



Quote!

No legacy is as rich as honesty
- William Shakespeare

NEWS DIGEST

J&K Logs 74 Corona Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's COVID-19 tally climbed to 4,55,257 on Saturday with 74 fresh cases, while no new deaths were reported, officials here said. The death toll stands at 4,756, they said. Of the fresh cases, 50 cases were reported from the Jammu division of the union territory and 24 from the Kashmir valley, the officials said. There are 561 active COVID-19 cases in Jammu **More on P6**

Two OGWs Booked Under PSA

JAMMU: Two Over Ground Workers (OGWs) allegedly involved in anti-national activities were booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said. Saqib Hussain Mir of Banola-Chiralla and Adil Iqbal Batt of Sazan-Bhagwah were found running militant modules to revive militancy in Doda at the behest of a **More on P6**

Parked Ambulance Rolls Into Chenab

JAMMU: An ambulance parked at a workshop for servicing, rolled down into river Chenab in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said. No one was present inside the ambulance when it plunged into the river near Ganpath bridge, they said. The CCTV footage of the incident shows the vehicle getting into reverse mode and crossing the road to the other side before **More on P6**

'Bovine Smuggler' Booked Under PSA

JAMMU: An alleged bovine smuggler was booked under stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Saturday. Mohd Amin, a resident of Manjimi-Dessa in Bhagwah tehsil has been detained under the PSA for his involvement in a number of bovine smuggling cases, a police spokesman said. So far seven FIRs have been registered against Amin at Doda police station for the same, he said. Police have launched a special drive against the bovine smugglers in the district this **More on P6**

Violence, Terrorism Will Achieve Nothing: LG

Says Govt Infra To Be Named After People Who Laid Down Their Lives For The Country

Observer News Service

Ganderbal: Asserting that violence and terrorism will achieve nothing, the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that the people must remember the sacrifices of the heroes of Jammu and Kashmir like Sheikh Abdul Jabbar and tread the path of peace to establish a progressive and prosperous society.

Sinha made these remarks while paying tributes to Jabbar, a prominent political figure of J&K during a public event at Guriwan Lar, Ganderbal on Saturday, an official spokesperson said. The event was organized by Sheikh Jabbar Foundation to commemorate the 32nd death anniversary of the late leader.

"I pay my humble tributes to the brave son of Maa Bharti Shri Sheikh Abdul Jabbar Sahib. A visionary grassroots leader Sheikh Abdul Jabbar Sahib worked selflessly for the people & progress of J&K and made the supreme sacrifice for the nation", the LG said.

"J&K UT is a symbol of India's unity and its greatness and we owe our strength to ancestors



like Sheikh Abdul Jabbar. With their blessings, we have made impressive strides to socio-economic development and today J&K's growth is stronger than ever," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG highlighted the government's endeavours to bring transparency, accountability and efficiency in the governance system, besides reforms and policy decisions to accelerate unprecedented growth in sectors like Industries, education, healthcare, power, connectivity, infrastructure, sports, social

security, self employment etc. "Public welfare reforms introduced by the government in the last two years are paying the dividend and people at the last ladder of development are receiving the benefits," Sinha said.

"Our objectives are clear- Social justice, equitable development and prosperity of all citizens. Welfare of our Tribals, workers, youth, women and farmers is evident in the various schemes launched by the government. I expect every section of society, especially youth to contribute to the economic progress of J&K."

OUR OBJECTIVES ARE CLEAR- SOCIAL JUSTICE, equitable development and prosperity of all citizens. Welfare of our Tribals, workers, youth, women and farmers is evident in the various schemes launched by the government. I expect every section of society, especially youth to contribute to the economic progress of J&K."

AEE Sacked For Unauthorised Absence

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The government of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday terminated an assistant executive engineer (Civil) of Jal Shakti Department from her services for remaining unauthorisedly absent from duties.

According to an order, the government has ordered removal of Nuzhat Shanoor D/o M.S. Salmani of Rawalpura, Srinagar from her services for remaining unauthorisedly absent from duties.

The order stated that after being appointed as AEE in 2007, she availed study leave in 2011 for 24 months and later sought extension of the same for one more year. The order stated that the **More on P6**



As Kashmir Valley continues to reel under intense heat wave, a group of school children attending open air classes in a village in South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

6,000 Yatris Leaves For Amarnath Cave

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Amid tight security arrangements, the fourth batch of 6,113 pilgrims, including 1,292 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Saturday to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, also comprising 195 Sadhus and 25 children, will be reaching the twin base camps of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district later in the day.

Over 20,000 pilgrims have offered **More on P6**

Pulitzer Photojournalist Stopped From Flying Abroad

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: A Pulitzer-winning Kashmiri photojournalist was Saturday stopped from flying abroad by immigration authorities at the airport here who cited restrictions imposed on her by the Jammu and Kashmir police.

Sanna Irshad Mattoo was on her way to Paris to attend a book launch event and participate in a photography exhibition when she was stopped by immigration authorities at the Delhi airport. "Whatever happened today **More on P6**

Kashmir Reels Under Heat Wave

Mercury Settles At 33.4 Degree Celsius In Srinagar



File Photo

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Kashmir Valley continues to remain in the grip of a heat wave, even as the mercury dipped a little and settled at 33.4 degree Celsius, officials said.

The weather remained mainly hot in Jammu and Kashmir in the last 24 hours and the Met Department forecast on Saturday that hot and mainly dry weather is likely to continue in the next 24 hours.

"Current heatwave is expected to break on July 4 as

light to moderate rain is likely to occur on July 4 and 5," a department official said.

Srinagar had 33.4, Pahalgam 28.4 and Gulmarg 23.0 degrees Celsius as the maximum temperature on Saturday.

Dress in Ladakh Region had 13.5, Leh 15.4 and Kargil 18.7 as the minimum temperature.

Jammu had 35.1, Katra 32.2, Batote 27.1, Banihal 28.6 and Bhaderwah 31.9 as the maximum temperature. (With agency inputs)

Man Gets 3-Year Jail For Allowing Minor Drive His Vehicle

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A local Court here on Saturday sentenced a man to three-year imprisonment for allowing minor drive his vehicle.

However, looking at the antecedents of the convict, the court released convict on probation with conditions for maintaining good conduct.

Special Mobile Magistrate (Traffic) Shabir Ahmad Malik, Srinagar, announced the verdict after the accused Bilal Ahmad Phapoo of Noorbagh claimed to be the owner of vehicle driven by minor and filed undertaking before the court.

The Court also directed the Inspector General of Police (Traffic) to hold special drive against the menace of driving by minors, which court observed is a

cause of road accidents and concern of common people.

"I propose to sentence the accused to three years simple imprisonment and rupees twenty five thousand as fine and under Section 180, I propose to sentence him three months simple imprisonment and rupees one thousand as fine. Both the sentences shall run concurrently," the court said while referring to various Supreme Court judgments and provisions of law," court said.

However, Court provided the benefit of Probation of Offenders Act to the convict and released him on the condition of keeping peace and good behavior.

"Since the offence does not involve any moral turpitude and the violator has not been previously convicted and having **More on P6**

Child Mortality Rate On Decline In J&K

IMR Decreases From 49 In 2008 To 17 In 2020

Agencies

Srinagar: The infant mortality rate in Jammu and Kashmir has decreased from 49 in 2008 to 17 in 2020, a survey has revealed.

As revealed in the Sample Registration System (SRS) 2020-22 (survey period), Jammu & Kashmir has registered considerable improvement in various health indicators including Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) during the last year. The IMR has decreased from 20 to 17 in a single year.

As per data, the earlier neonatal mortality rate in J&K has declined from 33 in 2008, 32 in 2009, 30 in 2010, 26 in 2011, 25 in 2012, 24 in 2013, 22 in 2014, 18 in 2015, 15 in 2016, 13 in



2017 and 12 in 2018.

The data said that the neonatal mortality rate in J&K has declined from 39 in 2008, 37 in 2009, 35 in 2010, 32 in 2011, 30 in 2012, 29 in 2013, 26 in 2014, 20 in 2015, 18 in 2016, 17 in 2017, 17 in 2018 and 15 in 2019.

It also added that Infant mortality rate in J&K has declined from 49 in 2008, 45 in 2009, 43 in 2010, 41 in 2011, 39 in

2012, 37 in 2013, 34 in 2014, 26 in 2015, 24 in 2016, 23 in 2017, 22 in 2018, 20 in 2019 and 17 in year 2020.

It said that the under five mortality rate in J&K has declined from 55 in 2008, 50 in 2009, 48 in 2010, 45 in 2011, 43 in 2012, 40 in 2013, 35 in 2014, 28 in 2015, 26 in 2016, 24 in 2017, 23 in 2018 and 21 in year 2019—(KNO)

Nodal Officers Appointed For 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Initiative

Observer News Service

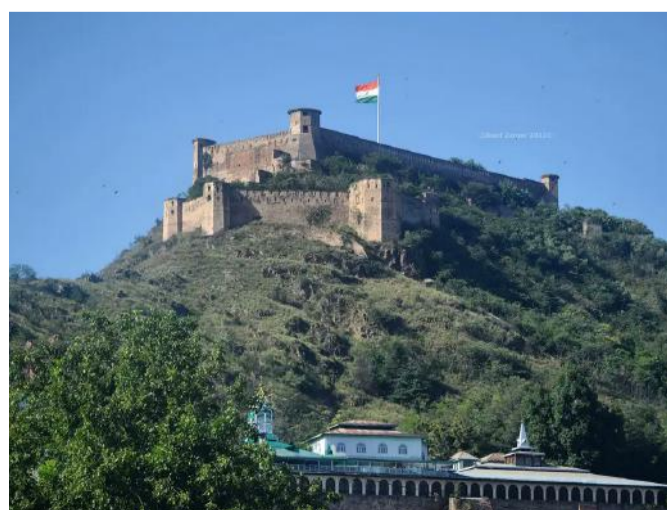
Srinagar: The rural development department has appointed nodal officers for the implementation of "Har Ghar Tiranga" in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Sanction is hereby accorded to the nomination of Assistant Commissioner Development concerned of Kashmir Division as Nodal Officers in respect of their Districts for successful implementation of the initiative "Har Ghar Tiranga" in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir," reads an order issued by

Imam Din, Director, Rural Development Department, Kashmir.

