tender evaluation and contract fixation. It contains the schedule of various works and provides the respective unit rate of payment for performance of that service.

Further, the Schedule of Rates -2022 incorporates an assessment of machinery and equipments tools and plants and prefabricated building components, wherever applicable. It has been prepared by DIQC.

Furthermore, the Administrative Council directed institutionalization of the regular revision of various components of SoR in consideration of the rise/fall in price indices.

Sopore Youth Selected As Net Bowler For England Test Team



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: 28-year-old Mатеen Teli, from North Kashmir's Sopore, was recently selected as a net bowler for England's test squad, ahead of the team's second test against New Zealand at Trent Bridge cricket stadium in Nottingham, England.

Mатеen, a former student at the Business School of Nottingham Trent University in Nottingham, has been living in England for the past few years alongside his brother.

A passionate cricketer, Mатеen often tried his luck at local Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) organised trials, but was never selected to represent J&K. As luck would have it, the Sopore youth, who plays club-level cricket in England, was called by an England Cricket Board (ECB) executive who wanted him to "pack his bags" and come bowl against English test stars.

And Mатеen did not disappoint. According to various reports, Mатеen took two wickets during the net session. Successfully clean bowling famed English cricketer Johnny Bairstow with his first ball and then taking the wicket of top order batsman Zak Crawley. Mатеen's bowling session earned praise from England coach and former player Paul Collingwood.

Mатеen Teli's success is a story of hard work and talent seldom going to waste. He can be found on his Instagram handle (teli_mateen).

Advisor Bhatnagar Addresses Closing Ceremony Of Gurez Sports Festival



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Saturday remarked that sports helps to tackle difficult situations and makes us to learn many new things in life.

The Advisor made these comments while addressing the closing ceremony of Mega Sports festival at Gurez Sub-division.

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Dr. Owais Ahmad, Faisal Ali Dar (Padma Shri), senior officers of various departments, huge gathering of locals and large number of students were present on the occasion.

Speaking on this occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar said that sports helps us to learn many new things in life. "It builds discipline and assists us in building confidence, develops our personalities, and s mental and physical

balance in life," Advisor said.

The Advisor further said that sports and games help us to tackle and learn about how to overcome difficult situations in life and keeps body relax and mind free from tension.

The Advisor also distributed Medals and Certificates among the participants during the event. Around 290 Boys and Girls of different age groups from Gurez Valley, took part in this mega event.

The guests on this closing ceremony lauded the efforts of organising authority and all departments for their full cooperation and Coordination during this Mega Sports Festival Gurez 2022.

During the event, Ali's Sports Academy Dawar were declared overall champions, Govt. High School Wanpora got second position and third position was achieved by Martial Arts Academy Markoot.

3-Day Zaingeer Sports Carnival Concludes At Sopore



Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: A three days long Zaingeer Sports Carnival concluded on Saturday at Zaingeer Sopore which was organised by Sopore Rashtriya Rifles in collaboration with Zaingeer Youth & Sports Association.

The concluding function was attended by Major General Kilo Force, SS Salaria as a Chief Guest, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar as guest of honour, DIG North, Uday Baskar as special guest.

Senior Superintendent of Police Sopore, President Municipal Council Baramulla Tauseef Raina and President Municipal Council Sopore besides various sports personalities including Tajamul Islam, International Kick Boxing Champion, Abid Mohammad, International Skier, Ishrat Rasool, Ronak Reyaz, Tasleema Akthar and a huge gathering of people.

The three days long athletics

based Sports Carnival was organised for the people of higher reaches of Zaingeer region, Sopore, Baramulla and Bandipora District in which 10 sports teams and 28 youth associations participated with several sports activities including Volleyball, Kho Kho, Kabadi, Marshall Art, etc.

On the occasion, many sports activities were held including Marathon Race of 200 Meter of Under 17 girls and 400 Meter race of under 25 Boys besides all athletic sports and track activities of Kho Kho, Volleyball, Kabadi, etc. were part of the sports festival.

Martial Art display by Shahi Hamdan Sports Academy with latest self defence skills were also part of the festival. After conclusion of the function, Major General, SS Salaria interacted with the youth and said that the sports activities help in channelising the energy of youth towards positive direction and makes them learn team spirit, discipline and unity.

Pant's Captaincy On Test As India Meet SA In 2nd T20



Press Trust of India

CUTTAK: Accidental captain Rishabh Pant will expect an improved showing from India's bowlers as he plots a comeback against a marauding South Africa in the second T20 of the five-match series in Cuttack on Sunday.

Leading India for the first time, Pant had a bitter pill to swallow when David Miller and Rassie van der Dussen chased down an imposing 212 with nonchalance to go up 1-0 in the series.

