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Turkish Burger Now Taste Mediterranean Flavour in Srinagar

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



Quote!

A clever person solves a problem and a wise person avoids it

- Albert Einstein

NEWS DIGST

J&K Logs 68 **New Covid Cases**

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 68 fresh COVID-19 cases on Tuesday that pushed its infection tally to 4,54,933, officials here said. While 53 cases were reported from the Jammu division of the union territory, 15 were reported from the Kashmir valley, they said. The death toll due to the viral disease remained unchanged at 4,756, the officials said. There are 405 active COVID-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir. More on P6

Two Migrant Labourers Fall To Death

SRINAGAR: Two migrant labourers died after falling off the roof of a cold store of SIDCO in Lassipora area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, officials said here on Tuesday. An official said that two persons fell off from the roof of cold store of SIDCO late last night and they were rushed to a nearby hospital, where they were declared dead on arrival, reported news agency KNO. He identified the More on P6

SIA Books SIM Card Vendor In Kupwara

SRINAGAR: State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Tuesday booked a SIM card vendor in Kupwara district of North Kashmir. "In the face of ever increasing misuse of SIM cards by (militants), their OGW associates, narcotics smugglers and other criminals, SIA of J&K Police, today conducted searches at two locations in Kupwara district in connection with case FIR No. 14/2022 U/s 13 UA(P) Act, 120-B, 420,468,471 IPC of Police Station More on P6

Biker Killed In **Bandipora Accident**

SRINAGAR: A young motorcyclist died in a road accident in Rakhi Asham area of Sumbal in North Kashmir's Bandipora district this afternoon. News agency GNS reported that a bike rider identified as Adil Ahmad Dar. son of Ab. Ahad Dar, a resident of Haritar village of Sopore, lost control over the motorcycle, which he was riding, resulting in on-spot death of the youth. Moreover, the body of the deceased has been brought to CHC Sumbal for the completion of medico-legal formalities. Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the More on P6

Amarnath Yatra Begins Under 5-Tier Security

LG Likely To Flag Off First Batch Of Pilgrims From Jammu Today



A CRPF man standing guard outside a Yatri camp in Pantha Chowk area of Srinagar on Tuesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: A five-layer security arrangement, including sharpshooters, drone and CCTV surveillance has been put in place Iammu and Kashmir to ensure

smooth and incident-free conduct of annual Amarnath yatra beginning on Thursday after three year suspension.

According to officials, the first batch of pilgrims bound for the Amarnath More on P6

Hundreds Of Pilgrims Arrive In Jammu

hants of "Bam Bam Bhole" and "Jai Barfani Baba ki" rented the air as hundreds of enthusiastic pilgrims unperturbed by the looming miltiant threat arrived at the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here amid tight security on Tuesday to set out on a journey to More on P6

THE ROAD OPENING PARTIES (ROPs) of the Army and CAPFs will thoroughly scan the road routes every morning before the convoy carrying the pilgrims is allowed to proceed from Jammu.



A boy dives into Dal Lake on a hot summer day Tuesday when mercury rose to 33.2 Deg Cel in Srinagar: KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Srinagar Records Season's Hottest Day At 33.2 Deg Celsius

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: The summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday recorded hottest day of the season with mercury touching a new high of 33.2 degree Celsius, officials said.

Besides, the sweltering summer capital, Kupwara town recorded a maximum of 33.5°C, making it the hottest place in Kashmir on Tuesday.

Notably, today's temperature was 2.6°C above normal and third highest in the last

THE TEMPERATURE SOARED TO 33.2 DEGREES TODAY. However, the dry weather will continue till Wednesday. From 30th June, monsoon showers are forecasted across Kashmir valley and the temperatures are also

12 years in Srinagar.

The highest June temperature in Srinagar in the last 12 years was 35°C recorded on June 3, 2018.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Deputy Director of MeT in

expected to come down."

Srinagar, Mukhtar Ahmed said that the dry weather will con-

tinue till Wednesday. "The temperature soared to 33.2 degrees today. However, the dry weather will continue till Wednesday. From 30th June, monsoon showers are forecasted across Kashmir valley and the temperatures are also expected to come down," he said.

The ongoing month has already seen a vicious heat across J&K, with stagnant air bearing down on densely populated cities, like Jammu city and Srinagar city for several days in a row.

The continued warming occurs because the rate of heat input from the sun during the day continues to be greater than the cooling More on P6

2 Killed In **Exchange Of Fire** At LoC: Police

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two alleged militant associates were shot dead by soldiers along the Line of Control (LoC) in Keran sector of North Kashmir's Kupwara dis-

trict, police said. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that army reported that the soldiers of the fence patrol party observed some suspicious movement around 0015hrs on Tuesday in general area India Gate – Bichu in Keran sector.

The army's patrol party, he said, challenged the suspected movement, drawing fire from the fence side which was retaliated.

"On search, two individuals were found dead on own side of fence in More on P6

Govt Taking Steps To Bridge Gap Between Villages, Cities: LG

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that his administration has taken consistent steps to gradually convert rural areas into economic units and bridge the gap between villages and cities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha made these remarks at the 7th Convocation ceremony of SKUAST-Jammu at Baba Jitto Auditorium here on Tuesday, an official spokesperson said. The LG, he said, lauded the University for rendering service to the nation by training young men and women in modern agriculture science and technology, who will shape the destiny of farming sector.

According to



spokesperson, the LG congratulated the graduating student and said that the convocation is a stage in life when students step out into real world from academic comfort of University with special knowledge and skills.

"I'm confident with dedication and determination they will change the face of Agriculture and Horticulture, which is the soul of J&K's economy," the LG said. Noting the steps of UT Government for more effective implementation of schemes of Agriculture & allied sector, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that the Scientists, Institutions, and Government machinery is making constant endeavours to modernize agriculture sector to transform the lives of the farmers More on P6

Basanth Rath Wishes To Fight Polls Against Omar, Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

lammu: Suspended IPS officer Basant Rath on Tuesday dropped another hint about joining the BJP and expressed his willingness to contest against Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, two former chief ministers of Iammu and Kashmir, but the saffron party feigned complete ignorance about his plans.

Rath, who had claimed to have resigned from the police service through a social media post on June 25, said in a fresh tweet, "If the BJP high-command allows me, I'll contest against Omar Abdullah who was my chief minister when I was the police chief in Jammu (SSP), and Mehbooba Mufti who was my chief minister when I was the chief of traffic police in Jammu and Kashmir."

resignation

however, has not reached the office of the Jammu and Kashmir chief secretary or that of Director General of Police Dilbag Singh.

Rath has been at the centre of controversies on multiple occasions in the past and has issued contentious tweets through his unverified handle, 'KangriCarrier'.

He had earlier tweeted, "If I ever join a political party, it will be BJP. If I ever contest an election, it will be from Kashmir. If I ever join politics, it will be before March 6, 2024.'

When contacted, Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina said he has no knowledge about Rath planning to join the BJP.

"He is popular among the youth in the valley but he did not contact us (JK BJP unit) till date," Raina, who is currently on a tour of Kashmir, told PTI over phone. More on P6

J&K Bank Gets Board Nod To Raise Up To Rs 2,000 Cr

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: State-owned Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K Bank) on Tuesday said it will raise up to Rs 2,000 crore, through a mix of debt and equity, in the current fiscal year 2022-23.

The board of directors of the bank, in its meeting held on June 28, approved the capital raise plan, J&K Bank said in a

regulatory filing. The board approved to raise equity capital up to Rs 500 crore in one or more tranches by way of rights issue/ preferential allotment, private placement/ qualified institutional placement or a follow on public offer or any other approved route, it said.



It has also approved to raise up to Rs 1,500 crore capital by way of issuance of Basel III compliant tier II bonds in the nature of non-convertible debentures on a private placement basis, it added. More on P6

Kashmir's 'Biggest Animal' Returns To Haunt Human Habitations

Sajid Raina

azir Ahmad is back on wild duty following the rare bear-sightings in the rumbling woods of Bandipora.

The 52-year-old wildlife watchman wears a cow-boy hat, hawkish gaze and swift body language while patrolling the jungle he describes "viciously wild".

In a hot summer day of June 2022, the forest guard endlessly talks about the new glimpses being termed as a game-changer for the jungle and its adjacent areas. "This species was declared

endangered, but its growing

population has now become

an alarming sign for humans

in their own backyards,"

says Nazir, confirming presence of brown bears in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Spotting of rare Himalayan endangered brown bears in parts of Kashmir has prompted wildlife experts to blame the rapid development and increased tourism activities in high altitudes.

Earlier, the animal was protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, following existential crisis posed due to rapid habitat loss, human-animal conflict and poaching.

In sub-continent, the species is distributed in Pakistan, Muzaffarabad, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

Scanning the green gold



with gritty gestures, Nazir calls the brown bear as the

Brown bear population, the experts argue, was almost "biggest animal" in Kashmir. "An adult weighs more than non-existent in residential 2.5 quintals," he pauses to make areas of Kashmir, before it his point. "It's found at an altikicked a strong comeback in the last three-decades. tude of 2,000 to 2,500 metres,

In fact, in the last two to three years, wildlife conservationists have noted increasing sightings and spread of this animal in the hills of Sonamarg, Drass and now in Gurez area of Bandipora district. "Only in 2014," Nazir contin-

ues, "we caught one such animal in Arin area of Bandipora district. Evidence of their presence in residential area is now emerging because some vid-eos of Gurez have gone viral in which it is being seen."

Last month, the similar brown bear was suddenly spotted in Shahgund village of Bandipora which surprised the wildlife officials and the locals. The animal was eventually caught after four darts were shot to sedate it. More on P6



Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Srinagar | Wednesday | 29-06-2022

Kashmir Observer

Opening Windows At Night, Using Shades Can Keep Buildings Cool During Heat Waves: Study

Press Trust Of India

pening the windows at night and pulling down shades during the sunniest part of the afternoon can keep homes from becoming dangerously hot during extreme heat waves, according to a study conducted in the US.

Researchers from the University of Oregon in the US employed simulations using weather data from a 2021 severe heat wave especially in the Pacific Northwest. They found that a combination of shading and natural ventillation kept apartment temperatures out of the danger zone during the entirety of the three-day event, even without air conditioning. It also reduced the load on air conditioning by up to 80 per cent.

The findings, published in the journal Applied Energy, could inform building codes to protect renters from the effects of severe

Cities could mandate that apartments have operable windows that can be safely left open overnight, as well as working shades, the researchers said.

"In the Pacific Northwest, where we get such cool night air, we have an amazing climate for passive cooling," said Alexandra Rempel, a building scientist at the University of Oregon who led the study. "And we should take advantage of it, Rempel said.

In June 2021, an extreme heat wave roasted Oregon and Washington. Temperatures hit 46.7 degrees Celsius in Portland and 143.9 degrees in Eugene, breaking previous records.

The prolonged heat was deadly, and the impact was especially great on people living in apartments in dense urban areas, the Such extreme heat events are cal west-facing, two-bedroom Thick outdoor shades were most only expected to become more frequent thanks to climate change, they said.

However, buildings in the Pacific Northwest are usually designed to keep heat in. Many homes don't have air conditioning, given the typically mild summer weather, or only have window units.

house-tree-garden-tree-shadehouse-shut

While strategies like drawing the blinds and opening the windows are time-tested ways to cool down homes, there wasn't much solid evidence showing whether they could make a meaningful difference in the face of tripledigit temperatures, Rempel said. Armed with weather data collected from cities like Eugene, Portland and Seattle during the 2021 heat wave, the researchers used a computer programme to simulate conditions inside a hypothetiapartment with different cooling strategies. "Without any shades or ventilation, you'll quickly be in danger zone," said undergraduate student Jackson Danis, a coauthor of the study.

But even opening windows a little bit lessened the amount of time the apartment was dangerously hot, the researchers said. Strategically using a combination of passive cooling techniques could make the apartment surprisingly livable, even in the face of triple-digit outdoor temperatures, they said.

Opening the windows made the biggest difference at night and in the early morning, when the outside air is the coolest, researchers

Meanwhile, using blinds or window shades helped the most during the late afternoon, when the sun was directly shining on the windows, they said.

e-NIT NO. (21) of 2022-23

Position of T.S:

No. Au/Estates/e-NIT(21)/220

effective, but standard indoor pull-down shades or blinds, which renters are more likely to have, still made a difference, especially if their edges were sealed with side tracks.

The impact was even greater with a fan in the window to help circulate air, according to the study. While the advice seems intuitive, "the magnitude of the improvement is something that we didn't expect," said Alan Rempel, an applied mathematician and a coauthor of the study.

Passive cooling strategies can be a lifeline for people without air conditioning, the researchers

However, even people with AC could use the techniques to lower their summer energy bills, added Michael Fowler, a building scientist at the Seattle firm Mithun Inc. who co-directed the study.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My residence has been wrongly written in school records as Akingam while the correct Residence is Kangan Hall Magraypora Anantnag which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt Boys Higher Sec School Akingam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

Sania Mehraj

D/o Mehrajdin Shah R/o Kangan Hall Magraypora Anantnag

rna_r

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my driving license bearing DL No: jk-0320010003034 as Nazir Ahamd S/o Ab Rahim while my correct name is Nazir Ahmad Salroo S/o Ab Rahim Salroo which needs to be corrected . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nazir Ahmad Salroo S/o Ab Rahim Salroo R/o Bijbehara Anantnag

Covid Patients At Higher Risk Of Serious Neurodegenerative Disorders: Study

Press Trust Of India

COVID-19 positive outpatients are at a far increased risk of neurodegenerative disorders compared with those who tested negative for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to a study.