Pertinently, the government of India is setting stage for a large-scale campaign to encourage the citizens to fly tricolour at their homes to mark the 75th Independence Day.

According to reports, the



File Photo

Culture Ministry is planning on celebrating August 11 to August 17 as "Independence Week" across the country during which the 26 crore households in the country would be encouraged to hoist the tricolour as a

part of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' programme.

Director, RDD Kashmir, Imam Din told Kashmir Observer that they have just appointed nodal officers for the initiative.

"But the meeting on the

SANCTION IS HEREBY ACCORDED

to the nomination of Assistant Commissioner Development concerned of Kashmir Division as Nodal Officers in respect of their Districts for successful implementation of the initiative "Har Ghar Tiranga" in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir."

secretariat level is yet to be conducted. We will have deliberations on this issue and then will know how to go about it," he said.

When asked if every house has to fly tricolor in the Valley, Din said "We will come to know after meeting"





Whole Lung Lavage Performed First Time In J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The therapeutic procedure Whole Lung Lavage (WLL) has been performed for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir for management of a rare lung disease.

The procedure was performed by a combined effort from Departments of Pulmonary Medicine and Anaesthesia of Government Medical College, Srinagar.

A male patient, 50, who presented with a one month history of shortness of breath on exertion and was found to have low oxygen saturation (60% on room air). On evaluation at CD Hospital with the help from Cincinnati Children's centre (USA) diagnosis of primary Pulmonary Alveolar Proteinosis was made. Pulmonary alveolar proteinosis is a rare lung disorder with an estimated prevalence of 0.2-0.6 cases per 100000 individuals.

The disease is characterised by accumulation of milk-like proteinaceous material in the Lung sacs affecting gas exchange and resulting in hypoxemia (low oxygen saturation). WLL is considered the standard of care for management of this rare disorder.

The procedure was successfully performed over three hours using 15 litres of sterile normal saline (to wash out the lung) in the theatre of Chest diseases hospital.

Doctors Day Observed At SKIMS Bemina

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: SKIMS Medical College and Hospital Bemina celebrated Doctor's day on Saturday.

The function was attended by the Principal SKIMS Medical College and Hospital, Bemina, Prof. Irfan Robbani, Medical Superintendent Dr. Shafa. A.W. Deva, Senior Professors and Heads of the Departments, Senior Residents, Medical Interns and other Post Graduates of the College.

The programme started with a welcome address by Dr.

Yasmeen Jan, Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine, SKIMS Medical College.

A Video depicting the working of SKIMS Medical College and Hospital was played on the occasion.

The Principal SKIMS, Bemina while addressing the audience laid emphasis on the development of communication skills in doctor-patient relationship.

Series of Lectures about being a Doctor was given by faculty member Dr. Asif, Assistant Prof of the Department of Paediatrics, Post Graduate

student of the Department of Psychiatry Dr Hadia and medical Intern Ms. Tanesha.

A panel discussion was also held on the theme "Coping up strategies to ensure working as a team", mutual respect for each other and solidarity in health care settings.

Dr. Shafa Medical Superintendent, Prof Sheikh Sajad, HOD Ophthalmology, Prof. Sheikh Mohd Shakeel, HOD Dentistry & Maxillofacial Surgery and Prof Ajaz Ahmed Rather, HOD Surgery and Academic Registrar participated in the panel discussion.

Prof. Majid Ahmad Ganai,

HOD Psychiatry was the Moderator of the panel discussion. Appreciation was provided for doctors of SKIMS Medical College who worked selflessly during Covid-19.

The event was managed by Dr Beenish Mushtaq Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine with assistance from Dr Sana, Senior Resident.

The function ended with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Uroosa Farooq, Senior Resident in the Department of Community Medicine SKIMS Medical College and hospital, Bemina.

Gandhi Memorial College Organises Blood Donation Camp

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In its unwavering commitment to serve the community, the NSS wing of Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar in collaboration with the Department of Transfusion Medicine and Immuno-hematology Government Medical College Srinagar organized a Blood Donation Camp, here.

The camp witnessed active participation from students and employees who volunteered to donate blood for this noble

cause. In all 31 students and 3 staff members of the College donated their blood for this noble cause.

Through this blood donation camp, Gandhi Memorial College aims to raise awareness for the need of safe blood and blood products and to thank voluntary blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Prof Asmat said that it gives us immense contentment to be able to contribute to

wards our community by way of donating blood for the needy patients. A shortage of this valuable resource has a major impact on victims of road traffic accidents and trauma victims, women with complicated pregnancies, children suffering from thalassemia, and people undergoing major surgeries.

She on the occasion thanked all the volunteers and officials from GMC, Srinagar for joining hands with Gandhi Memorial College in this earnest need.

Workshop On Research Methodology Begins At KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Vice-Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof Nilofer Khan on Saturday inaugurated a workshop on research methodology.

The week-long online workshop has been organized by the varsity's UGC-Human Resource Development Centre for research scholars from social science disciplines to sensitize them about the theoretical and practical aspects of social research.

Addressing the participants, Prof Nilofer said good research conducted in varied disciplines of social sciences and humanities can help develop real knowledge that will lead to welfare of society at large.

"Since social science forms the bedrock of development of policies for

people's welfare, social scientists have a greater responsibility to be conscious of social issues and the need to tackle these with development of authentic knowledge through quality research in our institutions," the Vice-Chancellor said, urging the HRDC to continue updating faculty in higher educational institutions (HEIs) with latest trends in research methodologies.

The Vice-Chancellor exuded confidence that the University faculty would ready themselves for newer research challenges posed by interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches to research as envisaged under the National Education Policy-2020.

Complimenting HRDC for holding faculty workshops frequently,

Prof Nilofer said good research and quality publications in social sciences can help the University significantly in improving its rankings and visibility.

Director HRDC Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Darzi said the Centre has geared up for capacity-building and orientation of the faculty members from HEIs across the country in view of the requirements of the NEP-2020, especially in the area of research development.

Thanking the University administration for its support to the Centre's innovative programmes, Prof Darzi said the HRDC has drawn 50 faculty members from within and outside J&K to participate in the current workshop and benefit from renowned experts from diverse disciplines of social sciences.

Two Students Selected For Prestigious Chevening Scholarship.

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two Kashmiri students have made it to the Chevening Scholarship this year.

Aabid Hussain and Sadaf Mir have been selected for the highly competitive and

prestigious Chevening Scholarship to study Masters in Social Innovation, Entrepreneurship from London School of Economics and Masters in Educational

Planning, Economics and International Development from University College London, respectively.

Aabid, 24 is a law graduate from Central University of Kashmir and a first-generation

learner. Speaking to the media, Abid said he had to think a hundred times before even applying for the Chevening Award. The whole process has been full of challenges, anxiety, and excitement for him. Last year, he was a reserve can-

didate for Chevening and unfortunately couldn't secure it in his first attempt, which almost shattered his dream of joining the prestigious London School of Economics and

Political Science. Then I thought of giving it a second try and succeeded in securing this highly competitive award.

Aabid has thanked people who constantly were there to support and encourage him throughout this journey.

Sadaf, 24 is the youngest daughter of her parents and has done her B.Com (Hons)

from Degree College, Bemina. She has made it to Chevening in her second attempt.

She has extensive work experience in Non-profit organizations.

Sadaf has recommended Chevening Scholarship to students of Kashmir and advised them to get exposure to as many opportunities as possible. She suggested participating in internships and volunteering opportunity during college

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HIGHWAY STATUS

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



PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 39
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	5:35
Magrib	7:50
ISHA	9: 30

This Day In History

- 324- Battle of Adrianople: Roman Emperor Constantine I defeats his co-emperor Licinius, who flees to Byzantium
- 1187- Battle of Horns of Hattin: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt and Syria, destroys Jerusalem's crusader army.
- 1250- Louis IX of France is captured by Baibars' Mamluk army at the Battle of Fariskur while he is in Egypt conducting the Seventh Crusade; he later has to ransom himself.
- 1428 -Treaty of Delft between Jacoba of Bavaria & Philip the Good of Burgundy
- 1608 - Samuel de Champlain founds city of Quebec
- 1630 - Emperor Ferdinand II opens German Parliament
- 1661- Portugal gives Tangier & Bombay to English King Charles II
- 1720 - Sweden and Denmark sign peace treaty
- 1754- George Washington surrenders to French, Fort Necessity (7 Years' War)
- 1767 - Pitcairn Island is discovered by Midshipman Robert Pitcairn on an expeditionary voyage commanded by Philip Carteret
- 1767 - Norway's oldest newspaper still in print, Adresseavisen, is founded (first edition published this date)
- 1775 George Washington takes command of Continental Army at Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 1778- Prussia declares war on Austria
- 1876- Montenegro declares war on Turkey
- 1900- The British evacuate Rustenburg and occupy Commando Nek and Silkaatsnek in the Anglo-Boer war
- 1942- German troops march into Sebastopol, Crimea
- 1947- Soviet Union doesn't participate in Marshall Plan
- 1950- 1st time US & North Korean forces clash in Korean War
- 1962- Algerian Revolution against French rule ends (Algeria gains independence on 5th July)
- 1965- USSR & Persia sign dam building & economic aid pact
- 1974- Soyuz 14 carries 2 cosmonauts to space station Salyut 3
- 1986- Kuwait's National Assembly (Majlis al Umma) dissolves
- 1988- The Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge in Istanbul, Turkey is completed, providing the second.

