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A wholesome meal for people on the go

Turkish Burger

Now Taste Mediterranean Flavour in Srinagar

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

Quote!

Liberty is the right not to lie

-Albert Camus

NEWS DIGEST

Three Teenage Boys Drown In Chenab

Jammu: Three teenage boys attending a religious function on the eve of Parkashutsav in Akhnor subdivision area of Jammu district drowned in Chenab river. News agency KNO quoting officials reported that during the intervening night on Tuesday and Wednesday, Parkashutsav celebration at Malpur Doomi in Akhnor, three devotees namely Labish (17), Ansh (13) and Manish Kumar (18) **More on P6**

J&K Adds 25 New Covid Cases

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir's COVID-19 tally rose to 4,54,391 on Wednesday as 25 more people tested positive for the viral disease, officials said. The death toll remained unchanged at 4,752, they said. Of the fresh cases, 13 were reported from the Jammu division and 12 from the Kashmir division, the officials said. There are 113 active COVID-19 cases in the Union territory, while the number of recoveries stands at 4,49,526, they said.

Man Killed In Hit And Run Accident

Srinagar: A pedestrian was crushed to death in a hit and run case on the Srinagar-Anantnag highway on Wednesday. Police sources said that an unknown vehicle hit a pedestrian identified as Muhammad Ashraf Dar son of Abdul Rehman resident of Katipora near Charsoo on the Srinagar-Anantnag highway. The victim died on the spot while the driver fled away from the spot. Awantipora Police Station in this regard registered an FIR vide number 125/2022 U/S 279, 340-A, and have taken up investigation.

Youth Found Dead In Poonch

Srinagar: Body of a 21-year-old youth was found in the water channel of a flour mill near ITI Surankote in the Poonch district on Wednesday, officials said. They said that following information, a police team rushed to the spot and recovered the body. Subsequently, they said, it was shifted to Sub District Hospital Surankote for identification and further legal process. Later the deceased was identified as Mohammad Yaser (21) son of Abdul Sober of Mohra Bachi Surankote at present Hari Mohalla Surankote. **More on P6**

Two Militants Killed In Shopian Firefight: Police

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two local Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militants, including the killer of a non-local bank manager, were shot dead by government forces in an encounter in South Kashmir's Shopian district, police said Wednesday.

Jan Mohd Lone of Braripora and Tufail Nazir Ganie of Ramnagri were killed in a firefight with a joint team of police, army's 34 RR and the

personnel of CRPF 178 battalion in Kanji Ullar area of the district on Wednesday, a police spokesperson said. Both the killed militants, he said, were linked with LeT and were part of groups involved in several cases, including attacks on Police and security forces, and "civilian atrocities".

The spokesperson quoted IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar as saying that Lone was involved in the killing of Banker from Rajasthan in Kulgam on **More on P6**



A soldier keeping a close vigil around the encounter site in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Wednesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Cop Injured In Grenade Attack

A policeman was injured on Wednesday in a grenade attack in Bijbehara area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district. According to reports, unknown militants lobbed a hand grenade towards a police party in Padshahi Bagh area of Bijbehara on Wednesday evening that exploded with a bang. In the grenade attack, a police officer sustained splinter injuries. The injured policeman, according to the reports, was removed to the hospital for treatment. **More on P6**

Nomination Process For Presidential Election Begins

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The process to file nominations for the presidential election began on Wednesday with the Election Commission issuing a notification calling upon the electors to fill the vacancy. The election is scheduled to be held on July 18.

The nomination process began on a day when various opposition parties are meeting in Delhi to decide on a presidential candidate.

The nominations can be filed till June 29 and the

scrutiny of the papers will take place on June 30. July 2 has been decided as the last date of withdrawing from the electoral battle. The counting will be held here on July 21. The term of incumbent President Ram Nath Kovind ends on July 24.

The president is elected by the members of the electoral college consisting of elected members of both houses of Parliament and elected members of the legislative assemblies of all states, including the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry. **More on P6**

Mamata Proposes Dr Farooq, Gopal Gandhi For Top Post

Observer News Service

Baramulla: Asserting that Kashmiri migrants constitute part and parcel of Kashmir's composite culture, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nisith Pramanik said on Wednesday that the government led by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi is keen towards the peaceful and prosperous welfare of Kashmiri migrants.

Pramanik, who also holds the portfolio of MoS, Youth Affairs and Sports, further said that several concrete measures have been taken in order to



ensure their rehabilitation so that they live in their homeland with peace and harmony, an official spokesperson said. The Minister, he said, made these remarks during inspection



Farmers collecting lavender flowers from their vast field in the outskirts of Srinagar city on Wednesday. KO photo, Abid Bhat

NIA Searches Four Locations In Kupwara

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches at four places in North Kashmir on Wednesday in connection with a case related to cross-LoC trade and militant financing, an official said.

The searches were conducted at three locations in north Kashmir's Baramulla district and one in Handwara in Kupwara district, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

The spokesperson said the case pertains to generation of additional profits through trade across the Line of Control (LoC) between Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK) and using the proceeds for fomenting militant activities in the Union territory.

The case was registered on December 16, 2016.

The cross-LoC trade started in 2008 via two trade facilitation centres in **More on P6**

Curfew Relaxed For 2 Hours In Baderwah Town

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Curfew was relaxed for two hours on Wednesday in Baderwah town of Jammu and Kashmir's Doda while it was completely lifted in the neighbouring Kishtwar district headquarters, officials said.

Curfew and strict restrictions under prohibitory orders were imposed in parts of Jammu regions Chenab valley, including Baderwah and Kishtwar on June 9 following communal tension in the wake of protests over the derogatory remarks of former BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma on Prophet Mohammad and social media posts by some right wing local activists in her support.

He was accompanied by DIG



internet services, however, remained suspended for the seventh consecutive day in both Doda and Kishtwar districts. "The curfew was relaxed in Baderwah town for two

hours from 3.30 pm till 5.30 pm," Additional Deputy Commissioner, Baderwah, Dil Mir Chowdhary told PTI.

He said the relaxation followed a series **More on P6**

AMARNATH YATRA

Top Army Commander Reviews Security, Preparedness

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Northern Army Commander, Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Wednesday reviewed overall security situation and operational preparedness for the annual AmarnathYatra scheduled to begin from June 30.

Dwivedi, who arrived in Srinagar on Wednesday on a three days visit to the Valley, would be visiting forward posts on the Line of Control and the hinterland to review the overall security situation in the Kashmir Valley, a Defence spokesperson said.

He said that the Army

Commander accompanied by the Chinara Corps Commander, Lt Gen ADS Aujla visited various locations and formations in Hinterland today.

Dwivedi, he said, was briefed on counter terrorism grid, development works and current security situation.

"The Army Commander also reviewed security and operational preparedness for AmarnathYatra. He held a detailed briefing with all the stakeholders and appreciated efforts being undertaken for a peaceful and incident free Yatra," the spokesperson said. During the day, he said, the Northern **More on P6**

Explosives Recovered From Bus In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Police recovered explosives in the form of gelatin sticks from a bus carrying an unidentified number of passengers on the outskirts of the city on Wednesday, officials said.

The explosives were detected during a routine check at Jajjar Kotli along Jammu-Srinagar national highway, a police spokesperson said.

He said that experts from Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS) were immediately rushed to the scene and the explosive substance was later detonated through a controlled mechanism.

A case under relevant sections of law was registered at Jajjar Kotli **More on P6**

EC Sets The Ball Rolling For J&K Assembly Polls

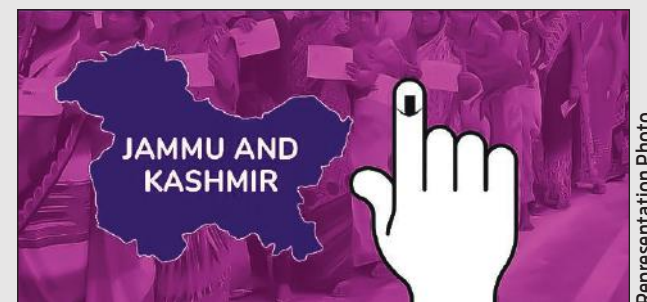
Draft Electoral Rolls To Be Prepared By August 31

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Setting in motion the process of holding assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, the Election Commission has initiated the revision of electoral rolls following the delimitation exercise in the union territory and the draft rolls will be prepared by August 31, sources said on Wednesday.

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey carried out a review and directed the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Electoral Officer to map the redrawn assembly constituencies.

The electoral roll revision needs to be carried out



Representation Photo

before the first assembly election is conducted in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Officials said that intensive and time-bound pre-revision activities are required due to the redrawn assembly constituencies.

Directions have also been given for the appointment of

officials for the work on updating voter list.

Re-serialisation, mapping and renaming of polling stations post the delimitation will be done by June 30, in addition to the identification of polling stations for those villages where new booths need to be created.

After the **More on P6**

50 Men Hunting For Man-Eater Leopard In Uri

Auqib Javed

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir wildlife department has deployed over 50 of its men including the sharp shooters to catch or kill the leopard who mauled at least three children to death in a week in the border town of Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district.

Rashid Naqash, Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir told Kashmir Observer that they will soon catch or kill the man-eating leopard and for that they have activated their men and deployed in identified spots.

"This is a coordinated operation with forest protection, J&K police and locals who are trying to catch or kill the animal," Naqash said.

On Wednesday, Naqash and his team along with the district administration Baramulla rushed to the spot to take stock of the situation.

He said the wildlife officials have provided tranquilizers, cages, and other equipment to eliminate the leopard. He said the sharp shooters have been deployed in the area to kill the animal.

Seven-year-old Rutba Manzoor of Batangee Boniyar became the latest victim of the man-eating leopard, which is on the prowl in Uri. Rutba was mauled to death by the beast when she stepped out of her home on Tuesday.

Her death triggered protests with her **More on P6**

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Haj Committee

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Under Department of Haj & Auqaf,
Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir
(Ph.No.0194-2495365, 0194-2495367, www.jkshc.org, mail at:jkstatehaj@gmail.com)

Notification: Flight Schedule of Haj Pilgrims/Reporting time at Haj House Bemina, Srinagar.

In continuation to this office notification dated: 13-06-2022, the flight schedule for 18th & 19th June, 2022 is hereby published for information of the concerned Haj pilgrims.

Reporting time of pilgrims at Haj House Srinagar as per their respective flights is notified as under:

Sno.	Flight No.	Date of Departure	Reporting time at Haj House
1	SG-5018	18-06-2022	5:00 AM
2	SG-5218	18-06-2022	9:00 AM
3	SG-6018	18-06-2022	11:00 AM
4	SG-5019	19-06-2022	2:30 AM
5	SG-5219	19-06-2022	4:30 AM
6	SG-6019	19-06-2022	6:00 AM

The pilgrims are advised to report in time at Haj House, Srinagar. It may be noted that only standard baggage without any banned item shall be accepted as check-in luggage by the Airlines at Haj House, Srinagar.

The flight schedule for remaining pilgrims shall be notified separately.

Note: Flight allotment is provisional and subject to Visa endorsement.

