

Kashmir Observer extends Eid Mubarak to its esteemed readers. KO offices shall remain closed for two days on account of Eid holiday and the next issue of the paper will hit the stands on Wednesday. However KO online will keep its readers updated throughout the holiday period. -Management

Amarnath Cloudburst: Rescuers Fighting Hostile Terrain, Uncertain Weather

16 People Have Been Declared Dead And Over 40 Missing. Around 15,000 Pilgrims Stranded Near The Amarnath Holy Cave Were Shifted To The Lower Base Camp Of Panjtarni On Saturday

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: Even as the joint teams of different agencies were leading the rescue operation at the cloudburst-hit Amarnath cave area at the behest of expert teams and technical support on Saturday, the threat of a natural calamity was looming large.

There are apprehensions of another cloudburst and heavy downpour in the same area where a flash flood swept dozens of tents and makeshift kitchens on Friday, experts cautioned.

"Despite enough men and machinery being pressed into action, the rescue operation is extremely difficult to conduct due to the inclement weather and the muddy terrain hampering efforts to rescue the stranded and injured persons," an official told Kashmir Observer.

The official said that the rigid geographical layout of the holy cave has inundated the place of incident with massive mud and debris reaching heights of 3-5 feet.

"In carrying out rescue and relief operations in such difficult terrain, rescuers always face hostility in operation," the official who didn't



An injured woman airlifted from Amarnath cave shrine to the Baltal Base camp being shifted by rescue workers to a hospital for treatment. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

want to be named said, adding that the first priority was to save human lives.

"The 13-kilometer long rigid

terrain is hampering rescue work in locating missing persons and dead bodies. It's not a plane surface where a QRT can effortlessly

walk with stretchers and other equipment. The track which leads to the holy cave was already rigid and the latest flash flood has filled it with stagnant mud. The debris brought down by the flood is a huge challenge to the rescue operation."

Death Toll Reaches 16, Many Untraced

The death toll in the flash flood triggered by heavy rain near the Amarnath cave shrine rose to 16 on Saturday as the search operations continued without a break amid fears that many are still trapped under the debris. Officials said 15,000 stranded pilgrims were shifted to the lower base camp of Panjtarni and 25 injured people were rushed to hospitals after the flash flood and landslides rummaged through tents and community kitchens on Friday afternoon. According to an Army official, mountain rescue teams and lookout patrols with high-tech equipment and sniffer dogs have been deployed for the search and rescue operation.

"Air rescue operations started **More on P6**

LG Reviews Rescue Ops In High Level Meeting

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday reviewed the ongoing rescue and relief operation at Amarnath shrine in a high-level meeting with top brass security and senior officers of the divisional administration.

The meeting attended by GoC 15 Corps Lt Gen AS Aujla, DGP Dilbag Singh, ACS Home R K Goyal, Special DG CID RR Swain, ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, LG's Principal Secretary Nitishwar Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole and senior officials, observed two-minute silence to pay tribute to devotees who lost their lives in the unfortunate incident yesterday, an official spokesperson said. **More on P6**

Waqf Cites Weather Forecast, Says No Prayers At Srinagar Eidgah

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board on Saturday said that Eid prayers will not be allowed at Eidgah Srinagar as request for the same was received late.

"There is a weather forecast of heavy downpour for the coming few days and it would not be possible for the Waqf to make requisite arrangements", news agency KNO quoted an unnamed official of J&K Waqf Board as saying.

He said that the Waqf has advised the Anjuman-e-Auqaf Jamia Masjid to ask followers to offer prayers in covered spaces of local Masjids.

Notably, Anjuman Auqaf had on July 06 written to the J&K Waqf Board to make necessary arrangements for offering Eid prayers at 9 am at Eidgah Srinagar on July 10.

Auqaf has also stated that in case of inclement weather, the congregational Eid prayers will be offered at the Central Jamia Masjid, Srinagar at the scheduled time and all arrangements have been made there as well.

Govt Disallows Eid Prayers At Jama Masjid

Meanwhile Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid has said that the Waqf Board has in its reply received today (Saturday), conveyed its inability to facilitate prayers citing rainy weather forecast, saying Muslims should offer prayers at their local Masjids instead.

"Later in the day Anjuman members were called by government authorities and told that as Waqf had declined prayer facilitation at Eidgah, if Auqaf wants to conduct the prayers **More on P6**

THE 13-KILOMETER LONG RIGID TERRAIN IS HAMPERING rescue work in locating missing persons and dead bodies. It's not a plane surface where a QRT can effortlessly walk with stretchers and other equipment. The track which leads to the holy cave was already rigid and the latest flash flood has filled it with stagnant mud. The debris brought down by the flood is a huge challenge to the rescue operation."



FIRST
TOUGHENED
GLASS PLANT
IN THE
KASHMIR VALLEY

عيد

A very blessing and a
mubarak Eid al-Adha to you

B M C
मसाले

Eid
Mubarak!



70 साल से
स्वाद का भरोसा।



BAWA MASALA COMPANY

B-11, Lawrence Road, Industrial Area, Delhi-110035, Ph. : 47059101/02/03/04/05
E-mail : ips@bawamasala.com | Website : www.bawamasalacompany.com



To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

New Method Causes Plastics To Break Down Under UV Light

Press Trust Of India

Researchers in the UK have developed a novel method to break down plastics using just ultraviolet (UV) light. The researchers at the University of Bath discovered that adding sugar units to polymers increases their degradability when exposed to UV radiation. UV radiation has a wavelength of 10 nanometres (nm) to 400 nm, shorter than that of visible light, but longer than X-rays. Many plastics that bear the biodegradable label can only be composted in industrial settings. The researchers noted that public concern about plastic waste has led to the widespread usage of PLA (Poly lactic acid), which is a renewable, sustainable alternative to polymers made from crude oil. PLA is used in everything from throwaway cups and teabags to three dimensional (3D) printing and packaging. Although PLA is sometimes advertised as biodegradable, it only dissolves under industrial composting conditions of high temperatures and humidity, which are not possible in residential compost heaps. It is also not easily degradable in natural environments, such as soil or the ocean. "Lots of plastics are labelled as biodegradable, but unfortunately this is only true if you dispose of it in an industrial



The research, recently published in the journal Chemical Communications, demonstrated a method that could increase the rate at which these polymers degrade in the environment.

waste composte - if put into domestic compost heaps, it can last for years," said Antoine Buchard from the University of Bath. The research, recently published in the journal Chemical Communications, demonstrated a method that could increase the rate at which these polymers degrade in the environment. The researchers found that by adding various quantities of sugar molecules to the polymer, they could modify how

quickly the plastic degrades. They discovered that incorporating as little as 3 per cent of sugar polymer units into PLA caused it to degrade by 40 per cent in only six hours when exposed to UV light. "Most PLA plastics are made up of long polymer chains which can be difficult for water and enzymes to break down. "Our research adds sugars into the polymer chains, linking everything together by bonds that can be broken using UV light," said Buchard, who led

the research. The method weakens the plastic, breaking it down into smaller polymer chains that are then more sensitive to hydrolysis. This could make the plastic much more biodegradable in the natural environment, for example in the ocean or in a garden compost heap. The technology is compatible with existing plastic manufacturing processes, meaning it could potentially be tested and adopted quickly by the plastics industry, the researchers said.