From KO Archives

Cabinet Okays Shahtoosh Trade Ban

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The cabinet today approved in principle the proposal to ban Shahtoosh trade in view of the ban on it at national and international level and in pursuance of government policy on wildlife protection.

However, it was decided, before the ban comes into force, the state / government would request the Centre to provide one-time exception for sale of Shahtoosh stocks available with the traders in the state.

Announcing the decisions, the chief secretary said the traders would be asked to declare their stocks and handover these to a nominated authority for all India auction to get competitive rates. The traders would indicate the reserve price for their produce and any return over and above that would go to a fund to be created for wildlife protection. The traders will get reserve price.

Jaitley said that at the same time private owners of Shahtoosh shawls in the state may also be permitted on the basis of one-time exception to declare their stocks as there has been no ban in Jammu and Kashmir. This they will have to do before the ban comes into force.

The cabinet asked the industry minister to invite Shahtoosh traders for discussion regarding modalities on implementing this policy.

(Kashmir Observer, July 3, 2000)

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

Estates Wing, Main Campus Shalimar – 190 025

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-NIT No. (27) of 2022-23

Dated: 30.06.2022

For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST(K), e-tenders (in single-cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Civil contractors whose cards are valid up to 31-03-2023 registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. departments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion
1.	Modernization and Digitalization of Central Library at Main Campus Shalimar, SKUAST-Kashmir	78.04	A Class	2000/-	06 months

- a) Position of AAA: **Accorded**
b) Position of T.S : **Sanctioned**
c) Position of funds: **Available**

1. 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:-

1.	Date of publication of Tender Notice	01.07.2022
2.	Date of start of downloading	01.07.2022
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	01.07.2022
5.	Bid submission end date	18.07.2022 (06.00 (PM)
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid (online)	19.07.2022
7.	Date of opening of Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online)	20.07.2022

Further information can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/-

Estates Officer/ Chief Engineer

DIPK-NB-2144/22
No. Au/Estates/e-NIT(27)/277
Dated: 01.07.2022

Regd. No. A-2586

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Twitter Talks



“When the intention is solely to harass and intimidate someone, the excuse, as ludicrous as it may be, does not matter. It is not even “show me the man, I’ll show you the rule.” It is more like: here is the man, who cares for the rule or law”

@sushantsin

“This is Amreek Singh a Govt school teacher at Middle School Dassan in Beerwah Tehsil of District Budgam. He has been transferred & see how his Muslims students are crying ? This is real Kashmir”

@rtimuzaffar

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Forced out

By putting in his papers, the first chairman of the State Accountability Commission, Justice (retd) R P Sethi, has exposed the chinks in the government’s much-hyped war on corruption.

In absence of an official word, it is not clear whether the resignation has been accepted by the governor. Going by some sketchy reports that have trickled out, the governor has forwarded it to the chief minister seeking the advice of the government “on this important issue.” At the same time, he is reported to have told Justice Sethi “to approach and seek the indulgence of the chief minister” on various issues which might have created an atmosphere of uncertainty over the fate of the Commission. However, the no-nonsense former judge of the Supreme Court rightly refused to do so asserting that “in view of the prevailing situation, it was not proper for him to speak to anybody in the government.” Although the indications about the souring of relations between the government and the highest constitutional body charged with rooting out the canker were available only days after it was hesitatingly set up by the PDP-led government around the

end of its 3-year stint, the inevitable seems to have come at the most unlikely time, when the chief minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad, is in the midst of an all-out offensive against corruption in both administration and politics. The way the authorities have sought to create hurdles in the functioning of the high-profile body said to be a “deemed high court” ever since its creation did not leave even a grain of doubt in public mind that the government was not serious enough in its commitment to stamp out corruption from public life. For some time past, the Commission did not hold its joint sittings as required under the Act, perhaps for the most trivial of the reasons; that it didn’t have space on the dais for all its three members to conduct the hearings. Although Justice Sethi sought an amendment in its section 13 to enable constitution of separate benches to hold simultaneous sittings in Jammu and Srinagar, the government chose to sit over the proposal. Earlier, he had also asked for an independent investigating apparatus and the basic infrastructure in the shape of staff and accommodation.

Ironically, the ruling PDP, which led the coalition government for the first half of its 6-year incumbency, and established the State Accountability Commission not so much as a matter of conviction as to fulfill its main election pledge, never seemed to be serious in ridding the state of the cancer of corruption in public life. This was amply demonstrated by the delay it allowed in setting up the body for no strong reasons. By the time it was eventually formed, Jammu and Kashmir had earned the dubious distinction of being second most corrupt state after Bihar.

Much was expected of the incumbent chief minister, who has vowed to give the people a corruption-free administration during his stint, for which the SAC could have been the most lethal weapon available to him. Sadly, however, it has been during his tenure that the Commission has encountered most roadblocks. Going by the reports, the sinister nexus between politicians, bureaucrats and criminals must have disenchanted Justice Sethi before he decided to take the harsh option. A large number of complaints the Commission received were against some sitting and former ministers and top bureaucrats who must have worked overtime to create the impediments. Indeed, Justice Sethi would not, on occasions, mind an unorthodox

way to take on the corrupt which had even led to the raising of some eye-brows during the recent budget session of the state legislature inasmuch as the chief minister too was carried away by the insinuations of some members. Soon after his swearing in as SAC chairman, he had made no bones to even inspire sting operations to identify the corrupt. In his fight against corruption, he was keen to even assign a role to the Fourth Estate. Indeed, the gravity of the malaise would definitely call for an unconventional approach including a summary trial of the accused. Undeniably, the existing rules and procedures have proved to be totally ineffective to tackle corruption to the extent that various vigilance organizations find themselves embarrassingly unmatched for their daunting task. It is an open secret that they have themselves degenerated into corrupt outfits. With corruption cases accumulating by the day, the government has adopted a procedure under which the accused officials are even rehabilitated after some time of their suspension. All said and done, the government should come clean on its disposition towards the State Accountability Commission and its role as the premier constitutional body to rid the state of corruption in public life. The way the SAC, particularly its chairman, has been treated leaves one with an inescapable feeling that the government is not serious and sincere in rooting out corruption. The chief minister, in particular, needs to ally the misgivings created more so after the resignation of Justice Sethi.

The article is an editorial from KO's archives and was originally published on May 12, 2006

Bilawal’s Outreach

Riyaz Wani

PAKISTAN’S foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari struck a blow for Indo-Pak engagement by arguing during his recent speech at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad that this was in Pakistan’s interest. Bhutto-Zardari made his case by highlighting the failure of Pakistan’s past policies which, in his opinion, had not helped his country achieve its objectives, “be it Kashmir, be it the rising Islamophobia (in India).” Pakistan, he contended, would be in a better position to influence Delhi’s policy and prevent both countries from taking extreme positions through an economic engagement between the two. Bhutto-Zardari maintained that disengagement with India is ineffective despite “long histories of war and conflict”.

Though the argument of Pakistan foreign minister for a sustainable Indo-Pak relationship is qualitatively different, the intention to reach out to India is not new. At the beginning of the last year, the now ousted Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan and the Pakistan Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa had made similar conciliatory noises. Speaking at Islamabad Security Dialogue on March 17 last year, Khan said if peace was given a chance, India and the entire neighbourhood in South Asia could leverage economic dividends through trade in the resource-rich Central Asian region. In his speech at the same event on the following day, General Bajwa went a step further saying it was time for the two nuclear-armed countries “to bury the past and move forward.”

Incidentally, these noises were made immediately following the re-affirmation of the 2003 ceasefire agreement along the Line of Control. But the two countries were unable to build on it to resume dialogue. Nor does it seem likely now. Overall, the neighbours haven’t held a meaningful engagement since the 2008 Mumbai attack that killed 169 people. And between 2003 and 2007, the two countries had held sustained negotiations over Kashmir that had nearly culminated in the resolution of the Kashmir issue. No such possibility exists now. In fact, New Delhi has now changed the goalpost and may be perpetually so: After the withdrawal of Article 370 it has taken the issue of Kashmir off the table not only with Kashmiri separatists who no longer have a presence on the political scene but also with Pakistan. And as things stand, it looks unlikely that this situation will change anytime soon.

Will geopolitical factors force New Delhi’s hand? Not necessarily. There may be some intermittent modest re-adjustment in policy approach but not a fundamental shift.



Does this signal that Pakistan is ready to engage India? Quite possible since he is Pakistan’s foreign minister, so his statements to this effect assume greater significance. More so, when Pakistan Army is believed to be an inextricable part of the country’s foreign policy

For example, during last year’s alleged back-channel dialogue with Pakistan, one could see regional geopolitics playing some role. Several factors were at play: India has been engaged in a tense stand-off with China along the Line of Actual Control, forcing New Delhi to mass its troops along the border to deter further ingress by the PLA.

The LoC agreement was also traced to the US nudging the two countries from behind the scenes. The US involvement in the relationship between India and Paki-

stan is a fairly complex affair. New Delhi wants the US to intervene to sort out the terror problem in Pakistan, but it brooks no meddling in Kashmir. Similarly, Islamabad wants US intervention on Kashmir but wouldn’t like Washington to speak on behalf of India on terror. More so, at a time when the US is seen as partial towards India. This contradiction hardly makes the US an ideal mediator between the two countries. The starkness of this reality leaves India and Pakistan no choice but to engage and confront their problems themselves.

But here again, the two countries have exhibited a singular inability to talk sustainably. The suspension of the dialogue over the last decade is enlightening on this score. Today, relations between the two countries have reached a point where old equations not only between New Delhi and Islamabad but also between Kashmiri separatists and New Delhi no longer apply. Following the withdrawal of Article 370, Hurriyat has been obliterated from the scene.