The researchers found that those who had tested positive for COVID-19 were at a much higher risk of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and ischaemic stroke.

The study, presented on Sunday at the 8th European Academy of Neurology (EAN) Congress in Vienna, Austria, analysed the health records of over half of the Danish population.

Out of 919,731 individuals that were tested for COVID-19 within the study, researchers found that the 43,375 people who tested positive had a 3.5 times increased risk of being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

They also had 2.6 times increased risk of being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, 2.7 times with ischaemic stroke, and 4.8 times with intracerebral hemorrhage (bleeding in the brain).

While neuroinflammation may contribute to an accelerated development of neurodegenerative disorders, the researchers also highlighted the implications of the scientific focus on long

The study analysed in- and outpatients in Denmark between February 2020 and November 2021, as well as influenza patients from the corresponding pre-pandemic period.

Researchers used statistical techniques to calculate relative risk, and results were stratified for hospitalisation status, age, sex, and comorbidi-

"More than two years after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the precise nature and evolution of the effects of COVID-19 on neurological disorders remained uncharacterised," Pardis Zarifkar, lead author from the Department of Neurology, Rigshospitalet, Denmark, explained.

"Previous studies have established an association with neurological syn-



Previous studies have established an association with neurological syndromes, but until now it is unknown whether COVID-19 also influences the incidence of specific neurological diseases and whether it differs from other respiratory infections

dromes, but until now it is unknown whether COVID-19 also influences the incidence of specific neurological diseases and whether it differs from other respiratory infections," Zarifkar

said. The increased risk of most neurological diseases was, however, no higher in COVID-19-positive patients than in people who had been diagnosed with influenza or other respiratory ill-

COVID-19 patients did have a 1.7 times increased risk of ischaemic stroke in comparison to influenza and bacterial pneumonia in patients over 80 years

The frequency of other neurodegenerative illnesses such as multiple sclerosis, Guillain-Barre syndrome, myasthenia gravis, and narcolepsy did not increase after COVID-19, influenza, or

pneumonia.

'We found support for an increased risk of being diagnosed with neurodegenerative and cerebrovascular disorders in COVID-19 positive compared to COVID-negative patients, which must be confirmed or refuted by large registry studies in the near future." Zarifkar

"Reassuringly, apart from ischemic stroke, most neurological disorders do not appear to be more frequent after COVID-19 than after influenza or community-acquired bacterial pneu-

monia." he said. The findings will help to inform our understanding of the long-term effect of COVID-19 on the body and the role that infections play in neurodegenerative diseases and stroke, the researchers added.

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir

Estates Wing, Main Campus Shalimar – 190 025

Short Notice Inviting e-Tender

Dated: 27.06.2022 For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST(K), e-tenders (in single-cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Electric contractors whose cards are valid up to 31-12-2022 registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. departments for the following work:

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost	Class of	Cost of Tender	Time of completion
		(in lacs)	Contractor	document	
1.	Relocation of 33kV Isolator set from main Gate at FVSC & AH Shuhama and Relocation of 33kV and 11 KV line village feeders of JKPDCL in view of new Gate Widening from main road to CRPF bunker at FVSC & AH Shuhama , SKUAST–Kashmir	05.00	A class	500/-	15 days
- \	Desition of AAA: Accorded				

Position of funds: Available The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule: Date of issue of Tender Notice 27.06.2022 Date of start of downloading Pre-bid meeting date 27.06.2022 **Bid submission start Date** 11.07.2022 (6.00 PM) 12.07.2022 Bid submission end date Date of opening of Technical bid (online)

Date of opening of Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online) Further information can be had from the office of the undersigned.

DIPK-NB-2042/22

Estates Officer/ Chief Engineer

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

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

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-tender NIT No.96 of 2022-23 issued under endorsement No.5676-85 Dated:27.06.2022

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

	S.	Name of Work	Stage Contract	Cost of T/	Earnest	Time of	M.H of	Class of
	No		Cost	Doc.	Money	completion	Account	Contractor
			(Rs. In Lacs)	(In Rs.)	(In Rs.)			
l	1	2	3	4		5	6	7
ı	1.	Repair and Routine Maintenance of roads pertaining to Sub-	5.00	Rs.200/-	Rs.10000/-	F.Y 2022-23	M&R3054	All Classes
		Division Lar under Maintenance Stage Contract 2022-23.						
	2.	Repair and Routine Maintenance of roads pertaining to Sub- Division Kangan under Maintenance Stage Contract 2022-23.	6.00	Rs.300/-	Rs.12000/-	F.Y 2022-23	M&R3054	All Classes
	3.	Repair and Routine Maintenance of roads pertaining to Sub- Division Ganderbal under Maintenance Stage Contract 2022-23.		Rs.600/-	Rs.18000/-	F.Y 2022-23	M&R3054	All Classes

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27.06.2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	27.06.2022 from 4.00 PM
3	Bid submission Start Date	27.06.2022 upto 4.00 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	02.07.2022 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	04.07.2022 at 10.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B
		Division Ganderbal.

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 3% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 3% of the allotted cost, which shall be released after successful completion of the DLP.

4. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).

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

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.into acquaint bid submission process. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology 6.2.

Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical

6.3. form.

Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Table 1. 6.4. 6.5.

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

Sd/-

DIPK-4997/22

Executive Engineer, R&B Division Ganderbal

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI(PHE) DIVISION AWANTIPORA Phone/Fax 01933-247152 E-Mail: phedivisionawantipora@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: To carry out the support activities for successful implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in all villages/Gram Panchayats of Pulwama District of UT J&K.

Reference: 1)This office e-NIT No: 10/PHA 2022-23 endorsed vide no: 1044-61 Dated: 01.06.2022. 2) This office Corrigendum no's: PHA/1408-24 Dated: 18.06.2022 and No: 1575-90

Dated: 27.06.2022

Pursuant to the representation received from Implementation Support Agencies and in compliance to the Additional Mission Director JJM, J&K's letter no: SMD/JJM-

J&K/10/2020-21/1020-27 Dated: 09.12.2021, the following 04 no. organizations are hereby empanelled in addition, to the above mentioned e-NIT under JJM for "To carry out the support activities for successful implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in all villages/Gram Panchayats of Pulwama District of UT J&K".

S.No	Name of Organization/NGO's	
01	A.R Azad, Koil Pulwama Kashmir	
02	JK Development Action Group, Methan Bye Pass Srinagar	
03	National Education Society and Social Welfare Organization General Bu	
	Stand Anantnag.	
04	Society for Scheduled and Backwards First Floor Sangam Complex, High	
	Court Road Janipur Jammu	

No: - PHA/1591-1605 Dated: - 27.06.2022

DIPK-5049/22

(Sd) Executive Engineer. Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora.

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No.5676-85

DATED:27-06-2022

Warehouse Sealed For **Selling Non-Standard Packaged Sweets**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Legal Metrology Srinagar on Tuesday sealed a Warehouse of a prominent wholesaler at Karan Nagar, Srinagar for selling non-standard packaged sweets and confectionery items meant for children.

The team of Legal Metrology Officers inspected the premises of the wholesaler. They were acting on a complaint alleging that a wholesaler in Karan Nagar was selling packaged food items in contravention of Legal Metrology norms,

During the comprehensive inspection, it was revealed that a huge quantity of products consisting mainly of sweets and confectionery items meant for kids were in contravention of Legal Metrology norms. The products were accordingly seized on spot after following the due procedure as provided under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

Such products were apparently transported to rural areas and far flung districts for marketing in order to escape from the eyes of enforce-

Over the time markets have witnessed huge growth in the children oriented products like lollipops, chocolates, toffees, juices, ice creams which are without the mandatory declarations like Manufacturing address, date of packing, Customer care details thereby casting a doubt over the genuineness of such products and putting the health of the consumers including children to huge risk.

The Legal Metrology Department has advised the parents to refrain from giving such food items to their children that are without Customer Care details, Complete Manufacturers address, MRP, Net Quantity, Name of importer etc. and in case of complaints they should contact the Legal Metrology Department.

"In the coming days more inspection drives towards such products and premises will continue unabated in other districts as well" the department said in a statement.

Program On Material Characterization **Techniques Begins** At NIT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The week-long training program on material characterization techniques under the Synergistic Training program Utilizing the Scientific and Technological Infrastructure (STUTI) began on Tuesday at National Institute of Technology.

The workshop is being organized by Departments of Physics and Mechanical Engineering Department of NIT, Srinagar in joint collabora $tion\ with\ Department\ of\ Physics,\ Aligarh\ Muslim$ University, Aligarh. It is sponsored by the Department of Science & Technology.

The event was presided over by Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal and Prof. Anil P. Kulkarni, Retired Principal, H.V. Desai College, Pune was the chief guest during the inaugural session. In his key speech, Prof. Kulkarni urged students to focus on quality research and training programs to overcome the technologi-The aim of NEP2020 is student develop ment and will help the country in the long run to achieve quality research, he said.

"India is still dependent on other countries for various technologies and we need to overcome this gap. Students and researchers should take the lead in making the country self-sufficient in modern technologies," Prof. Kulkarni said.



The first batch of Amarnath Yatris reached transit camp Panthachowk on Tuesday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Felicitation Programme For 'Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-2022' Held

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Education Office, Srinagar Organised a Felicitation Programme for District Level Award for 'Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-2022' in the Auditorium of GGHSS Kothibagh on 28th June 2022.

The entire process of Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-2022 was held under the Chairmanship of Mohammed Aijaz Asad IAS, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Chairman SVP 2021-2022.

Zahoor Ahmad Mir, Assistant District Development Commissioner Srinagar graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Dr Anjum Afshan Qadri, District Health Officer, Srinagar was guest of honour. Ms.Nusrat Bukhari Principal GGHSS Kothibagh and Dr.Hasifa M.O Headquarters were special invitees.

Ms. Anjum Raja ,Deputy CEO Srinagar in her welcome address highlighted the importance of Swatchtya in our life .She said out of 438 Eligible Schools(both government and private schools) 34 are facilitated today. These Schools were evaluated by 109 Evaluators. She shared Key indicators of all the Subcategories. She congratulated the Principals, Zonal Education Officers, HOIs, teachers and students of these institutions.

ADDC, Srinagar in his address ngratulated all the winners. He said that time has changed now and Government Schools of District Srinagar have improved a lot that is why out of 34 awards 24 were begged by Government Schools. He emphasized that it is teamwork that enables a School to get an award. He congratulated

Deputy CEO Srinagar for the great performance of Government Schools in Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar of District Srinagar.

The winners were felicitated by the ADDC, Deputy CEO Srinagar, DHO Srinagar and Principal GGHSS Kot-

In Overall Category Presentation Convent School is the only School in District Srinagar which got 5 Stars. Other Schools which were awarded in the Overall Category included GMS Khonmoh, HSS Khonmoh, MS Apparpora Balhama, Beacon Public School Rangreth, BHSS Khimber, BMS International Soiteng, Cotyledon School Batmaloo.

In Behaviour Change and Capacity Building Subcategory MS Knimber Gulabbagh,BHSS Gulabbagh,GMS Checki Mujigund,MS Gujjar Pati Dara were awarded

In Toilet Subcategory MS Mulnar, BHSS Palpora, Brilliant Public School Batmaloo and GMS Murrinder bagh were awarded.

In Operational and Maintenance Subcategory PS Ali Abad Gund Hassi Bhat, PS Q D Pora Zaldagar, Yaseen English School, Zainakote ,BHS Balhama and G.D Goenka School were

In COVID 19 Subcategory Shaheen Public School Idgah, Islamia Education Institute, Maloora, MPS Dard Khover, Nishat and GMS Khojabagh Maloora were awarded.

Water Subcategory Astanmarg, Nishat, GHSS Soura, HS Ranbir Garh Batamaloo and MS Allochibagh Batmaloo were felicitated.

In Hand Wash with Soap Category PS Gandtal Dara, Akmal Public School Amdakadal, Kashmir Model Academy HMT,BMS Syedpora Gulabbagh,BMS Dadi Mohalla Nishat were awarded.

The programme was coordinated by Ms Hina Amin District Cultural Coordinator Srinagar and hosted by Ms. Nazrana member Cultural Education Wing, CEO Srinagar.

DIAL-EMMA

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883



PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



FAJR 3: 37 **ZUHR** 12:33 5:34 **ASR** Magrib 7:50 9:31 **ISHA**

PRAYERS

This Day In History

- 1916- Boeing aircraft flies for 1st time
- 1929- 1st high-speed jet wind tunnel completed Langley Field Ca
- 1932- USSR & China sign non-aggression treaty 1943- US forces landed at Nassau Bay, near Salam-
- aua, New Guinea 1943- Germany begins withdrawing U-boats from North
- Atlantic in anticipation of the Allied invasion of Europe
- 1949- US troops withdraw from Korea after WW II 1961- Launch of Transit 4a, with 1st nuclear power
- supply (SNAP-3) 1966- In the Vietnam War, US planes bombed Hanoi
- & Haiphong for 1st time 1966-US bombs fuel storage facilities near North
- Vietnamese cities 1967- Israel removes barricades, re-unifying Jerusalem
- 1972- USSR launches Prognoz 2 into earth orbit (549/200,000 km)

From KO Archives

BJP, Bar Call 2-Day Jammu Bandh Against Autonomy Effigies Of Advani, Farooq Burnt At Poonch

*AMMU: Effigies of the union home minister, L K Advani, and the chief minis¬ter, Dr Farooq Abdullah, were burnt when thousands of people, mostly gujjars, staged a demonstration to protest at the border town of Poonch today against the adoption of the autonomy resolution by the state assem¬bly on Monday. They burnt the erased slogans like, "We want peace, development and employment, not au¬tonomy'

Reports reaching here said the demonstrators marched through various streets in the border town and submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner demanding rejec¬tion of the autonomy report.