Study Suggests It’s Easier To Forgive When Under Chronic Stress

ANI

Russian researchers have studied the correlation between personality authenticity (the ability to be oneself) and the ability to forgive under different levels of stress. They found that people experiencing chronic stress are more inclined to forgive, while people affected by everyday stress are less inclined to do so. The ability to forgive promotes authenticity. The results of the study, which have been published in the journal Clinical Psychology and Special Education, can be used in life coaching programs. Authenticity--the ability 'to be oneself'--helps people cope with different life trials. The ability to forgive--to overcome the feeling of offence by the person who caused harm or difficult life circumstances--also helps in maintaining psychological well-being. Despite the importance of these phenomena for personality psychology studies, their correlation has virtually gone unstudied. The ability to forgive is only now beginning to be investigated in Russian personality psychology, while almost no papers have been published on its relations to other positive personality phenomena. No research works have examined authenticity, the ability to forgive as a moral quality, and levels of stress. HSE Faculty of Social Sciences Professor Sofya Nartova-Bochaver joined her colleague Violetta Park to study how stress impacts authenticity and the ability to forgive. To establish the correlations, the researchers surveyed 140 young men and women aged 16 to 40. The respondents belonged to different cohorts in terms of stress they were experiencing. They included the relatively well-off (students living in Moscow from a teacher training university), the cohort experiencing everyday stress due to routine responsibilities (students at one of Moscow's international classical universities), and the chronic stress cohort caused by a severe trauma with irreversible consequences (patients of a rehabilitation center with severe spinal injuries). Standardized questionnaires were used in the research. The study showed that people with chronic stress demonstrate the highest levels of authenticity. The relatively well-off patients show average results, while the everyday stress cohort returned the lowest levels. The same trends work for the ability to forgive. Researchers explain the high inclination to forgive among representatives of the chronic stress cohort by the post-traumatic growth effect. Despite the fact that these people face very severe life conditions--they depend physically on other people; their normal bodily sensations have changed, and many capabilities have been lost--they are more likely to discover their real purpose in life and the most important values. They feel 'more like themselves' and are able to disregard the multiple misfortunes and imperfections in life by means of forgiveness in order to move on. Representatives of the 'relatively well-off' cohort adapt easily to themselves and the world, have moderately high authenticity, and a readiness to forgive other people, themselves, and the circumstances that life presents them with. The lowest ability to forgive and the lowest level of authenticity was seen in the everyday stress cohort. Likely due to the 'invisibility' and 'unimportance' of everyday troubles, these people are unaware of their everyday stress until their reaction to it peaks. This is why people who believe that they deal with routine pressure well are in fact exhausted and become too demanding to themselves and others.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my 12th pass Qualification certificate bearing Regd No: N11301090004, Roll No: 8178288, Session Annual 2014. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the JKBOSE Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Shahida
D/o Mohd Jaffar Sofi
R/o Gulshan Bagh Hawal Srinagar

mks

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

SEALING ORDER

Subject: Sealing of structure/ building of Mr Ghulam Nabi Mir S/o Abdul Aziz Mir S/A 105 Athwajan Srinagar under rule 2.11 of the J&K Unified Building Bye-Laws, 2021.

Whereas, a complaint was received from one Intikhab Alam S/o Ghulam Nabi Dar R/o Athwajan Sgr wherein it was stated that Ghulam Nabi Mir S/o Abdul Aziz Mir has raised a shopping complex under the name and style of Mir Marble House illegally and unauthorizedly, without seeking building permission from the competent authority under the provisions of J&K Municipal Corporation Act;

Whereas, concerned Ward Officer submitted his report vide No. SMC/W-34/596-97, dated:- 03-02-2022 wherein it is mentioned that Ghulam Nabi Mir S/o Abdul Aziz Mir has failed to show any building permission to the concerned Ward Officer;

Whereas, the concerned Ward Officer in its report has shown that the construction is actually existing at site with plinth area 45' x 26';

Whereas, the Enforcement Officer South SMC has recommended an action under law the said person vide No. SMC/Enf/S/3238-40, dated:- 15-02-2022;

Whereas, a showcause notice for sealing under rule 2.11 of the J&K Unified Building Bye-laws, 2021 has been served upon the said person vide No. SMC/Enf/3894-99, dated:- 03-06-2022 asking him to showcause within 7 days from the date of issuance of notice as to why the impugned structure/ building in question shall not be sealed in accordance with law;

Whereas, the offender has failed to submit the reply to the showcause notice which clearly indicates that the offender has nothing to say in his defence;

Whereas, the offender has violated the laws in force and master plan norms which entails an action of sealing of the said structure/ building under rule 2.11 of the J&K Unified Building Bye-Laws, 2021, as adopted by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation on 3rd January 2022;

Now, therefore, in view of the above and to observe the mandate of law, the structure/ building in question is hereby sealed under rule 2.11 of the J&K Unified Building Bye-Laws, 2021. The structure in question is put under the Superdari with the Station House Officer Police Station Pantha Chowk and Ward Officer, Ward No. 34, SMC.

Commissioner,
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

No.SMC/ENF/6850-60
Dated:- 05-07-2022

DIPK-NB-2311/22

May the teachings of Allah and his prophet be your companion throughout your life.

HAPPY

Eid

AL

Adha

MUBARAK

LEADING

advertising agency

PRINT - ELECTRONIC - ONLINE - OUTDOOR MEDIA SERVICES

Leadingads786@gmail.com

http://Leadingadvertising.wixsite.com/jandk

9796593084 - 9419877995

01942-312120

Top Floor Iqra Complex, Near Iqra Masjid Saria Bala Srinagar J&K-190001

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

IRRIGATION DIVISION KULGAM

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

e-NIT No: 11/IDK/2022-23

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor J&K U.T, e-tenders are invited (in single cover system) "on item rate basis" from registered Contractors whose registration cards are valid in terms of standing rules for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of work	Advt. Cost (Rs.in lacs)	Earnest Money (Amt. in Rs)	Class of Contract	Time for Compl	Cost of tender Document	MH of Account	Tender Receiving authority
1	Construction of protection/lining wall on Dubji canal near breached/vulnerable spots from Rd 5700-6500 mtrs at spots.	0.52	1040	DEE	10 days	200/-	2711	Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Kulgam
2	Restoration of supply channel of Bani canal by way of construction of cross bund u/s Brazloo bridge and u/s gated structure Kachewa Kulgam	1.028	2056	DEE	10 days	200/-	2711	-do-
3	Checking of overflow/leakages by way of raising and jacking Rd 80 mtrs of L/distributor of Banimullah canal	0.31	620	DEE	10 days	200/-	2711	-do-
4	Construction of cross bund on Tetbhuij canal and Kut ladi	1.30	2600	DEE	10 days	200/-	2711	-do-
5	Restoration of supply channel of Nagam ladi by way of laying of crates	0.776	1552	DEE	10 days	200/-	2711	-do-

Position of funds

Position of AA

Budgetary provision Available

Accorded

The bidding document and other details can be downloaded from the website: <http://jktenders.gov.in>

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (if any), book of quantities (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website: [WWW.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

As per the Schedule of dates given below:

i	Publishing date of NIT	09-07-2022
ii	Download start date	09-07-2022 From 11:00 AM
iii	Bid submission start date	09-07-2022From 11:00AM
iv	Bid submission end date	22-07-2022 upto 04:00 PM
v	Bid opening date	23-07-2022 at 11:00AM

- Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of tender document as specified in the table above and pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Kulgam. Bid security will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the bidding documents and shall be valid for six months after the opening of the bid. Bids will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Kulgam on 23-07-2022 at 11: 00 AM. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents like Earnest Money in the form of CDR/FDR/*treasury challan (MH-07/01/0702)* GSTIN /Registration card duly renewed and the successful bidder i.e L1 must submit the valid CDR/FDR// Treasury Receipt, (in original) in the office of tender receiving authority after opening and declaration of successful bidder. **Further the bidder must upload the contact details viz valid Phone No/ email ID.**
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days from the date of opening of bid.
- As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department. However, non-drawl of agreement will not prevent the contract from being enforced upon him.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-
 - Any bidder withdraws his bid during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms & condition of the bid.
 - The successful contractor fails to execute an agreement with the department within 10 days after fixation of contract.
 - The successful bidder fails to start the work within one week from the date of fixation of contract.
- In case of bid of the lowest bidder is found unbalanced, he has to produce additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG before fixation of contract as per following break up:-