Pakistan is no longer bolstered by the strategic depth of Afghanistan – unlike in the nineties, the Taliban seems to be keen on keeping some distance from Islamabad – or leveraged by the all-encompassing militant struggle in Kashmir. This has brought in a considerable inequality between the parties which no amount of rhetoric in Kashmir and Islam-

abad can hide. And this inequality – accentuated further by a stronger India – is likely to leave a deep imprint on the content of the future dialogue. And of course, on the outcome of it too, if it is sustainably held. It will be an outcome that will not be completely satisfying of the expectations of the weaker parties. Or else, the logjam that has persisted for the past seven decades will linger on.

Returning to Bhutto-Zardari’s speech, does this signal that Pakistan is ready to engage India? Quite possible since he is Pakistan’s foreign minister, so his statements to this effect assume greater significance. More so, when Pakistan Army is believed to be an inextricable part of the country’s foreign policy.

Is any back-channel dialogue taking place between the two countries? Again, it can be anyone’s guess. But as for the overall approach of the leadership of the two countries towards each other, nothing even remotely suggests that any engagement is in the works. Or is it? The coming weeks should make things clear on this score. After a few months, Pakistan is likely to get into an election mode, making any engagement with New Delhi meaningless.

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

Is Crypto in Terminal Decline?

Opinion is divided as to whether the current massive downturn in private digital currencies and related services represents a necessary and healthy shakeout or an existential threat to the crypto industry. While the sector’s true believers no doubt subscribe to the former view, others increasingly wonder whether decentralized finance will turn out to be a flash in the pan.

In this Big Question, we ask Dante Alighieri Disparte, Simon Johnson, Jim O’Neill, and Anne C. Sibert whether the death knell is sounding for the crypto craze.

The short answer is no, although this particular “crypto win SIMON JOHNSON

The creation of Bitcoin and the rise of cryptocurrencies more broadly offered the prospect of three kinds of economic transformation: full decentralized cash-like payments (Bitcoin); a novel way to fund new ventures (by issuing various kinds of digital coins); and lower-friction peer-to-peer asset transactions (crypto investment vehicles). All three potential accomplishments are now under serious threat for the same simple reason. While the crypto project was founded on the premise of “government bad, private sector good,” it turns out that the private sector by itself – with no government oversight – creates its own vulnerabilities, includ-

ing a tendency to financial panics and crashes.

Whether we are talking about the collapse of the Terra and Luna stablecoins or the freezing of withdrawals from crypto lenders such as Celsius, the key lesson is that allowing people to operate like banks without a license is very dangerous. If you borrow short and lend long, there is always the risk of a bank run. In that context, offering people extremely high rates of interest is not a sign of strength. In fact, it often indicates a need to keep money coming in the door in order to stay afloat. And simply calling something a “stablecoin” does not necessarily mean it is at all stable, at least when sentiment turns against you.

Restoring the lost credibility of crypto projects will take years. In an environment of higher interest rates, it is also likely that some of the wilder crypto promises will lose their appeal. Bitcoin seems likely to continue, in some fashion. But questions over the broader ecosystem continue to grow.

Letting people run de facto banks without proper supervision

is a recipe for disaster. Versions of this have been tried many times in US and world history. It always ends badly.

ANNE C. SIBERT

Both unbacked cryptocurrencies and national currencies are fiat money without intrinsic worth. They have value because of self-fulfilling expectations. But cryptocurrencies have benefits for users that national currencies do not. Rules, rather than political whim, determine their supply. For Bitcoin, the supply is capped. Payments can be made directly from one party to another instead of requiring a trusted intermediary, and can be anonymous. Their portability is helpful to those in precarious circumstances.

But any currency is subject to a network externality: the more people there are who are willing to accept it, the more valuable it is to those who hold it. This externality gives a powerful advantage to a national currency with a long history of use and legal-tender status. So, there is an incentive to hold that rather than a cryptocurrency. But if a cryptocurrency’s user base in-

creases, it becomes more appealing and more likely to persist. Complementary goods such as wallet services provided by financial institutions fuel further growth.

Network externalities mean that most cryptocurrencies will fail, but some will probably reach a tipping point where their wide acceptance ensures their survival. Still, there are challenges. Cryptocurrencies’ exchange rates against key national currencies have been highly volatile, but this may change if they become more widely used. While some governments have embraced cryptocurrencies, others have discouraged their use because their anonymity promotes tax evasion, money laundering, and terrorist financing. And their proof-of-work verification mechanisms are environmentally costly.

Cryptocurrencies are not yet a widely used means of payment, but an estimated 221 million people globally owned crypto assets in June 2021. The desire for a stable store of value has enabled gold to survive as a mostly intrinsically worthless financial asset for thousands of years. There is a good chance cryptocurrency will replace it.

Views expressed in the article are the author’s own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Project Syndicate



WHAT'S STREAMING?

THE DROPOUT: A Story of Failing Ambitions

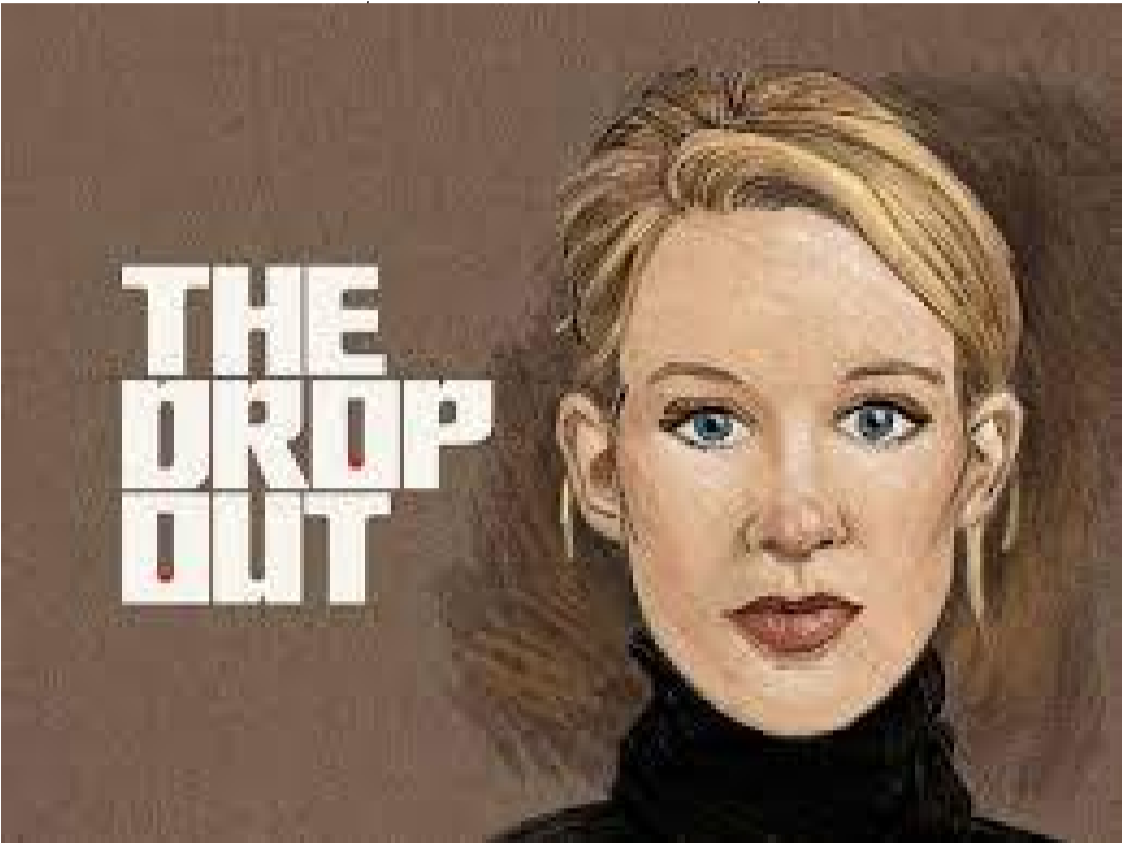
Neha Fayaz

Names such as Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs have come to become household names post the success of their entrepreneurial endeavors. With Facebook, Microsoft and Apple now dominating the global IT world, the names of such famous entities have become living proof for many on the lack of absolute need of college education to become successful. All three names are college dropouts and have become trailblazers for many to follow in their footsteps. One such person was Elizabeth Holmes who later went on to become the founder of Theranos, a health technology company.

Elizabeth dropped out of Stanford at the age of 19 with dreams of revolutionising the health industry. She dreamed of building a portable machine that could, with a single drop of blood, test a patient for health issues. This device, if successful, would render the usage of needles and big blood testing machine useless. The series 'The Dropout' starring, Amanda Seyfried as Elizabeth Holmes- the protagonist- is based on the real-life story of Holmes and her company Theranos.

The series begins with showing what fueled Holmes' dream to become a billionaire. It was financial issues. Her father had recently lost his job and they were forced to take help from a close friend who could be described as an egomaniac, Richard Fuisz. This coupled with her obsession of Steve Jobs, had Holmes chartering her future ambitions. Holmes disliked her family's dependability on Fuisz and wanted to make a place for herself in this world as an entrepreneur.

The series begins with a foreign exchange program in China which Holmes is a part of. She spends most of her time learning Mandarin for the exchange program. It is in China that viewers get introduced to the stark difference between Holmes and her peers. While her peers are seen partying and enjoying, Holmes is seen trying to make this trip as educational as possible. It is here that Holmes meets Sunny Balwani, a divorcee 20 years older than her, who in the coming years becomes her romantic partner. It is also Sunny who later goes to become an integral part of Holmes' company and a controlling agent of her life. Through the series, the relationship between



Holmes and Sunny never sits well. Especially Sunny's overbearing presence and jealousy. Given the age gap and the dynamics that seeps in between this 19-year-old and almost 40-year-old man, it would be safe to call Sunny's behavior predatory.