Meanwhile, work in courts was disrupted for the second day today following boycott called by the Jammu Bar Association in protest against the adoption of the autonomy resolution by the state legislature. The boycott will continue tomorrow. While the BJP has called for a bandh on Friday. the Panun Kashmir follows suit on Saturday. The decision for Jammu bandh on Friday was taken at an emer¬gency meeting of the state BJP leaders here today.

According to reports, the au¬tonomy resolution has evoked widespread resentment among the people of the region who de-scribed it as a political drama' under a 'secret agreement between the National Conference (NC) and Bharativa Janata Party (BJP).

Prominent leaders of gujjars and other scheduled cast com-munities described the au-tonomy report as a 'dangerous move to deprive them of the rights and privi-leges provided under article 338.339.340.341 and 342 of the Indian constitu-tion which the report has rec-ommended to be abolished'. The leaders included Gujjar United Front president, Anwar Chaudhry, Ch. Muhammad Siraj, Shah Muhammad, and Ch Culzar Ahmad

Barring the BJP, reports said, all the political parties and other organisations have demanded the dismissal of the Farooq Abdullah government and holding of fresh elections 'as the ruling party has lost its rep¬resentative character.

Though the BJPs state unit has demanded that the Centre should reject the autonomy reso-lution in parliament when it comes up for its discussion, they are reported to be incensed at what they described as the criminal silence of me party high command over the chief minis¬ter's 'anti-national' move.

The non-BJP parties alleged there was a secret pact between the BJP and NC as both the - parties would exploit the issue during the ensuing snap polls in the state which are consid¬ered to be round the comer. The BJP will exploit it in Jammu region to woo the Hindu major¬ity while the NC will make it the main, election plank in the valley, they alleged.

Observers are of the opinion Farooq Abdullah may very soon recommend dissolution of the state assembly and a snap poll as he is believed to be under tre-mendous pressure in the wake of the on-going moves of the Centre to start a dialogue with the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC). Various political groups in the Jammu province have pro-jected toe demand for separate statehood for Jammu and sup¬ported the Ladakhis call for un¬ion territory status for toe region

(Kashmir Observer, June 29, 2000)

Govt To Suspend Licenses Of Mutton Dealers Defying Fixed Rates

Agencies

Srinagar: Amid a tussle over fresh fixed rates for sacrificial animals ahead of the Eid-ulAdha, the government in a first of its kind has decided to suspend the licenses of those dealers and sellers who are found defying the orders.

The government has also stated that those who are not registered or license holders and are found disobeying the fixed rates will not be allowed to sell the sacrificial livestock in the market places. A day after the gov-

ernment fixed fresh rates for the sacrificial animals, the tussle between the department and mutton dealers erupted yet again, which is set to bring misery to the people on the eve of the holy festival.

Talking to the report-Manzoor Ahmad Kanoon, president of All Kashmir Wholesale Mutton Dealers Association said that the government fixed rates are unacceptable and they will not sell the sacrificial animals as per the set rates

"We were called yesterday to make our point

with regard to the rates where discussion was held over it. We told the chair that the sacrificial animals last year were sold at the cost of Rs 350/ kg and it wouldn't be possible for them to sell the sacrificial animals at the cost of Rs 310/kg. I have not signed the document of agreement and also didn't accept the government rates," Kanoon said.

However, he appealed to the people not to accept the government rates as these rates are not genuine. "We have pitched for selling the sacrificial animals at the cost of Rs 360/ kg. We cannot accept the rates at all," he said.

Nonetheless, Director Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Dr Abdul Salam Mir, when contacted said that the violators will find no place to sell the sacrificial animals.

"We will not allow anyone to sell the sacrificial animals against the government fixed rates in the market places and mandis. Strict action will be taken against those who will be found disobeying the fixed rates,' Director FCS&CA said.

He further stated that the licenses and registrations of all the norm violators will be suspended this year to ensure that the fixed rates are obeyed in letter and spirit. "We will not put the people in trouble and ensure that government fixed rates are obeyed in spirit," he said.

The number of teams for market checking and especially for ensuring implementation of government fixed rates for sacrificial animals would be increased this year to curb the violations wherever found.

Meanwhile, the people here have expressed resentment over the tussle between the government and the mutton dealers. saying that it is people who ultimately suffer at the end of the day as the orders being issued by the government are never implemented on the ground and remain confined to the papers only.

'We appealed to the government to come up with stringent measures this year to put an end to the violations so that the people could heave a sigh of relief," the locals said.



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KO VIEW

Mend Srinagar's roads

arly this year, a little girl with a lapel mic turned into a reporter to show the poor condition of the roads in her area in Srinagar, which is supposed to be a smart city. The video went viral, helping focus attention on the state of the roads, which remain in pretty bad shape. It is impossible to find a stretch of road in many parts of the summer capital without potholes, making driving through the city or even through the towns a bone-breaking experience. The condition of the roads is only getting worse by the day. While senior administrative functionaries hardly need to use the roads and they travel in high-end vehicles when they have to, the millions of the common folk who travel to their work daily have hardly this option.

What makes the situation further unsustainable is that the bad roads have a direct bearing on the economy. More so, when the streets in Srinagar - ironically also the tourism capital of the union territory - are in the worst state of disrepair. Travel to Lal Chowk from different parts of Srinagar brings this appalling reality home. The daily reports of the trials and tribulations of the people on their way to the city centre are scary. The roads are taking a heavy toll not only on the traveling public but also on the fitness of the vehicles. The damage to the vehicles is the most conspicuous fallout of the bad roads. It is already costing people millions through increased delays, extra fuel costs, and auto repair bills.

But except for the occasional official assurance, there is little evidence of even an incipient change on the ground. On some roads, the government department charged with upkeep of roads has resorted to the adhoc filling of the potholes with dust and gravel to make them motorable, but the frequent rains send the situation back to square one, often making things worse than before. The lack of drainage has also contributed to the mess. often turning stretches of road into outsized poodles of water during rain and then into muddy, pothole-filled obstacle courses.

If there is anything that deserves urgent government attention, it is to make the roads at least reasonably motorable. The awful state of the roads arguably makes Srinagar one of the worst cities for traffic in the country. And this state of affairs is hardly affordable for a region that depends on tourism to invigorate its battered economy. The government, therefore, should start paying attention to Kashmir's roads. The Valley's tourist-driven economy requires its roads to be in good shape.

OTHER OPINON

Interim signals

f anything, AAP's performance in Punjab in the last three months, far from proving its capacity to be a national party, has only raised several questions. As it turned out, the Opposition — the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), SAD (Amritsar), the Congress and the BJP — all fighting separately, made the point on the gap between AAP's promise and delivery; and between its claims and capacity. In Punjab, a State with its finances in a shambles and its bureaucracy and the police a law unto themselves, the inexperienced band of activists that came to power is caught in a bind. Mr. Mann also faces the charge of being remote-controlled from Delhi by party chief Arvind Kejriwal. The winner, Simranjit Singh Mann of the SAD (Amritsar), made Sangrur as significant as the loser did. He is a vociferous supporter of Khalistan and an ardent follower of Bhindranwale, who spearheaded the violent, terrorist separatism of the 1980s. His victory, and the complete emaciation of the Congress, the SAD and the BJP, signals the dangerous crossroads Punjab is at.

In U.P., the BJP's victories in Rampur and Azamgarh prove the continuing potency of the party in the heartland. Azamgarh was vacated by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, who chose to retain the Assembly seat that he won while the party lost a second consecutive time. Rampur was vacated by senior party leader Azam Khan, who will retain his Assembly seat. That such strongholds have slipped out of its hands is further proof that the SP's hopes of a return in U.P. may be unrealistic, and its style, character and personnel are unacceptable to large sections of the voters. While the U.P. results make the BJP's position unassailable, they also open new possibilities in the Opposition space as the SP's slide continues. In the Atmakur Assembly segment in Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSRCP scored an impressive victory, while a victory each in Tripura and Jharkhand made the day for the Congress. The CPI(M) continued to sink in Tripura, its former stronghold. In Delhi, AAP retained the Rajinder Nagar Assembly seat, but that is little solace for the party that lost its representation in the Lok Sabha entirely. Overall, the bypoll outcomes underscore the continuing dominance of the BJP, and the continuing inability of the Opposition to rise to

The Hindu



Don't Fret Over Floods

Flood Hazards in Kashmir are Manageable if science-based planning is followed

Dr Afroz Shah

The recent episode of rainy days has rekindled those memory lanes, and we are again at the crossroads of what to do if the floods turn ugly again. The question is ironic because if we turn the pages of flood history in Kashmir, it becomes apparent that flooding is genetic to the structural makeup of the valley

he ugly memories of the 2014 flooding routinely haunt us after a few days of continuous rainfall showering the vale. That flooding episode was so traumatic that it carved deep grooves in our hearts, and we are always scared when it rains. The recent episode of rainy days has rekindled those memory lanes, and we are again at the crossroads of what to do if the floods turn ugly again.

The question is ironic because if we turn the pages of flood history in Kashmir, it becomes apparent that flooding is genetic to the structural makeup of the valley. The valley was formed during the collision tectonics between India and Eurasia, and that collision is still ongoing, which is represented by the occurrence of earthquakes. basin, and with that, the mountains that surround it, are a reminder that tectonics is central to the drainage and glacial systems.

Floods related to excess rain, landslides, and glacial melting are not new and have occurred even when there was no trace of human life in the Kashmir region. Past writers, such as Walter Roper Lawrence's book the Valley of Kashmir, published in 1895, state that Srinagar occupies the flood plain area of the Jhelum River; therefore, it was technically wrong to build a city near the river. That wisdom is more than 100 years old. Yet, the administration and people have not taken that advice seriously and indiscriminately built the houses where they are prone to floods and earthquakes, the two significant hazards that Kashmir faces.

The science of flood hazards that was required to engage the public and guide the administration on where to build safely is more than 100 years old. Therefore, the new research on floods will add more data, but the main question is will it convince people and the administration to act.

If science-based wisdom is not used on the ground, it will be treated as a fictitious story. And that is perhaps what happened; people have not given any importance to safety and welfare and instead used their hard-earned money to build unstable, unsafe houses that threaten life. The danger is from earthquakes as well as floods. Therefore, planning for the worst scenario possible is required, and working on it now. For example, the construction of structures, towns etc., should be adequately, legally, and scientifically planned. It is always good to avoid water bodies for any township etc. The townships in the vicinity of water bodies should be audited and scaled following the safety requirement needed to prevent the loss of life and assets

cause a flood disaster, even in the absence of major rains, this could happen by an earthquake, and historical data have proved that. So, we have to remain vigilant of any eventuality that may unfold and learn from the past and use that as a weapon to prepare for the future. There are multiple ways in which flood disasters can happen, and what will save our lives and assets is to avoid staying near the water bodies, take proper precautions, use advanced technologies, and make living with flood hazards a reality.

Further, education is a critical ingredient to learning about hazards and how to stop them

Further, the major problem during flooding in Jammu and Kashmir would always be to efficiently manage the excess water flow, which can be handled if the carrying capacity of the Jnelum River is increased

during floods.

Further, the major problem during flooding in Jammu and Kashmir would always be to efficiently manage the excess water flow, which can be handled if the carrying capacity of the Jhelum River is increased. This can be partially achieved through widening the channel and de-siltation processes, as siltation is one of the major causes of overflow in Jhelum. My research suggests that the siltation problem will be worst in the southeastern portions of the Kashmir valley because these regions are tectonically drowned. Therefore, subsided areas will be prone to inundation during flooding and will accumulate flood waters and sediments quickly. The existence of lakes in Srinagar and the Wular Lake suggests that tectonically drowned areas are prone to floods. The presence of the Jhelum River indicates that tectonics has given birth to the river, and it is still modifying its morphology; it is the only river that takes all the water out of Kashmir, which makes it unique. Therefore, handling and managing future flood disasters in Kashmir is challenging. For example, if this river is somehow impounded, it would from turning into disasters. If people are aware of any disaster, they will possibly act and could save lives. Similarly, the administration could equip the relevant departments with facilities to carry out an efficient and timely mitigation exercise. Educational institutes could provide knowledge capsules like short-term disaster management courses to ensure that relevant and scientifically updated information is delivered to people.

The opening of new research institutes could provide appropriate resources and state-of-the-art facilities for researching earthquakes, landslides and floods. Such exercises can become efficient if scientific talks, seminars, and workshops are organized at the district and village levels. The role of media in disseminating updated and science-based knowledge is appreciated and a crucial step towards the creation of a resilient society.

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



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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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Covid is Back but Still Have SOPs

ate it but don't deny it. Covid seems to be back in the valley. The cases are seeing a spike after a period of calm. More and more people in our acquaintances are getting infected and there's no denying that the threat may be looming.

However, there still remains an easy way to stay safe. It is what we had started off the pandemic with in the first place — following SOPs.