S. No.	%age of unbalanced bid viz. advertised cost on account of low rates	Additional performance security
1	Upto & including 15% below	Nil
2	Greater than 15% upto 20% below	5%
3	Greater than 20% & upto 25% below	10%
4	Greater than 25% upto 30% below	15%
5	Greater than 30% below	20%

- The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept/reject the bid without assigning any reason thereof.
- Watch & ward of depl. Material issued for the work (s) shall be exclusively the responsibility of the successful contractor/bidder & in the event of any loss/theft of the materials, the same shall be the responsibility of the bidder, the cost thereof shall be recovered from the bidder @ double the stock issue rates.
- Any kind of damage which may occur to any work during the course of execution due to torrential rains/heavy snow fall/cyclone/floods etc. shall be the responsibility of the bidder till the work is finally handed- to the Department.
- The taxes viz. Income tax, Service tax & Cess shall be deducted from the bidder's claims as admissible under rules.
- The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities). In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling item rate inclusive of all taxes & it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- The unit rates & prices shall quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of work unless otherwise specified.
- If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the BOQ, such item/items shall be deemed to be the part of the overall/total contract value and no rate shall be allowed for such item/items.
- The date of start of work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issuance of LOI/Contract allotment as the case may be.
- Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e- tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bids as per the Finance department's No; O.M No; A/24 (2017) -651 Dtd; 07/06/2018*
- Contractor/ Bidder who fails to submit the hard copies for their uploaded tenders will be debarred from participating in the tendering process for a period of six months in the first instance. Their online tenders will not be considered for the said period and CDR / DD uploaded for the work shall be forfeited. (Circular vide Chief Engineer Kmr I & FC Deptt Srinagar's No 3155-90/13 Dt; 14/12/2013)*
- In case the executing agency shall fail to complete the work within the stimulated time, the penalty upto 10% of the contract value shall be imposed on account of delayed completion.
- Other terms & conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form-25 double.

DIPK-5772/22

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

Irrigation Division Kulgam

No: 4583-92

Dtd: 08-07-2022

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

25th year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Sunday 10 July 2022 | 10 Zil Hajj | 1443 Hijri | Srinagar | Vol: 25 | Issue: 160 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016



A wholesome meal for people on the go

Turkish Burger

Now Taste Mediterranean Flavour in Srinagar

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

Amarnath Cloudburst: 'It Was So Fierce That I'm Still Shaking'

Zaid Bin Shabir

My name is Subhangar [shaking, sighing]... I witnessed the natural fury unfolding in front of my eyes. I had a narrow escape. You can say, I'm alive because of one-minute difference. But when it happened, I saw a vendor running for his life. I couldn't think anything else and followed him. Suddenly, the holy camp reverberating with devotional songs and slogans became a chaotic sight.

Cries rent in the air and the sound of the doom rattled one and all. However, it's incorrect to say that it happened due to some cloudburst. No, nothing like that. I was there and I tell you what happened. There're these three mountain streams that come down from the upper reaches. One of them comes out of a glacier visible to eye. This particular stream suddenly gushed out water with high speed at around 5:30 pm

on Friday. Such was the ferocity of the flow that both tent and inmates inside were drifted with the currents. One pony-walla and an army man were also drifted. I saw it with my own eyes. And I can't tell how terrifying it was. Among the yattris, I saw this young girl mourning the loss of her family members. She lost both her parents in the tragedy. Perhaps, their bodies are yet to be recovered. Others are just cooling their heels at the site

Drones, Choppers, High-Tech Gadgets Used In Rescue Work

Press Trust Of India

Drones and helicopters were pressed into service and mountain rescue teams and lookout patrols with high-tech equipment and sniffer dogs deployed as operations continued on Saturday to look for survivors in the cloudburst incident near the Amarnath cave shrine that snuffed out 16 lives. Officials said the operations continued without a break amid fears that many are still trapped under **More on P6**

till last day. They're helplessly watching the situation as the rescue operation is going on. This natural fury was so fierce that I'm still shaking. Many people are still stranded at the perilous point. The Baltal route has totally gone bad. I couldn't sleep a wink and had to face lot of hassles and foot distance of 16 kilometers to reach here. The site of the tragedy is still very much treacherous. Nobody deserves to witness what I witnessed last evening.

Millions Of Muslims Commemorate Eid ul-Azha

Agencies

Mina: Millions of Muslims across the globe including in countries like Afghanistan, Libya, Egypt, Kenya and Yemen were celebrating Eid ul-Azha on Saturday, one of the biggest holidays of the Islamic calendar. Known as the Feast of Sacrifice, the revered observance coincides with the final rites of the annual hajj in Saudi Arabia. It's a joyous occasion, for which food is a hallmark. Much of Asia, including Indonesia, India and Pakistan, will observe the holiday on Sunday. But as Russia's war in Ukraine sends food prices soaring and causes widespread hardship across the Middle East, many say they can't afford the livestock for the ritual sacrifice. Desperation over the cost of living has undercut the typically booming holiday trade in goats, cows and sheep. Everyone wants to sacrifice an animal in the name of Allah, but they are not able to do so because they're poor, said Mohammad Nadir from a cattle market in Mazar-e-Sharif, northern Afghanistan, where a few men haggled over bleating sheep. Eid al-Azha commemorates the Quranic tale of Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice Ismail as an act of obedience to God. Before he could carry out the sacrifice, God provided a ram as an offering. In the Christian and Jewish telling, Abraham is ordered to kill another son, Isaac. Many Muslims celebrate the four-day feast by ritually slaughtering livestock and distributing the meat among family, friends and the poor. At al-Shati **More on P6**

Sinha To Press For Kashmir Solution If Elected President

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Combined opposition candidate for presidential poll Yashwant Sinha on Saturday said if elected, one of his priorities will be to urge the government to resolve the Kashmir issue permanently and restore peace, justice, democracy and normalcy to the union territory. The former BJP leader is here on a day-long visit to drum up support for his presidential bid. While there is no legislative assembly in Jammu and Kashmir as of now, it has five Lok Sabha members -- three from the National Conference and two from the BJP. There are no Rajya Sabha members from the union territory as on date. "If elected, I shall perform my duty as the custodian of the Constitution without fear or favour. One of my priorities would be to urge the government to take all necessary steps to resolve Kashmir issue permanently, and restore peace, justice, democracy, normalcy and holistic development to Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha told reporters here. He also claimed that harmony in the country has been destroyed but the nation will fight back as it has its own temperament against communalism.

for the safe and dignified return and resettlement of Kashmiri Pandits. "It must fulfill the promise not only for Kashmiri Pandits but also for all others who were forced to migrate out of Kashmir," he said. Sinha said Prime Minister Narendra Modi during an all-party meeting in June 2020 had promised to remove the "dil ki doori" and "Dilli ki doori" (the distance from the heart and Delhi). "Over two years have passed and the promise remains unfulfilled." He said he had great personal regard for the NDA candidate Droupadi Murmu.



I TOLD THEM I AM GOING TO SRINAGAR to highlight the injustice done to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I would like the people of rest of India to know how their compatriots in Jammu and Kashmir have been robbed of their fundamental and democratic rights."