The initial episodes also place central focus on Holmes' journey at Stanford. She immediately started approaching professors with her ideas for new products. She even got herself into a graduate research group after impressing one professor, a Channing Robertson, by solving a problem that senior students were unable to crack.

As a first-year student in college Holmes was making a place for herself. However, on October 5, 2003, Holmes reported that she was sexually assaulted on her university campus. In its initial episode, the series showcased that this occurred during a frat party. Like many sexual assault survivors, Holmes too was mocked by her peers and judged by her extended circles. However, the series showcased that this incident did not deter Holmes' ambitions. She finally went on to create an idea that was partially supported by Robertson himself, who would also later become a board member of Theranos.

However, when Holmes went to visit Professor Phyllis Gardner, a doctor and professor of medicine at Stanford university, her idea was shot down entirely as being inept and medically impossible. Gardner was one amongst the first people who saw through Holmes' deception. However, Holmes still decided to drop out of Stanford, convinced that her idea had merit, and began her company with the monetary help of her immediate and extended family members. After finally landing a big investment, the series delves into how Holmes gains enough legitimacy to hoodwink some of the biggest names in the business world. Without any genuine product to show she manages to gain large investments, hence also gaining credibility along the way. This continues till the point she runs a health technology company worth of billion dollars with renowned board members such as Apple's head designer, who caught on to Holmes' scam and left, William Perry, Sam Nunn and Henry Kissinger himself.

Holmes had received recognition from the then President of the United States, Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. With increasing power came increasing wealth, that was also owed to Wal-

greens housing Theranos products in their stores under the scheme of 'wellness centers'.

The series also simultaneously delves into another character's role in Theranos. One of the earliest scientists with Theranos was one Eric Gibbons, who was later sidelined and forced to take a desk job when he started questioning 'Theranos' methods of functioning. Holmes looped him into a legal scandal when Fuisz came back to expose Holmes. Gibbons could see no way out of this and in between the mounting pressure of not testifying, by Holmes' legal team, due to signing NDA's and the risk of otherwise perjuring himself on stand, Gibbons, a cancer survivor could not take the pressure. He needed to stay in the company to retain his health insurance without which he could not afford his medications. During this chaos Gibbons overdosed on pills, committing suicide.

Simultaneously, the series showcases how this still did not stop Holmes. Instead, at this point of time Theranos was distributing portable blood testing machines that were churning incorrect results to patients jeopardizing the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The tipping scale that went on to expose Holmes' lies were two

whistleblowers, Erica Cheung and Joshua Schultz- grandson of George Shultz former secretary of state of the United States of America-, who were two recent graduates who landed work at Theranos. Erica saw that Theranos was duplicating the technology of another company whilst Joshua for a while knew that the testing was dubious. The duo decided to go public with this information, however, they were soon bogged down in legal constraints by Theranos' experienced team. Nonetheless the article exposing Holmes' scam was finally published in the Wall Street Journal, post which Erica filed a complaint with the Security and Exchange Commission who after inspection released a report stating Theranos would have to close their operations for two years. It was from here that Theranos was exposed for what it was.

Elizabeth Holmes being convicted on eleven accounts of fraud has today impacted female entrepreneurs in the valley. The DotLab founder Heather Bowerman for instance has time and again had her legitimacy questioned by investors who doubted her technology to be the same as Holmes'. Similar issues were faced by founders across various industries, Alice Zhang founder of Verge Genomics had her start up event at Stanford derailed when people started joking about Holmes' failure. Similarly, EverlyWell's founder and CEO Julia Cheek was told to change her hair color so that she would not resemble Holmes and investors might find her more appealing that way. Frauds by men have been conducted overtime, however that has not resulted in curbing investors from finding male entrepreneurs trustworthy. It is no secret that Silicon Valley is housed with prejudice. Women share only 2 percent of the total "venture capital funding" in the United States. The questions of this depending on qualifications have also time and again been debunked in research where it was revealed that investors find men more appealing for such leadership roles.

The series dropout not only covers the story of Elizabeth Holmes but also its impact on the people around her. It also throws light on the prevailing prejudice in Silicon Valley that to date has not been addressed adequately.

Streaming on Disney Plus Hotstar in India

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Indian Chinese Cuisine & Its Rise To Popularity In India

Conchita de Souza

China and India are the world's first, and second largest populations respectively. These nations share a hotly-disputed border, located at the north-most point of India with tensions and skirmishes taking place in mid-2020. I have never been to China, but I assume that, much like India, it is a diverse nation with many cultures, languages and traditions developing from a history that goes back to ancient times.

It can go without saying that in many parts of India, the most popular 'foreign' cuisine is that of Chinese cuisine. Street stalls, dhabas and even fancy restaurants boast an array of finger-licking 'Chinese' dishes that are increasingly popular with India's younger generation. These so-called 'Chinese' dishes look, smell and taste very different from the western understanding of Chinese food because they are essentially a fusion of the popular base ingredients in Chinese cooking with the spicy and complex flavours of Indian food added in. The term 'Indian Chinese' or 'Indo-Chinese' therefore refers to the adaptation of specific Chinese dishes to cater to the average Indian palate that is easily tempted by spicy foods.

This fusion has its origins in the 18th century and to British India's then capital city, Calcutta, located in the east of India. Many members of the Hakka Chinese community migrated from China to Calcutta and established themselves in the community setting up thriving enterprises. They were silk traders, dentists, leather tannery owners and shoe shop owners. Their involvement in the community was integral in setting up India's first Chinatown and more importantly,

setting the culinary foundations for what would become India's favourite cuisine.

ADAPTING CUISINES

The first Hakka Chinese restaurateurs would have recognised the importance of fresh and ground spices in Indian cuisine. So they took their traditional elements of Chinese cooking and modified the sauces to incorporate essential Indian ingredients like chilli, ginger and garlic and spices in general. In Indo-Chinese cuisine, use of condiments such as that of cumin seeds, coriander seeds and turmeric is common and not authentic to Chinese cuisine.

Soon enough, restaurants serving this modified cuisine became widespread across Calcutta and infiltrated to other cities and regions in India. The cuisine's popularity can be attributed to the creation of food with familiar flavours/sensations but prepared in an entirely different way. The versatility of the ingredients meant that Indo-Chinese dishes were easily adapted to the large vegetarian population.

Legend tells of Nelson Wang, an Indian chef of Chinese Hakka descent who is credited for inventing the Manchurian preparation of cooking in the 1970s. Mr Wang was a caterer at the Cricket Club of India in Bombay and was asked by a customer to create an off-the-menu dish. He obliged and cut up cubes of chicken, coated it in cornflour, deep-fried it and added it to a sauce cooked up with garlic, ginger and chilli and then finished off with soy sauce and vinegar and thickened again with cornstarch. The dish was a major hit and not long after, Mr Wang went on to open the restaurant China Garden in Bombay before branching out to other cities across



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India.

Many Indians perceive Indo-Chinese food as authentic Chinese food, and are often surprised (and perhaps disappointed) when they experience 'real' Chinese cuisine which is usually a lot healthier,

at times bland and usually meat-focused. The Indian diaspora has acknowledged the popularity of this unique hybrid cuisine and access to Indo-Chinese food is available outside of India where large communities of Indians reside. This is

made possible by the demand of nostalgic Indians abroad who crave the simplicity and spiciness of their favourite 'foreign' cuisine.

The food fusion continues to evolve to this day with the creation of dishes like Schezwan dosa, chilli idli and Chinese bhel. This is a testament to both the popularity of Indo-Chinese cuisine and its ability to adapt to the local cuisine.

TOP INDIAN CHINESE DISHES

Some Indian restaurants have a section of their menu dedicated to Indian Chinese, and next time you go to your local Indian restaurant, you can check it out.

I, along with a dear friend, went to Amaravathi Restaurant in Harris Park (known as Sydney's Little India) and we ordered Dry Chicken Manchurian, Vegetable Chop Suey and Schezwan Egg Fried Rice. We also ordered plain paper dosa for good measure. The food took me back to my time in Delhi, when my housemates and I would finish our groceries after a day at the office and just outside the grocery store would be numerous street food stalls, some of which would sell Indo-Chinese items. We would munch on the likes of Hakka Noodles and Manchurian as a quick evening snack before heading home to prepare dinner.

► **CHOP SUEY** - Also called American Chop Suey, this is a mild dish that brings together noodles that are fried until they are crunchy and then topped with a thickened sauce made of cornstarch and thinly sliced vegetables.

► **SWEET CORN SOUP** - A mildly-spiced vegetable soup that gets its sweetness from the addition of corn kernels and is tempered by sourness of the vinegar and saltiness of the soy sauce.

► **MANCHURIAN** - Much can be said about the Manchurian style of cooking, which draws comparison to the deep-fried Indian snack pakora or bhajia. Pieces of meat, seafood or vegetable are battered and then fried in a brownish-red sauce consisting of ginger, garlic, onion and chilli to which soy sauce and vinegar are also added. Popular vegetarian variations include paneer (Indian cottage cheese) and gobi (cauliflower) Manchurian (the latter being one of my favourites). You can order this dish dry (the sauce is reduced) or wet (a thickened gravy).

► **CHOW MEIN** - Thin noodles stir-fried with finely chopped veggies like capsicum, carrots and cabbage. The sauce that brings this together is a carefully balanced combination of contrasting flavours such as sourness from vinegar, saltiness from the soy sauce and spiciness from the fresh green chillies and pepper.

► **HAKKA NOODLES** - Similar to Chow Mein above in terms of the ingredients and seasoning used. The 'Hakka' noodle is even available at Indian grocery stores.