Sd/-
(Dr. Abdul Salam Mir) KAS
Executive Officer

No:Haj/2022/120-274/Pr6
Dated:15-06-2022

JAMMU AND KASHMIR HAJ COMMITTEE				
FLIGHT ALLOTMENT FOR HAJ 1443 (H) - 2022				
Sno.	Cover No	Name of Pilgrim (s)	Flight Date	Flight No
1	JKF-84-2-0	HABIBULLAH	18-06-2022	SG-5018
2	JKF-84-2-0	HABIBULLAH	18-06-2022	SG-5018
3	JKF-194-1-0	SHUMS UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
4	JKF-194-1-0	SHUMS UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
5	JKF-210-2-0	BAZIR UR REHMAN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
6	JKF-210-2-0	MANEZEBA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
7	JKF-210-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
8	JKF-211-2-0	HAMEEDA	18-06-2022	SG-5018
9	JKF-211-2-0	SARA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
10	JKF-213-2-0	MOHD YOUSUF	18-06-2022	SG-5018
11	JKF-215-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
12	JKF-215-2-0	RAFEAQA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
13	JKF-220-2-0	ZAREFAA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
14	JKF-339-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
15	JKF-339-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
16	JKF-332-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
17	JKF-332-2-0	AASHA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
18	JKF-324-2-0	MOHD ANWAR	18-06-2022	SG-5018
19	JKF-324-2-0	JANA	18-06-2022	SG-5018
20	JKF-326-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
21	JKF-326-2-0	AZYTOUNA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
22	JKF-336-2-0	SHAMEEMA	18-06-2022	SG-5018
23	JKF-336-2-0	GHULAM MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
24	JKF-339-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
25	JKF-339-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
26	JKF-340-2-0	HAIRA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
27	JKF-340-2-0	MOHD AMIN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
28	JKF-342-1-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
29	JKF-344-2-0	MASROOFA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
30	JKF-344-2-0	MOHD MAQBOOL	18-06-2022	SG-5018
31	JKF-351-2-0	FAREEDA	18-06-2022	SG-5018
32	JKF-351-2-0	MOHD SHAFI	18-06-2022	SG-5018
33	JKF-354-2-0	SUNMAIL BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
34	JKF-354-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
35	JKF-355-2-0	MOHD MAQBOOL PIR	18-06-2022	SG-5018
36	JKF-355-2-0	SALEEMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
37	JKF-359-2-0	MANZOOR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
38	JKF-359-2-0	FEHMEEDA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
39	JKF-361-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
40	JKF-361-2-0	TAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
41	JKF-365-1-0	SAAD ULLAH	18-06-2022	SG-5018
42	JKF-367-3-0	MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL	18-06-2022	SG-5018
43	JKF-367-3-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
44	JKF-367-3-0	TAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
45	JKF-369-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
46	JKF-369-2-0	SHAKEELA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
47	JKF-370-3-0	HANEFAA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
48	JKF-370-3-0	MUSHTAQ AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
49	JKF-370-3-0	MOHD SIDIQ AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
50	JKF-507-1-0	GHULAM MOHAMMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
51	JKF-508-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
52	JKF-508-2-0	HANEFAA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
53	JKF-510-2-0	SAHAR	18-06-2022	SG-5018
54	JKF-510-2-0	MOHD AHSSAN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
55	JKF-514-2-0	GHULAM HASSAN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
56	JKF-514-2-0	JANA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
57	JKF-515-2-0	FAISAL YOUSUF	18-06-2022	SG-5018
58	JKF-515-2-0	JANA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
59	JKF-517-2-0	AMINA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
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61	JKF-548-1-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
62	JKF-553-1-0	MAHMOOD YAOOUB	18-06-2022	SG-5018
63	JKF-556-2-0	ANWAR ABDOUL QAYOUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
64	JKF-556-2-0	SHAKEELA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
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69	JKF-568-2-0	AB AZIZ	18-06-2022	SG-5018
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146	JKF-572-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
147	JKF-572-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
148	JKF-572-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
149	JKF-572-2-0	GHANAM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
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137	JKF-5953-2-0	RAFIQA BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-5018
138	JKF-5956-2-0	ABDUL REHMAN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
139	JKF-5956-2-0	SAKEENA AKHTER	18-06-2022	SG-5018
140	JKF-5987-1-0	BASHIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
141	JKF-6012-2-0	MOHD PERVAIZ	18-06-2022	SG-5018
142	JKF-6012-2-0	MUMTAZ BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-5018
143	JKF-6053-2-0	NAZIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5018
144	JKF-6053-2-0	YASMEENA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5018
145	KHJF-195-1-0	AUSHAQ HUSSAIN	18-06-2022	SG-5018
1	JKF-1165-1-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
2	JKF-1168-2-0	MOHD YAOUB	18-06-2022	SG-5218
3	JKF-1168-2-0	SALEEMA BEGAM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
4	JKF-1170-2-0	MOHD GULZAR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
5	JKF-1170-2-0	AISHA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
6	JKF-1171-4-0	HAFIZ MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
7	JKF-1171-4-0	HAFEEZA BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
8	JKF-1171-4-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
9	JKF-1171-4-0	GULAM MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
10	JKF-1172-2-0	ZOONIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
11	JKF-1172-2-0	GH AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
12	JKF-1174-2-0	MOHD MAQBOOL	18-06-2022	SG-5218
13	JKF-1174-2-0	LATEEFA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
14	JKF-1175-4-0	SYED SHAMIMA	18-06-2022	SG-5218
15	JKF-1175-4-0	SYED GH NABI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
16	JKF-1175-4-0	SYED MUZINA	18-06-2022	SG-5218
17	JKF-1175-4-0	SYED SHAHEEDA	18-06-2022	SG-5218
18	JKF-1176-2-0	SHAFI UL HAQ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
19	JKF-1176-2-0	JAHARA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
20	JKF-1176-2-0	AYESHA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
21	JKF-1178-2-0	MOHD JAMAL	18-06-2022	SG-5218
22	JKF-1256-3-0	WALI MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
23	JKF-1256-3-0	MASRATH WALI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
24	JKF-1256-3-0	HANIFA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
25	JKF-1320-1-0	JAVID AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
26	JKF-1321-1-0	FAROOQ AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
27	JKF-1343-2-0	RAFIQA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
28	JKF-1343-2-0	GHULAM NABI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
29	JKF-1345-2-0	BAKHTI BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
30	JKF-1345-2-0	KHIZIR MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
31	JKF-1346-2-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
32	JKF-1346-2-0	GHULAM DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
33	JKF-1349-3-0	ABRID HUSSAIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
34	JKF-1349-3-0	MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
35	JKF-1349-3-0	RAJA BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
36	JKF-1352-2-0	MOHAMMAD RAMZAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
37	JKF-1352-2-0	FARZANA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
38	JKF-1408-2-0	ABDUL AZIZ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
39	JKF-1408-2-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
40	JKF-1456-3-0	SHOWKATUL ISLAM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
41	JKF-1456-3-0	TABIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
42	JKF-1457-2-0	MOHAMMAD AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
43	JKF-1457-2-0	MOHD YOUSUF	18-06-2022	SG-5218
44	JKF-1457-2-0	HABLA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
45	JKF-1510-3-0	MOHAMMAD RAJAB	18-06-2022	SG-5218
46	JKF-1510-3-0	AB WAHAB	18-06-2022	SG-5218
47	JKF-1510-3-0	KHALID BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
48	JKF-1511-2-0	GH MOHI UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
49	JKF-1511-2-0	FATIMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
50	JKF-1514-2-0	NASIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
51	JKF-1515-2-0	NASREEN BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
52	JKF-1517-2-0	SHANAZ PARVEEN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
53	JKF-1517-2-0	SYED FAROOQ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
54	JKF-1526-2-0	GHULAM UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
55	JKF-1526-2-0	ZAINAB BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
56	JKF-1531-2-0	MOHD ABULLAH	18-06-2022	SG-5218
57	JKF-1531-2-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
58	JKF-1534-2-0	TASLIM AKHTAR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
59	JKF-1534-2-0	TAMIR ARIF	18-06-2022	SG-5218
60	JKF-1535-2-0	MOHD DILAWAR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
61	JKF-1535-2-0	HAJRA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
62	JKF-1538-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
63	JKF-1538-2-0	GH HASSAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
64	JKF-1538-2-0	ZOONIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
65	JKF-1539-2-0	MOHD MISKEEN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
66	JKF-1539-2-0	SALEEMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
67	JKF-1540-4-0	HALEEMQA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
68	JKF-1540-4-0	NAZIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
69	JKF-1540-4-0	POSHA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
70	JKF-1540-4-0	MANZOOR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
71	JKF-1580-2-0	SADEEA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
72	JKF-1580-2-0	AB AZIZ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
73	JKF-1584-2-0	SHAMIM AHMAD SHAHIM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
74	JKF-1584-2-0	REHMAT JAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
75	JKF-1585-2-0	HAJIRA BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
76	JKF-1585-2-0	GHULAM AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
77	JKF-1820-2-0	SAIDA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
78	JKF-1820-2-0	GH MOHI UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
79	JKF-1828-2-0	GULAM HASSAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
80	JKF-1828-2-0	SARA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
81	JKF-1829-2-0	HOJARA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
82	JKF-1829-2-0	MOHAMMAD YOUSF	18-06-2022	SG-5218
83	JKF-1830-2-0	HANIFA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
84	JKF-1830-2-0	MUKHTI BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
85	JKF-1831-2-0	RAFIQA BANO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
86	JKF-1831-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
87	JKF-1832-2-0	HAJRA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
88	JKF-1832-2-0	SYED ISHFQA AHMAD SHAH	18-06-2022	SG-5218
89	JKF-1833-2-0	AB MAJID	18-06-2022	SG-5218
90	JKF-1833-2-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
91	JKF-1912-2-0	RAFIQA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
92	JKF-1913-2-0	GH AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
93	JKF-1913-2-0	GH MOHI UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
94	JKF-1914-1-0	MOHD JAMAL	18-06-2022	SG-5218
95	JKF-1915-2-0	BIBI NARGIS BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
96	JKF-1915-2-0	AJIAZ HUSSAIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
97	JKF-1917-2-0	AB KABIR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
98	JKF-1917-2-0	JANA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
99	JKF-1918-1-0	GH MOHAMMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
100	JKF-1953-3-0	RUKHSANA MANZOOR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
101	JKF-1953-3-0	SALMA BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
102	JKF-1953-3-0	GH AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
103	JKF-1966-2-0	MOHD RAMZAN SHEER	18-06-2022	SG-5218
104	JKF-1966-2-0	ZOONIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
105	JKF-2015-2-0	SADEEA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
106	JKF-2015-2-0	MOHD ABULLAH	18-06-2022	SG-5218
107	JKF-2102-2-0	GH MOHAMMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
108	JKF-2102-2-0	MUKHTARA BEGAM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
109	JKF-2124-2-0	MOHD SULTAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
110	JKF-2124-2-0	HABLI BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
111	JKF-2145-2-0	SAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
112	JKF-2145-2-0	GULAM HASSAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
113	JKF-2169-2-0	ARJAN AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
114	JKF-2169-2-0	NASIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
115	JKF-2180-2-0	GH ZEEMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
116	JKF-2180-2-0	ABDUL WAHID	18-06-2022	SG-5218
117	JKF-2202-1-0	AB AZIZ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
118	JKF-2207-2-0	RAJIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
119	JKF-2207-2-0	MOHD SHAFI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
120	JKF-2212-1-0	PARVAIZ AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
121	JKF-2213-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
122	JKF-2213-2-0	NASIMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
123	JKF-2216-1-0	AB RASHID	18-06-2022	SG-5218
124	JKF-2216-1-0	GH AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
125	JKF-2515-2-0	MOHD RAFIQ	18-06-2022	SG-5218
126	JKF-2515-2-0	MARYAM BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
127	JKF-2527-2-0	GH QADIR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
128	JKF-2527-2-0	RAHIMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
129	JKF-2551-1-0	GHULAM RASOOL	18-06-2022	SG-5218
130	JKF-2551-1-0	GHULAM MURTAZA	18-06-2022	SG-5218
131	JKF-2554-3-0	GH MOHAMMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
132	JKF-2554-3-0	MOHD SULIMAN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
133	JKF-2554-3-0	JANA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
134	JKF-2556-1-0	GH MOHI UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-5218
135	JKF-2556-1-0	ZAREEFA BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-5218
136	JKF-2715-2-0	AZAAD AHMAD GOIAR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
137	JKF-2716-2-0	ZAREEFA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-5218
138	JKF-2716-2-0	GHULAM NABI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
139	JKF-2719-1-0	AB GANI	18-06-2022	SG-5218
140	JKF-2850-1-0	MOHD SHAFIR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
141	JKF-2852-1-0	ALI MOHAMMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
142	JKF-2858-1-0	MANZOOR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-5218
143	JKF-4803-2-0	ABDUL SATAR	18-06-2022	SG-5218
144	JKF-4803-2-0	AB RASHID	18-06-2022	SG-5218
145	JKF-4803-2-0	FAHARA IRSHAD JANA	18-06-2022	SG-5218
1	JKF-2492-2-0	MOHAMMAD SULTAN	18-06-2022	SG-6018
2	JKF-2492-2-0	SYED MUKHTAR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
4	JKF-932-2-0	SHAHIDA	18-06-2022	SG-6018
5	JKF-1159-3-0	MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
6	JKF-1159-3-0	GULAM MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
7	JKF-1159-3-0	ABDUL RASHID	18-06-2022	SG-6018
8	JKF-2860-2-0	BASHIR AHMAD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
9	JKF-2860-2-0	ZAREEFA BANOO	18-06-2022	SG-6018
10	JKF-2861-2-0	AB AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
11	JKF-2861-2-0	HAFFEEZA BANO	18-06-2022	SG-6018
12	JKF-2864-2-0	AB MAJID	18-06-2022	SG-6018
13	JKF-2864-2-0	SARA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-6018
14	JKF-2865-2-0	AB RASHID	18-06-2022	SG-6018
15	JKF-2865-2-0	TAHIRAH BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-6018
16	JKF-3034-4-0	GH MOHI UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-6018
17	JKF-3034-4-0	ZOONIA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-6018
18	JKF-3034-4-0	WALI MOHD	18-06-2022	SG-6018
19	JKF-3034-4-0	MUGLI	18-06-2022	SG-6018
20	JKF-3035-2-0	AB RASHID	18-06-2022	SG-6018
21	JKF-3035-2-0	FATIMA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-6018
22	JKF-3161-2-0	GH NABI	18-06-2022	SG-6018
23	JKF-3161-2-0	ABIDA BEGUM	18-06-2022	SG-6018
24	JKF-3266-2-0	SYED SALEEMA	18-06-2022	SG-6018
25	JKF-3266-2-0	MEHRAJ UD DIN	18-06-2022	SG-6018
26	JKF-3206-2-0	ABDUL AHAD	18-06-2022	SG-6018

CCIK Call On Dr Andrabi

Seek support for Waqf shopkeepers at Boulevard

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashmir (CCIK) called on Waqf Board Chairperson Dr Darshan Andrabi. The CCIK delegation was led by its President Tariq Rashid Ghani who was accompanied by Sr Vice President Bashir Ahmad Beigh, Jr VP Ghulam Mohiuddin Khan, Treasurer Showkat Hussain and Adnan Shah Chairman Youth Committee and EC member Atif Khan.