"However, from Srinagar, I urge her to make same affirmations and promises I have made. The people of Jammu and Kashmir also expect this assurance from her," he added. The opposition **More on P6**



A military chopper carrying injured people approaches the highly fortified Baltal Base camp in Ganderbal district on Saturday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Amarnath Flash Floods

Highly Localised Rain Event, Not Cloudburst: IMD

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said the deaths and destruction near the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir were due to a highly localised rain event and not due to a cloudburst. According to weather scientists, the shrine reported 31 mm of rainfall between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm on Friday, which is quite low to be categorised as a cloudburst. "The flash floods could have been triggered due to rainfall in the higher reaches of the mountains near the Amarnath cave shrine," IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra told PTI. According to the IMD, a rain event is categorised as a cloudburst if a weather station receives 100 mm of rain in one hour. The IMD has an automatic



weather station near the Amarnath cave shrine which provides weather forecasts during the pilgrimage. However, the surrounding mountains do not have any weather monitoring stations due to their inaccessibility.

At least 16 people were killed and tents and community kitchens near the shrine were swamped with mud and rocks that came hurtling down with a gush of water after a spell of rain on Friday evening. "It was a highly **More on P6**

Govt Re-Constitutes Governing Body Of SKIMS Soura

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government has reconstituted the Governing body of Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura Srinagar headed by Lieutenant Governor. According to an order, Lieutenant Governor will be the chairman of the committee, while other members of the body include Advisor(s) to the Lieutenant Governor J&K; Chief Secretary J&K; Secretary Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India;

Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology Government of India; Director, AIIMS New Delhi (or one of his Deans in the absence of Director, AIIMS); Principal, Government Medical College Srinagar; Principal, Government Medical College Jammu and Principal SKIMS Medical College Bemina as its members. The order stated that Director SKIMS and ex-officio Secretary to Government will be its member secretary and Administrative Secretaries of Finance; General Administration Department; **More on P6**

LG Greets People On Eid-UI- Zuha

Observer News Service

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday greeted the people of the Union Territory on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Zuha. In his message, the Lt Governor observed that the festival is an occasion to reaffirm our faith in the unity of humanity and to be charitable towards the poor and disadvantaged. "May this auspicious festival of Eid-ul-Zuha **More on P6**

Hybrid Militant Held In Baramulla

Observer News Service

Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested a hybrid militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in Baramulla district of north Kashmir. Mohd Iqbal Bhat of Tilgam Payeen was arrested by a joint team of police and army's 29 RR from a checkpoint in Kreeri area of the district, a police spokesperson said Saturday. He said arms & ammunition including a pistol and **More on P6**

Train Crushes Man To Death

Observer News Service

An unidentified man was crushed to death by a moving train on Nowgam-Budgam railway section in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Saturday morning. Reports said that train (74626) from Budgam to Banihal hit one unknown person at KM No 65/7 in between Budgam to Srinagar section, resulting in on spot death of a person whose identification is being ascertained. Meanwhile a police official also confirmed the incident **More on P6**

J&K Logs 164 New Corona Cases

Observer News Service

Jammu and Kashmir reported 146 fresh covid-19 cases even as there was one person died due to the virus during last 24 hours, officials said on Saturday. They said that 90 cases were reported from Jammu division and 56 from Kashmir division, taking the overall tally to 455953. Giving district wise details, he said, Jammu reported 67 cases, Srinagar 45, Udhampur nine, Samba six, Ganderbal, Poonch and **More on P6**

Cloudburst Triggers Flash Floods In Doda

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A cloudburst triggered flash floods in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Saturday, causing minor damage to some vehicles, officials said. The cloudburst occurred around 4 am in Gunti forest area in Thathri belt, resulting in heavy flash floods, they said. No casualty has been reported in the incident, an officer said. Some vehicles were stuck in mudslides and the highway was blocked for **More on P6**

Probe Ordered Into Newborn's Death

Observer News Service

Administration on Saturday ordered a magisterial enquiry into death of a newly born baby after a private vehicle carrying her to hospital was allegedly stopped in Ramban district following restrictions of traffic due to Amarnath yatra. The inquiry has been ordered by Ramban District Magistrate Massaratul Islam, officials said. The sub divisional magistrate (SDM) Ramsoo Vikar Ahmad Garh has been made as enquiry **More on P6**

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the
Kashmir Observer LLP
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Budgam.
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobsrver.net

Twitter Talks



“Kashmir markets witnessing a deserted look, despite it being a pre Eid week & despite of the much hyped tourism blitzkrieg Besides inflation & sustained unemployment, stringent handling of the shadow economy from all corners is proving lethal for the formal channels of commerce”
@ejazayoub13
“Is this even legal? In Kashmir Traffic policemen take pictures of cars on their personal mobile phones for challans. What happens to the privacy of the individuals in the vehicle?”
@adnanmbhat

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Privatized Power

A nexus between Power Development Department officials, private workshop owners and consumers has surfaced in the central Kashmir's district of Budgam with startling revelations about the state exchequer being duped of lakhs of rupees on account of the power tariff. Even as the power supply all over the state falls under government sector scores of villages in the district seem to have declared their independence in that they enjoy the most sought-after essential commodity almost gratis, due to a sinister tie-up forged by the apparently helpless consumers with PDD officials and others connected with the key sector. According to a report circulated by a local news agency, CNS, the residents of Sebdan, Galwanpora and Nasrullapora, to name only a few villages out of many, have not paid a single penny on account of power tariff for 15 years past, while enjoying unlimited supply against a consideration of a negligible Rs 50 allegedly paid unto the field officials as a monthly tip. The villagers of Sebdan Galwanpora told CNS that when a transformer broke down and they approached the PDD authorities to get it repaired, they were allegedly told that an amount of Rs 20,000 had been fixed as bribe for a 100-kilowatt transformer. “People pay the money and get transformer,” they were told. Instead of bribing the unscrupulous officials, the villagers raised Rs four lakh and bought seven transformers directly from the market and got these installed. Having got the transformers, the villagers allegedly struck an arrangement with the PDD officials, under which every household was required to pay Rs 50 as tip every month instead of having to pay the prescribed power tariff. At least, 20 villages have reportedly bought three transformers from the market, while 50 odd other villages followed suit, and the consumers make full use of electricity, pay their tips and do not deposit a single penny with the state exchequer. Equally disturbing is the fact that 220 allegedly unauthorized mills have either purchased transformers on their own or got them installed by the PDD against hefty considerations. Transformers being provided under a centrally-sponsored scheme are also available at a premium. The overall loss to the state exchequer because of this racket is believed to run into Rs 10 crore a year. Even otherwise, a parallel system has been in vogue in the PDD for decades past under which most consumers across the state have an understanding with its field staff under which they get a fixed tip every month to allow the former to get power on payment of token tariff. Lately, the government added yet another dimension to the mess by going ahead with selective installation of electronic meters in some localities of the city and some towns leaving the vast majority of households outside the scheme. According to official sources, only five per cent consumers get metered power while 95 per cent get unlimited supply. Being penny wise and pound foolish, the department, in fact, incurs heavy losses of revenue due to the alleged mass hooking by metered consumers. Even while introducing some sanity in power consumption, the government is blind to some chronic ailments the department has been suffering from, particularly in maintenance, systems and operations wings. Lack of adequate maintenance of distribution system is behind the frequent snags because of which unscheduled curtailment is resorted to in various areas, not as a one time exception but as a rule. It is widely alleged that funds provided for maintenance and oiling of the system is pocketed by PDD officials. As a result, there have been occasions when even a receiving station was rocked by a blast after some naughty mongoose strayed into its live machinery. No less scandalous has been the frequent transformer damage, a phenomenon sparking protest demonstrations, particularly in various parts of the valley during winter. On the pretext of being over-worked, the departmental workshops routinely direct the desperate consumers of the affected localities to get the repairs done at private workshops. Even as the authorities come out with paid advertisements in the local media advising the people against this, there is no denying bulk of the transformer repair work is done by private workshops suggesting their nexus with PDD officials. Enjoying official patronage, some former engineers of the department are believed to have set up workshops to make some fast bucks in the process. No wonder that, on learning about the murky goings-on in PDD during Mufti rule, an upright minister of state put in his papers after giving a piece of mind to a chief engineer. While admitting he had lost his cool, the minister was candid enough to speak of the presence of some “big sharks” in the department. It is time the government initiated steps to revamp the working of the top-heavy department sooner than later.