► **SCHZWAN RICE** - Schezwan refers to the spicy sauce made from dried red chillies soaked and then cooked in a paste of ginger, garlic and onions to which vinegar and soy sauce is added. It should probably read Sichuan to correspond with the landlocked province located in south-west China and famous for producing peppercorns. Cuisine from the Sichuan province is noted for pungent flavours and it is common for spices like garlic, ginger, chilli peppers and star anise to be used in the preparation of dishes.

The article was originally published by No Worries Curries

NIA To Probe Killing Of Chemist In Amravati In Maharashtra

Agenceis

New Delhi: The anti-terror probe agency NIA will investigate the killing of a chemist in Maharashtra's Amravati, the government said on Saturday, after it emerged it might be linked to his social media posts supporting suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma. The chemist, Umesh Prahladrao Kolhe, was killed on June 21.

A Home Ministry spokesperson tweeted that the probe of the case relating to the "barbaric killing" of Kolhe has been handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

The federal probe agency would thoroughly investigate the conspiracy behind the killing and involvement of organisations and international linkages.

Kolhe's killing had taken place a week before two men hacked to death a tailor in Rajasthan's Udaipur before posting videos online saying that they were avenging an insult to Islam.

Days before his killing, the Udaipur tailor had told the local police that he had received threats over a social media post shared from his account, apparently supporting BJP leader Sharma's derogatory remarks on Prophet Mohammad.

The NIA is also probing the killing of the Udaipur tailor, Kanhaiya Lal.

The Maharashtra Police have arrested five people in connection with the Amravati killing and are looking for one Irfan Khan, who runs an NGO and is alleged to be the prime accused in the case.

According to the police, Kolhe had allegedly shared a post on some WhatsApp groups in support of Nupur Sharma, following which Khan is alleged to have hatched a conspiracy to eliminate him.

Kolhe was killed between 10 pm and 10.30 pm on June 21 when he was returning home on a two-wheeler after closing his shop.

Udaipur killing: Cong Alleges One Of Main Accused 'BJP Member'

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The Congress on Saturday alleged that one of the main accused in the brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur is a "BJP member" and asked whether the Centre had moved quickly to transfer the case to the NIA due to this reason.

Addressing a press conference at the Congress headquarters here, party's media department head Pawan Khera said a very sensational disclosure has been made by a media group in connection with the Udaipur incident which pointed to the BJP links with Riyaz Attari. Some reports have also referred to the accused as Riaz Akhtari.

"The killer of Kanhaiya Lal, Riyaz Attari is a member of the BJP," Khera said in a tweet after the press conference.

Earlier in the day, responding to a tweet by a Congress leader referring to one of the accused's alleged BJP links, BJP's IT cell chief Amit Malviya dismissed the claim as "fake news".

"I am not surprised that you are peddling #FakeNews. The Udaipur murderers WERN'T

members of the BJP. Their attempt to infiltrate was like the LTTE assassin's attempt to enter the Congress to kill Rajiv Gandhi," he tweeted.

"Congress should stop fooling around with terror and national security," Malviya said.

Tailor Kanhaiya Lal was killed Tuesday afternoon by two cleaver-wielding men, who posted a grisly video of the crime online claiming responsibility for the murder.

The two accused, Riaz Akhtari and Ghouse Mohammad, have been sent to judicial custody for 14 days.

At the presser, Khera cited pictures and posts linking Attari with BJP leaders -- Irshad Chainwala and Mohammad Tahir.

"It has also come to the fore in the same disclosure that the main accused Riyaz Attari often participated in the programmes of Rajasthan BJP leader and former minister Gulabchand Kataria," he alleged.

"Not only this, pictures of the main accused Riyaz Attari attending the meetings of the BJP's Rajasthan minority unit are also in front of the world," Khera claimed.

Judiciary Answerable To 'Constitution And Constitution Alone': CJI Ramana



Press Trust of India

New Delhi: In India a party in power believes that every governmental action is entitled to judicial endorsement and the opposition parties expect the judiciary to advance their political positions and causes but the "judiciary is answerable to the Constitution and Constitution alone" Chief Justice of India N V Ramana said on Saturday.

He also expressed disappointment that even after 75 years of Independence people have not understood the roles and responsibilities assigned by the Constitution to each Institution.

"As we celebrate 75th year of Independence this year and as our Republic turned 72, with some sense of regret I must add here that we still haven't learnt to appreciate wholly the roles and responsibilities assigned by the Constitution to each of the Institutions.

"The party in power believes that every Governmental action is entitled to judicial endorsement. The parties in opposition expect the judiciary to advance their political positions and causes", the CJI said at a felicitation function organised by the Association of Indian Americans in San Francisco, USA.

He added that this flawed thinking of all hues flourishes in the absence of proper understanding among people about the Constitution and the functioning of the democratic institutions. "It is the vigorously promoted ignorance among the general public which is coming to the aid of such forces whose only aim is to run down the only independent organ i.e., the judiciary. Let me make it

clear. We are answerable to the Constitution and Constitution alone," he said.

CJI Ramana said that to enforce checks and balances envisioned in the Constitution, "we need to promote Constitutional culture in India. We need to spread awareness about the roles and responsibilities of individuals and institutions. Democracy is all about participation".

He quoted Abraham Lincoln and said, under the Constitution of India, it is the people who are entrusted with the task of passing judgment on the rulers, once every five years.

"...the people of India have done their job remarkably well so far. We should have no reason to doubt the collective wisdom of our people. Significantly, the voter in rural India is more proactive in discharging this task when compared to their urban, educated and well-to-do counterparts", he added.

CJI Raman said both India and the United States are known for their diversity which needs to be honoured and cherished, everywhere in the world.

"It is only because the United States honours and respects diversity, that you were all able to reach this country and make a mark through your hard work and extraordinary skills. Please remember. It is the tolerance and inclusive nature of American society that is able to attract the best talents from all over the world, which in turn is contributing to its growth", CJI Ramana said while addressing the Indian diaspora.

He added that honouring

qualified talents from diverse backgrounds is also essential to sustain the confidence of all sections of the society in the system.

"This principle of inclusivity is universal. It needs to be honoured everywhere in the world, including in India. Inclusivity strengthens the unity in society which is key to peace and progress. We need to focus on issues that unite us. Not on those that divide us. In the 21st century, we cannot allow petty, narrow and divisive issues to dictate human and societal relationships. We have to rise above all the divisive issues to remain focused on human development. A non-inclusive approach is an invitation to disaster," he said.

The CJI told the audience that they might have become millionaires and billionaires but to enjoy wealth, they need to have peace around them.

"Your parents back home also should be able to live in a peaceful society which is free from hate and violence. If you cannot take care of the well-being of your family and society back home, what is the use of your wealth and status here? You have to contribute your own way to improve your own society. What really matters is the honour and respect that you command in your homeland. This is the litmus test for your true success," he said.

The CJI said that the Indian Diaspora in the United States has played an active role in building modern America from modest beginnings; they have transformed not only their identities but also the face of this nation.

ABVP, NSUI Oppose DU Order On Campus Wall Defacing, Urges Rethink

Agenceis

New Delhi: Students organisations at the Delhi University (DU) have expressed concerns over the varsity's recent order warning of strict action against those defacing the campus walls, saying the new norms can be "misused" by miscreants by planting fake posters to implicate others.

In a notification issued on Thursday, DU Proctor Rajni Abbi warned that strict action will be taken against those whose posters and names are found pasted or painted on the walls on the campus. She said "certain elements" are "defacing" the walls on the campus.

Student groups have called on the university to rethink its recent order, saying there are high chances that it might lead to the "politicisation" of the new norms.

However, the varsity said a proper investigation will be carried out before taking action in the matter.

"I know there is a possibility that somebody else might put up the posters of someone else to sabotage their image but we will take action only after proper investigations," Abbi said.

Asked about candidates changing the spellings of their names on posters to escape punishment, Abbi said, "We will hold the probe properly.

your image and it will lead to the politicisation of the rule. The university needs to be careful about this," NSUI National Secretary Nitish Gaur said.

"The university must strengthen the security. They are spending a lot of money on security agencies. The security people should be held responsible and they should ensure that nobody defaces the walls.

Night duty guards should remain vigilant and check who is pasting them. The university should also install CCTVs everywhere so that nobody can paint over a wall," he said.

Gaur's remarks were echoed by Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), which is affiliated to Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

National media convener of ABVP Siddharth Yadav said the university needs to remain alert and ensure that the order is not misused.

"It should be the collective responsibility of everyone that university is not defaced and is kept clean but the university should also remain alert and vigilant that nobody defaces the walls," he said.

These are the walls inside the university and university's workers and several employees are present 24x7 there. Those miscreants who are pasting posters, if they are caught in action, then only it is



We will track them down."

National Students Union of India (NSUI), the student wing of the Congress, said the university should look for other ways to hold people, who are defacing the university, accountable including by strengthening campus security.

"We are totally against those who are defacing the university but the notification recently issued by the university is not correct as somebody else can put your fake poster to sabotage

a real justice otherwise there is a high chance that it might be misused," he added.

Varsity officials said despite having "democracy walls" -- dedicated spaces provided by the administration to paste campaign material -- in the university, posters especially vote for dot the campus.

The situation worsens during the Delhi University Student Union elections when parties try to cover the entire walls with posters, they said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Violence, Terrorism

the economic progress of J&K," he added.

Reiterating UT Government's commitment to ensure economic and social justice for all the citizens, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that the impressive turnaround in various sectors during the last two years has succeeded in improving the quality of life.

"Violence and terrorism will achieve nothing. We must remember the sacrifices of the heroes of J&K like Sheikh Abdul Jabbar and tread the path of peace to establish a progressive and prosperous society," the LG said.