CCIK apprised Dr Andrabi about the issues shopkeepers at Boulevard having Waqf properties are facing. CEO Waqf Board was also present in the



meeting. The CCIK urged Dr Andrabi to provide every kind of support the shopkeepers for their smooth functioning and promotion.

President CCIK Tariq Rashid Ghani said the shrines in the Valley are not only important for religious activities but also an important tourism sector.

The CCIK urged Dr Andrabi for taking the steps in maintaining the upkeep of all shrines in the Valley.

Dr Andrabi gave patient hearing to the CCIK delegation and assured them of full support and cooperation in promoting the shopkeepers at Boulevard.

She also emphasized on improving the infrastructure and upkeep in and around the shrines to attract not only devotees but also the travelers.



Boys play cricket on Zabarwan mountain range on the outskirts of Srinagar. Pic Abid Bhat

CEO HCI Meets Centaur Hotel Employees, Assures All Possible Support

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Emotional scenes were witnessed outside Centaur hotel Srinagar on Wednesday after the families of employees reached the main gate here that was sealed by the government yesterday in wake of the violation of lease agreement by the Hotel Corporation of India (HCI).

The families reached the main gate early today where many among them were seen crying as they see their future as bleak due to the taking over of Centaur hotel by the government.

According to reports, the families say that the government's decision is all set to push them towards starvation as the sole bread earners of their families have lost their jobs.

"Everyone at home is crying as there is no other source of income for us," Fayaz Ahmad, one of the employees said

Fayaz has been serving at Centaur hotel since 1992 and his services were confirmed in 1995. Fayaz like many other employees is the sole bread earner of his six-member family including father, mother, wife and two children.



"Everyone at home has been confused since last evening. They are unable to understand how the job is being snatched. My family is apprehensive of a bleak future," Fayaz said, adding that the tears and sobs are visible in the eyes of every family member at the home.

"One cannot imagine the condition of employees and their families at present. We are completely devastated since last evening as the decision of taking over the Centaur Hotel without even considering the plights of employees has landed us in trouble," he said.

Moreover, a day after the

government took possession of the Centaur hotel, Deepak Khullar the CEO of AI subsidiary Hotel Corporation of India (HCI) met the anguished employees here in Srinagar.

Khullar as per the employees has assured that the demands of jobs security will be raised with the concerned authorities. He also expressed sympathy with the employees.

Muhammad Shafi, President Centaur Employees Union told KNO that they have decided to wait for at least a week to see what steps would be taken by the government for the wellbeing of the employees.

"We have decided to wait for at least a week. In case the demands are not met, the future course of action will be decided then after accordingly," Shafi said.

Pertinently, the employees spent the night at Centaur Hotel to mark a protest against the government move. However, they left the place this morning.

Tehsildar Khanyar, Aaliya Tabbasum didn't share the details, however, said that the employees have left the hotel and the government has taken possession of the building.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Faisal majeed sheikh R/o Mureed pora sr gunj owner of Fitness SF the unisex gym 4th floor city square complex main road islamia college hawal srinagar kashmir has applied for new electricity connection. If any body has any objections contact to concerned department within a week.

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<p>از نیابت انت ناگ با اجلاس انگریز کیلیو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول</p> <p>درخواست منجانب - قیصر احمد بٹ، روجی جان، نادیہ جان، عابد اشرف بٹ اولاد ن محمد اشرف بٹ ساکنان پانزگام کوکر ناگ بغرض حصول :-RBA سرٹیفکیٹ</p> <p>اشتبہا برادر آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔</p> <p>معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکنان نے ایک درخواست RBA سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جس کی فوار پورٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی - جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنان پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے دہذا میں سکونت پزیر ہے۔ مسائل کے کنہ کی تفصیل منڈیل ہیں۔</p>				
نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	محمد اشرف بٹ ولد عبدالحی بٹ	52 سال	مزدوری	12000/=
2	سروہنگم زوجہ محمد اشرف بٹ	53 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	رومی جان دختر محمد اشرف بٹ	19 سال	زیر تعلیم	
4	نادیہ جان دختر محمد اشرف بٹ	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	
5	عابد اشرف بٹ ولد محمد اشرف بٹ	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	
6	قیصر احمد بٹ ولد محمد اشرف بٹ	23 سال	زیر تعلیم	
7	سنہ اللہ بٹ ولد عبدالحی بٹ	65 سال	مزدوری	
8	رافدہ جان زوجہ قیصر احمد بٹ	21 سال	گھریلو کام	
9	حفیظ بن قیصر ولد قیصر احمد بٹ	18 ماہ	شیر خوار	
<p>اسطور ساکنان کا کنہ 09 افراد پر مشتمل ہیں۔ ساکنان کے کنہ میں کوئی سرکاری ملازم موجود ہیں۔ اور ساکنان کے کنہ کی سالانہ آمدنی تمام زراعی سے =/144,000 روپیہ تک ہیں۔ اسطور ساکنان RBA سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے کی خواہش رکھتا ہے اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد سات دن کے اندر اندر آ پنا اعتراض یا اعتراض دفتر ہذا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔</p>				
				rna نائب تحصیلدار۔



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HIGHWAY STATUS

Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)

Mughal Road - (Open)

Srinagar- Leh- (Open)



HIJRI

CALENDAR

16- Zil- Qaddah

1443

PRAYERS

FAJR 3: 34

ZUHR 12:31

ASR 5:31

Magrib 7:46

ISHA 9: 28

This Day In History

- 1487 - Battle of Stoke, Nottinghamshire: Henry VII beats John de la Pole & Lord Lovell
- 1745 British fleet occupies Cape Breton on St Lawrence River
- 1746- Battle at Piacenza: Austria & Sardinia beat Spanish and French army
- 1779 - Spain declares war on Great Britain in support of the US, and the siege of Gibraltar begins
- 1815 - Battle at Ligny: French army under Napoleon beats Prussia
- 1815 - Battle at Quatre-Bras: allies strike French
- 1832 - Battle of Kellogg's Grove, Illinois
- 1891 - John Abbott becomes Canada's third prime minister
- 1898 - China's emperor De Zong (Guang Xu) receives Kang Youwei
- 1903 - Roald Amundsen commences the first east-west navigation of the Northwest Passage by leaving Oslo, Norway
- 1903 - Reichstag elections with gains for the Social Democratic Party of Germany
- 1907 - Tsar Nicolas II of Russia dissolves the Second Duma (parliament) and issues an edict that will increase representation of propertied classes while reducing that of peasants, workers and national minorities
- 1930 - Sovnarkom establishes decree time in the USSR
- 1931 - Austrian government of Ender falls
- 1932 - Germany forbids SA/SS-gang fights
- 1940 - Communist government installed in Lithuania
- 1957 - French offensive in Algeria
- 1958- Government troops land on North-Celebes Indonesia
- 1961- Reconnaissance satellite Discoverer 25 launched from the US
- 1963- Soviet space mission Vostok 6 is launched with Valentina Tereshkova onboard, who becomes the 1st woman in space
- 1963- Levi Eshkol replaces David Ben-Gurion as Israeli Prime Minister
- 1972- The largest single-site hydro-electric power project in Canada starts at Churchill Falls, Labrador
- 1980- US Supreme Court rules that live, human-made micro-organisms created in labs could be patentable, in Diamond v. Chakrabarty
- 1982- Britain makes request to Argentina to arrange for return of prisoners
- 1983- European Space Agency launches European Comm Satellite 1, Oscar 10
- 1983- General Secretary Yuri Andropov appointed President of the Soviet Union
- 1999- Thabo Mbeki is elected 2nd President of a democratic South Africa

2 Women Deliver During Crackdown

Observer News service

SRINAGAR : Two women in the remote Rajwar area of the border district of Kupwara are reported to have delivered at the security camps where they have been reporting along with all other villagers over the recent days.

According to reports, several villages in the area have been sealed off by the security forces with the residents being made to report at the Wadar camp of the 21 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) daily The villages are Shathigam, Nichama, Chanjnulla, Bonawadar and nearby places.

On June 10, reports said, a pregnant woman, Saja w/o Abdul Gaffar Mir of Nichama delivered a baby in the camp itself similarly, another woman, Shahmali w/o Muhammad Shafi of Wadar delivered a baby at the same camp yesterday. However, the latter child died soon after. Police are reported to have strongly protested the security forces excesses in the area. (Kashmir Observer, 16 June, 2000)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

PM’s job package

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday passed directions to recruit 10 lakh people in “mission mode” over the next 1.5 years after reviewing the employment status in all departments and ministries. The government’s decision comes amid the rising unemployment in the country. This despite the fact that the economy has been doing fine. According to estimates, exports are at record highs. Profits of big businesses have doubled. The consumption has increased. People are spending on cars, real estate and vacations. But despite that unemployment has grown. Educated youth are struggling to find jobs. This coupled with high inflation is battering the Indians who do petty jobs to make ends meet. So, the prime minister’s intervention to start the process to recruit 10 lakh people over the next one and half year is a welcome development.

In Jammu and Kashmir too, there is an urgent need for the government to take credible steps to find employment opportunities for the thousands of educated unemployed. The growing ranks of the educated unemployed in the state is emerging as the single most threat to the social stability in the union territory. According to a rough estimate, there are around six lakh unemployed youth in J&K and only a modest proportion of them could hope to get a government job, so far the UT’s only reliable source of livelihood. But despite that the issue hardly makes it to the political discourse in the state. The political class has been traditionally shy of raising the issues of corruption, environment and unemployment.

At the same time, the issue of unemployment is very complex and difficult to resolve. J&K Government which for decades has been the sole job provider to the youth in the UT is no longer in position to do it. New jobs in the government offer paltry remuneration for several years for the new recruits before the regularization of their services. Working for a pittance for the precious five years of their life in the hope of a permanent job with a modest salary and career prospects makes no sense for a large section of the educated youth. But the problem is that the government has struggled to offer an alternative to the youth. It has been unable to create credible alternative job prospects within the UT. The government needs to revive the effort and make it ongoing. There is no alternative to this. In the long term, J&K needs a viable private sector if the government has to tide over the rampant unemployment in the UT.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Cold Comfort

Inflation in the transport and communication category of the CPI slowed by 137 basis points to 9.54% last month. This key category, with a weight of 8.59 that places it behind only cereals and housing, captures the pump prices of the main transportation fuels, making it a crucial indicator of price pressures in the economy. A closer look, however, shows inflation in the category continued to quicken sequentially, even if at a slower pace. Disconcertingly, rural consumers, who have comparatively lower purchasing power than their urban peers and yet are heavily reliant on the fuels for farm operations, experienced a significantly slower softening of only 42 basis points in the year-on-year pace. With the price of the Indian basket of crude oil now having surged by almost 8.5% from April to a 10-year high this month, and the rupee plunging to successive new record lows against the dollar, it would be unwise to drop one’s guard especially given the pass-through impact transportation costs have on most other prices.

Food prices, the other driver of retail price gains, offered far less respite with the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) inflation slowing by only 34 basis points to 7.97%. City consumers experienced an acceleration in food price gains as urban CFPI inflation quickened 11 basis points to 8.2% last month. Nine of the 12 items on the food and beverages sub-index of the CPI, also quickened sequentially, resulting in the month-on-month inflation accelerating 30 basis points from April’s pace. Prices of vegetables and those of meat and fish surged 18.3% and 8.23%, respectively, from their year-earlier levels, adding to the nutritional precarity of low-income households. And even though inflation in edible oils slowed from April’s pace, there is no room for complacency given that price gains in the vital cooking medium were still running at 13.3% amid persistent supply concerns in the wake of the Ukraine war and the disruption in sunflower oil imports. May’s wholesale price data also provide little comfort, with headline WPI inflation quickening to a fresh high of 15.9%. With the RBI’s consumer confidence survey showing an appreciable deterioration in households’ expectations of the one-year ahead price level, authorities must stay laser-focused on the battle to tame inflation.