The article is an editorial from KO's archives and was originally published on Friday, April 07, 2009

Growth Inhibitors in Our Educational System

Dr Rafi Ramzan Dar

At present, a topsy-turvy state of affairs has started spreading its roots in our societal systems. Instead of working hard and giving our best, we focus more on the glitches. As a substitute for improving ourselves, we start counting other's faults and even devise a proper plan to demean others who co-exist with us in our working environment. The irony is that we flow with the flow and expect more output by putting in less. This isn't the scenario of any particular economic sector or any specific institution or organization only. In fact, we feel and witness such a growth inhibitive culture developing and rapidly consolidating almost everywhere in the length and breadth of our geographical region and our educational sector isn't an exception to it. In our educational system, we witness a system of lobbies and groups which leave no stone unturned in backbiting against the members of the opposite group. It has deeply encroached and manifested itself in various forms and nomenclatures like seniors vs. juniors, teaching vs. non-teaching, skilled vs. unskilled, permanent vs. contractual as well as official vs. “outside of official” staff etc. Besides, there is a group of people called “Yes-men” who are inevitable in every office of the Headmaster, Principal or HOD. This is a group of the most senior, most influential and most lethargic ‘babus’. These people are most detrimental for the smooth functioning of any institution. It is them who guide less and misguide more to the chair. In fact, these “yes-men” in the heart of their hearts assume that the official in-charge is stable and functional only because of them by forgetting that any institution or organization can work even without any Tom, Dick or Harry. What they do is, they keep the chair busy in unnecessary things which in the longer run gives them a greater say in the academic or other affairs, provided the office bearer is inefficient and unexposed to lead the institution as a head. Consequently, they begin to feel and think themselves as the de facto epicenters of power and authority. This sows seeds of mutual rift between them and the other members who aren't even allowed to make frequent visits around the chair which breeds antagonistic tendencies and degrades the essence as well as performance of the concerned institution. As a proof of this fact, we have witnessed our falling ranks during recent NAAC visits in almost all our colleges across the UT. Despite having sufficient infrastructure and ample manpower as



well as immense funds, what we lack is a matter of great concern. After all, the basic question that strikes one's mind is that have we excelled anywhere then? The answer is a big yes. We have excelled in producing an atmosphere of non-cooperation and inferiority complex in our higher seats of learning. Not only this, We have also shown to the world how mutual rifts can be made more substantial, how our individual egos can't be left unsatisfied and, in fact, how the standards of our educational systems can be lowered down by producing growth inhibitors. In addition to it, we have also designed a roadmap for other societies and shown them as to how we mingle with students like pals (where they use derogatory epitaphs like ‘yaar’ for their teachers) and reduce the gap of decency between a teacher and a student so much so that we are witnessing the increasing trends of misbehavior and indiscipline among the students. Overall, we are the torch bearers of carrying on such degrading and detrimental legacies forward to our next generations. We don't deny social dynamism. We do understand and appreciate that. But when we witness negative change in any of the systems in our society, it creates negative vibes which in turn generate pessimistic tendencies and ultimately results in lack of interest towards our

assigned work at our respective positions and places. We escape from proper role playing. This in the long run leads to inefficiency and malfunctioning in the system where we end up with the under development and lesser output. This inhibits growth and development. We must not forget that whatsoever we do or propagate, the world is watching and witnessing our moves very keenly. Today's actions and episodes will carry forward a message of its inherent nature and character for the future. To create a better or bitter educational system is completely our choice and before making any choice, we must choose wisely and honestly. We must not forget that we are not only the builders of our nation but also that of our community, our society as well as the careers and lives of our coming generations. We must not be the part of any ideology which inhibits our growth as well as the growth of those institutions and organizations that are inalienable in our existence and enlightenment.

Views expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
The author teaches Geography at GDC Bijbehara. He can be reached at rafiranzandar@gmail.com

No Apologies on Eid
Why Animal Sacrifice on Eid-ul-Zuha is an Indispensable Part of Islam

Mohammad Nizamuddin Pasha

Of late, a new fad has caught the imagination of apologists around the world. Muslim and non-Muslim alike, who are trying to re-interpret the animal sacrifice that marks the festival of Eid-ul-Zuha as an expression of charity that is more appropriately expressed in money terms in today's day and age. In their own understanding, this is an attempt to make Islam more compatible with what they perceive to be the demands of the ‘modern’ world. Unfortunately, this fad proceeds on a mistaken understanding of both Islam as well as the ‘modern’ world. To begin with, let me straightaway disclaim that this is not an attempt to argue with animal rights activists. If you believe that animals are not meant to be eaten and advocate vegetarianism, then all I can do is to quote the Quran where it says “to you be your way and to me be mine” (109:6). Though I will say this in fairness – at least your philosophy is internally consistent and does not contradict itself. But if you enjoy steaks and kababs and naharis all year round and save your animal rights and environmental activism for this one day of the year, then this article is for you. To begin with, I would like to inform you that the processed meat you buy from the frozen foods section of your local supermarket was once a frisky lamb or a fluffy chick that had its throat cut open by a gutka chewing man in a banyaan. I just wanted you to know that. It is being said that livestock was merely representative of wealth in seventh century Arabia, and that is why animals were sacrificed on this day, and money as the new form of wealth may be given in charity as a modern-day replacement of the offering. As an article in ‘The Wire’ put it, “Real sacrifice requires us to give up some of what is dear to us. Today, the most cherished possession is money”. Again, this proceeds on a completely mistaken understanding of Arabian society at the time of the Prophet. Makkah (Mecca), where Islam was born, thrived in the pre-Islamic period as an important pilgrimage centre that trade caravans from far and wide altered their routes to visit to pay homage and obtain blessings. The Kaaba, said to have been built by Abraham at a spot ordained by God and having embedded in it a stone that had descended from heaven, was a pantheon of gods containing idols of the followers of many faiths and was consequently holy to all of them.

The economy of the city was centred around trade with these caravans and the tribute that the faithful brought to the site. While rearing of animals, particularly camels, was important to the lives of people, it was far from a universal occupation. So, while it is true that livestock was a far more important asset in those days than it is today, it was by no means what the wealth of a person was calculated in. This was not the age of the barter system and money, represented by the dinar and dirham, was very much in vogue. Monetary transactions are, in fact, discussed in several Prophetic traditions. Trade with foreign caravans was in terms of silver and gold, the universal currency. And I am no anthropologist, but I think we can safely say that money was even then a cherished possession. The love for lucre is far from recent. In fact, the tradition of sacrifice on Eid itself clearly does not presuppose that every person would own livestock, as is evident from the fact that one of the conditions of sacrifice is that one person may sacrifice a goat or sheep whereas seven people may get together and sacrifice a larger animal like a camel, buffalo or cow. If every person was merely sacrificing a part of their own livestock, there would be no question of seven people obtaining shares in one animal to perform a joint sacrifice. Secondly, and more importantly, Islam has an entire system of charity in money terms known as zakaat, which is one of the five fundamental tenets of Islam. Each year, every person who has money or assets that are unused for an entire year has to give 2.5% of their value in charity. This form of compulsory charity is both denominated in money terms and distributed as such. And zakaat is just one form of charity in Islam. There are many more such as sadaqa which are not bound by any percentage and depend on the inclination of the giver. Just the first 2.5% is zakaat, and for that too, the Sufi saint revered by Indian Muslims and Sikhs alike, Baba Fariduddin Ganjshakar has said - there are several kinds of zakaat. Zakaat-e-shariyat is those who spend 2.5% and keep 97.5%. Nobody is generous for giving zakaat-e-shariyat. That is your religious duty and is bound by religious precepts. Spending more than 2.5% is generosity, till zakaat-e-tariqat is when you spend 97.5% and keep 2.5% for yourself. And finally, zakaat-e-haqiqat is those who spend all they have for others and have faith that Allah will look after their own needs tomorrow. There is also a hadees reported by Sahih Bukhari where the