Wearing a mask, physical distancing and ventilation are key to keeping the virus at bay. Taking extra precautions for older people and people with underlying conditions is a must. Following hand hygiene is pivotal. These seemed very difficult to understand at the beginning of the pandemic but now we're well versed with them. So, it should be easy for us to follow these and adapt quickly to this uncertain threat.

Additionally, we need to trust science and get vaccinated. If you are still not vaccinated, please prefer getting vaccinated as soon as possible. Get tested at the first sign of symptoms. Isolate responsibly. Educate and adapt.

Hamida Jan

How To Win The Hybrid Workforce Revolution

Instead of trying to block an unstoppable transformation in the distribution of work, employers should focus on how to manage it better.

Adrian Wooldridge

The most important work-related debate of our time is stuck on repeat. Many senior executives continue to believe that working from home is tantamount to pretending to work, with Elon Musk saying out loud what his more restrained colleagues say in private, while many remote-work enthusiasts continue to believe that they have an absolute right to work where they want to, the organization be damned. The result: a neverending cycle of get-back-to-work memos, not-on-your-nelly responses and accumulating problems.

It's time to recognize that a new world is here to stay: We are at an early stage of a revolution in the distribution of work, driven by the miniaturization of smart machines and the ubiquity of the internet, that is as fundamental as the one that occurred with the industrial revolution in the 19th century and the office revolution of the early 20th century. (Perhaps Musk will be remembered as the Ned Ludd of the flexibility revolution rather than the Henry Ford of the electric car.)

It's also time to recognize that both sides in the debate have a claim to be heard. Workers are right to want to work wherever they can be most productive. Forcing someone to endure a morale-sapping (and sometimes dangerous) commute just to keep a row of office desks filled is counterproductive. But employers are also right to worry that flexible work brings new problems. We need to shift the focus of the debate from the ideological to the practical — from the desirability of a change that is probably inevitable to the question of how to manage a distributed organization.

The new flexible model is still in its early days. Julia Hobsbawm, the author of "The Nowhere Office," points out that the flexible work movement has not yet found its Patagonia, the sportswear company that epitomized the shift to a socially conscious capitalism. Hybrid working covers a multitude of forms, from traditional companies that want all employees to come in for three days a week (which normally means two days a week in the eyes of employees) to more experimental companies that are embracing "remote first" work. Lynda Gratton, the author of another new book on the subject, "Redesigning Work," points out that we are still in "series 2, episode 3" of a series that will run for decades. That said, some generic problems from the new flexible world are already becoming apparent, along with a set of passable solutions.

The most obvious problem with flexible working is the multitude of demands it imposes on managers. Even before the



66

It's time to recognize that a new world is here to stay: We are at an early stage of a revolution in the distribution of work, driven by the miniaturization of smart machines and the ubiquity of the internet, that is as fundamental as the one that occurred with the industrial revolution in the 19th century and the office revolution of the early 20th century

flexible-work revolution, management was in danger of becoming an impossible profession, given the range of problems managers face from digitalization to hyper-entitled workers. Flexible work supersized all this. The simple job of organizing work is much more complicated: Right now, for instance, managers must deal with the traditional problem of summer schedules as well as the new one of scattered workers. Then there is the question of motivation: How do you encourage (or reprimand) people whom you see episodically rather than routinely?

Some of these problems can be solved by technology that can monitor and organize workflows (though managers might not relish having more apps to deal with). Some can be solved by scheduling faceto-face time so that managers routinely meet their charges. Yet the flexibility revolution will clearly be hard on an already harried class — and companies will need to recruit more middle managers as well as devolving more managerial responsibilities to frontline workers. A quid proquo for flexibility may be having to take a more active role in managing the organization.

A second problem is the hollowing

out of the corporation. Companies are more than just bundles of tasks that can be disaggregated and distributed to individual employees; they are living organizations that depend on their unique cultures for their competitive advantage. In the past, organizations left employees to absorb those cultures organically (with a little help, more recently, from "on-boarding" professionals). Now they need to do consciously what they previously did unconsciously. One popular solution is to immerse new employees in training camps led by company elders; another is to assign new employees with mentors who can help them both off-line and on.

The third is the emergence of a twotier workforce. The nature of the tiers may vary. In some cases, home workers may be seen as a corporate aristocracy who can stay at home while the proletariat has to struggle with the commute. This is particularly likely if senior knowledge workers stay at home while junior and technical people go to the office. In other cases, office workers may be seen as insiders, who are more likely to get promotion, and home workers who face "proximity bias." Sandeep Mathrani, the CEO of the office-renting company We-Work Inc., mused that employers may see people who opt to stay at home as less committed to their job; more bluntly, Cathy Merrill, the CEO of Washingtonian magazine, suggested that it's easier to lay off people you don't see regularly. Whatever the dynamic, a two-tier system inevitably generates resentment and disdain.

One solution to the two-tier problem is to create the same rules for everyone —

usually a certain number of days in the office and a certain number at home. But this one-size-fits-all-solution risks negating the virtues of flexibility: If somebody needs to be in the office, there is no point in obliging them to work at home. A much better solution is sunlight: Accept that organizational variety is an inevitable consequence of flexible working and explain clearly that where you work is determined by the nature of your task (or in some cases personal circumstances) rather than your position in the hierarchy or your ability to pull strings.

A fourth problem is dealing with what might be called "flexibility fatigue" — the array of emotional problems that are attaching themselves to our evolving way of working. There is the problem of overload. The other side of having your "office" at home is that your "home" is in your office, as Peter Cappelli, of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, puts it. It's harder to switch off when you don't have a boundary-defining commute and when you have a nagging worry that vour boss might secretly agree with Musk about pretending to work. One of the few companies that has made a systematic study of how the world of work is changing, Microsoft Corp., found that one of the biggest problems was the way that work overflowed traditional boundaries, with a surge of work after dinner, presumably when children had settled down, and an increase in working at the weekend.

Then there is Zoom fatigue, which is even more taxing than old-fashioned meeting fatigue. You find yourself anxiously watching your own face as you speak, or listening to a Zoom bore without any recourse to fidgeting, or fixating on somebody's flagrantly displayed nostril hairs. Julie Boland, of the University of Michigan, argues that Zoom promotes cognitive dissonance because it creates a weird mix of natural cues (face-toface contact) and unnatural ones (rows of disembodied faces staring at you and strange time lags). Geraldine Fauville, of the University of Gothenburg, points out that videoconferencing messes with the brain's sense of appropriate intimacy, because, thanks to evolutionary programming, a face that remains a few distances from your own for a prolonged period of time "is perceived by the brain as a situation that would lead to mating

or conflict."

There are some short-term solutions to these problems. You can create symbolic barriers between "home" and "work" that perform the same function as the daily commute. You can switch off the function on Zoom that shows your own face. Managers need to keep Zoom meetings as short as possible — half an hour should be a maximum — and find gentle ways to discipline Zoom bores. But Julia Hobsbawm suggests that we need to go further and create new social rituals designed to deal with digital overload. A

digital Shabbat is a good place to start.

The workers who are most vulnerable to alienation are "remote first" workers who, either through choice or domestic circumstances, seldom come into the office. Here, "born remote" companies can model good practice for more traditional companies. Zach Boyette and Irina Papuc founded Galactic Fed, a digital marketing company, in 2017 as an all-remote company partly because they wanted to spend much of their time traveling (Boyette says that he hasn't paid any rent since 2016), and partly because they didn't want to put physical limits on their ability to hire the best employees. The company now has a workforce of more than 150 people spread over 24 time zones.

Galactic Fed strives to create a sense of community to make up for the lack of physical interaction. This starts with intensive screening – several rounds of tests and interviews — to make sure that recruits are self-starters. It then extends to a carefully planned on-boarding - or perhaps on-bonding — process that lasts several months and emphasizes building ties as much as technical skills. New recruits are allocated three or more "friends" to introduce them to the company. Online work meetings are balanced by online social meetings, such as "showand-tell" sessions where employees are encouraged to talk about something that means a lot to them, or on-line competitions, such as competing to see who can do the most physical steps in a day. The company also has a proliferation of Slack channels devoted to purely social things such as pets, child-rearing, cooking and, a particular passion with the sort of people who they recruit, travel. It's not all fluffy kitten shows: Galactic also uses a mixture of soft and hard metrics to make sure that employees use their working time efficiently and to spread good business practice, as well as prizes and promotion to reward good work.

Cynics warn that "a hard rain is going to fall" in the coming year, as recession grips, unemployment rises and workers lose their temporary bargaining power. The halcyon days of working from home will become a mere memory as employers release their inner Musk. This would be a mistake. Why? Because forcing workers, particularly elite workers, to adopt alien work rhythms is not a basis for sustained competitive advantage — better times will come eventually — and because farsighted companies will use the coming years to devise a flexible work regime that improves job satisfaction while also enhancing productivity.

The article was originally published by Bloomberg Opinion

The Spiritual Yatra to Peace

V. K. Magotra

ashmir, known famously as paradise on the earth, is limping back to normalcy with an all time high turnout of over 8 lakh tourists at present. Proper arrangements have been made by the Union territory of J&K for the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage of Shri Amarnath Shrine by placing men and sophisticated machinery at work.

The entire Kashmir Valley is bestowed with ancient shrines, mosques and temples. Every shrine has its own prominence and sanctity which is carved out with a legendary tale behind it and is held in high reverence by all the communities irrespective of caste, color and creed even today. The ancient monuments designated and preserved by the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) depict the glorious past of the valley.

The pilgrimage of Shri Amarnath Shrine commencing 30th June 2022 is indeed an amazing, adventurous and arduous endeavour of I&K Union Territory. The pilgrimage is taking place after a gap of two years owing to covid-19 pandemic lockdown. The enchanting Amarnath cave is one of the most revered pilgrimage sites of Hindus. Situated at a height of 12,756 feet above sea level in Lidder valley, Amaranth cave is considered one of the holiest shrines of Lord Shiva. Notwithstanding the constraints, lakhs of pilgrims are expected to throng the site of Amarnath cave to have a glimpse of snow formed, Shivling a symbolic representation of Lord Shiva. The formation of Shivling from melting of ice from the roof of the cave to the floor is perhaps unprecedented in the whole universe where people all across the world turn up to pay obeisance to Lord Shiva. This year the pilgrimage would continue for 43 days starting from the auspicious occasion of Skanda- Sashi and will end on 11th August 2022, the day of Sharvan Purnima Raksha Bandhan.

The pilgrimage of Amarnath Cave would be incomplete without knowing the history of Kashmir which re-

veals a beautiful cradle of ancient culture. Ancient India has nothing more worthy as its early civilization than that of the grand ruins of Kashmir. The remnants of hundreds of temples, stupas, viharas and numerous schools of thoughts would show how in ancient times it has been a nursery of two great religions of India - Hinduism and Buddhism and how these religions met and mingled in the mindscape of the people. Kashmir's own creative contribution to the Hindu thought, particularly to the evolution of the monistic philosophy of Saivism, known as Trika – Sastra, has been truly historic. And when Islam made its appearance in the middle of the 14th Century, it acquired its own distinct hue in the valley.

There are good geological and mythological reasons to believe that the Kashmir valley was once a vast span of water, similar to a huge dam, walled by high mountains. There were some habitations on the higher ranges which were not under water. Over the years, as a result of violent geological upheavals such as earthquakes, the mountain walls were breached at a few points and water gushed out forming the valley in its present shape.

According to Kalhana, a Kashmiri Pandit who wrote Rajatarangini - the river of kings in 1149 A. D, the history of various dynasties which ruled Kashmir from earliest period described monumental work in Sanskrit literature. Such is Kashmir, the country which may be conquered by the force of spiritual merit but not by armed forces – where there are hot baths in winter, comfortably landing places on the rivers, banks, where rivers being free from aquatic animals are without peril.

Shri Amarnathji is considered to be one of the major Hindu Dhams (seat of a deity) of Kashmir valley. The holy cave is the abode of Lord Shiva. The guardian of the absolute, Lord Shiva – the destroyer is enshrined in the form of Ice- Lingam in the cave. This lingam is formed naturally, which is believed to wax and wane with the



moon. Though there is no scientific proof till now. Along with Shivling, one can also witness two other ice formations which are said to be of Goddess Parvati and Lord Ganesha.