The Hindu

“The fluctuating weather across the region is evident from intensifying heat to thunderstorms. Here, the Anthropocene starts becoming more evident with an increase in human activities that entail changing the structure and depleting resources of the environment

Neha Fayaz



March 2022 in India recorded the hottest summer since 1901 with heat waves occurring across the region. Delhi recorded temperatures of 49 and saw its fifth heatwave by 15th May. A day prior, the Indian Meteorological department issued warnings of heatwave in areas of and surrounding West Rajasthan. Kashmir is no different. Summers arrived quickly here with record high temperatures in March. The heat has refused to die down.

Think tanks such as the Centre for Science and Environment have now stated that heat waves have impacted more than half the states in the country. Apart from intensifying temperatures carrying the risk of causing forest fires, the health of children and elderly stand at immense risk.

The World Health Organization (WHO) states that heat waves increase the chance of the body failing to maintain its internal temperature and stands as the cause for health issues such as hyperthermia, heat cramps and exhaustion. Apart from health concerns, increasing heat has also impacted the selling of crops for farmers due to its effect on the harvest of their crops. This effect could surge to alarming levels owing to the already depleted supply of resources because of the war in Ukraine.

In the recently released Environmental Performance Index of 2022, India ranked the lowest at 180. While onus can be placed on colonizer countries along with India’s developing status, the question of where India should stand in terms of its environmental policy is more pivotal than ever.

India doesn’t precisely lack in terms of its participation as a ratifying agent in international treaties. For instance, India signed one of its earliest environmental treaties- The Antarctic Treaty- in 1959, only approximately a decade after its independence. This was followed by other treaties such as CITES, UNFCC and ITTA.

However, in terms of its domestic policy it’s necessary to analyse the steps India has taken to combat climate change.

The centre should now start placing more focus on environment centric agendas, not only because tackling climate change is the need of the hour but also because it is intricately tied to issues such as poverty, employment opportunities and uneven access of resources.

For India to make an impactful headway in its list of legislative agenda pertaining to the environment, it needs to address the myriad social issues that are intertwined with climate change.

As of now, India has only taken a largely isolated approach towards this issue. For instance, after the publishing of the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) in 2018, the National

Green Tribunal ordered entities such as the Central and state Pollution Board to take CEPI into account and work on relevant climate matters accordingly.

During COVID, the pollution of the Ganges had decreased drastically as industrial toxins and human influence was at its minimum. This was a feat that couldn’t be achieved despite the Uttarakhand High Court’s March 2017 ruling, awarding ‘human status’ to the rivers. While this was overturned by the Supreme Court later on the grounds of it not having any ‘legal substantiality’, asking the question of whether awarding human status to the holiest river in India is the solution to its contamination is crucial.

India has enacted a range of laws to combat climate change such as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, Air Act, Environmental Protection Act which include an array of notifications under it. However, despite these efforts, India’s initiatives have been categorized as ‘highly insufficient’ by entities such as the Climate Action Tracker. With phenomena such as draughts, famine

have been gripping various regions in the sub-continent. One such weatherman is Faizan Arif Keng. According to Faizan, Kashmir is witnessing heat waves with temperatures rising above 30 in many parts. In an interview with the India Times, on the rapidly changing climate conditions in Kashmir, Keng stated, “We have witnessed a massive natural calamity due to weather change, be it Kishtwar cloudburst, 2014 floods, early snowfall in 2018, heavy snowfall in 2019 and much more. All such calamities could have been avoided or one could have been prepared for it if known to us earlier but unfortunately lack of awareness can cause disastrous situations in future”.

Government agencies such as the Indian Meteorological Department too have put out warnings on their website about areas that may be impacted by menacing weather conditions.

The fluctuating weather across the region is evident from intensifying heat to thunderstorms. Here, the Anthropocene starts becoming more evident with an increase in human activities that entail changing the structure and depleting re-

“For India to make an impactful headway in its list of legislative agenda pertaining to the environment, it needs to address the myriad social issues that are intertwined with climate change

and heatwaves still severely affecting agricultural and other communities, prioritizing climate change on the list of legislative agendas is the need of the hour.

In an interview with BBC, climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Roxy Matthew Kol states that a pivotal factor to these heat waves in addition to added atmospheric factors is climate change. This, added to the heat waves especially in the Indian Ocean, is now modifying monsoon rains in central India.

Moreover, the warming of the northern part of the ocean has started causing cyclones. The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology analysed data from 1982 until 2018 pertinent to Indian Ocean’s sea surface temperature and deduced that the Western part of the ocean has gone through 66 marine heatwaves while 94 were inflicted on the Bay of Bengal. It was inferred that heat waves in these areas, which was not a common occurrence, now became an almost yearly phenomenon.

Climate and Kashmir
Weather reporters across news channels have reported on the warnings related to heat waves, cyclones and thunderstorms that

sources of the environment.

In 2018, the draft policy put forward by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir identified the various causes leading to this degradation. These ranged from increased stone quarrying, land and clay mining, conversion of paddy lands to construction areas and cash crops harvestation, usage of chemical fertilizers, industrial pollution and growing urbanization. These causes have led to increased food and water security, soil erosion and have impacted communities living near areas of such activities.

Arguments stating that these activities in turn form the livelihood of people and help sustain the degree of technologization and development humans have adapted to are often found to be common justifications. However, it must be noted that the degree of such human interference with the environment has changed the course of weather patterns and atmospheric conditions, perhaps from being irreversible.

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

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Presidential Fix

The opposition is confused in having a consensus candidate for the President’s post. The election for the next President of India heralds the next round of the political battle between the government and the Opposition. At one level, despite the symbolic im-

portance of the position and the prestige associated with it, the outcome of the exercise is largely predictable. The President of India is the head of the executive and also the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces. All executive decisions are taken in his name. The Prime Minister is appoint-

ed by the President, who also appoints other ministers on the advice of the Prime Minister. In the electoral college – which comprises parliamentarians and members of state assemblies whose votes are weighed in accordance with the strengths of the population they represent – the

National Democratic Alliance (NDA) begins with a decisive numerical and psychological edge.

Ramanathan Krishnan
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Describing the Metaverse

How we describe the metaverse makes a difference – today’s words could shape tomorrow’s reality and who benefits from it

“
Unable to distinguish innovation from hype, people can do little more than talk past one another. This leaves powerful companies like Meta to literally set the terms for their own commercial interests

Tom Boellstorff

Quick, define the word “metaverse.” Coined in 1992 by science fiction author Neal Stephenson, the relatively obscure term exploded in popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly after Facebook rebranded as Meta in October 2021. There are now myriad articles on the metaverse, and thousands of companies have invested in its development. Citigroup Inc. has estimated that by 2030 the metaverse could be a US\$13 trillion market, with 5 billion users.

From climate change to global connection and disability access to pandemic response, the metaverse has incredible potential. Gatherings in virtual worlds have considerably lower carbon footprints than in-person gatherings. People spread all over the globe can gather together in virtual spaces. The metaverse can allow disabled people new forms of social participation through virtual entrepreneurship. And during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the metaverse not only provided people with ways to connect but also served as a place where, for instance, those sharing a small apartment could be alone.

No less monumental dangers exist as well, from surveillance and exploitation to disinformation and discrimination.

But discussing these benefits and threats remains difficult because of confusion about what “metaverse” actually means. As a professor of anthropology who has been researching the metaverse for almost 20 years, I know this confusion matters. The metaverse is at a virtual crossroads. Norms and standards set in the next few years are likely to structure the metaverse for decades. But without common conceptual



“
The metaverse is a human creation, and the most important step to defining it is to realize it’s a radial category. Virtual worlds are prototypical for the metaverse. Other elements of the laundry list radiate outward and won’t appear in all cases. And what’s involved will be socially specific. It will look different in Alaska than it will in Addis Ababa, or when at work versus at a family gathering

ground, people cannot even debate these norms and standards.

Unable to distinguish innovation from hype, people can do little more than talk past one another. This leaves powerful companies like Meta to literally set the terms for their own commercial interests. For example, Nick Clegg, former deputy prime minister of the U.K. and now president of global affairs at Meta, attempted to control the narrative with the May 2022 essay “Making the Metaverse.”

CATEGORICAL PROTOTYPES

Most attempted definitions for metaverse include a bewildering laundry list of technologies and principles, but always included are virtual worlds – places online where real people interact in real time. Thousands of virtual worlds already exist, some gaming oriented, like Fortnite and Roblox, others more open-ended, like Minecraft and Animal Crossing: New Horizons.

Beyond virtual worlds, the list of

metaverse technologies typically includes avatars, nonplayer characters and bots; virtual reality; cryptocurrency, blockchain and non-fungible tokens; social networks from Facebook and Twitter to Discord and Slack; and mobile devices like phones and augmented reality interfaces. Often included as well are principles like interoperability – the idea that identities, friendship networks and digital items like avatar clothes should be capable of moving between virtual worlds.

The problem is that humans don’t categorize by laundry lists. Instead, decades of research in cognitive science has shown that most categories are “radial,” with a central prototype. One could define “bird” in terms of a laundry list of traits: has wings, flies and so on. But the prototypical bird for North Americans looks something like a sparrow. Hummingbirds and ducks are further from this prototype. Further still are flamingos and penguins. Yet all are birds, radiating out from the socially specific

prototype. Someone living near the Antarctic might place penguins closer to the center.

Human creations are usually radial categories as well. If asked to draw a chair, few people would draw a dentist chair or beanbag chair.

The metaverse is a human creation, and the most important step to defining it is to realize it’s a radial category. Virtual worlds are prototypical for the metaverse. Other elements of the laundry list radiate outward and won’t appear in all cases. And what’s involved will be socially specific. It will look different in Alaska than it will in Addis Ababa, or when at work versus at a family gathering.

WHOSE IDEA OF ESSENTIAL?

This matters because one of the most insidious rhetorical moves currently underway is to assert that some optional aspect of the metaverse is prototypical. For instance, many pundits define the metaverse as based on blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies. But many ex-

isting virtual worlds use means other than blockchain for confirming ownership of digital assets. Many use national currencies like the U.S. dollar, or metaverse currencies pegged to a national currency.

Another such rhetorical move appears when Clegg uses an image of a building with a foundation and two floors to argue not only that interoperability will be part of “the foundations of the building” but that it’s “the common theme across these floors.”

But Clegg’s warning that “without a significant degree of interoperability baked into each floor, the metaverse will become fragmented” ignores how interoperability isn’t prototypical for the metaverse. In many cases, fragmentation is desirable. I might not want the same identity in two different virtual worlds, or on Facebook and an online game.

This raises the question of why Meta – and many pundits – are fixated on interoperability. Left unsaid in Clegg’s essay is the “foundation” of Meta’s profit model: tracking users across the metaverse to target advertising and potentially sell digital goods with maximum effectiveness. Recognizing “metaverse” as a radial category reveals that Clegg’s claim about interoperability isn’t a

statement of fact. It’s an attempt to render Meta’s surveillance capitalism prototypical, the foundation of the metaverse. It doesn’t have to be.

LOCKING IN DEFINITIONS

This example illustrates how defining the metaverse isn’t an empty intellectual exercise. It’s the conceptual work that will fundamentally shape design, policy, profit, community and the digital future.

Clegg’s essay concludes optimistically that “time is on our side” because many metaverse technologies won’t be fully realized for a decade or more. But as the VR pioneer Jaron Lanier has noted, when definitions about digital technology get locked in they become difficult to dislodge. They become digital common sense.

With regard to the definitions that will be the true foundation of the metaverse, time is emphatically not on our side. I believe that now is the time to debate how the metaverse will be defined – because these definitions are very likely to become our digital realities.

The author is Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Irvine. The article is being reproduced by arrangements with The Conversation

Be Better Listeners

TOMAS CHAMORRO

High-quality listening is an underrated ability. How well and frequently you listen to others is a better predictor of your leadership potential than your actual intelligence or personality. As a recent review shows, good listeners tend to perform better at work, and to report higher level of wellbeing, as well as more meaningful and fulfilling relationships. We tend to trust them more, and they tend to be seen as curious, empathetic and emotionally intelligent.

To some degree, the power of listening can be explained by the fact that good listening is rare. We live in a world in which people are often rewarded for self-promoting, being the center of attention, and talking as much as they can, even when they have nothing to say. The fact that Susan Cain’s rational defense of introversion is arguably counterintuitive to most people (especially in hyper-outgoing American culture) suggests that we are still not fully convinced about the virtues of listening, though most people are happy to recommend this activity to everyone else.