Prophet (pbuh) is reported to have said “do not withhold your money by counting and hoarding; spend towards charity as much as you can afford”. Whether you call it zakaat-e-tariqat or sadaqa, all of these are Islamic principles that advocate giving up more of your wealth than is mandated towards charity in the hope of pleasing your maker. In fact, even on Eid-ul-Fitr, the other major annual feast for Muslims worldwide, every Muslim who has wealth in excess of his or her day's need is required to give zakaat-al-fitr, which is 2 or 3 kg of the staple food-grain of the area or its money equivalent given for every man, woman and child in the household. This charity has to be given before the Eid prayer so that the poor too can enjoy Eid. So those who feel they have come up with a brilliant new idea not contemplated in Islam of giving money in charity need to first study and understand Islam before they speak. It is abundantly clear that the precept of sacrificing an animal in the Abrahamic tradition exists independently of all other forms of charity that are dealt with at length separately, and cannot be substituted by them. In fact, the entire set of practices around the Hajj, which Eid-ul-Zuha celebrates, are a re-enactment of Abrahamic traditions. Whether it is circumambulation of the Kaaba that Ibrahim a.s. constructed, offering namaaz at the spot where he prayed after completing the construction, throwing pebbles at the spot where he chased away Satan by throwing stones at him, or sa'ee, which involves running between two hills, Safa and Marwa seven times in honour of the seven times Ibrahim's wife, Hajra, ran up and down the hills looking for water for her crying son Is-mail after Ibrahim left them in the valley upon God's command. Today, Safa and Marwa are housed within a large building that has been constructed over them with marble floors, air conditioning and water dispensers every few yards. Slaughtering an animal is just the last in this series of Abrahamic traditions around Hajj. If you wish to question traditions for contemporary relevance, may as well question them all. And if you start questioning each of the traditions of Hajj as mindless emulations of a bygone era, then to you be your way and to me be mine. And this issue is all the more important because it is much larger than just slaughtering an animal. The outcome of vilification of the Islamic faith in popular discourse has reduced educated Muslims to apologists try-

ing to distance themselves from their religious practices or attempting to portray them in a “modern” light in the hope that critics of the faith will be more forgiving of them. The need of the hour is for Muslims to take pride in the precepts of their faith, to first study and understand Islam and then see for themselves what religious practices are about, how much room there is for interpretation, whether there is actually any need to ‘modernize’ and how much controversy is created by ignorance and deliberate misinformation. No resurrection of a beleaguered community is possible until they begin to take pride in the identity that is under fire and embrace it. Until you take pride in who you are, you cannot command the respect of others. The Jews remained a scattered persecuted lot while they were trying to be invisible. The Sikhs could emerge from the vilification they faced in public discourse during the heyday of the Khalistan movement only because of the pride they take in their Sikh identity. Today, the Muslim identity is under attack more than ever before. A lot of Muslims who have been through the western education system react by expending their efforts in trying to become invisible and effacing whatever makes them stick out. Unfortunately, it seems to take very little for us to start believing that we have risen above our shariyat and are living in times that God did not contemplate when revealing the last verse of the Quran “This day I have perfected your religion for you” (5:3). Everyone begins by trying to improve upon religion without first understanding it. There is no doubt there are certain practices and interpretations that have crept into Islam that need to be reformed out. But one can never reform that which one does not understand. And if you try, you will merely succeed in distancing yourself from adherents of the faith and will not have their ear even when you are saying something that is actually relevant.

This is an excerpt of the article published in full on our website Twitter @MNizamPasha. This is an updated piece, a version of which first appeared in occupyannat.com and has also appeared in The Wire.
Mohammad Nizamuddin Pasha is a Delhi-based lawyer. He can be contacted on Twitter @MNizamPasha. This is an updated piece, a version of which first appeared in occupyannat.com and has also appeared in The Wire.

Eid Greetings

Eid Mubarak to our readers!

The hustle and bustle around eid often leaves no space for us to truly evaluate the essence of this festival. Eid Ul Azha is often taken to be a celebration of the ultimate act of sacrifice by Prophet Ibrahim (as). However, the cause for celebration doesn't stop at that. For people, living and breathing, the story of Ibrahim's (as) perfect spirit of sacrifice also brings with it the glad tidings of Allah's infinite mercy. It teaches us that even when the path seems bleak and the sacrifices are too many; Allah's help always comes.

Let's celebrate this assurance of Allah's infinite generosity with the promise to present to him our best attempts at pure intentions and selfless worship!

How Sincere is Your Animal Sacrifice On Eid Ul Azha?

As a people, we often overlook the true spirit of Islamic rituals and often tend to lose ourselves in the process. Eid Ul Azha exemplifies the epitome of perfect sacrifice. How successful are we in seeking inspiration from the example of the purest of sacrifices for the sake of Allah swt? Our contributors weigh in:

Mehroob Mushtaq for Kashmir Observer



Sacrifice is Trust in Allah

Mushtaq Hurra

Had paternal affection restricted the hands of prophet Ibraheem (as), the world would have been deprived of the grand festivity of Eid Ul Azha. Though we rejoice, relish and celebrate a lot on the auspicious day, it is something beyond enthusiasm and ostentatious. I mean, the philosophy behind the noble ritual is deep and beyond blood and meat. Allah SWT has categorically made it clear in the holy Quran. "It is neither your flesh nor blood that pleases Allah. It is your piety that pleases Allah SWT." (Surah Hajj)

Syedna Ibraheem (as) and his son Syedna Isma-eel (as) set an immortal and glaring example of sacrifice which has no parallels in the entire human history. The extraordinarily rare gesture of extensive loyalty and devotion is a beacon of light for humanity in general and muslims in particular, till the day of resurrection. The act pleased Allah to the extent that He bestowed divine elevation and proximity to the father-son duo of Ibraheem and Isma-eel (as), and made it mandatory and obligatory for muslims to memorialise the exemplary audacity and courage displayed by them. The day is marked as Eid Ul Azha in the Islamic world.

Distribution of mutton and beef steaks on Eid Ul Azha acquaints us with the glorious tradition of apportionment, oblation, absolute submission to the will of God, obedience, the value of uterine relationships, rights of paupers, destitute and the poor. Young boys carrying these meat pieces in beautifully designed hampers, visiting neighbours and relatives, fills the environs with the aroma of brotherhood, mutual love, sincerity, selflessness and Tawhid (Oneness of Allah) - Allahu-Akbar. The annual commemoration of the noble sunnati Ibraheem (as) is one of the revered and prominent festivals of the muslim world.

Though Eid Ul Azha teaches us a number of lessons, morals and ethics but the crux of it is "Tawakull Alallah" (Trust in Allah). It strengthens and reinforces our faith and refreshes our bond with Allah SWT. As we have solemnly vowed to affirm our faith in the doctrine of predestination —all good and bad comes from Allah SWT. Syedna Ibraheem (as) and his son Syedna Isma-eel (as) practicalised this belief. They put their souls in their palms, and proffered before their Lord.