The southpaw also had a forgettable Indian Premier League, in which he failed to lead Delhi Capitals to the play-offs.

Seen as a future white-ball captain, Pant's stakes have suddenly come down post-IPL and that has coincided with the resurgence of Hardik Pandya.

Returning to full fitness, the pace bowling all-rounder took the IPL by storm not only with his form but by pulling off a coup as he led Gujarat Titans to the title in their debut season.

It may still be early days for Pant the leader, but his body language never stood out and he looked under pressure on his captaincy debut.

The big headache for Pant is the bowling department, where he would have to make a call between Arshdeep Singh and pace gun Umran Malik.

While the batting looks in perfect shape, the new-look pace department looked flat in the series opener.

With the duo of Arshdeep and Malik trying hard to impress in the nets with their pace and accuracy it is likely that one

among the duo will make his debut on Saturday.

Fresh from their individual players' success in the IPL, the Proteas are finding themselves at 'home'.

In the form of his life, Miller, who scored 481 runs at 68.71 in the IPL to play a key role in GT's triumph, started this series in ominous fashion and looked unstoppable both against spin and pace at Kotla.

Quinton de Kock failed to convert his start but the Lucknow Super Giants batter also scored a bagful of runs (508) in the IPL and would look to make it count here.

With Van der Dussen also striking it rich, the trio will form the batting backbone, while the likes of Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje will look to stop the Indians.

It Was More About Battles I Won Against My Own Self: Pandya

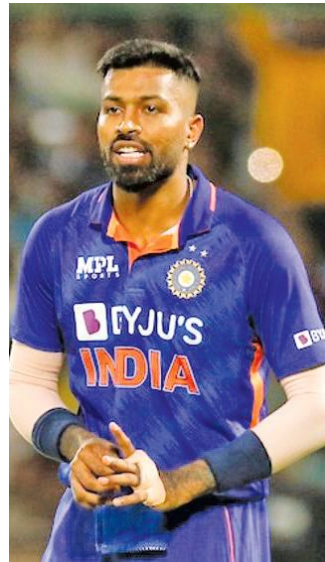
Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: As he got down to plot his return to the Indian team, Hardik Pandya would hit the bed at 9.30pm and wake up at 5am, dedicating the day's intervening period of time to win battles against his "own self" and the doubting Thomases.

The star all-rounder followed this time table strictly for four months, after which he guided an unfancied Gujarat Titans to a memorable title triumph in only their maiden IPL outing, leading the debutants from the front to earn an India call-up.

In a video posted by the BCCI, Pandya recalled the win in IPL 2022 and the rewards that followed. "I was happy. It was more about the battles I won against my own self and a lot of other things as well. Winning the IPL, or even qualifying (for playoffs) was a big deal for me because a lot of people doubted us."

"A lot of people frowned at us before we started. A lot of people raised a lot of questions. A lot of things were said about me even before I made a comeback," Pandya said. The 29-year-old all-rounder said



that he would get up at 5 AM and sleep at 9:30 in the night for four successive months during his time away from the Indian team after the T20 World Cup.

"It was never about giving them answers. I'm just proud of the process I followed. No one knows what I went through the six months that I was off. I've gotten up at 5 in morning to

make sure I train. I slept at 9:30 in the night for fourth months, so (there was) a lot of sacrifice."

"It was the battle I fought before the IPL. I have always worked hard in my life, and it has always given me the result I wanted," added Pandya. He also said the ongoing series against South Africa is the ideal platform to get into the groove for the upcoming T20 World Cup.

"Every series or every game you play is as important as your last. So, for me, World Cup is the goal, this is the right platform to get into the rhythm and a lot of cricket is going to come back to back. Always being in the rhythm is very important."

"My role will be changed here, I won't be captain, I won't be batting higher up the order and guiding through the innings. This will be back to being the Hardik for which I am known for," Hardik said. Coming back into international cricket after a long layoff, Hardik fitted seamlessly in the finisher's role, smashing 31 not out from just 12 balls in the first T20 against the Proteas. In the IPL though, he had batted at No. 4 for Gujarat Titans.

Teenage GM Praggnanandhaa Wins Norway Chess Open Title

Press Trust of India

STAVANGER: Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa emerged winner in the Norway Chess Group A open chess tournament here with 7.5 points from nine rounds.

The 16-year old GM, the top-seed, was in fine form and remained unbeaten through the nine rounds. He finished the tournament with a win over fellow Indian V Praneeth, an International Master, late on Friday.

Praggnanandhaa (Elo 2642) finished a full point ahead of second-placed IM Marsel Efrominski (Israel) and IM Jung Min Seo (Sweden).

Praneeth with six points was joint third but was placed sixth due to an inferior tie-break score.