So, how can you become a better listener? The simplest formula or recipe I can think of is:

1. Shut up
2. Listen
3. Repeat

However, this is easier said than done, and (if you are still listening) I suspect you may be looking for some-

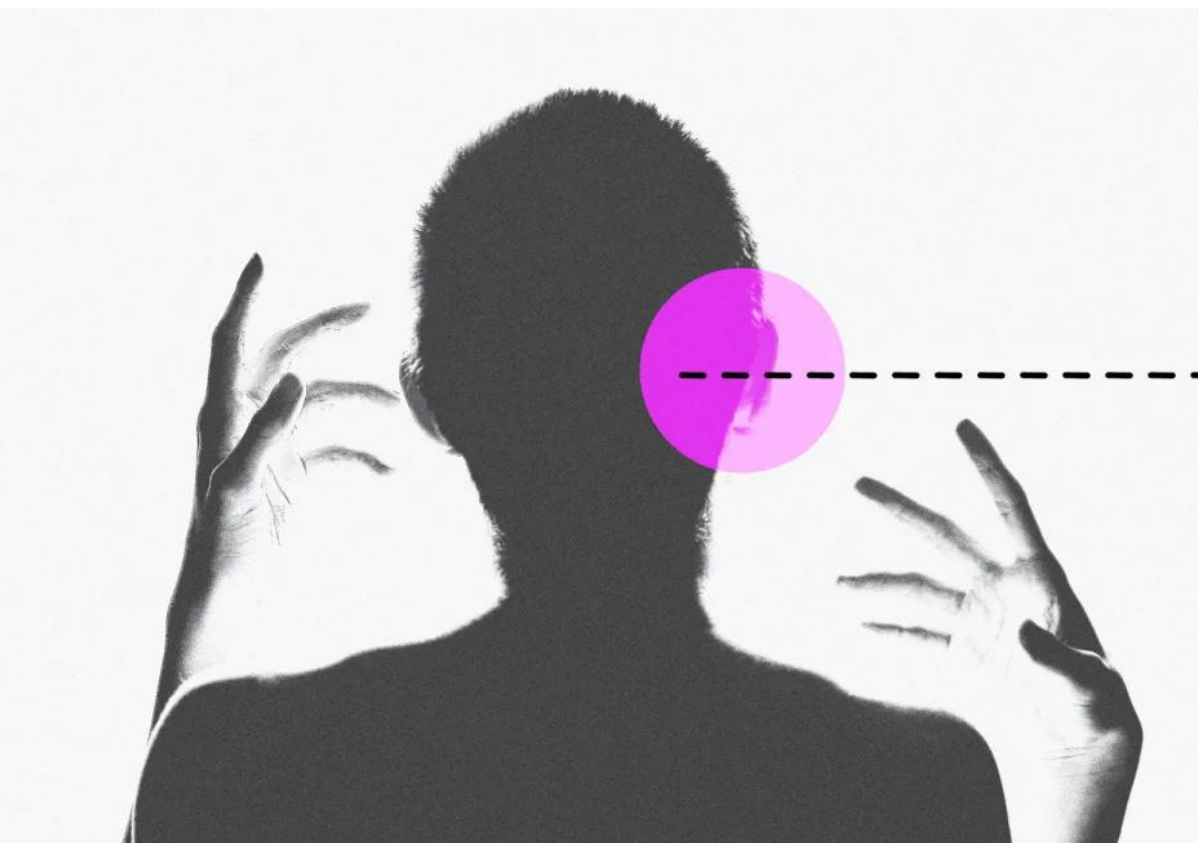
thing meatier. Decades of scientific research suggest that if we want to become better listeners, we should consider working on these four key enablers of high quality listening:

FOCUS

A simple reason most people struggle with listening, even when they have the intention to do so, is that they fail to provide their undivided attention. Distractions, stress, worries, and multitasking all interfere with high quality listening, as we all know from everyday experience. Contrary to popular belief, tasks that require active attention cannot be done simultaneously. Multitasking is a bit like intuition, sense of humor, or musical taste: just because we think we are good at it doesn’t mean we actually are. You may continue to multitask while you Zoom into crowded work meetings, but let’s not equate that to listening. If you truly intend to listen, you have to focus—period.

EMPATHY

The vast majority of people are capable of displaying basic empathy, the ability to see things from another person’s perspective—but we don’t always do. Stepping outside our ego cocoon, and making an effort to put ourselves in someone else’s shoes, will significantly improve our listening skills. This is obviously easier when we care about the person, but humans are capable of being open and considerate towards others even in the absence of feelings towards them. In fact, if we truly want to create a more diverse and inclusive



world then we cannot just rely on our empathy (whether we feel something for the other person) but must also exercise rational kindness and compassion.

SELF-CONTROL

Impulsive interruptions are a big

threat to listening. Unless you can control your emotions, whether positive or negative, you will jump in too soon, without letting people make their point. This is why mindfulness is a consistent predictor of better listening. Waiting for the other person to finish, and even counting two or

three seconds after they’ve gone quiet, is a simple exercise to keep your feelings and thoughts under control. Even if you feel you are right, or you don’t like what you are hearing, you will be much more likely to win the argument if you wait until the other person finishes unless you don’t want

them to listen to you. And if you really don’t care about what the other person is saying, then don’t waste your energies interrupting them.

INCLUSION

Even if you managed to accomplish the first three things, it is still important that you convey to the other person that you’ve been listening. In other words, what you want is to harness a reputation for being a good listener. So, when your turn eventually arrives, and it is you who needs to speak, make sure you incorporate the other person’s perspective, reference what they said, and react to their narrative and arguments. Many people learn to wait for their turn, only to deliver a speech they had planned before, perhaps while successfully pretending to listen to the other person. In short, include the other person in your story, so you can make it easier for them to empathize... and listen to you.

Finally, it is worth remembering that listening is no different from any other skill. Some people have more potential than others, but in the end, we all need to practice in order to get better. Getting feedback from others—people who observe us during calls, meetings, discussions—is essential for improving, especially if they are able to call us out when we don’t listen, and if being told that we are a bad listener makes us feel guilty enough to want to change it. If it does, it is at least a sign that we were listening.

—Fast Company

Pawar declines to be Oppn's Prez candidate as 17 parties attend meeting called by Mamata

New Delhi: Leaders of several opposition parties on Wednesday urged NCP supremo Sharad Pawar to be the joint opposition candidate for the Presidential elections, but the veteran leader once again declined the offer at a meeting convened by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee here.

As the Opposition held its first meeting on the Presidential polls and names of Farooq Abdullah and Gopalkrishna Gandhi also cropped up, the ruling BJP reached out to several parties across the political spectrum to build a consensus choice with senior party leader and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh speaking to Sharad Pawar, Mallikarjun Kharge (Congress), Mamata Banerjee (TMC), Akhilesh Yadav (SP) and Naveen Patnaik (BJD).

Sources said Singh also talked to BJP ally and JD(U) leader and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, BSP supremo Mayawati and YSR Congress leader and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Reddy. BJP chief JP Nadda spoke to leaders from the National Conference (NC), National People's Party, Naga People's Front, AIJU and some independents. The BJP has authorised Singh and Nadda to consult with other parties for building a consensus.

Incidentally Kharge, Banerjee, Pawar and Yadav were part of the opposition meeting on the Presidential polls.

After Pawar, 81, declined the offer, Banerjee later suggested the names of NC leader Farooq Abdullah, a former Jammu

and Kashmir chief minister, and Gopalkrishna Gandhi as a possible opposition candidate, sources said.

Gopalkrishna Gandhi, the 77-year-old grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, was the consensus opposition candidate for the post of Vice President of India in 2017 but had lost to M Venkaiah Naidu in the election.

Asked about his name doing the rounds as a possible choice as the Opposition's candidate, Gandhi told PTI, "It is too premature to comment on it."

According to sources, Gandhi, who was Governor of West Bengal from 2004 to 2009, has sought some time from opposition leaders to respond to their request.

While the Congress said it will play a constructive role in ensuring all opposition parties arrive at a consensus candidate for the Presidential polls, and urged them to be proactive rather than reactive in making the decision, regional rivalries came to the fore as some non-BJP parties like the AAP, SAD, AIMIM, TRS and BJD skipped the opposition meeting.

The absence of these parties brought some cheer to the ruling BJP as it believes that this has only highlighted the faultlines and one-upmanship among its rivals. With the ruling NDA having about close to half the votes of the electoral college and the possible support of fence-sitters like the BJD, AIADMK and YSR, its candidate is likely to sail through the contest.

ED Questions Rahul For 3rd Consecutive Day; Conducts Audio-Video Recording

Agenceis

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi appeared before the ED on Wednesday for the third consecutive day of questioning in the National Herald money laundering case, with the agency seeking answers about his "personal role" in taking decisions with regard to the media organisation and its owner Young Indian.

Gandhi (51) arrived at the ED headquarters on APJ Abdul Kalam Road in central Delhi around 11.35 am with his "Z+" category CRPF security escort.

He was accompanied by his sister and Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra as his convoy whizzed past police barricades thronged by media persons and party supporters.

A huge contingent of police and paramilitary personnel has been deployed around the federal agency's office, and prohibitory orders under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc) are in force.

The questioning began at 12 noon and the ED has been conducting a video and audio recording of the statement of Gandhi during all the three days' sessions.

His statements are being typed on A4 size papers and are minutely reviewed by him and signed before submission to the investigating officer.

Gandhi, agency sources told PTI, is being asked about the assets worth about Rs 800 crore

"owned" by AJL and how a not-for-profit company like Young Indian (YI) was undertaking commercial activities of renting out its land and building assets.

The Congress party has claimed that there was no FIR or scheduled offence in this case, on the basis of which a PMLA case was filed and Gandhi and his mother Congress president were summoned.

Officials said the ED action is on a "higher pedestal than that of proceedings undertaken on the basis of the FIR" as the court has taken cognisance of the Income Tax department charge sheet filed in the case and issued process.

They said sections 120B (criminal conspiracy) and 420 (cheating) of the IPC applied in the I-T case are "predicate offences" that enable the ED to register a money laundering case.

ED investigators said the offence of money laundering as defined under section 3 of the PMLA is being applied by the ED to probe the role of Gandhi in this entire case where "while there is no movement of cash but the proceeds of crime have been generated and some people have benefitted from them".

Section 3 of the PMLA says whosoever directly or indirectly attempts to indulge or knowingly assists or knowingly is a party or is actually involved in any process or activity connected with proceeds of crime and projecting it as untainted property shall be guilty of the

offence of money laundering.

Officials also counter the claim of the Congress party and even Gandhi who have maintained that YI was a non-profit company and no one can enjoy personal funds or shares of the company.

Violation of any law is an offence and in this case the I-T department's chargesheet and the PMLA enforcement case information report (ECIR) indicate that the provisions of a not-for-profit company have been violated, officials said.

Gandhi has clocked over 24 hours in multiple question and answer sessions over the last two days at the ED office.

Officials said Gandhi's questioning could not be completed on Tuesday, and hence, he was asked to continue the recording of his statement on Wednesday.

About 15-16 questions about the incorporation of the YI company, the operations of the National Herald newspaper, the loan given by the Congress to the Associated Journals Limited (AJL) and the funds transfer within the news media establishment have been put to Gandhi during the questioning held till now, sources indicated.

They said the role of Gandhi and his detailed statement in the case is vital as he is a "major shareholder" in YI and "important person" in the AJL and National Herald affairs.

It is understood that the agency has put across questions to him about the assets owned by AJL.

FIR against Nagpur Congress leader for using 'derogatory' language against PM

Agenceis

Nagpur: An FIR was registered against a Congress leader from Nagpur in Maharashtra for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a demonstration held near the Enforcement Directorate's office, police said on Wednesday.

A case was registered against former Nagpur unit Congress president, Sheikh Hussain, at the Gittikhadan police station on Tuesday night after local BJP leaders submitted a memorandum to DCP, Zone I, Sandip Pakhale.

No arrest has been made in this connection yet.

Meanwhile, talking to PTI, Hussain said he had spoken about the problems in the country, like unemployment and inflation, and in order to describe the situation in Gujarat when Modi was its chief minister, he used a phrase, which he said was not against the prime minister. Hussain also sought to know why a case was not filed against suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma, whose alleged objectionable remarks against Prophet Mohammad have created a controversy.

Police registered the FIR against Hussain under sections 294 (punishment for obscene acts committed in public or obscene words spoken in public) and 504 (Intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace) of the Indian Penal Code against Hussain, a Gittikhadan police station official said.

Nagpur (west) BJP unit president Vinod Kanhare is the complainant in the case.