Addressing the public demand to rename government hospital and bridge after Sheikh Abdul Jabbar, the LG, as per the spokesperson observed that the government has already decided to name infrastructure assets after all such great personalities who have contributed to upholding the unity and integrity of the country and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir, and assured that the appropriate steps will be taken in this regard.

Sinha, he said, appreciated the commitment of DDC Chairperson Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq and former Legislator, Ishfaq Jabbar for working towards the development of Ganderbal district and ensuring the welfare of people.

"Last year, under Public Health Engineering in Ganderbal, 33 projects hanging for years were started. 75 Languishing projects were also started under District Capex and other schemes and all these projects will be completed at the earliest," the LG said.

"Earlier, there was only one industrial estate in Ganderbal. Last year the administration had approved four new industrial estates and I am sure that at least 350 industrial units will be set up generating large employment opportunities for the local youth," he added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG also emphasized the need to make a collaborative effort for improving the literacy rate of girls, ensuring 100% saturation of Ayushman Golden Card in the district, besides instructing the District Administration to explore the possibilities of implementing various aspects of Jabbar's development draft.

The LG, he said, also highlighted several milestones achieved by the UT government in different sectors by establishing fear-free, corruption-free and inclusive system of administration.

"We have devised the scheme of setting up Self Help Groups to make women financially independent through Umeed program as a mass movement and more than 2000 such groups are being assisted in Ganderbal. It is my expectation that more and more women should be connected with self-help groups through the Umeed program," Sinha said.

Former Legislator, Ishfaq Jabbar threw light on the life and the public welfare works done by his late father.

"We will continue to follow the path laid down by Late

Sheikh Abdul Jabbar and work for the betterment, welfare and integrity of J&K," he added.

6,000 Yatris Leaves

their prayers at the cave shrine, housing the naturally formed ice-shivlingam, since the commencement of the 43-day yatra on June 30 from the twin routes - the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

Of the latest batch that left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, the officials said 4,173 pilgrims left in a convoy of 148 vehicles for the Pahalgam base camp, while another 1,940 pilgrims preferred the Baltal route and departed in a fleet of 80 vehicles.

With this, 23,214 yatris have left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp for the Valley since June 29, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

The yatra is scheduled to end on August 11 on the occasion of 'Shravan Purnima' coinciding with Raksha Bandhan **Pulitzer Photojournalist**

was totally unexpected," she told PTI.

In a tweet, she said, "I was scheduled to travel from Delhi to Paris today for a book launch and photography exhibition as one of 10 award winners of the Serendipity Arles grant 2020. Despite procuring a French visa, I was stopped at the immigration desk at Delhi airport."

"I was not given any reason but told I would not be able to travel internationally," she tweeted.

Karti Chidambaram, son of former union minister P Chidambaram, was among those who reacted on social media. "Indiscriminate use of LOC (lookout circular). A tool to harass all critics of this regime," he said.

Mattoo alleged the immigration authorities did not give her any reason for stopping her from flying except saying that she could not travel abroad as there were restrictions. Officials in the Jammu and Kashmir police confirmed that Mattoo had been placed on a no-fly list.

Earlier some Kashmir journalists, activists and academicians were stopped at the airport.

Man Gets 3-Year

regard to his age and antecedents the purpose of justice shall be served if the case is considered under Probation of Offenders Act, and accused is given benefit of probation," the court said.

The court added that the accused is directed to execute a bond to the tune of rupees two lakh for keeping peace and good behavior for the period of two years and in violation of any condition of bond during the period of these two years the accused shall receive the proposed sentence.

"Coming back to the violation by a juvenile, underage driving is one of the major causes of traffic accidents/snarl

and causes danger to other motorists and pedestrians on the roads. Minors are often found driving bikes, Scooties, Cars etc," the court observed.

It added that it is important to realize that Parents/guardians or owners of vehicles are responsible for providing vehicles to their minor children. It is observed many times these minors are driving vehicle, riding bikes in and around schools or crowded places resulting accidents, loss of lives.

"It is the first and foremost duty of parents not to provide their minor children any vehicle unless they attain majority and have license to drive the vehicle. It is also the duty of Principals/Teachers not to allow the minor students to drive the vehicles and impart education regarding these issues, as by allowing minor to drive we are only producing violators and victims and not responsible citizens," the court said.

"I deem it proper to direct IGP Traffic J&K to conduct a special drive against these minors (Violators)," court added. (KNS)

AEE Sacked

extension of leave was subject to the condition that she will immediately join back her duties after expiry of the leave and no further extension shall be granted to her.

"Instead of joining back the duties she availed maternity leave of 180 days w.e.f. 01.01.2014 to 29.06.2014 which was also sanctioned in her favour on post facto basis and 22 days commuted leave w.e.f 01.01.2015 to 22.01.2015

was also sanctioned in her favour with permission to leave the country to see her family in California as well as for her medical check-up."

The order stated that she continued to seek leave on one pretext of the other and following which several notices were served to her, however, no response was received in the department on her part.

It added that the case has been examined in the department accordingly and final notice was also served to her to give last and final opportunity to present herself before the Commissioner Secretary to the Govt. Jal Shakti Department within a period of 15 days from the date of issuance of said notice, as to why her services shall not be terminated under rules for her unauthorized absence from duty.

It stated that neither she had presented herself before the department nor she resumed her duties back, instead the department received a reply from her, wherein she has submitted unjustified reasons for not presenting herself before the department and also requested to extend more timeline to her.

The order also stated that after her appointment as Assistant Engineer, she hardly had served 04 years in the department and remained on leave upto 2016 and thereafter, unauthorised absent from duty 2016, which indicates that she is not interested in continuing the services in the department.

"The case was examined in the department and Competent Authority has decided to take action against

the lady officer in terms of Articles 113 of J&K Civil Service Regulations Volume-I, 1956 read with Rule 30 (vi) of J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rule,1956. Now, therefore, in terms of Articles 113 of J&K Civil Service Regulations Volume-I, 1956 read with Rule 30(vii) of J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rule,1956, Smt. Nuzhat Shanoor, Incharge Assistant Executive Engineer (Civil) is hereby terminated from the service of the State for her unauthorised absence from duty with effect from 2016," it added.

J&K Logs

and Kashmir. So far, 4,49,940 people have recovered from the disease, they said.

Two OGWs

local militant Mohammad Amin alias 'Khubaib' of Kathwa-Phagsoo (Thathri) who is presently operating from across the border, a police spokesman said.

"The activities of Mir and Batt were highly detrimental and prejudicial to the security of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Acting on the dossier of police, the Doda DM ordered detention of both the OGWs under PSA to prevent them from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," the spokesman said.

He said Khubaib, who joined militancy in early 1990s and crossed the border for arms training in Pakistan, is making desperate attempts from across the border to revive militancy in Doda by instigating the local youth for subversive activities.

Mir and Batt are closely linked to Khubaib and are persuading the local youth to join militancy, the spokesman said.

Parked Ambulance

disappearing after rolling down several hundred feet into the river.

A search is on to locate the submerged ambulance, the official said, adding it belonged to Medical Block Padder and its driver had parked the vehicle at the workshop for repairs and washing.

'Bovine Smuggler'

year and have so far arrested 51 persons and registered 20 cases. Besides five vehicles involved in transportation of bovines have been seized and a total of 315 animals rescued, the spokesman said.

Seeking cooperation of the general public, the spokesman said bovine smuggling is a serious issue which has potential to create law and order problem and needs to be rooted out.

Police have also warned the smugglers to desist from their activities and said stringent action as warranted under law would be taken against them.

Police Golf Course Thrown Open With DGP's Tee Off



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Lake View Environmental Golf Training Park also known as Police Golf Course was thrown open on Saturday evening with the tee off function. Director General of Police (DGP) J&K Dilbag Singh was Chief Guest on this occasion.

The DGP was received by ADGP Armed S.J.M. Gillani and other senior police officers. A ceremonial guard of honour was presented by the Brass Band contingent of J&K Police on his arrival. The DGP then formally threw open the Golf Course by playing the ball from a Tee. Later

the DGP interacted with the senior officers and also with the support staff of the Golf Course on the occasion.

The DGP was presented a memento by the ADGP Armed J&K SJM Gillani on the occasion.

The function was attended by Spl. DG Crime J&K A. K. Choudhary, ADGSP S.J.M. Gillani, M. K. Sinha, Danesh Rana, JGsP Garib Dass, Vijay Kumar, M. N. Tiwari, DIG Armed Kashmir Shahid Mehraj, DPT J&K, Shridhar Patil, senior officers from PHQ/ District Srinagar and Kashmir-based Commandants of Armed/ IR Police Battalions and other gazetted officers.

RDD Develops 62 Kanal Playfield At Aadigen, Kulgam

Playfield dedicated to youth for sports activities



Observer News Service

KULGAM: While taking lead in developing playfields with a commitment to provide better sports infrastructure to the sports lovers and youth of the district, the Rural Development Department with active support of district Administration Kulgam has now developed one more playfield at Aadigen, Kulgam which is spread over an area of 62 kanals of land.

The playfield was developed at an estimated cost of 30 lacs and was inaugurated on Saturday by the District Development Chairperson Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parrey and Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Dr. Bilal-Mohi -Ud-Din-Bhat in presence of DDC member Mohammad Abass Rather, PRI members, officers, sports persons and locals during a simple and impressive

inauguration function which was organized by the Department of RDD Kulgam.

Speaking on the Occasion the DDC chairperson complimented the RDD and district Administration Kulgam for developing sports infrastructure which he terms will provide a platform to youth to hone their talent.

The Deputy Commissioner while addressing the gathering said that 170 playfields have been developed in the district and reiterated that District Administration is committed to provide much better sports infrastructure taking in consideration the latest demands to provide platform and sports infrastructure to channelize the energy of youth towards sports activities.