Although the existence of the Holy Cave is mentioned in the Puranas as well, as per a Hindu legend; it is believed that when Parvati asked Shiva the secret of life and eternity, at first, he refused but she insisted, so he decided to reveal the secret to her. He left Mount Kailash along with Goddess Parvati and left his belongings at various places. For instance, Nandi, the Bull at Pahalgam, Moon from hair at Chandanwari, and snakes on the banks of Lake Sheeshnag. Lord Ganesha was left at Mahagunas Parvat also called Mahaganesh Mountain. Plus, the five elements of nature - Earth, Water, Air, Fire, and Sky were left at Panchtarni. As he sacrificed his belongings, he performed the Tandava Dance and later, enter the cave with Parvati. To ensure no one was listening, he created fire to demolish all the life around him. But a pigeon under Lord Shiva remained and heard the 66

The Pilgrimage of Amarnath shrine is still one of the most difficult – pilgrimages of northern India till date. The devotees trek through the daunting mountains to Shri Amarnath Ji shrine in south Kashmir every year to pay obeisance

secret of immortality. They were born and even today, devotees who visit Amarnath Temple can see a pair of pigeons inside the cave nesting. And because the secret of immortality was told here by Lord Shiva, the cave was called Amarnath. Shiva followers thus, take the Amarnath Yatra with true hearts and feelings and present to Lord Shiva in a hope of a righteous living, health, prosperity, and purity from the sins. Families, friends, and companions are often seen traveling together to Amarnath Temple in Jammu and Kashmir despite it being 36 to 48 km long and difficult to enlighten themselves by Shiva's true light. Amarnath Yatra is organized every year. There are 2 routes to the cave -Pahalgam and Baltal. This can be covered in 4 to 5 days via Pahalgam and 2 to 3 days via Baltal. Most devotees prefer the longer and more traditional route from Srinagar though. Elderly citizens can choose to a pony ride too. Amarnath Yatra Route Map

Buta Malik – a local shepherd first discovered the cave as per references of Rajatarangini, which has a mention of Amarnath Temple (Amareshwar) and people believe that Queen Suryamathi gave a present of Trishul, banalingas and sacred emblems to Amarnath temple back in the 11th

century AD. Buta Malik rediscovered the present cave in about 1850. Malik received a bag full of coal from the saint & when he got back home, he was overwhelmed to see gold coins instead of coal. Malik rushed back to thank the saint at the site but found the cave with Shivling inside instead. This led to the discovery of Amarnath Cave. Since then the site has become one of the major pilgrimage centers of Hindus. There are some other epics also one of them is focused on Bhrigu Rishi who visited the Himalayas and was first to have the Glimpse of Holy Amarnath cave which became Shiva's abode and a center of Pilgrimage.

The Pilgrimage of Amarnath shrine is still one of the most difficult – pilgrimages of northern India till date. The devotees trek through the daunting mountains to Shri AmarnathJi shrine in south Kashmir every year to pay obeisance. At present the shrine is managed by Shri AmarnathJi Shrine board (SASB) with the Governor of the UT of J&K as its ex- officio chairman. The shrine board is entrusted with the task of making the pilgrimage hassle free for devotees besides upgrading of facilities all along the route.

SASB and administration have made commendable efforts for comfortable pilgrimage of devotees and tourists by way of providing transport, accommodation, medical, telecommunication and langar facilities. To avoid any threat of security, all road, trek routes leading to the holy cave are being sanitized. The services of drones are being put in place for the first time for the safety and security of devotees. For the first time helicopter services from Srinagar to Panjtarni and vice versa are being introduced for completion of Holy Yatra in a single day. Sadhuas - female monks in large numbers have started pouring in Jammu before the commencement of pilgrimage.

The Author is Media Officer (Retd) from Ministry of I&B, GOI. Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

LG e-Inaugurates SASB Yatri Niwas At Ramban

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday inaugurated Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board's (SASB) Yatri Niwas at Chanderkote, Ramban through virtual mode from the Convention Centre, Canal road, Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lt Governor said that today's inauguration of Chanderkote Yatri Niwas is an important link in the efforts of administration to organize a grand Yatra this year.

"The state-of-the-art facility, with a capacity of 3600 pilgrims, will provide huge relief and comfort to the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra", he added.

The Lt Governor observed that this picturesque Yatri Niwas spread over 23 kanals is an important stop in the journey of Baba Barfani and every effort has been made to equip the facility with all modern amenities.

The project completed at a cost of Rs.47.00 crore is one of the fastest projects completed in the UT. Immediately after the site was finalized, the work on execution of the project was entrusted to CPWD in the month of April 2021 and has been completed in 14 months record time.

The Yatri Niwas has a cluster of 17 dormitories in G+2 dimensions with all modern facilities and features including barrier



free environment, modern toilets, fire extinguisher equipments, signages, LED down lighters etc. in all dormitories.

Acknowledging the commitment of all those engaged with the construction of Yatri Niwas, tackling various constraints owing to geography and terrain, the Lt Governor congratulated the engineers, workers, and officials for their tremendous efforts.

The Lt Governor also expressed his gratitude to IIT Roorkee for making a significant contribution in the completion of this project.

"I have been personally

monitoring all the arrangements. This year, facilities have been developed for accommodation of passengers at 8 places in the Yatra Holding Area", he said.

The Lt Governor said improvements have been made across the board to enhance the holding capacities, provide best-in-class medical, sanitation, and lodging facilities, and in many firsts, offering pilgrims the convenience of performing Yatra in a single day by starting helicopter services on new routes.

For the convenience of the Yatris reaching Jammu, camps have been set up at the airport,

railway station and bus stand, which will issue RFID tags on the basis of travel slip and identity card. Further, new shelter sheds have been built on Baltal and Pahalgam Axis. Enhanced medical facilities have been made operational to cater emergency needs of Yatris.

gency needs of Yatris.

The facility of battery car will be provided to the passengers for the distance of 2.3 kms of Baltal and Domel and optical fiber cable has been laid on the entire route of the Yatra to provide dedicated telecom connectivity to the pilgrims.

The Lt Governor said that

Agencies

Srinagar: National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday said that it has arrested two erstwhile cross-LoC traders.

Two Cross-LoC

Traders Arrested: NIA

"Yesterday (27.6.2022), NIA arrested two accused persons namely Tanveer Ahmad Wani son of Ghulam Ahmad Wani of Achagoza Rajpora Pulwama and Peer Arshad Iqbal alias Ashu son of Peer Gayasuddin of Khwaja Bagh, Baramulla in case RC-17/2016/NIA/DLI," NIA said in a statement.

According to NIA, the case pertains to the alleged generation of extra profits through cross LoC trade mechanism between J&K and PcK and purportedly using of those funds for fomenting militant activities in lammu & Kashmir.

The trade was started in the year 2008 via two Trade

Facilitation Centres (TFCs) located at Salamabad, Uri in Baramulla District and Chakanda-Bagh in Poonch district. As per the SOP of the trade mechanism, 21 articles were allowed to be traded between PcK and J&K and was based on barter system.

"During investigation, it has been revealed that extra profit was generated by over-invoicing of export articles and under-invoicing of import articles by the traders," NIA claimed.

The arrested accused are "cross-border LoC traders" and were handling several cross LoC trade firms registered in their own names or in the names of their friends, =family members, relatives etc, NIA said. "They used to provide funds to the members of various (militant) organisations, OGWs, Stone-pelters etc," NIA said, adding, "Further investigation in the case continues."

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Amarnath Yatra

cave shrine in South Kashmir's Pahalgam will depart from Jammu on Wednesday.

They said that J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha is likely to flag off the heavily escorted convoy of vehicles carrying the pilgrims to the Valley.

The 43-day-long annual Amarnath yatra is scheduled to start on June 30 from the twin routes -- traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal -- after a hiatus of nearly three years owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A CRPF official told Kashmir Observer on Tuesday that a five-layer security system with drones, radio frequency identification (RFID), and hundreds of CCTVs has been put in place to ensure smooth conduct of the annual pilgrimage.

He said the multi-tier security cover will be provided to the devotees by the 300 additional companies of paramilitary forces brought to the Valley recently.

"Sharp shooters will also be deployed atop high rise buildings, vintage points etc along the highway till the base camps in Pahalgam and Baltal. It has been part of a drill," the official, who insisted not to be named, told Kashmir Observer

He said a team has been already created to monitor movement of suspicious persons through Close Circuit Television (CCTV).

"We have installed the cameras in all the areas wherever needed,' he added.

The official further said that besides paramilitary forces like BSF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB and CISF, the army and police have also been deployed in large numbers to thwart any attacks from the militants.

"Strong security arrangements have been made all along the 300 km stretch of the Jammu-Srinagar highway," the CRPF official said.

A senior police officer also maintained that unprecedented security measures have been taken for peaceful conduct of the yatra.

He said that central forces have also been deployed in strength on the two yatra routes, 48 km traditional Pahalgam route in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the 14 kms Baltal route from the Ganderbal district, from where the pilgrims have the option to either trek or take a helicopter flight to the cave shrine.

"The Road Opening Parties (ROPs) of the Army and CAPFs will thoroughly scan the road routes every morning before the convoy carrying the pilgrims is allowed to proceed from Jammu," he said

The police officer further said that Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) has been made compulsory for real-time tracking and monitoring of pilgrims and vehicles.

Meanwhile, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar on Tuesday took stock of security arrangements at the holy Cave and the yatri Camp at Panjtarni, a police spokesperson said.

Kumar, he said, also held a security review meeting with officers from the Army, CRPF, BSF, ITBP, JKP, NDRF and civil administration.

"Later on, the IGP physically inspected the deployment of forces on the ground and instructed them on better coordination and joint efforts to achieve incident-free and smooth water," the spekesperson added

yatra," the spokesperson added. **Hundreds Of Pilgrims**

cave shrine in south Kashmir

Himalayas on Wednesday.

The devotees said their unflinching faith in Lord Shiva and the security forces has encouraged them to be part of the annual Amarnath Yatra that is being organised this year after a gap of two years on account of the Covid pandemic. The first batch of pilgrims will leave the Jammu base camp on Wednesday, officials said. Multi-tier security has been put in place in and around the base camp, lodging centres, and registration and token centres amid deployment of over 5,000 security personnel in Jammu city, the officials said.

"Na chinta na bhay, Baba Amarnath ji kee jai (Neither worry nor fear, as Baba Amarnath Ji with us)," said Vinay Kumar, who was part of 12-member group from Lucknow arrived here for his onward journey to cave shrine of Amarnath in the first batch on Wednesday.

Lauding the authorities for the "best possible arrangements", Kumar, said, "We have full faith in Lord Shiva and our security forces".

The group members have completed their registration and got tokens from Vaishnavi Dham near railway station for their journey to cave shrine in the first batch.

"Facilities are very good and the registration process is also smooth. We are very happy with the arrangements," Kumar said.

A Bengaluru resident, Upmita, who is here with seven other members of her family, said their fear disappeared soon after reaching the base camp.

Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB) is pulling out all the stops to ensure smooth pilgrimage, scheduled to begin on June 30 from Kashmir, to the holy cave shrine housing the naturally formed ice-lingam in south Kashmir Himalayas.

Over 3,000 pilgrims have arrived in Jammu and have been housed in base camp and various lodging centres, the officials said, adding that about 400 'sadhus' have also arrived in Ram Mandir camp for the yatra.

The first batch of pilgrims, including sadhus, will leave for the twin base camps of Kashmir a day ahead of the official commencement of the yatra which will culminate, according to tradition, on the day of 'Raksha Bandhan' festival on August 11.

The yatra will commence on June 30 from twin routes - traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

The scene in and around the base camp, lodging centres, registration and token counters was upbeat on Tuesday.

"We have been paying obeisance at the cave shrine regularly for the past 15 years. This year too, I am going to seek peace and prosperity for the mankind," said Kartikeswar Ram, who hails from South India.

"Brotherhood and communal harmony need to be maintained at all costs to make this earth a better place to live in. This yatra is famous for communal harmony," he said.

On Monday, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha reviewed arrangements for Amarnath Yatra by undertaking a visit to basecamp here and said the security forces are alert to ensure a smooth pilgrimage.

Sinha also said that people of the Union territory are enthusiastic to welcome the visiting pilgrims.

A senior police officer said that there was no need for the pilgrims to worry and people were welcome to join the pilgrimage. "We are fully prepared for

the task. We will ensure the safety of the pilgrims," he said.

Around three lakh pilgrims have registered so far for the annual Amarnath Yatra, the officials said.

The government, this year, has introduced a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system for pilgrims to track their movement en-route to ensure their well-being.

their well-being.

"Adequate security has been put in place for the base camps and lodging places in the Jammu city. Security is a major challenge," Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Chandan Kohli said.

As many as 5,000 security personnel have been deployed in the Jammu city as part of the multi-tier security arrangement for the Amarnath Yatra, he said.

He said that security measures have also been put in place around five registration centres, three token centres, and 32 lodging centres. Pointing to major challenges, he said there are new security threats of sticky bombs, hybrid militants and IEDs dropped by drones.

The SSP said the security setup has been drawn for convoys of Amarnath vehicles and area domination measures along the road through which yatra convoys will pass. Quick Response Teams (QRTs) have also been put in place, he said. Over 3.42 lakh pilgrims had paid obeisance at the shrine, housing the naturally formed ice-shivlingam, from July 1 to August 1, 2019 before the government cancelled the yatra midway ahead of abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into two Union territories (on August 5, 2019). (PTI)

Srinagar Records

at night for several weeks, until temperatures start to descend in late July and early August.

Meanwhile, Qazigund recorded a maximum of 32.0°C against 32.4°C on the previous day, a MeT official said.

Pahalgam recorded a maximum of 28.2°C against 27.6°C on the previous day. The temperature was 2.2°C above normal for the famous resort in south

Kashmir during this time of the season, he said.

Kokernag recorded a maximum of 31.5°C against 30.5°C on the previous day. It was 3.4°C above normal for the place in south Kashmir during this time of the season, the official added.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 23.2°C against 22.8°C on the previous night, the official said. While 21.6°C is normal for the world famous skiing resort during this time of the season, the official said that the temperature was 1.6°C above normal for the famous place in north Kashmir's Baramulla

Jammu recorded a maximum of 39.6°C against 39.0°C on the previous night, the official said.

The temperature was 1.9°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a maximum of 30.4°C, Batote 29.2°C, Katra 35.6°C while Bhadarwah had a minimum of 33.5°C, he said.

2 Killed In Exchange

possession of 04 AK rifles, 08 Magazines and 02 packets of narcotics whereas 02 more AK rifles along with magazines and 04 grenades were found on the other side of fence," the spokesperson said.