Apart from beating Praneeth, Praggnanandhaa posted wins over Victor Mikhalevski (in round 8), Vitaly Kunin (round 6), Mukhammadzokhid Suyarov (round 4), Semen Mutusov (round 2) and Mathias Unneland (round 1). He drew his other three games.



The Indian teenaged star has been putting in impressive performances in recent times and had beaten world number one Magnus Carlsen for a second time in the Chessable Master online event and lost a close fight to China's Ding Liren.

The GM will be part of the India B team in the open event of the 44th Chess Olympiad in Chennai next month.

Praggnanandhaa's coach R B Ramesh congratulated him after the win and said it will help boost his confidence.

"Congratulations to him for the victory. He was the top seed, so it is not a surprise that he won the tournament. He played well in general, drew three games with black pieces and won the remaining games. It will help boost his confidence," Ramesh said.

PAK vs WI 2nd ODI

Nawaz Lifts Pakistan To Big Win



Press Trust of India

MULTAN: West Indies stumbled against left-arm spinner Mohammad Nawaz as Pakistan recorded a thumping 120-run victory in the second ODI.

On a slow wicket where the ball gripped and spun, Nawaz recorded career-best figures of 4-18 to bowl out the West Indies for 155 with more than 17 overs to spare.

Pakistan skipper Babar Azam (77) and Imam-ul-Haq (72) continued their sublime batting form and scored half centuries before Akeal Hosein bagged 3-52 to restrict the home team to 275-8.

Shamarh Brooks top-scored with 42 and Kyle Myers added 33 against the pace before Nawaz ran through the top-order to give Pakistan an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Mohammad Wasim Jr. (3-34), replacing Hasan Ali in the Pakistan XI, broke through when he clean bowled Myers before Nawaz

had Brandon King bowled off his fourth ball.

Nawaz extracted sharp turn and also accounted for the wickets of Brooks, who was trapped lbw and then had Rovman Powell (10) and skipper Nicholas Pooran's (25) wickets in one over.

Wasim and Shadab Khan (2-40) then wrapped up the tail quickly to give Pakistan a massive win.

Earlier, Babar, who won the toss and chose to bat on another sweltering hot day in Multan, and Imam added 130 runs for the second-wicket stand after Fakhar Zaman yet again fell cheaply for 17.

Babar shared fourth consecutive century partnership in ODIs with Imam but just when it looked like the game would drift away from the West Indies, Imam got run out in a mix-up with his skipper. Imam had nearly made his ground at the non-striker's end but Babar was ball watching instead of responding to Imam's call.

Aggression Paid Off For NZ On Day 1: Conway



Reuters

NOTTINGHAM: New Zealand batsman Devon Conway attributed their strong start to the second Test against England to a positive mindset which allowed them to bat more aggressively on Friday.

Smarting from their five-wicket loss in the series opener at Lord's, where they were bundled out for 132 in the first innings, New Zealand were sitting pretty at 318-4 after the opening day's play at Trent Bridge.

Daryl Mitchell (81) and Tom Blundell (67) will resume their bid to press for a series-levelevelling victory when the second day's play begins.

The fifth-wicket partnership between them is already worth 149 runs and New Zealand would expect them to consolidate their position with a big first innings total after losing the toss and being put in to bat.

"One of the things we spoke

about in our batting meetings between Tests was to try and be a bit more aggressive – have that positive mindset and intent to score," Conway, who scored 46, told reporters.

"We were probably lacking that a bit in the first Test. We tried to control that as best as possible and are reaping the rewards after day one."

Conway said New Zealand too would have preferred to bowl first on a pitch which wore a tinge of green but the wicket was not "as bad as it looked" for batting.

Scoring was made easier against the fuller length that the English bowlers offered, the number three batsman said.

"The English bowlers bowled quite full and that presented us with scoring opportunities."

"As batters we always try to hit the ball as straight as possible, but we just reacted to what was in front of us and that allowed us to hit square of the wicket."

Real Madrid To Sign France Midfielder Tchouaméni

Agencies

MADRID: Real Madrid is signing another young, highly rated French midfielder after reaching agreement with Monaco for the transfer of Aurélien Tchouaméni on Saturday.

The 22-year-old Tchouaméni will join for six seasons, Madrid said, and will be presented on Tuesday once he passes his medical examination.

Madrid did not disclose the fee for the France international, who has played with Monaco since January 2020 after joining from Bordeaux. Sections of the Spanish media reported the fee to be 100 million euros (\$105

million) including variables.

Madrid already has an even younger France midfielder in its squad in 19-year-old Eduardo Camavinga, who joined



from Rennes last offseason, and played a key role – mostly off the bench – in the team's run to winning the Champions League title last month.

Striker Karim Benzema is another France star in the Madrid team. (AP)