According to the complaint, Hussain had used derogatory language against the prime minister while addressing Congress workers during a protest held near the office of the ED on Monday to express solidarity with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who was quizzed in Delhi in connection with a money laundering case.

The BJP has demanded strict action against Hussain for making "hateful" remarks and said this highlights the low the main opposition party has fallen.

In Delhi, Union minister Anurag Thakur demanded strict action against Hussain and said an apology should also be tendered.

BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said, "Such hateful comments highlight the low and shallowness to which the Congress' mindset has fallen".

Hussain said during his speech, he had spoken about the problems of unemployment, rising inflation, farmers issues in the country.

"I talked about how people are being divided on the basis of religion and the atmosphere in the country is being vitiated. I spoke about what happened in Gujarat when Modiji was the chief minister of that state. I was saying all this truth and then said a phrase which was not against our prime minister. It was just a phrase," he said.

Sheikh also questioned why no FIR has been filed against suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma over her remarks against Prophet Mohammad.

"The whole country is demanding action in this case. So many people agitated and got jailed," he said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Two Militants

June 2, this year.

He also revealed that Jan Mohd was earlier working as OGW of LeT's district commander Adil Ramzan and he killed Bank manager on the direction of said LeT commander," the IGP said.

After the killing of bank manager Vijay Kumar, the IGP said that Lone actively joined the "terror rank" and since then police were tracking him.

About the second slain militant Tufail Nazir Ganie, the IGP said that he had earlier escaped from two encounters at Chaki Samad and Khur-Batpora area of Kulgam in April this year.

Giving details of the encounter, the spokesperson said that the joint team started a cordon and search operation in the village on the basis of specific information about the presence of militants.

The hiding militants, he said, fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party when they approached towards the suspected spot. In the retaliatory fire, he said, both the militants were killed.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 01 AK-47 rifle and 01 Pistol were recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe their complicity in other terror crimes," the spokesperson said.

In this regard, he said, Police have registered a case under relevant sections of law and investigation has been initiated.

"People are requested to cooperate with police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared off of all the explosive materials, if any," the spokesperson added.

Meanwhile, searches continued in Mishipora area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district where few gun shots were heard on Wednesday morning after night long lull.

A senior Police told a local news agency GNS that firing resumed at encounter site early morning and then there was again lull.

"Two militants are possibly trapped at the site and one of them was involved in killing Rajni Bala, a school teacher," the officer added.

36-year-old Rajni Bala wife of Raj Kumar, a resident of Samba in Jammu, was shot dead by suspected militants at High school Gopalpora in Kulgam on 31st May this year.

The encounter had ensued on Tuesday and was suspended due to darkness.

Cop Injured In

His condition is said to be stable.

Soon after the attack, the police and CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in the area to nab the militants, reports said.

NIA Searches

Baramulla and Poonch.

The trade has been suspended since April 2019.

The spokesperson said digital devices along with incriminating documents have been seized during the searches in Baramulla and Kupwara districts.

"Further investigation in the case continues," the spokesperson said.

EC Sets The

delimitation, some of the earlier polling stations may come under more than one new constituency or may be completely shifted to another constituency.

The polling stations will be mapped accordingly.

The appointment of booth level officers and

their proper training will be done by July 5.

Verification and rationalisation of polling booths will be done by July 25.

Finally, the draft rolls need to be prepared by August 31, sources said.

During the revision exercise, citizens would be given opportunities to enrol, delete and change their particulars in the electoral rolls.

Last month, the central government had issued a notification saying that the orders of the Delimitation Commission which redraw electoral constituencies and provided six additional assembly seats to Jammu division and one to Kashmir would come into effect from May 20.

According to the orders of the Delimitation Commission, set up under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019, the union territory will have 90 assembly constituencies -- 43 in Jammu Division and 47 in Kashmir -- with nine of them being reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.

The erstwhile legislative assembly had 87 seats -- 46 in Kashmir, 37 in Jammu and four in Ladakh. In the reorganisation of the erstwhile state, Ladakh was declared as a separate union territory without a legislature.

The three-member delimitation panel was headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, a retired judge of the Supreme Court. Then Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra (now retired) and Jammu and Kashmir Election Commissioner K K Sharma were its two ex-officio members.

Five Jammu and Kashmir Lok Sabha members -- three from the National Conference and two from the BJP -- were associate members of the commission.

The panel submitted its final report on May 5, just a day before its two-year tenure was to end.

Explosives Recovered

police station and further investigation is underway, the spokesperson said.

The officials said the bus was coming from Doda to Jammu when it was stopped for checking by a police team.

At least two persons were detained for questioning in connection with the presence of the explosive material in the bus along with some detonators, they said.

Nomination Process

The nominated members of either Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha or legislative assemblies of the states are not eligible to be included in the electoral college and, therefore, they are not entitled to participate in the election. Similarly, members of the legislative councils are also not electors for the presidential election.

While voting takes place in Parliament House and state legislative assemblies, the counting of votes is held in the national capital.

Leaders of some major political parties held hectic parleys on Tuesday ahead of a meeting called by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee here on Wednesday to forge a consensus for fielding a joint candidate against the NDA in the presidential election, a move that has exposed the fault lines within the opposition.

Mamata Proposes

As many as 17 opposition parties attended the crucial meeting of opposition parties to build consensus on fielding a joint candidate against the BJP-led NDA in the presidential election.

Leaders of the Congress, Samajwadi Party, NCP, DMK, RJD and the Left parties attended

the over two-hour-long meeting called by the Trinamool Congress supremo, while the AAP, SAD, AIMIM, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) and Odisha's ruling BJD skipped it.

Leaders of Shiv Sena, CPI, CPI(M), CPI(ML), National Conference, PDP, JD(S), RSP, IUML, RLD and the JMM were among those who attended the meeting, which took place on the day the nomination for the presidential election began. The election would be held on July 18.

"Leaders of all parties requested Sharad Pawar to contest the President's election and be the joint candidate, but he declined the offer," DMK leader T R Baalu told reporters after the meeting.

He said some leaders have requested that Mallikarjun Kharge, Pawar and Banerjee negotiate and discuss the issue of a consensus opposition candidate for the presidential election with all non-BJP parties.

RJD's Manoj Jha, however, said the leaders would convince Pawar to reconsider the offer as he was the right candidate.

CPI's Binoy Viswam said, "There was consensus in the meeting that there should be only one candidate who is acceptable to all".

He said that only Sharad Pawar's name came up during the meeting.

RSP's NK Premchandran, however, said that Banerjee later also suggested the names of Farooq Abdullah and Gopalkrishna Gandhi as possible opposition candidates.

The leaders who attended the meeting included Sharad Pawar and Praful Patel of the NCP, Mallikarjun Kharge, Jairam Ramesh and Randeep Surjewala of the Congress, H D Deve Gowda and H D Kumaraswamy of the JD(S), Akhilesh Yadav of the SP, Mehbooba Mufti of the PDP and Omar Abdullah of the National Conference.

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) skipped the meeting at the Constitution Club in the national capital, besides the Aam Aadmi Party, TRS, AIMIM and the BJD.

The meeting which began at 3 pm ended a little after 5 PM.

Banerjee last week invited leaders of 19 political parties, including seven chief ministers, for the meeting in the national capital to produce a "confluence of opposition voices" for the July 18 election.

A day ahead of the meeting, Banerjee and Left party leaders had met Pawar at his residence separately to try and convince him to be the common opposition candidate for the top constitutional post.

With the ruling NDA having about half the votes of the electoral college and the possible support of fence-sitters like the BJD, AIADMK and YSR, its candidate is likely to sail through the contest.

Curfew Relaxed

of meetings between socio-religious organisations and the civil-police administration during which both the communities, including representatives of Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha in Bhaderwah, Anjuman-e-Islamia and senior citizens council called for maintaining peace and brotherhood.

Officials said the meeting was also attended by Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vikas Sharma and Senior Superintendent of Police Abdul Qayoom.

During the meeting, Senior citizens Council Bhadarwah urged the administration to relax the curfew to allow people to buy essential commodities.

Shops and business establishments reopened soon after the relaxation was announced and people were seen making purchases, officials said, adding security forces are deployed in

strength and are keeping a close watch on the situation.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Kishtwar, Shafqat Hussain Bhat said the day curfew was lifted from Kishtwar town early this morning.

The curfew was relaxed for one-and-a-half hours on Monday and five hours on Tuesday and there was no untoward incident reported from anywhere during the relaxation period.

"After 5-hours relaxation yesterday (Tuesday), a full day relaxation was given in curfew today and the situation in the entire district is normal," the SSP said.

50 Men Hunting

angry relatives blocking the Srinagar-Uri highway against the alleged inaction by the wildlife department.

Before Rutba, 15-year-old Muneer Ahmad of Kalsan was also killed by the feline in the same area.

On Sunday night, the body of 13-year-old Shahid Ahmad was recovered from the forests of Trikanjan in Boniyar. Ahmad had been grazing his cattle when he was attacked by the big cat.

The leopard, which is suspected to be roaming the Sri forests.

Following the incident, an emergency meeting was held at the office of the Deputy Commissioner Baramulla which was attended by civil and police administration officials.

The participating members, led by DC Baramulla Sehrish Asgar, devise a joint strategy to capture or kill the beasts involved in killing the children.

Naqash told Kashmir Observer that this is an "unpredictable" animal and can strike anywhere and anytime. "...So it is important to take precaution and be aware," he added.

Naqash said in two cases in Uri, the kids were sent to forest for grazing their cattle.

Harvinder Singh, Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Uri told Kashmir Observer that the families of the victims will be provided compensation of over 4 lakh rupees.

He said the train of Uri is tough and it's difficult to locate the animal but they have deployed the men in specific areas to catch the animal.

He said over four stationery teams and one mobile team has been also deployed to track the movement of the leopard.

In the last 15 years, 230 people have lost their lives while over 2800 have been injured in the man-animal conflict across J&K. 18 people were killed and 134 injured in 2006-07. The worst years have been 2011-12 and 2013-14 when at least 28 people were killed in such conflicts.

Gol Keen Towards

Uday Baskar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar, SSP Baramulla Rayees Mohammad and other senior functionaries of the administration.

According to the spokesperson, the transit camp, having the accommodation facility for about 320 families, shall be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 40.32 Crores in which 192 flats will be completed in December of this year while rest of the flats will be completed in March next year.

While terming the people of Kashmir having loving and accommodative nature, the Minister, as per the spokesperson said that time has come when the people of different faiths and beliefs live with peace and prosperity.

"He said that unity in diversity as envisaged in 'Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav' initiative, is the only unifying factor for a strong nation," he said.

Pertinent to mention that Union MoS was on a two day's visit to Baramulla district as part of the Union Government's special public outreach programme which aims to evoke feedback from different stakeholders besides listening to their developmental aspirations and other concerns.

According to the spokesperson, the Minister said that youth of Kashmir have immense potential to contribute in nation building and there is a need to provide appropriate platforms for harnessing it in a right and constructive way.

Pramanik, he said, also reiterated upon the government's commitment of empowering youth by means of various youth engagement activities and said that various programmes are in pipeline which will enable our youth to perform progressively.

"He also said that the future of every nation rests on its youth and they need to identify their role for the upliftment of the nation," he said.

While enlisting various interventions taken by the present dispensation, he said, the Minister also stated that the government is committed to provide all facilities including sophisticated infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir for sports related activities so that the youth are engaged in sports and build their careers in it.

"Later, the MoS laid the foundation stone of Residential Apartments (2BHK) for BDCs at Veerwan Baramulla being established at an estimated cost of Rs. 633.44 lacs which has been highly applauded by PRIs and other concerned stakeholders," the spokesperson said.

"The Minister also paid surprise visit to a local tea shop where he took a cup of tea along with some senior officers. The move was taken as an austerity measure in order to foster and promote the friendly interaction between Govt and general public besides bridging the gap between the two," he added.

Top Army Commander

Army Commander also addressed the media on the contours of Agnee Veer initiative of the Armed Forces.

"The Army Commander during his interaction with the troops over tea complimented the soldiers for the conduct of just operations with precision, ensuring zero collateral damage. He was appreciative of the excellent Soldier – Citizen connect activities, which have resulted in overall reduction in the terrorist recruitments," he said.

The spokesperson further said that the Army Commander arrived at Chinar Corps Headquarters later in the day where he was briefed by GOC Chinar Corps on the overall security situation and measures instituted to counter adversaries' design.

Three Teenage

moved towards Chenab River and later drowned.

Officials added that a major rescue and search operation was launched after the incident and the body of one of the drowned teenage boy has been recovered so far.

Officials further said that a search and rescue operation is going on at a massive level to retrieve other bodies.

Youth Found

SHO Surankote Niaz Ahmed confirmed to a local news agency GNS the recovery of the body and said that proceedings have been launched.