Army, he said, has recovered war like store in the operation, including AK 47 & 56 rifles - 5, AK rifle Shotgun - 01, Magazines-15, 7.62mm API rds - 128 rounds, 7.62mm Ball rounds - 177 rounds, Grenades- 04 and Narcotics - 2 pkts.

the Amarnathji Shrine Board

Android mobile app has been

revamped and launched in

5 languages- Hindi, English, Punjabi, Gujarati and Telugu to

facilitate Yatris with up to date

It was informed that the duty

officers deputed have been giv-

en training about the SoPs of all

services related to covid, health,

cleanliness, waste management,

monitoring of travel, food and

prasad. Further, disaster related

facilities have also been duly

planned and mock drills have

also been conducted regularly

to tackle any eventuality.

information, advisories etc.

The police spokesperson said that a case has been registered and investigation taken up.

Govt Taking Steps

and turn the villages into self-sufficient.

"Our focus is on enhancing the capacity of the farmers so they can earn better prices and act as facilitators of economic growth", Sinha said.

He observed that J&K UT has made impressive progress in production, value addition, and marketing in the last two years for ensuring sustainable income to the farmers.

"The UT administration has taken consistent steps to gradually convert rural areas into economic units and bridge the gap between villages and cities," he said.

"We have succeeded in expanding local product branding, mechanization, high-density plantation, quality seed, capacity building, GI tagging, banking facility, and micro irrigation to provide maximum benefits to our farming community," he added.

The LG hailed the leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi for brining path-breaking reforms have been taken in the Agriculture sector.

"Today the whole world is looking towards India with hope to overcome agricultural challenges. Young scientists will spearhead the mission of holistic approach and pragmatic programme in harnessing tremendous capacities of agriculture sector. The pace of transforming rural economy will be accelerated by adopting modern Agri strategies and environment-friendly technologies," he said.

As per the spokesperson, the LG said that promotion of inclusive growth, ensuring food security and increasing the rural income of J&K are three important goals that we need to focus on priority.

Sinha, he said, also impressed upon the young agriculture scholars and scientists to dedicate their energies, experiences gained from this University, towards the national goal of achieving inclusive growth and sustained progress.

"I assure all young students and Agrientrepreneurs that the UT administration will ensure all institutional support to realize your dreams. At present, we are providing handholding support to around 500 entrepreneur farmers and next year it will be doubled", the LG said

On the occasion, the LG conferred degrees to graduates and medals to the meritorious students of the University.

Taking note of women students clinching maximum medals at the convocation ceremony, the LG, as per the spokesperson, congratulated them and termed the growing representation of women in Agriculture sector as an auspicious sign for the whole fraternity and nation.

He further said that the LG also urged the University authorities to enhance research and extension activities, strengthen farmer–student connect, and motivate students to compete for place in the Agricultural Science Congress in future.

According to the spokesperson, Prof. J P Sharma, Vice-Chancellor SKUAST, read the Vice Chancellor's report and briefed about salient achievements of the University in the field of education, research, and extension. He said that the University is mandated to serve farmers of the Jammu and Kashmir.

"He said continuous efforts are being

made to expand the functional dimensions of the University by way of having more faculties, infrastructure and matching human resource which has been made possible by the present UT administration," he said.

This is the first time in the history of SKUAST-Jammu that convocation was held for three days.

Basanth Rath

He said it would be premature to make any comment on the subject at the moment.

In July 2000, Rath was suspended by the Ministry of Home Affairs for "repeated instances of gross misconduct and misbehavior"

and misbehavior". J&K Bank Gets

Stock of J&K Bank closed at Rs 26 apiece on BSE, up by 1.56 per cent from previous close.

Kashmir's 'Biggest

Weeks after Shahgund, several critically-endangered Himalayan brown bears were sighted in the hinterlands of Bandipora.

Rattled residents said that these ani-

mals were seen in Khandyal village while another similar bear was spotted crossing the Kishanganga dam site. Some elders of the area have also admitted that they've "never seen such ani-

mals before".

Last year, two such bears were sighted in Dumail area of Baltal near Amarnath cave shrine, besides three were seen in Drass sector of Ladakh region.

"In Kargil range, the animal was rarely spotted before," says Aaliya Mir of Wildlife SOS. "But now, it's being seen in lower vicinities due to massive construction, increased military footfall, nomad footprint and trekking destinations."

People throw garbage out of their homes which, Aaliya says, is also a reason for brown bears to come down from high altitude.

"These wild animals have started relying on trash and food waste generated by humans at campsites, hotels, and restaurants for sustenance," she says.

"There have also been frequent sightings of the animal in the cropland, market places and military installations. Their sudden presence in Gurez has to do with construction and tourist infrastructure works there."

During his jungle jaunt, Nazir halts

at a secluded spot imprinted with some stark footmarks of a brown bear. "They're now migrating like never

"They're now migrating, like never before, from the higher reaches to the residential areas because of human interference in their habitat," the wildlife official says.

"It's a clear sign and statement of what goes around, comes out."

J&K Logs 68

So far, 4,49,772 people have recovered from the disease, they said. **Two Migrant**

duo as Ladau Kumar(18) son of Sukhari Kumar and Jugal Kumar (25) son of Kamal Kumar—both residents of Siwan Bihar.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and started an investigation

investigation. **SIA Books SIM Card**

SIA/CIK, Srinagar," SIA said in a statement issued here.

"The two premises belonged to Javid Ahmad Bhat son of Ali Mohammad Bhat of Mohalla Gunwari Gugloosa, Kupwara, who is the proprietor of "Bhat Telecom" who sold these SIM cards in violation of department of Telecom regulations and in a manner that amounts to forgery and cheating."

The basic allegation that has triggered the criminal investigation, SIA said, is that the proprietor of "Bhat Telecom" as a part of criminal conspiracy hatched with OGWs, sympathizers of (militant) organizations, and narcotic smugglers are involved in preparing and selling of SIM cards of various telecom companies by using fraudulent and dishonest methods.

"Prima facie evidence has become available to show that forging of records has taken place wherein photos of a single person has been used to prepare multiple SIM cards with different names and identities," SIA said, adding, "It is being investigated if this is the only method or other ways and means have been adopted for forging required documents for obtaining SIM cards."

Investigation have been initiated to find out who all have used these "fraudulently" prepared Sim cards and how many of them have been used by militants, their associates, drug smugglers, arms and ammunition smugglers and also those who have been dealing with terror funding especially dumping the proceeds of sale of narcotics in

different bank accounts.

During searches conducted today,
SIA said, "incriminating materials such
as digital devices, SIM cards, SD cards,
Compact disks, bank transaction slips
and documents having a bearing on
the investigation have been recovered
and seized."

CID is also coordinating similar investigations by various police stations across J&K pertaining to as many as 14000 SIM cards that have been fraudulently issued by stealing identities and forging records, SIA. "Out of about 28 thousand SIM card vendors, more than a thousand vendors are under scanner for issuing these fraud SIM cards to fictitious persons," SIA said, adding, "While the SIM cards have been deactivated, their subscribers on papers are being identified on the basis of available truncated particulars."

They would be questioned to reach the actual users, revealed sources within SIA. "Technology and call records would also be used to pinpoint the actual users. Competent courts of law are being approached with prayers to summon records that would facilitate in finding out if a SIM card was ever used by a listed terrorist or a known OGW or a drug smuggler or inside a jail. Those SIM card sellers and subscribers who would voluntarily cooperate would be entitled to benefits available under law.

PoS vendors selling SIM cards, SIA said, have no option but to tighten their belts and cannot escape liability especially when it's proved that the SIM card they have prepared against forged documents has been used by militants and cross border criminals. Similarly, SIA said, subscribers also would come under legal liability of aiding and abetting crime especially if their cards have been used inside jails or used to communicate to militant handlers sitting across in Pakistan.

"CID Is also planning to request Department of telecommunication to extend the facility (TAFCOP) to J&K that has been made available by DoT to many states wherein a subscriber can check online through a special portal if SIM cards are being used by unknown persons against his name and without his knowledge."

Biker Killed In

incident and have initiated proceedings under relevant sections of law.

Son Killed In Accident, **Father Dies Of Heart Attack**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Tragedy befell a family in south Kashmir's Anantnag district as news about the death of his son in a road mishap, re-

Quoting officials news agency (PB07AK-1407) rider namely Arif Ahmed son of Abdul Rehman, a resident of Panchalthan Chittergul collided with a passenger cab

declared him as brought dead on arrival, they said.

Back home, on hearing the news about the death of his son, the father, Abdul Rehman Wani, suffered a massive carsulted in passing away of father. diac arrest. He was shifted to SDH Shangus, where he also GNS reported that a motorcycle was declared as brought dead on arrival.

Confirming the deaths of the father son duo, a police official said that a case under relevant (JK02AB 1227) near Panchthan sections of law has been regis-Shangus this morning, resulting tered into the accident involving in critical injuries to the rider. He death of the motorcyclist. "Both was subsequently removed to the bodies currently lie at SDH SDH Shangus, where the doctors Shangus", they added.

Mehbooba, Omar, Tarigami **Criticise Zubair's Arrest**

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Meharrested Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair on a day India joined G7 countries to commit to defending democratic principles and protecting the freedom of expression.

protect freedom of expression and on the same day, Zubair is arrested." she said.

She said Zubair had brought truth to people but today he is being hounded for posting a scene from a Bollywood movie.

Zubair was arrested by the Delhi Police on Monday for allegedly hurting religious sentiments through one of his tweets posted in 2018. His arrest came days after the Gujarat authorities arrested Teesta Setalvad on the charges of "criminal conspiracy, forgery and placing false evidence in court to frame innocent people" in the 2002 Gujarat riots.

Mehbooba criticised the arrests and said, "It is the worst day for democracy in the country."

The former chief minister alleged that Setalvad was being targeted for fighting for the rights of the oppressed.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah also took a swipe at the decision to arrest Zubair. Abdullah posted the screenwhich Zubair was arrested and

the other by now-sacked BJP leader Naveen Kumar Jindal.

"Only one of these tweets will booba Mufti on Tuesday said it get you arrested for hurting reliwas ironic that the Delhi Police gious sentiments & no prizes for guessing which one. There isn't even the pretence of equality under law any longer," the National Conference vice president said.

CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami said the Narendra Modi-led BJP "It is a strange thing that on government was using strongone hand our government signs arm tactics to muzzle the voice the pledge with G7 countries to of those who "expose its false propaganda and hate speech".

"It is very unfortunate that journalists like Zubair, who highlight the truth and hold mirror to the government, are being witch-hunted and booked under flimsy charges while the hate-mongers are roaming freely," Tarigami said.

He alleged that the central government was "peddling lies and misinformation" only to hide "its failure on a host of counts", political and economic.

"CPI(M) demands the immediate release of Zubair," he said. In a statement issued on Mon-

day, leaders of the G7 grouping and its five partner countries, including India, committed to open public debate, independent and pluralistic media and the free flow of information online and offline, while guarding the freedom, independence and diversity of civil society actors.

The leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said they are prepared to defend these principles and are reshots of two tweets -- one for solved to protect the freedom of

Sarmad Hafeez, Sheikh Fayaz **Review Yatra Arrangements**



Observer News Service

SONMARG: Secretary, Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez and Commissioner Secretary, Floriculture, Sheikh Favaz on Tuesday visited here and reviewed the arrangements put in place by the Government Departments and service providers for the smooth conduct of Shri Amarnathii Yatra-22.

The two administrative secretaries went up to Baltal, Domel impressed upon all Departand beyond to have an on spot inspection of shelter sheds, welcome boards and other facilities being put up by the Departments for the facilitation and convenience of the yatries.

During the visit, Sarmad Hafeez and Sheikh Fayaz and had an extensive interaction SDA, Mushtaq Ahmad; and sevwith the local service providers eral other officers accompanied who assured all support in the two Administrative Secreconduct of the ensuing yatra.

Appreciating the gesture of the service providers, the two Administrative Secretaries said this is ingrained in the ethos of the local people who have been welcoming tourists and yatries with open arms for long times. Later, Sarmad Hafeez and

Sheikh Fayaz held a review meeting with representatives of various departments and agencies.

During the meeting, it was ments to work in synergy for the successful conduct of the yatra and complete all balance works by doubling the efforts.

Director, Tourism, Kashmir. Dr. G N Itoo; Director, Floriculture, Kashmir, Farooq Ahmad Rather; Chief Executive Officer, taries during their visit.

Summer Break In Kashmir Schools Likely From Next Week

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid heat wave, the Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department is likely to announce summer vacations for winter zones of Kashmir division from the first week of July, Officials said.

partment is likely to announce summer vacations for schools in Kashmir valley in the first week of July," top officials told a local

news agency KNO. Earlier in May, the authorities May-30 to July-09.

had announced summer vacations in Jammu region for all classes from May-23 and May-30 respectively:

The agency has reported that Director of School Education Jammu in an communiqué had said that in view of the prevailing hot weather "In Kashmir region, the de- conditions, all the government educational Institutions and recognized Private Schools shall observe Summer vacation from May-23 to July-09 upto 8th standard and for 9-12 classes, the vacation is slated

LeT Behind Series Of Explosions In Rajouri, Two Held: Police

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) outfit was behind the recent series of explosions in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, police said on Tuesday, claiming to have solved the case with the arrest of two of its operatives while the search is on for the main accused.