Our pyres will turn into beds of roses, if we have that iron willed determination and absolute trust in Allah like Ibraheem

(as), Tawakull Alallah is the potion for our rusty hearts. It is the remedy for our troubles and it is the antidote for our bitten souls. Contemporary muslims are caught up in chaos, confusion, stress, anxiety and lust for material pursuits. Unlike their ancestors, present-day muslims believe in sources, not in the Creator.

On the other end, the example of Syedna Ibraheem (as) exemplifies absolute trust in Allah SWT. His feet didn't wobble, his hands didn't tremble and his faith didn't shake because his trust/Tawakull in Allah SWT was solid and sheer. It was his trust and reliance on Allah SWT which ran his knife on the throat of Isma-eel (as) and Allah SWT didn't breach his trust rather rewarded him with infinite bounties, blessings, favours and prizes.

Tawakull Alallah is the secret of a happy life. Those who trust in Allah SWT for every good and bad don't blame themselves or others for any misfortune or misadventure rather they attribute it to their destinies and fates. This maxim helps to reduce grief, sorrow and pains. In nutshell, faith works wonders. Even most of the psychiatrists of the world advise their patients to stick to their religious preachings and teachings in order to get rid of stress and strain. This

is the only way to attain salvation here and hereafter.

Faith/ Imaan is the preliminary prerequisite to enter the enclave of Islam. Charity, worship/ibaadah and virtuousness is subject to our faith in Allah SWT. Hypocrites/Munafiqeen stand parallel to believers/moomineen in their queues but their faith is not uncontrived. Scores of non-muslims carry out prodigious and substantial philanthropic and charitable deeds but their motive behind all this is not as meaningful. Strong faith consolidates one's trust in Allah and absolute trust in Allah is the key to win His pleasures and privileges. Steadfastness and perseverance are the pillars of faith and your true faith in one Allah liberates you from the yokes of slavery of numerous idols. Wealth, money, big houses, acquisition of land and property have become our virtual Gods whom we worship day in and day out.

Ho Agar Aaj Bhee Ibraheem Ka Eemaan Paida, Aag Karsakti Hai Andaazi Gulistaan Paida

If the unwavering faith of Ibraheem is born again, conflagration is sure to produce blooms

The author is a Teacher and a Columnist. He can be reached at mushtaqhurra143@gmail.com

Insincere and Incomplete Sacrifices

Dr. Ashaq Hussain

It's Eid. Take a look around you and explore the happenings and life around. Animal Fairs will be seen everywhere with great hustle bustle and decorations at various places.

Most people who come to buy cattle examine the animal in the same way as the butchers do. The flesh found in the animal is calculated, although Almighty has already made it clear that neither blood nor flesh reaches Him. He decides whether to accept or reject the sacrifice only on the basis of sincerity and devotion of the sacrificer.

The appetite for food is so high that it is planned in advance which dishes to prepare. A lot of money is spent on buying other items for them. The prices and demand of refrigerators and freezers are also high during these days. There are indications of how concerned people are about storing and preserving the meat and how much they care for it, even though the sacrificial meat is commanded to be distributed.

I feel like Eid-ul-Adha is a festival of eating meat instead of sacrificing it. It is as if on the occasion of sacrifice, the intention is not to sacrifice in the presence of Allah, but to take advantage of this opportunity to show-off one's name, fame and wealth. Expensive cattle

are bought for sacrifice in order to prove the superiority of wealth over the people.

Remember, when the intention itself is not pure, the sacrifice will have the same fate as the sacrifice of Qabeel which was inconsequential.

The sacrificial meat has been made halal for the Muslim Ummah, everyone can eat it. Distributing the sacrificial meat is recommended. It is to be divided into three parts, one for oneself, one part for others and one part for relatives. It is permissible for a person to distribute all the meat and if the family of the sacrificer is large it can all be kept to oneself. However, people have now started hoarding sacrificial meat for the entire year in deep refrigerators. Still others who do distribute meat, often keep the fleshy parts to themselves and distribute the bony parts to others. This defeats the entire purpose of sacrifice.

Sacrificers should keep in mind that Allah Almighty does not need meat or blood. At the time of sacrifice, neither the blood of the sacrifice nor the flesh of the sacrifice reaches Allah. What Allah wants is the sincerity of the sacrificer. The perfection of goodness can be reached only by sacrificing one's dearest possessions as Abraham did. If we celebrate Eid-ul-Adha as a Sunnah of Abraham, then it should be remembered that this Sun-

nah will be performed only if we give a valuable part of our wealth in the way of God. The sacrificial meat should be evenly distributed.

Additionally, Islam is the religion of nature and never gives any command that affects the beauty of it. Islam requires purity and cleanliness. Sacrifice does not mean bringing cattle and scattering their waste all over the neighborhood.

Sacrifice has been considered a source of nearness to God since time immemorial. This passion of offering the best part of one's wealth to Allah in order to attain nearness to Allah is not limited to the day of Eid-ul-Adha but it is a lesson that we should follow every day. Eid-ul-Adha is inviting us to sell our lives and our wealth to Allah, in exchange for Paradise and to live our lives according to His commands. So, on this occasion of Eid-Ul-Adha, sacrifice your stubbornness, ego, jealousy, hatred, and mistrust. If we learn this lesson, we are successful, otherwise, merely cutting the throats of animals will not bring us closer to God and our sacrifice will be rejected like the sacrifice of Qabeel.

Dr. Ashaq Hussain is Associate Professor at Govt. Degree College Chatroo and can be reached at joinechestr@gmail.com

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Amarnath Cloudburst:

flood has filled it with stagnant mud. The debris brought down by the flood is a huge challenge to the rescue operation,” he said.

Echoing the same views, a top paramilitary officer told Kashmir Observer that the weather forecast of a heavy downpour has raised serious alarm bells among the rescue teams.

“If there’s a heavy downpour, there are definite chances of a landslide,” he said. “This is a cause of worry for all of us. Our immediate priority is to evacuate the stranded pilgrims and injured persons from vulnerable spots to a safer location. The second priority is to find the missing and the dead persons. Once done with these two pressing tasks, the focus will be shifted on infrastructural damage. Tonnes of debris have accumulated on the track near Amarnath cave. There is a limitation to the amount of work that can be done.”

As of now, 16 people have been declared dead and over 40 missing. Around 15,000 pilgrims stranded near the Amarnath holy cave were shifted to the lower base camp of Panjtarni on Saturday.

Immediately, after the calamity struck on Friday, a rescue operation was launched but was halted at around 10 pm at night due to the inclement weather. It only resumed on Saturday morning.

Besides the men and machinery, authorities have moved a special squad of rescue dogs to the Baltal base camp to find the missing persons who are believed to be trapped under the debris.

Army has already dispatched six rescue teams including copters to provide air support and has also engaged nine surveillance detachments with hand-held thermal imagers, night vision devices and other gadgets for the search operations.

An official said that two advanced light helicopters (ALH) were moved for casualty evacuation at the holy cave. “Two Through Wall Radars and two Search and Rescue dog squads were also moved to the cave for the rescue operation,” he added.

Besides the army, Indian Air Force has deployed two each ALH Dhruv and Mi-17 V5 helicopters from Srinagar. One AN-32 and Ilyushin-76 transport are on stand-by at Chandigarh.

IAF officials said 29 people were rescued, of whom 9 were seriously injured. Border Security Force’s Mi-17 chopper also airlifted injured persons and dead bodies from Neelgrah helipad/ Baltal to BSF Camp Srinagar for further treatment or further ferrying bodies to their homes.