ACD Mohammad Imran Khan, ACR, Mir Imtiyaz-ul-Aziz, BDO, Tehsildar and other officers were also present on the occasion.

J&K Fencers Shine In Junior National Fencing Championship



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K fencers wielded the sword to perfection and stole the show on 3rd day of the ongoing 30th Junior National Fencing Championship which is in progress in Cuttack.

The J&K Boys Sabre team were last year's Gold medallists, and this time the Sabre team again lived up to expectations and clinched a Gold medal in the Sabre team category. J&K team continued their winning streak defeating strong opponents like Gujarat, Manipur, star studded Haryana in semifinals and Maharashtra in final with a score of 45-36 in a closely fought contest.

In men's Epee team category, the J&K team comprising Ajay Kumar, Jasdev Singh, Sufyan, and Sohrit clinched the bronze medal. The team lost to Madhya

Pardesh in a close-fought contest by a margin of 45-40.

Earlier in sabre individuals girls Shriya Gupta and Kirtarthi Kotwal also displayed fine skills to get better off their opponents but finally settled with Silver and Bronze medals.

Girls team comprising Shriya Gupta, Kirthirathi Kotwal, Ananya Sharma, Chavvi Sharma also won Gold medal on Saturday, taking J&K's total count to 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze medals.

Secretary Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull congratulated the efforts of each fencer and coach who put their best foot in the championship. She said though the event was equally challenging with all prominent fencing faces of the country participating in the event but positive attitude of the team lead to one of the best performances.

India's Bumrah Hurts England With Bat & Ball



Agencies

BIRMINGHAM: Jasprit Bumrah wreaked havoc with the bat and blew away England's top order with the ball to put India in a strong position in the rearranged fifth test at Edgbaston on Saturday.

England seamer Stuart Broad sent down test cricket's most expensive over, conceding 35 runs in eight deliveries including a wide and a no-ball, after Bumrah's spectacular onslaught. India's stand-in captain then

claimed three wickets to reduce England to 60-3, 356 behind, at tea on a rain-affected second day.

Joe Root, batting on 19, will bid to lead England's revival with Jonny Bairstow on six after Bumrah denied the hosts a strong start in their reply to India's first-innings 416.

The seamer breached Alex Lees's (six) defence with a length delivery and had Zak Crawley (nine) and Ollie Pope (10) caught in the slips before rain returned to halt India's charge.

Earlier, after the touring side

had resumed on 338-7, overnight batsman Ravindra Jadeja (104) completed his third test century before falling to James Anderson who returned figures of 5-60.

Jadeja's 222-run stand with fellow centurion Rishabh Pant dragged India back into the contest after they had slumped to 98-5 on Friday.

India are 2-1 up in the series which could not be completed last year following COVID-19 cases in the India camp ahead of the final match at Old Trafford.

Former Players Laud Pant For His 'Special Ton Under Pressure'



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Flamboyant India wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant's sublime counter-attacking ton on the opening day of the rescheduled fifth Test against England earned praise from the cricket fraternity, which described the knock as "a special one under pressure".

India were staring down the barrel at 98 for 5 before Pant (146 off 111 balls) scripted a remarkable turnaround in the company of Ravindra Jadeja,

who was also a centurion on Day 2 at Birmingham.

The duo shared a match-changing 222-run stand off 239 balls.

Pant, who rendered the England bowlers helpless, hammered 20 boundaries and four sixes, in his awe-inspiring effort. "Simply awesome@Rishabh-Pant17! Well done," the iconic Sachin Tendulkar tweeted.

"Crucial innings by @imjadeja. Rotated the strike well and played some amazing shots." Former India captain and

current BCCI president Sourav Ganguly tweeted: "Special exhibition of test match batting under pressure Rishabh Pant. Ravindra Jadeja can't get better than this."

Virender Sehwag: Pant is in a league of his own. The most entertaining cricketer in the world, this is a special one.

Harbhajan Singh: Top knock 100 Rishabh Pant when team needed the most... keep it up.

Sanjay Manjrekar: Pant is playing great Test innings for fun these days! Hats off!

Broad Bowls Most Expensive Over In Test Cricket History

Agencies

BIRMINGHAM: England fast bowler Stuart Broad conceded 35 runs against India's Jasprit Bumrah in the most expensive over ever bowled in test cricket on Saturday.

Broad celebrated his 550th test wicket on the second day of the series-deciding fifth test at Edgbaston before his disastrous over late in the first innings.

Bumrah hit Broad for four boundaries and two sixes in the over. The India captain took 29 runs off the over which also cost 5 wides and a no-ball.

With the second new ball only three overs old, Bumrah top-edged Broad for four off the first ball followed by another short delivery which went for 5 wides.

Bumrah got a top-edged six off the third delivery which was signalled a no-ball, and followed it with three successive boundaries, a six and a single off the last ball.

The previous record of scoring 28 runs in an over was jointly shared by Brian Lara of the West Indies, George Bailey of Australia and Keshav Maharaj of South Africa, with two of Broad's current England team-



mates playing an unwanted role.

Bailey hit seamer James Anderson for 28 in Perth in the 2013-14 Ashes, and Maharaj scored his runs against part-time spinner Joe Root in Port Elizabeth in 2020.

Lara hit South Africa spinner Robin Peterson for his 28 in Jo-

hannesburg in 2003.

Bumrah finished on 31 not out from 16 balls after India was bowled out for 416.

The 36-year-old Broad ended with 1-89.

Broad was also hit for 36 in a single over in 2007 by India's Yuvraj Singh at the T20 World Cup. (AP)

India On Cummins' Radar After Australia's Galle Win



Agencies

COLOMBO: Australia are on the cusp of a series victory in Sri Lanka and captain Pat Cummins believes the exposure to sub-continental conditions augurs well for their next big target of winning a test series in India next year.

Cummins, soon after the team's Ashes victory against England, had announced that Australia must succeed in Asia if they were to become the top test side in the true sense of the term.

His team responded by triumphing in Pakistan before landing in Sri Lanka where they won the opening test by 10 wickets to take a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

After mastering the lifeless tracks in Pakistan, Australia proved they have what it takes to succeed on Sri Lanka's sharp-turning surfaces. Cummins expects the experience to come in handy when Australia play India in February-March.

"We've had Marnus (Labus-

chagne), Travis Head, Cam Green, Alex Carey (who all) haven't played test matches in conditions that have spun this much," he said of his batters.

"We have a big series next year in India, so this can really help develop and fast track our batters...if you want to be the number one test team in the world you've got to be winning overseas."

It is not just the batters who will learn valuable lessons before facing India.

"(Mitchell) Swepson hasn't played on wickets like this as well, so absolutely you learn so much from these tours," Cummins said of the leg-spinner who made his test debut in Pakistan and claimed five wickets in Galle.

"Fortunately, we'll be learning at the same time as having a win. It's part of the environment that we are trying to create," Cummins added.

Australia need a draw in the second test, also in Galle from Friday, to register consecutive test series wins abroad.

Wimbledon 2022: Sania Mirza Advances To Mixed Doubles 2nd Round



Press Trust of India

WIMBLEDON: Indian ace Sania Mirza, who is making her final Wimbledon appearance, and Mate Pavic advanced to the second round of the mixed doubles event with a hard-fought win over David Vega Hernandez and Natela Dzalamidze on Friday.

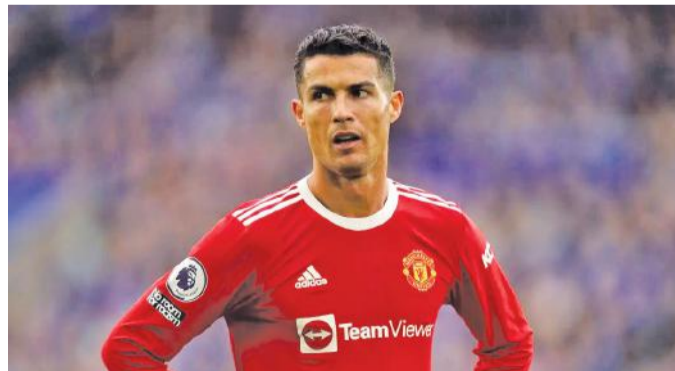
The Indo-Croatian duo won 6-4 3-6, 7-6(3) in a first-round match. Mirza, who has already announced her retirement at the end of this season, and her Czech

partner Lucie Hradecka had earlier lost in the opening round of women's doubles event.

The 35-year-old Indian had won her maiden doubles title alongside Martina Hingis, back in 2015. In a video footage uploaded on the official Twitter handle of Championships, Mirza said she is going to miss Wimbledon but it's time to move on.

"There are things in life which take priority over playing tennis matches and I am at that stage now," she said.

Cristiano Ronaldo Asks To Leave Manchester United: Report



Agencies

MANCHESTER: Manchester United could be on the verge of losing talisman Cristiano Ronaldo before the start of 2022-23 season as the 37-year-old forward has asked to leave the club should the Red Devils receive a satisfactory offer in the transfer window, according to The Times.

The Portuguese superstar's decision is said to be driven by a desire to play in the Champions League for the remainder of his career.

Ronaldo believes that he has 'three or four years' at the high-

est level to win major trophies, according to the report.

A host of clubs will surely be

put on high alert after this latest development with Bayern Munich said to be the favourites should Robert Lewandowski leave the club for Barcelona. A rumoured return to Italian club Juventus has also been going around.

Ronaldo completed a sensational return to the Old Trafford ahead of the 2021/22 season having spent three years in Italy with Juventus. He scored 24 goals in 38 games, including six strikes from seven matches in the Champions League.

United, however, finished 6th in the season which keeps them out of the Champions League, something which is touted as the reason for Ronaldo wish to exit.