A huge cache of explosive material, including five improvised explosive devices (IEDs), was recovered at the disclosure of the arrested accused, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu, Mukesh Singh said.

Twin explosions rocked Kotrana town of Rajouri on March 26 and another on April 19, leaving two persons injured.

Two more persons were injured in another blast that took place in Shahpur-Budhal area of Rajouri on April 24.

Working on leads, joint teams ya Rifles (14 Sector) conducted multiple raids and search operations at various locations in Larkoti, Targain, Jaglanoo and Draaj areas of Rajouri and apprehended two suspects, Mohd Shabir and Mohd Sadiq of Draaj-Budhal village, the ADGP said.

During investigation, he said, it came to the fore that three accused Talib Shah, also of Draaj village of Budhal area, Shabir and Sadiq were involved in these incidents of blasts, he said.

on the directions of their Pakistan-based handlers, received



sives and later used these IEDs to trigger blasts, Singh said.

He said it has surfaced during preliminary investigation that the group is headed by Shah who has collected three consignments of arms, ammunition and explosives from the Lamberi-Kalakote area in the months of January, March and April.

Shabir and Sadiq have been of Rajouri Police and 60 Rashtri- arrested and the third accused (Shah) is absconding. Shah is the commander of LeT in general area Rajouri and the mastermind of all militant activities in the Pir Panjal area, the police official said.

He said Shah has also motivated many youths for carrying out militant activities in

Shabir and Sadiq were also motivated by Shah to conduct militant activities. Shah has remained instrumental in almost These individuals, working all militant incidents in Pir Panjal districts in last two to three years, the Jammu region police weapons, ammunition, explo- chief said, announcing a suit- fuses and 19 battery cells.

able reward for anyone sharing credible information leading to the arrest of Shah.

Singh said it was also revealed that this group was sheltering a few Kashmir-based active militants of LeT in the general area of Kandi-Budhal and was making efforts to revive militancy in Pir Panjal districts of Rajouri and Poonch.

This is a big achievement for police and security forces as the blasts had triggered panic in the area and these accused were also planning more such incidents to target security forces. The arrest of two associates of Shah is a big blow to the militant outfit (LeT), the ADGP said.

During preliminary questioning, he said, the arrested accused disclosed that they had hidden some explosive materials at Draai forest and subsequently a joint search operation was carried out by police and 60 Rashtriya Rifles, which led to the recovery of five IEDs, five remote controls, 10

Muslims Participate In KP Girl's Marriage In Ganderbal

Local Muslim Women Welcome Groom, Participate In Dancing, Singing Rituals

Agencies

GANDERBAL: In yet another example of centuries old tradition and communal harmony, Kashmiri Muslims participated in marriage ceremony of a Kashmiri Pandit woman in Lar village of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

Locals, while talking to re-porters said that the Muslim neighbours participated in the marriage ceremony of Meenu Kumari daughter of Late Pandit Mohan Lal in Lar village.

They said that they parwoman and also ate together. brethren for the last four days.

"This is an example of age old tradition and communal harmony under which both Muslim the Kashmir Valley. and Pandit families have been living together, even as there for years now and we have parhave been unfavourable condi-ticipating in each other's func-thin," he said. tions many times," the locals tions, be it marriage, someone's said, as per news agency KNO.

Meanwhile, talking to reporters, district president Gander- some of our Muslim brothers Badrinath Bhat said that the



last four days here and in these four days, Muslim neighbours including men and women participated in every ritual.

handiraat other rituals includwhile being with their Pandit ing singing and dancing, which gives a clear message that how Muslims and Hindus have been living in their neighbourhood in

"We have been living together death or any other function, we have been together. Recently went to see them off like their

Meanwhile, another local Altaf

Ahmad said that they have been living and brought up together in the neighbourhood and it was ticipated in every ritual of the He said that Muslim men and their duty to participate in Hinmarriage ceremony of pandit women participated in me- du woman' marriage ceremony. He said that this

old bond between Hindus and Muslims here and it will not be broken by any mischievous element. "We have been living together and we will continue to do so and will support and love each other in every thick and

Muslim women were seeing welcoming the groom and also participated in singing and dancing including "Kashmiri Wanbal Sanatham Dharam Sabha, went for Haj pilgrimage, we also wun" along with Pandit woman during the marriage ceremony.

Tribal Family Fears For Wild Animals In Bhaderwah

'Compelled To Take Shelter Under Rock In Forest'

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The 10-member tribal nomad family is compelled to live under a huge hanging rock in the middle of a dense forest in Jammu and Kashmir's Bhadarwah after their seasonal mifor their livestock around middle of the last month.

The family found their 'Dhok' (mud house) burnt on reaching Fuklaan forest like few other families living in the upper reaches of Jaie and Guldanda and is desperately looking for assistance from the government to survive the harsh weather conditions and the threat of wild animals.

Firoz Din Chaarr, a nonagenarian. said he along with his family is living in subhuman conditions in Fuklaan Dhaar area of Bhaderwah amid the harsh weather, constant fear of wild animals and the threat of getting buried under the hanging rock under which his family had taken refuge. "I am 96 now and all my life, I tried my best to live with dignity and self respect, but now my biggest worry is that if I die, how my family could manage themselves here under these circumstances," Chaarr told PTI.

He said he does not have the en-

ergy to rebuild his house again.

accommodation for my family and district, Chaarr was left with no other ailing wife because it is very difficult to survive without a shelter in harsh weather conditions which is a routine in these hills, especially during July and August," he said. When contacted, Additional Deputy Commisgration in search of greener pastures sioner, Bhaderwah, Dil Mir Choudhary assured that the administration will provide them immediate assistance and will probe the mysterious burning of the Dhoks.

"Police will be asked to take cognizance of the matter of repeated burning of Dhoks to bring the culprits to book," he said. Divisional Forest Officer, Bhadar-

wah. Chander Shekhar also extended helping hand to the affected families and assured that the timber from fallen trees in the vicinity of their location will be given to them.

Like hundreds of tribal Gujjar and Bakarwal families who traditionally move along with their cattle to the vast meadows of Chenab region since centuries for summer months, Chaarr and his family reached his meadow at Fuklaan Dhaar, 42 kms from Bhadarwah town, on May 15 and found his Dhok destroved in fire.

They have been pressing the panic button and are pleading for urgent help on humanitarian grounds. A The only favour I want is a tented resident of Barnoti village of Kathua

option but to take refuge under a huge hanging rock in the middle of the forest along with his 90-year-old ailing wife Gaabi and eight other family members including five minor children aged between one and 10 years, his widowed daughter Jaambo (65) and daughter-in-law Fatima Bibi (35). "I have been residing in Fuklaan

meadow for six months of summer for 90 years in complete peace and harmony but in the last one decade our Dhok was burnt four times in 2012, 2016, 2019 and 2022, respectively," he said. Pleading for help, he said they need a tented accommodation and timber from fallen trees as the past two years of Coronavirus had rendered them economically weak.

"Due to two years of Corona pandemic, we could not sell our produce (milk and milk products) in the market and have become bankrupt." his daughter Jaambo said. She said she is the only bread earner for the family of 10 and had to trek 16 kms every day to sell milk to make both ends meet.

"Due to the pandemic, I am left with no money to hire labourers or buy building material. But it hurts to see my elderly parents and kids either shivering with cold or sweating due to sweltering heat. So please help me out to save my family," Jaambo said.

Traders' Delegation Meets LG In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A joint delegation of Chamber of Commerce and Inof Industries (FOI) on Tuesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here and submitted their list of various demands.

The delegation led by CCI president Arun Gupta and FOI president Rajesh Jain briefed the Lt Governor about the problems being faced by the traders and industrialists of the Jammu region, a spokesperson of the chamber said.

Opposing the proposed 70 per cent hike in power tariff and 50 per cent rise in the fixed charges, the delegation said such a big jump has never been seen in the

country by any utility provider. The proposed power hike will not only hit the existing industry but will also send a bad signal to prospective investors who are ready to venture into J&K due to the efforts of the government, the delegation said.

They also raised the issue of the extension of validity of provisional registration of industrial units.

The Apex Project Clearance Committee in its meeting held on December 8 last year granted an extension to the validity of provisional registration up to concerned for early consider-June 30, 2022, to the units, they ation of the demands.

said, adding the units had not commenced production within the stipulated time due to certain unavoidable circumstances dustries (CCI) and Federation like non-sanctioning of loan, delay in supply of machinery, non-issuance of the certificate from Pollution Control Board

and non-sanctioning of power. They urged the Lieutenant Governor to take effective steps by extending the validity of provisional registration of such industrial units by at least one year.

They also raised various issues like marketing support for local units, ownership rights of leasehold industrial land to entrepreneurs, delay in filing of refund claims and circle rates for the industry.

Their demands also included removal of negative lists, an extension of Central Package 2021 to existing industries under substantial expansion, simplification of registration and renewal of hotels, lodges and guest houses, grant of benefits of the industry to hotels and lodges, VAT Amnesty Scheme, Power Amnesty Scheme and owner-

ship rights for Warehouse. The spokesperson said the Lieutenant Governor gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured them that he will pass necessary directions to the

TTK Prestige Acquires Over 40% Stake In The Equity Of Ultrafresh



Observer News Service

BENGALURU: TTK Prestige, India's leading kitchen appliances company, today announced the progress on a strategic investment and business collaboration deal with Ultrafresh, an end-toend modular kitchen solutions provider.

TTK Prestige has acquired a strategic stake of over 40 percent in the equity of Ultrafresh to forge a business collaboration between the two companies. The initiative ties-in with TTK Prestige's overall goal of becoming a total kitchen

Rengaluru, the company revealed way to achieving double-digit through innovative products in multiple categories such as cookers, cookware, gas stoves and appliances.

As a leader in the kitchen appliances space, making an entry into the INR 9500 crores modular kitchen industry is a natural extension for TTK Prestige as a brand. This is a significant move, as it makes TTK Prestige aunique player equipped to offer kitchen appliances and modular kitchens all under one roof.

It is estimated that the Indian modular kitchen market will grow at a CAGR of 20 per cent lar Solutions Limited said: "We during 2021-2026 and will hit are very honoured to join hands INR 23000 croresin the next 5 Years

As part of the business collaboration, Ultrafresh Modular Solutions has opened their first experience centre in Koramangala, Bengaluru. With multiple designs of kitchens on display at the 2700 sq feet store, customers can get a first-hand glimpse at product, channel, and infraand choose from the vast array structure level, and mentorship of modular kitchens to suit their unique requirements. Ultrafresh pioneered steel kitchens in India and screwless cabinets. Currently, the brandhas 120 studios and they have manufactured 5000

man of TTK Prestige said: "As a value from the partnership."

business, we are proud of the solid all-round performance that TTK Prestige has delivered. We are committed to growing our presence in the kitchen space. This means that we are always thinking outside the box and are pleased to go the extra mile to add value to the lives of our customers. Interestingly enough, we have seen strong demand for innovative and premium products. This is aligned with our commitment to innovation as a business and our desire to provide home cooks with products that elevate their cooking experience.'

Mr. Chandru Kalro, Managing At a press conference held in Director, TTK Prestige said: "It is said that when two powerful that the business is well on its and driven brands come together, they create a formidable force. growth, having madein-roads That is precisely what we have done with this partnership. This initiative is reflective of our longterm vision of owning the entire kitchen space. For over six decades, our valued customers have come to rely on us as their kitchen appliances brand of choice. Today, we are pleased to go above and beyond by being a one-stop shop for all things related to the kitchen. We are committed to taking Indian kitchens on a journey of transformation, through our total kitchen solutions offerings."

Mr. Dhruv Trigunayat, Chief Executive Officer, Ultrafresh Moduwith an esteemed organization like TTK Prestige. Ultrafresh from the very beginning has come to the market with the ambitious vision of becoming the No. 1 modular kitchen brand in India, and this ambition could not have found a better partner than TTK Prestige. With obvious business synergy from the team that has sustained market leadership for decades, together as Ultrafresh powered by Prestige, we are best placed in the industry to make the kitchen space our own. We are filled with kitchens across the country. energy and enthusiasm, and hope Mr. T T Jagannathan, Chair-that both organizations derive

Woman Killed As Car Rams Into Truck In Kathua

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A 60-year-old woman was killed and her four relatives a police official said. seriously injured on Tuesday when their private car rammed into a parked truck in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

Rajbagh on Jammu-Pathankot was declared brought dead.

highway when the driver lost control over the car and hit the truck stationed on the roadside,

He said five persons travelling in the car were seriously injured in the accident and were rushed to Government Medical College (GMC) hospital, where Chanchal The accident took place at Gupta, a resident of Chadwal,

'Playgrounds Constructed' In Every Panchayat'

J&K Sports Policy 2022 a step towards bringing excellence in Sports



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: "To encourage and motivate the sports-loving youth of I&K to choose sports as a profession, J&K Government is constructing one playground in each Panchayat of UT to nurture the talent," a press release from the J&K Administration said on Tuesday.

For the promotion of sports at the grass-root level, each panchayat has been provided with sports kits during the Back to Village-3 as per the local reauirements.

The sports policy of J&K has laid a vision for promoting excellence in traditional sports like Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Archery, Mud Wrestling and Tug of War. Emphasis is laid down on developing facilities for coaching of these sports across the UT. The talent of rural youth is scouted and nurtured in coaching camps for national competitions. Financial assistance is also being provided for achieving excellence in these sports.