Unity Between Various Sections Only Way To Fight Challenges: Dr Farooq

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday asked the people of Jammu and Kashmir to forge unity and fight for the common challenges together.

The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir also said his party will continue to fight for the restoration of erstwhile state's special status, which was revoked by the Centre in 2019.

"I see no way of achieving anything in J-K without a lasting unity between different sections of our society. We have to stop seeing ourselves as Hindu-Muslim, Shia-Suni, Bareli-Deobandi, Kashmiri-Dogra," Abdullah said at a party function here.

The NC president said unity in diversity is the only mantra to end the problems that crop up in the guise of poverty, unemployment and development.

"Our mutual discord will make our descent into darkness. Divided we cannot achieve anything, let alone get back our abridged constitutional and democratic rights," he said.

Abdullah, also the Lok Sabha



MP from Srinagar, said people, particularly the political class, have to see beyond the pale of their immediate narrow interests and work for what holds greater good for all sections of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The crescendo built up by the incumbent while rescinding our unique constitutional status has fizzled out. We witnessed towering promises made by the incumbent government getting buried without even a whimper.

"People have only been bombarded with overly-charged emotive rhetorical jingoism whose shrillness on the audibility scale has crossed all limits. Where is that progress? Where are those promised jobs? Where is the promised largess that was supposed to bridge Dil ki Duri and Dili Ki Doori?" he said.

Amarnath Yatra

Nitishwar Kumar Inspects Arrangements At Nunwan



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor on Wednesday visited Nunwan base camp to take stock of Shri Amarnathji Yatra arrangements.

The Principal Secretary, accompanied by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Sh Pandurang K Pole, and HoDs of Health and Tourism department, inspected Nunwan base camp and took stock of pitching of tents, security deployment, sanitation facilities, electricity and drinking water supply. He also inspected the arrangements at Frisking point Sarbal.

The Principal Secretary, who

is also the CEO of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, held a meeting with the camp directors of various camps on the Pahalgam axis. He was informed that preparations are going on as per plan.

The Principal Secretary directed the camp directors to maintain a close synergy with officials from various departments and regularly review the arrangements at their camps to ensure all facilities are in place before the commencement of the Yatra.

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr Piyush Singla; SSP Anantnag, Ashish Mishra, senior officials from various line departments among others were present on the occasion.

Former Minister, Others Call On LG Sinha

SRINAGAR: A delegation of JK NYC Employees Association led by former Minister, Sunil Sharma; and Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson and Head Policy Research, Wednesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan here.

The members of JK NYC delegation apprised the Lt Governor about their concerning issues and formulation of a policy for them.

Meanwhile, Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson and Head Policy Research, also met the Lt Governor and discussed with him various issues pertaining to welfare of the people of the UT.

Jasrotia expressed his gratitude towards the Lt Governor for the

dynamic and reformatory policies for the people of J&K. He said that UT is witnessing a new era of development and complimented the administration for implementing a progressive industrial policy and initiative of CLU which will maximize investments and generate ample opportunities for local youth in coming times.

The Lt Governor while interacting with the members of the delegation assured them of appropriate redressal of their genuine grievances on merit. He further observed that UT Government is working continuously for ensuring equitable development of all regions with welfare benefits percolating to all sections of society.

No Fuel Shortage In Kashmir: Admin

Syed Mohammad Burhan

SRINAGAR: Director Food and Supplies Department, Abdul Salam on Wednesday refuted the claims of fuel shortage in the Kashmir Valley.

The official remarks came on the heels of the claims by some commuters alleging that some petrol pumps in and around Srinagar city are running short of fuel causing inconvenience to people.

Media reports had also suggested limited supply of fuel in the international market caused by the war in Ukraine.

Pertinently, there are three companies which supply fuel to vehicles in India—Indian Oil Corporation limited, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, spokesperson Kashmir Valley Petroleum Dealers Association, Bilal Ahmad Bhat said Oil companies are facing losses because of war between Ukraine and Russia.



"Oil companies are facing a loss of Rs 25 to 28 per liter in the international market and there is a limited supply of fuel and the companies are telling oil pumps it sell to vehicle owners only," Bilal said.

"Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum are facing shortages in the country. In Kashmir, there are some fuel pumps which are owned by Indian Oil Corporation so the fuel shortage caused at other pumps cannot be seen."

In the coming days, Bhat said, there is probability that fuel prices will increase.

Media reports also suggest Rajasthan, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and

J&K are among the states where fuel shortage is a problem.

"This is an international crisis, the state and central governments have very little or no control over it," Bilal said.

However, Director F&S Department Abdul Salam said there is no fuel shortage in the valley.

"I have talked to the officials and there is no dearth of fuel in Kashmir valley," Salam said. "This is rumor mongering and people are not going to face any such problem. It looks like the dealers have seen fuel prices increasing and may want to stock fuel for the purpose of black marketing, we will not allow that. I have talked to the officials from the Indian Oil Corporation and they are not facing any such shortage. But yes, Bharat Petroleum is having some minor issues which will be addressed in day."

People are not going to face any problem with regards to availability of fuel, he clarified.

Amarnath Yatra

ADGP-Railways Directs For Contingency Plan To Foil Any Militant Act

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Emphasizing on fool-proof security arrangements at railway stations during the upcoming Amarnath Yatra, Jammu and Kashmir Additional Director General of Police (Railways) Sunil Kumar on Wednesday called for chalking out a contingency plan to repulse any militant act during the 43-day pilgrimage starting from June 30.

Kumar was speaking at a meeting convened to review the security arrangements at railway stations and in the entire area of responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP) Jammu, a spokesperson of the force said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, GRP, Jammu, Mohammad Arif Rishu briefed the ADGP regarding the security preparedness in connection with the yatra.

Kumar directed the officers to maintain heightened alertness round-the-clock to ensure peaceful travel of pilgrims on trains and their brief halts at various railway stations.

He emphasized on foolproof security arrangements at all the places, especially at Jammu railway station, and stressed for a contingency plan to repulse any militant act.

He asked the officers to deal with pilgrims and other passengers with humbleness and

be available round-the-clock for any assistance to them.

The ADGP also listened to the grievances of jawans and assured redressal of the grievances on priority.

Kumar, along with Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Northern Railways, A N Mishra, will be on a three-day visit to GRP units in Katra and Udhampur.

They will be visiting various sites, including Sumbur, Sangaldan and Chenab Dugga bridge to inspect the upcoming infrastructure for various Railway Protection Force and GRP posts along the under construction rail link from Katra to Banihal, the spokesperson said.

Decision To Close Schools Run By Jama'at Affiliate Discriminatory: Sajad Lone

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference president Sajad Lone on Wednesday termed "discriminatory" the government's decision to close schools run by the Falah-e-Aam Trust (FAT) and said selective crackdown on institutions which have religious affiliations was grossly unfair and unjust.

An order was passed by Jammu and Kashmir School Education Secretary B K Singh on Monday directing cessation of academic activities in FAT-affiliated schools and asking chief education officers of various districts to seal the institutions within 15 days in consultation with the district administrations.

"Selectively cracking down on institutions which have religious affiliations is grossly unfair and unjust. The administration must understand that J-K is an overwhelmingly Muslim majority state. They cannot possibly ban every institution because they have a bias against Muslims," Lone said here.

Noting that the move was



discriminatory, he said, "It seems that they are intentionally targeting Kashmiris for petty electoral gains in the rest of the country."

The FAT, according to the officials, is an affiliate of radical outfit Jamat-e-Islami (JeI) which is proscribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the provisions of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

To a question, Lone said that now-suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma's remarks on Prophet Mohammad were absolutely shameful and reprehensible.

"It is unfortunate that the BJP is sensitive to the criticism by the Arab countries while completely ignoring the sentiments

of Muslims living in India. It is a matter of shame that the BJP apologised only when there was a diplomatic backlash from Muslim countries.

"Ideally in a democracy, the government should have voluntarily taken action against its spokespersons for hurting the religious sentiments of Muslim citizens of this country," he said.

Lone claimed that the "woes" of the common people were mounting with each passing day and said the administration needed to go beyond rhetoric and make sincere efforts to engage with the people of Jammu and Kashmir for a lasting solution to the present challenges.

"The situation is tense and there is palpable fear... We have seen such phases in the past as well. However, there is a certain aloofness with which the current administration is being identified," he said.

Earlier in the day, more than three dozen workers of the National Conference from Kupwara district joined the People's Conference.

Tibetan-Origin Monk Inciting Communal Hatred In Ladakh: KDA

Observer News Service

KARGIL: Residents of Kargil are up in arms against a Tibetan origin Buddhist monk from Leh who has started a 'Pad Yatra' to lay a foundation of a monastery in Kargil. Within the radius of 20 kilometers of the land in question, not a single Buddhist resides and yet as per 'Kargil Democratic Alliance' the politically motivated yatra led by a person who is an outsider and has nothing at stake is not being stopped by authorities.

The Co-Chairmen of Kargil Democratic Alliance—an association of social, religious and political organizations, Qamar Ali Akhooon and Asghar Ali Karbalai have written to the Deputy Commissioner conveying their apprehensions that the march is politically motivated and could disturb communal harmony in Ladakh.

The letter which is in possession of Kashmir Observer states that the KDA held a meeting with representatives of the Ladakh Buddhist Association (LBA) regarding the Gampa construction and both parties agreed the issue must be resolved amicably. It went on to add that under

such circumstances, a third person having no stake in the matter was trying to disrupt peace in the region.

"What makes things worse is the fake propaganda run by some vested interest in mainstream media. There was a clear order from the then government in 1969 that land allotted to Buddhists could only be used for the construction of residential or commercial buildings. The order prohibits religious construction on the land," a leader from Kargil told a local news agency.

He said the 'Pad-Yatra' from an outsider is nothing but aimed at creating communal divisions in Ladakh.

"Buddhists do not live within 20 km of the land and that the current building there is a Buddhist guest house and should remain so," he concluded.

Earlier, a section of online media had claimed that Buddhists in Ladakh have been staging massive protests as Muslims are not allowing them to renovate a monastery in Kargil.

Ladakh Buddhist Association leader, Skarma Dadul has said that they do not want to create any tension in the region.

Chief Secretary Launches 'JK Mobile Seva' Initiative

Asks All Departments To Extensively Use m-Seva Services For Disseminating Information On Their Respective Welfare Schemes

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Chief Secretary, Dr.

Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday launched the 'Mobile Seva' services in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, with an aim to mainstream mobile governance for delivery of public services.



The launch of m-seva marks an important milestone in the mobile-governance in Jammu & Kashmir. The m-seva platform will be used to reach out to citizens and promote proactive citizen engagements by leveraging the mobile penetration in population, especially in remote areas. The informative SMS texts will be sent in English, Hindi and Urdu languages.

This initiative will use a single-SMS gateway (JKGOVT) to communicate with citizens instead of extending similar services through different departments with different IDs. "This will benefit citizens to keep a track of Government-to-Citizen (G2C) communications, and receive timely updates in a transparent manner", Dr. Mehta observed.

The Chief Secretary mentioned that the 'Mobile Seva' is

a countrywide initiative under enable all government departments and agencies to provide services through various mobile channels such as short message service (SMS), integrated voice response system (IVRS), Geo fencing, and other mobile applications.

Further, the Chief Secretary directed all departments to use m-seva platform for disseminating information on their respective welfare and developmental schemes to enhance coverage and encourage participatory governance through direct government-citizen contact.

It was informed that the IT Department will act as the nodal Department and will continue to add new departmental services towards achieving saturation in a time-bound manner.

Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Administrative Secretary, Information Technology Department, Administrative Secretary Public Grievances Department, CEO J&KeGA, besides officials from J&KeGA, SeMT, and Information Technology Department were present on the occasion.

Several Injured As School Bus Overturns In Mughal Road Accident

LG Prays For Speedy Recovery Of Injured, Says Direction For Best Possible Treatment Issued

Agencies

SHOPIAN: Several students were injured after a school bus turned turtle near Dubjan Bridge on Mughal road in Shopian district on Wednesday.

An official said that a school bus of Smart Mission High School, Ghasipura Wunpora, Anantnag toppled near Dubjan Bridge.

He said that soon after the incident 15 Garhwal Dubjan Camp, a medical team rushed to the incident site and provided first aid to the students.

He said that in the incident, several students besides a teacher were injured in the incident and they were rushed to district hospital Shopian from where two students and a teacher were shifted to SMHS Srinagar.

He identified injured students who were shifted to SMHS as Farhan Fayaz son of Fayaz Ahmad Dar resident of Ganjipora Anantnag who has injury on forehead and Rabid

Reyaz son of Reyaz Ahmad Bhat resident of Manigam with head injury besides teacher Tanveer Ahmad who was shifted to SMHS Srinagar in unconscious state.