According to the policy, opportunities would be provided and continuous monitoring and to all citizens - urban and ru- mentoring, J&K Govt is creating ral to participate in sports and games and organize sports comment, leadership and self-espetitions at the Panchayat, zonal, district, State / UT, National &

International levels. According to the J&K Sports ties in J&K are historic.

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: District level Inter

Zonal Competitions of all age

The competitions are taking

place at three playing venues, for

Boys at Sports Stadium Anant-

nag and for Girls at Girls Higher

Secondary school Ranibagh and

at Hanfia WAKAF Higher Sec-

At GHSS Ranibagh Principal of

the institution inaugurated the

tournament and interacted with

ticipants tor representing their

ondary School Anantnag.

the girl participants.

Anantnag on Tuesday.

District Level Inter Zonal

Competitions Begin In Anantnag

groups for Boys and Girls in the School, Principal of the institu-

sports disciplines of Volleyball, tion interacted with the partici-

Kabaddi and Kho kicks tarted in spating teams and lauded the role

Speaking on the occasion arrangements in advance to

she congratulated the Girl parmake the event a grand success.

Zones at District level. She also tourney is organised by the Depart-

appreciated the efforts of dement of Youth Services and Sports.

Policy 2022, DYSS shall develop and maintain sport & fitness zones at the Panchayat, village

and block levels. The Government has taken a number of steps in this regard such as ensuring at least one playfield in every Panchayat, establishing over 4500 Youth Clubs and organising of number of sporting activities to enable the youth of the J&K to participate in sporting activities.

The youth of Jammu and Kashmir have immense sports potential with many players from the UT representing the country in different sports. J&K is witnessing a new revolution in Sports Sector. The UT is equally equipped as other states of country and has potential to produce world-class sportspersons.

Acknowledging this sports potential of J&K, GOI sanctioned Rs 200 Cr under the Prime Minister's Development Package for the up-gradation of sports infrastructure and encouragement of budding talent in the field.

With the combination of world-class facilities, coaches

teem among youth. recently established sports infrastructure and facili-

partment for providing platform

to the Girls for taking active part

At WAKAF Higher Secondary

of YS and S department for orga-

Tuesday's matches were

scheduled in the Age Groups of

U-14 Boys and Girls. Teams from

12 Zones of the District in each

sports discipline are participat-

took part in the Competition.

Around 250 Girls and 265 boys

Activities Section DYSSO An-

antnag had put in place all the

Pertinent to mention that the

ing in the competition.

in sports activities.

nizing such events.

India To Tour New Zealand For White-Ball Series After T20 WC



Press Trust of India

WELLINGTON: India will be touring New Zealand for a three T20Is and as many ODIs after the World T20 in Australia, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said on Tuesday.

The series will be held between November 18 to 30 and dia for a white-ball series in January next year.

land at the conclusion of the comprising three ODIs and five world cup to play the BLACKCAPS in three T20s at Wellington, Tauranga and Napier, and three ODIs at Auckland, Hamilton and Christchurch," NZC said in a release.

for a tour of Pakistan and a short form series in India, before returning in early Februwhite-ball series comprising ary to prepare for the two Tests against England at Tauranga (D/N) and Wellington."

India will be playing a rescheduled one-off fifth Test against England beginning on Zealand Friday, besides featuring in New Zealand will return to In- three T20Is and as many ODIs at the Old Blighty.

India will then tour the West "India will arrive in New Zea- Indies for a white-ball series T20Is in July-August in the runup to the T20 World Cup.

In a jam-packed international schedule, New Zealand will also Park, Hamilton play a day-night Test against "The BLACKCAPS will then England, while six teams will **Oval, Christchurch**.

depart for the sub-continent be touring the country in the 2022-23 home summer.

Besides India, the other touring teams include Pakistan. Bangladesh, England and Sri Lanka men's teams, and Bangladesh women.

November 18: 1st T20; Sky Stadium, Wellington November 20: 2nd T20; Bay Oval, Mount Maunganui November 22: 3rd T20; McLean Park, Napier November 25: 1st ODI; Eden

Park, Auckland November 27: 2nd ODI; Seddon November 30: 3rd ODI; Hagley

England Captain Eoin Morgan Retires From International Cricket

LONDON: England's white-ball captain Eoin Morgan has retired from international cricket with immediate effect, the England and Wales Cricket Board said on Tuesday.

During his 13-year international career, the 35-year-old had led England to the 2019 ODI World Cup title -- their first World title in the 50-overs format. He was also part of the England team that won the 2010 T20 Cricket World Cup in the Caribbean.

Morgan is the all-time leading run-scorer and most-capped player for England men in both ODI and T20I matches.

During his seven-year tenure as ODI captain, he guided England to number one in the ICC world rankings, including notable series victories against all the major nations.

In his record-breaking 225 ODI caps, he scored 6,957 runs, including 13 hundreds at an aves as Captain, Morgan oversaw 76 victories with a win percentage of 60 per cent, the best win record by any England ODI Captain in the history of the game.

He captained the Men's T20I side on 72 occasions, equal to India's Mahendra Singh Dhoni as the most in T20 international cricket. In all, he represented point," Morgan said.



2,458 runs. As a Test cricketer, he won 16 caps over a three-year period scoring two centuries.

He also holds the world record for the highest number of sixes in an ODI innings, with 17 against Afghanistan at the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup.

In 2020, he received a CBE for services to cricket. Morgan started his international career with Ireland, where he played 23 ODIs from 2006 to 2009.

"After careful deliberation and consideration, I am here to announce my retirement from erage of 39.75. In his 126 match- international cricket with immediate effect.

"To call time on what has been without doubt the most enjoyable and rewarding chapter of my career hasn't been an easy decision, but I believe now is the right time to do so, both for me, personally, and for both England white-ball sides I have led to this

Australia Brace For Spin Challenge In Sri Lanka Tests



Agencies

GALLE: After an unexpected 3-0 series defeat on the previous tour of Sri Lanka six years ago, Australia expects to bat much better on spin-friendly pitches in the two-test series in Galle starting on Wednesday.

Australia has found nl Asia's turning pitches hard in the past but has done well recently, beating Pakistan 1-0 in a threematch series in March. Of more significance, Sri Lanka's spin attack doesn't have the experience and variety of the retired Rangana Herath and Dilruwan Perera, whose combined 43 wickets caused Australia's downfall in the 2016 series.

In a lot of ways it will be quite different, Australia captain Pat Cummins said in comparing the condi-

tions in Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka can field left-arm spinners Lasith Embuldeniya and Praveen Jayawickrama and and helped rebuild it after it was

Vandersay, uncapped in tests.

The first three have played only 27 tests combined, but Sri Lanka will be encouraged by how well the spinners performed in the one-day international series it won 3-2.

Sri Lanka's seam bowlers have been better than the spinners: Asitha Fernando and Kasun Rajitha carried the team to victory in the recent two-test series in

Bangladesh. Australia has its own strong spin attack, led by offspinner Nathon Lyon, who has 427 wickets in 108 matches. Cummins said Lyon will like be partnered by legspinner Mitchell Swepson, who had two wickets across the two Pakistan tests.

The series for the Warne-Muralitharan Trophy is the first since Australia great Shane Warne died in March. Galle has a special connection to Warne, who took his 500th test wicket in the stadium offspinner Ramesh Mendis. Also destroyed by the 2004 Indian in the squad is legspinner Jeffrey Ocean tsunami. (AP)

England Will Come Out With Same Mindset Against India: Ben Stokes

Press Trust of India

LEEDS: Relentless in their 3-0 sweep of New Zealand, England captain Ben Stokes said there will be no let-up in intensity against India in the upcoming rescheduled fifth Test.

Under the leadership of Stokes and new coach Brendon McCullum, England recorded a phenomenal 3-0 win in the Test series against reigning WTC champions New Zealand, capping it off with a seven-wicket victory in the third and final match at Headingley.

The one-off Test against India, a part of last year's five-match series, which was abandone due to a COVID-19 outbreak, will begin at Edgbaston on Friday.

"Trust me when I say this. We'll be coming out with exactly the same (aggressive) mindset, even though it's a different opposition," Stokes said on Monday.

"Obviously, it's going to be a completely different... different opposition, with their attack and players as well.



last three games and look to continue that against India on Friday."

The visitors are leading the five-match series 2-1 but will face a revitalised England, which comprise only four members -- Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Bairstow and James Anderson -- from last year's fourth Test against the Indians.

Stokes himself was not available for the series last year as team over these three games. "We'll be concentrating on he had taken a break to focus They've been absolutely phewhat we've done well over these on his mental health.

England endured a tough time in the last few months, winning just once in 17 Tests before the New Zealand series. Praising his teammates for

turning things around, Stokes

said: "To walk away with a 3-0 se-

ries win over the best team in the world is a pretty special start." "I've got to show a huge amount of testament to the

JK Sports Council Orders Transfer Of 70 Employees

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Hall, Srinagar. Junior Coach Sports Council (JKSC) on Tuesday ordered the transfer and posting of 70 employees from their current place of posting. The move comes days Jammu & Kashmir after their promotions. Sports Council

fers have been ordered throughout Jammu and Kashmir. Readers can find the Kashmir-specific transfers below:

Abdul Majid Dar has been transferred and posted as manager Sports Stadium Baramulla/ Bandipora, while Senior Coach Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar has been transferred and posted at TRC Playfield, Srinagar.

Junior Coach Javed Ahmad Sofi has been transferred and posted at Gindun Sports Complex, Srinagar as well as TRC Playfield, Srinagar, Junior Coach Abid Nabi has been transferred and posted at Bakshi Stadium Srinagar in addition to TRC cricket field, Sri-

Junior Coach Mohamamd posted at Indoor Sports Com- playfield, Srinagar.

plex, Illahi Bagh, Srinagar in addition to Polo Ground Indoor Shabir Ahmad has been trans-

ferred and posted at Sports Stadium Budgam on alternate days in addition to SKISC Srinagar. As per the order,

According to order no. 500 of 2022, various trans- been transferred and posted at playfield Natipora, Bemina. Rayees Ahmad Joo has been transferred and posted at Srinagar Sports Club, SKISC, Srinagar, Khazir Mohamamad Ganie has been transferred and posted as In-charge Indoor Sports Hall Shadipora, Bandipora.

Deputy Managers Sheikh Altaf Ahmad has been transferred and posted at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar, Hilal Ahmad Bhat has been transferred and posted at Gindun Sports Complex, Raj Bagh, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Lone has been transferred and posted at playfield Kulangam and Indoor Sports Hall Handwara/Kupwara, Maqsood Ahmad Khan has been transferred and posted at play field Baghiwaris Khan in addition Iqbal has been transferred and to Gani Memorial and Radapora

F1 Condemns Racism After Piquet's Reported Slur At Hamilton

Agencies

PARIS: Formula One condemned racist language after a slur reportedly directed at Lewis Hamilton by retired champion Nelson Piquet.

Piquet was discussing a crash between Hamilton and Max Verstappen during last year's British Grand Prix when the 69-year-old Brazilian referenced the colour of Hamilton's skin with a discriminatory term during a podcast in November

"Discriminatory or racist language is unacceptable in any form and has no part in society. Lewis is an incredible ambassador for our sport and deserves respect," F1 said in a statement on Tuesday. "His tireless efforts to increase diversity and inclusion are a lesson to many and something we are committed to at F1."

Hamilton is the only Black driver in F1. The seven-time switched from silver to an allworld champion has cam- black car in 2020 to support paigned tirelessly to fight rac- Hamilton's efforts to combat ism and has been outspoken on racism. Hamilton and most human rights abuses in countries where F1 goes racing. Motorsport governing body

FIA also defended Hamilton. "The FIA strongly condemns to improve F1's diversity. any racist or discriminatory



society, the FIA said. We express our solidarity with @LewisHamilton and fully support his commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion in motor sport."

Hamilton's Mercedes team known as the Silver Arrows drivers took a knee before races in 2020 and 2021 as an anti-racism gesture. Hamilton also set up The Hamilton Commission

"We condemn in the stronlanguage and behaviour, which gest terms any use of racist or end. (AP)

have no place in sport or wider discriminatory language of any kind. Lewis has spearheaded our sport's efforts to combat racism, and he is a true champion of diversity on and off track," Mercedes said on Twitter.

Together, we share a vision for a diverse and inclusive motorsport, and this incident underlines the fundamental importance of continuing to strive for a brighter future.

Piquet clinched the F1 title three times in the 1980s and won 23 races. His daughter Kelly Piquet is Verstappen's girlfriend.

The British GP is this week-

AFC Extends Deadline For 2023 Asian Cup Bids



Agencies

KUALA LUMPUR: Countries wanting to replace China as host of soccer's 2023 Asian Cup were given extra time to prepare a bid by the Asian Football Confederation on Tuesday.

The AFC said it extended a deadline to July 15 from June 30 for member federations to show interest.

South Korea has said it wants to host the 24-nation tournament which was due to kick off in June next year. The four-yearly Asian Cup is typically played in January.

China gave up last month the 2023 hosting rights it was awarded in 2019, making it the latest international sports event cancelled in the pandemic amid the country's "zero-COVID" pol-

The 2023 host is being chosen during a lengthy bidding process for the 2027 Asian Cup which shapes as a contest between Qatar and Saudi Arabia. India and Iran have also bid.

The AFC executive committee is set to pick the 2023 host this year, before member federations vote for the 2027 host early next year. (AP)