He further added that other students were injured in the incident were treated at district hospital Shopian and their condition is stable.

Meanwhile police has taken cognizance of the incident and started investigation.

Moreover, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha praying for the speedy recovery of the injured, said that necessary directions for best possible treatment of injured students has been issued.

"Spoke to district administration on accident of a Anantnag school bus at Dubjan bridge, Shopian. Issued necessary direction for best possible treatment of injured students. One injured student has been shifted to SMHS hospital. Praying for their speedy recovery," Office of LG J&K tweeted—(KNO)

SVAMITVA: A Scheme To Formulate Better Gram Panchayat Development Plans

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Survey of Villages Abadi & Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) is designed for empowering the villagers and land owners of J&K to access the revenue records of their properties, obviating the dependence on human interface, had emerged as a great success in Jammu and Kashmir and people here are taking due benefits out of it.

SVAMITVA is a property card with legal sanctity, an authoritative source reflective of record of ownership as well as possession. The scheme encompassing the length and breadth of the Union Territory involves the use of

modern technology for surveys, extraction of data and final compilation of the records for public use.

SVAMITVA is one of the latest initiatives in the government of India's reforms in Land Records. It is a technology based scheme which changes the rural landscape in terms of quick and convenient access to the land owners, especially those living in Abadi-deh. The initiative also helps in eliminating corruption and hence, it is another step towards people-friendly, transparent, corruption-free governance as promised to people of J&K.

Under SVAMITVA, Srinagar district has become the first district in the country to achieve 100 percent saturation under

the Survey of Villages Abadi & Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) Yojna.

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha recently said that Srinagar district has become the first district in the country to achieve 100 percent property cards generation/distribution to the landowners.

SVAMITVA is a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj, launched nation-wide by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on National Panchayati Raj Day on 24th April 2021.

The Scheme will help towards establishing a clear ownership of property in rural inhabited (Abadi) areas, by mapping of land parcels using drone technology

and providing 'Record of Rights' to village household owners with issuance of legal ownership cards (Property cards/Title deeds) to the property owners.

The scheme covers multifarious aspects like Facilitating monetisation of properties and enabling bank loan; reducing property related disputes; comprehensive village level planning, among others. This initiative is a stepping-stone towards achieving Gram Swaraj in true sense and making rural India Atmanirbhar

The scheme will also help in preparation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by making use of GIS maps besides creation of accurate land records for rural

planning and reduce property related disputes.

"It will also bring financial stability to the citizens in rural India by enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits", an official said.

Land is an essential resource for any economic activity aimed at creation of material wealth in the world. Lack of clearly demarcated Abadi area has led to high number of land-conflict cases everywhere. As per reports, millions of people suffer the impact of land conflicts across India and the World. The SVAMITVA Scheme aims to address the root cause for disputes at local level.

Under this initiative, high-resolution digital maps for better

LG Meets Para Athlete Irfan Ahmad Mir



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday met Para Athlete and sportsperson, Irfan Ahmad Mir from Pulwama, at the Raj Bhavan.

During the interaction, Irfan Mir discussed with the LG various matters pertaining to promotion and development of sports facilities for specially-abled sportspersons and athletes in J&K.

Irfan Mir, despite being visually impaired, had scaled Siachen Glacier, along with a team of seven other specially-abled persons and was mentioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his "Mann

Ki Baat" radio programme.

Appreciating the grit and determination of the Para Athlete who also represented India in international cricket series for the blind, the LG assured him of every possible support through the Department of Youth Services and Sports.

"UT administration is committed to provide best sporting ecosystem vis-a-vis stadiums, trained coaches, exposure tours etc. to all the youth, especially specially-abled sportspersons and athletes," he added.

The LG extended his good wishes to Irfan Mir for success in his future endeavours.

Water Skiing Course In Manasbal Lake Launched



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir on Wednesday inaugurated water skiing course/water sports in Manasbal Lake which is being organised by the Wullar Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA) in collaboration with Indian Institute of Skiing & Mountaineering (IISM) here at Manasbal.

Students from IISM and local unemployed youths residing around Manasbal Lake participated in the training course which shall continue till 4 July 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said the water Skiing train-

ing course/water sports event is aimed to generate awareness about the sports potential of manasbal lake besides, promoting watersports and tourism in the area.

He urged the local youth to register themselves with the IISM for such courses which is the best platform for them to showcase their talents.

CEO Manasbal Development Authority, GM Bhat said that such events would be conducted in future also with the IISM and other Sports Departments to boost the tourist foot fall in the area for the upliftment of the socio-economic condition in the adjoining areas.

SAI Mandates NSFs To Tag Woman Coach With Female Athletes During Travel

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Jolted by two harassment complaints by female athletes against their respective coaches, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) on Wednesday made it mandatory for National Sports Federations (NSFs) to include a woman coach in the contingents, if women are competing at home and abroad.

In light of the recent events, SAI Director General Sandip Pradhan had on Monday interacted with the officials of more than 15 NSFs, which will field athletes in the upcoming Commonwealth Games, to discuss the new protocols.

A female cyclist had recently accused chief coach R K Sharma of "inappropriate behaviour" in Slovenia and had also filed an FIR against him. The coach was sacked and is facing a detailed investigation.

A female sailor had also complained that her coach made her uncomfortable during training trip in Germany though she did not complain of any sexual harassment.

According to SAI release, the NSFs have been entrusted with a few "responsibilities" that include: "Women Coach to mandatorily accompany the contingent with female athletes during Domestic/International Travel."

NSFs have been asked to appoint Compliance Officer (male & female) at all National Coaching Camps and Foreign Exposures.

The roles and responsi-



bilities of the Compliance Officer will include communicating regularly with athletes and others to ensure that the guidelines are being followed as well as enforce the Standard Operating Procedure on prevention of sexual harassment in sports.

"Among other duties, they should ensure that if any member reports a violation, the same should be reported earliest to the responsible authorities," the release added.

The Federations have also been asked to design "pre-camp sensitization modules and present them to all athletes, coaches and support staffs together before commencement of any National Coaching Camp and Foreign Exposure."

SAI also asked the NSFs to have more representation of women in their coaching departments.

"The guidelines will help ensure a safe and positive environment, making all stakeholders aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behaviour consistent with the core values of sportsmanship and appropriate moral conduct."

"SAI views ethical conduct as a cornerstone in the fair administration of the sporting disciplines," the release added.

Hardik Pandya To Lead India In Ireland

- ▶ Rahul Tripathi gets maiden call-up
- ▶ Samson makes comeback

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Indian Premier League winning captain Hardik Pandya was deservedly named skipper of the Indian team for the two-match T20 International series against Ireland in Dublin on June 26 and 28.

The only new face in the side is Maharashtra right-hand batter Rahul Tripathi, who was rewarded for his stellar batting during this edition of IPL where he scored more than 400 runs for Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Pandya, who is Rishabh Pant's deputy in the current T20I series against South Africa, was elevated to the leadership role and will join the Test squad in England after the completion of the home series.

Sanju Samson, whose profligacy has been well documented over the years, gets another shot at redemption, as he made a comeback for the series, having guided Rajasthan Royals to



the IPL final.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar has been named vice-captain for the series.

The designated wicketkeeper will be 36-year-old Dinesh Karthik if one goes by the squad list, while both Ishan Kishan and Samson can keep wickets if need be.

Samson's keeping isn't considered up to the mark, so he could well be the third keeper

in the mix.

India's T20I squad: Hardik Pandya (Captain), Bhuvneshwar Kumar (vice-captain), Ishan Kishan, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Sanju Samson, Suryakumar Yadav, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Dinesh Karthik (wicket-keeper), Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Umran Malik.

ICC Rankings: Ishan Kishan Enters Top-10, Joe Root Tops Tests

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: India opener Ishan Kishan climbed up 68 places to grab the seventh spot among batters, while the bowling duo of Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Yuzvendra Chahal also made gains in the latest ICC T20 rankings released on Wednesday.

Kishan, who has been one of India's consistent performers in the ongoing T20I home series against South Africa, aggregating 164 runs in three matches including two half-centuries, has made a massive jump to enter the top 10 among T20 batters.

The 23-year-old is the lone Indian batter in the top 10 with KL Rahul occupying the 14 spot.

Skipper Rohit Sharma and Shreyas Iyer have dropped a place each to 16th and 17th spots respectively, while Virat Kohli has slid two places to 21st.

Among bowlers, Bhuvneshwar is up seven places to 11th while leg-spinner Chahal has climbed up four places to 26th.

Australia's Josh Hazlewood has regained his number one spot among T20 bowlers, while Maheesh Theekshana of Sri Lanka is up 16 places to eighth in the list.

In the Test rankings, pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has moved a spot to third, behind compatriot Ravichandran Ashwin, who re-



mains static on number two. Ravindra Jadeja and Ashwin, however, continue to occupy the top two spots in the all rounders' list.

Rohit and Kohli retained their seventh and 10 spots respectively among batters while England's Joe Root is back at the top after smashing a second successive century in the ongoing ICC World Test Championship series against New Zealand.

Root, who had reached within striking distance of Marnus Labuschagne after the first Test, has wrested back the top spot from the Australia batter, whom he now leads by five rating points.

Root is on 897 points after his knock of 176 in the first innings of the Nottingham Test, 20 less than his highest of 917 points.

Root first grabbed the number one position in August 2015 and was last at the top in December



2021 before Labuschagne leapfrogged him. He has been No.1 in Tests for 163 days so far. Steve Smith (1,506 days), Kohli (469 days) and Kane Williamson (245 days) are the others to have had substantial vigils at the top in recent years.

Root's compatriots, player-of-the-match Jonny Bairstow and captain Ben Stokes have also had major gains.

Bairstow's 92-ball 136 that led England's last day chase for an eventual five-wicket win, has moved up 13 places to 39th position while Stokes' 75 not out has taken him from 27th to 22nd position.

Ollie Pope (up 22 places to 53rd) and Alex Lees (up 26 places to 86th) have also moved up the rankings for batters while seam bowler Matthew Potts has advanced 18 places to 59th after picking up three wickets in the match.

Cricket Yorkshire Charged By ECB After Investigation Into Racism Claims



Agencies

LONDON: Yorkshire and a "number of individuals" were charged by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on Wednesday following the governing body's investigation into how the county dealt with racism allegations made by former player Azeem Rafiq.

The ECB did not name any of the people involved in a statement issued on Wednesday.

The board said the charges arose from alleged breaches of the ECB's anti-discrimination code as well as rules concerned with the conduct of players and officials.

The governing body added that an independent panel of the Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) would now hear the cases, expected to take place in September and October.

The ECB said it was standard practice for the CDC panel to publish its decisions and written reasons in full.

Pakistan-born former off-spinner Rafiq first raised allegations of racism and bullying in September 2020, related to his two spells at Yorkshire.

It was not until a year later that the club finally released a statement saying the retired player had been the victim of "racial harassment and bullying", upholding seven of his 43 allegations.

But the following month, the club confirmed nobody would be disciplined, a decision that was greeted with widespread incredulity.

Pressure mounted on Yorkshire, leading to a mass clear-out of senior boardroom figures and coaching staff at its Headingley headquarters.

Earlier this month, however, former Yorkshire coach Andrew Gale won a claim for unfair dismissal, leaving the club facing the prospect of paying out huge sums in compensation.

The ECB had previously warned Yorkshire it was prepared to remove lucrative England international matches from Headingley unless the club made changes.

But those games, including next week's third Test against New Zealand and a one-day international against South Africa in July, are set to go ahead as scheduled after a package of governance reforms was approved. (AFP)

India Coach Stimac Hits Out At AIFF After Asian Cup Qualification

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Indian football team head coach Igor Stimac has lashed out at the messy state of affairs grappling the national federation (AIFF), a day after his side qualified for AFC Asian Cup for the second consecutive time.

The AIFF is currently run by the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) after the Praful Patel-led federation was found to have violated the National Sports Code.

While an immediate suspension by FIFA because of third-party intervention is out of cards, Stimac questioned the timing of the issue, which has cast a shadow on India's qualification for a prestigious tournament like the AFC Asian Cup.

"For such an important tournament, was this the time to do this? Was anybody thinking how that could affect the dressing room and the players?" Stimac asked, referring to AIFF's current state of affairs.



"I am not getting into who is right and who is wrong. It is not my job. I am just talking about timing. At such an important time, such a thing is happening, is anyone normal?" "Nothing would have happened if they were waiting for three more weeks after having waited so many years," he said.

The 54-year-old, whose contract has been extended till September, also minced no words when asked about his future.

"We had no time to talk about contracts. We don't even have a board. Nobody thought about how that drama could affect the players," the Croatian said.

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