As the rescue operation is on, the officials have suspended the Amarnath Yatra until further notice.

Death Toll Reaches

Saturday morning and six pilgrims were evacuated by Army helicopters. The military medical teams are receiving patients and casualties at the Nilagrah helipad on onward evacuation,” an official said.

An Mi-17 chopper of the BSF’s air wing has been pressed into service. The Jammu and Kashmir administration has also deployed advanced light helicopters for rescue operations.

A Border Security Force (BSF) spokesperson in Delhi said, “Sixteen bodies have been shifted to Baltal.”

The ITBP has expanded its route opening and protection parties from the lower part of the holy cave up to Panjtarni, a spokesperson of the force said.

Additional Director General of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Vijay Kumar, who holds charge of the Kashmir range, reached the holy cave shrine on Saturday morning to supervise the rescue operations being conducted by security forces and the National Disaster Response Force.

He said the rescuers were clearing the debris to look for survivors as the administration was cross-checking the data of pilgrims to get the exact number of casualties. Every pilgrim has been provided with a Radio Frequency Identification card this time because of terror threats.

Among those who escaped the tragedy was Telangana BJP MLA T Raja Singh. The legislator and his family members, who reached Amarnath by a helicopter, decided to ride ponies on their way back as the weather began deteriorating.

“We sensed that the weather suddenly changed for the worse. In that circumstance, the helicopter service would also be cancelled. So we decided to descend the hills riding ponies. I could see the rains on the hills and then several tents got swept away in the floods,” Raja Singh told reporters on Friday night.

The annual pilgrimage, which began on June 30, has been suspended following the tragedy and a decision on its resumption will be taken after rescue operations get over, a senior administration official said.

“Most of the pilgrims, who were stranded near the holy cave shrine area due to the flash flood, have been shifted to Panjtarni. The evacuation continued till 3.38 am. No pilgrim is left on the track. About 15,000 people have been safely shifted till now,” the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) spokesperson said.

The BSF spokesperson said medical staff of the paramilitary force treated nine patients who were critically injured in the floods. “They have been shifted to the lower-altitude Neelgrah base camp.”

A team of BSF personnel has been deployed at the Neelgrah helipad to assist the pilgrims coming from the cave shrine. About 150 pilgrims stayed at the BSF camp set up in Panjtarni on Friday night and 15 patients have been airlifted to Baltal on Saturday morning, he said.

The injured were being treated at the Nilkant camp in Sonamarg. An integrated command centre has been set up under the charge of the divisional commissioner of Kashmir while helpline numbers have been

established in Anantnag in South Kashmir, Srinagar and in Delhi for families of pilgrims to know about the wellbeing of their kin.

An Army official said an infantry battalion led by a colonel along with Quick Reaction Teams, an additional company from the Rashtriya Rifles Sector and a team from special forces had reached the shrine with specialised rescue equipment to undertake the operation.

“Through the night, the senior Army officers of the infantry battalion and Rashtriya Rifles oversaw and coordinated rescue operations. Medical resources at the cave and at Nilgrar were activated and additional resources deployed,” he said.

Nine surveillance detachments with hand-held thermal imagers, night-vision devices and other gadgets were deployed for the search operations, the official said.

“Two advanced light helicopters were moved for casualty evacuation at the holy cave. However, owing to bad weather, night landing at the cave was unsuccessful. Two Through-Wall Radars and two search and rescue dog squads were also moved to the cave,” he added.

However, notwithstanding the flash floods and the deaths, the 11th batch of over 6,000 Amarnath pilgrims left Jammu city on Saturday for the twin base camps in Kashmir.

The 43-day Yatra began on June 30 from the twin routes -- the traditional 48-km path from Nunwan in Pahalgam in south Kashmir’s Anantnag, and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

The pilgrimage to the cave shrine is being held after a gap of three years. In 2019, the pilgrimage was cancelled midway ahead of the Centre abrogating Article 370 provisions of the Constitution. The pilgrimage did not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid pandemic.

LG Reviews Rescue

He said that the Army Commander and Police Chief briefed the LG about the ongoing rescue efforts at the holy cave. The DGP, he said, while briefing Sinha about the injured devotees said, majority of the injured have already been discharged and few others are being treated at base hospital and Srinagar likely to be discharged within 24 hours.

“GoC said all the agencies involved in the rescue and relief operation are working in excellent coordination and they are well equipped to clear the debris,” he added.

According to the spokesperson, the LG said the effort should be made to clear the debris within shortest period of time. He also lauded the teams from Army, CAPFs, NDRF & SDRF for doing commendable job on the ground and

“I request Yatris to stay put in camps. Administration is providing all facilities for their comfortable stay. We are trying our best to restore the Yatra at the earliest,” Sinha said.

The LG, according to the spokesperson directed the senior officials, Deputy Commissioners and Camp directors to ensure best possible facilities are provided to the pilgrims staying at camps.

Earlier, Sinha visited SK institute of medical sciences here to enquire about the health of pilgrims who were injured in yesterday’s unfortunate incident of cloudburst.

The LG, according to the spokesperson, met the doctors treating the injured and impressed for all possible treatment for their speedy recovery. Sinha, he said, also went around the wards where injured were receiving treatment, and enquired about their well-being.

The spokesperson further said that Prof. Parvaiz A. Koul, Director SKIMS briefed the LG on the health facilities being extended to the injured pilgrims for their treatment.

“It was informed that seven pilgrims who were injured during the tragic cloudburst are under-going treatment at the Hospital and being monitored by senior health staff,” he said.

Later, he said, the LG also visited PCR Srinagar where he was briefed about the status of sending the mortal remains of deceased pilgrims to their respective hometowns.

Waqf Cites

at Jamia Masjid Srinagar instead, it can be only allowed at the central Jama Masjid if held before 6.30 Am and not after that,” reports said.

As per precedent, Anjum Auqaf had last week announced that Eid prayers will be held at Eidgah at 9.00 Am and in case of inclement weather at Jama Masjid Srinagar at that time, already shifting the timing one hour earlier, due to hot weather.

“If Eid prayers can be held at other masjids and shrines under the Waqf Board at 10:00 and 11:00AM, strange conditions are only being applied for central Jama Masjid, and frivolous excuses being made for not making arrangements at Eidgah,” it alleged.

Contd. From Page 03**Drones, Choppers,**

the debris, which is yet to be totally cleared. They said 15,000 stranded pilgrims were shifted to the lower base camp of Panjtarni and 25 injured people to hospitals after the flash flood and landslides rummaged through tents and community kitchens on Friday afternoon.

However, undeterred by the incident, many devotees were thronged the Amarnath Yatra base camp in Jammu with a “high degree of enthusiasm and devotion” for their onward journey to the cave shrine situated at a height of 3,880 metres in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

They said they have no fear and have full faith in Lord Shiva, adding that it would be a great privilege for them if they die in the abode of the god.

Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha

chaired a review meeting to take stock of the progress of rescue work.

Meanwhile, many states have set up helplines for information about people who went for the yatra. A control room in West Bengal has also been opened at the state secretariat.

According to an Army official, mountain rescue teams and lookout patrols with high-tech equipment and sniffer dogs were deployed for the search and rescue operation.

“Air rescue operations started Saturday morning and six pilgrims were evacuated by Army helicopters. The military medical teams are receiving patients and casualties at the Nilagrah helipad for onward evacuation,” the official said.

An Mi-17 chopper of the BSF’s air wing was pressed into service. The Jammu and Kashmir administration has also deployed advanced light helicopters for rescue operations.

A Border Security Force (BSF) spokesperson in Delhi said, “Sixteen bodies have been shifted to Baltal.”

The ITBP expanded its route opening and protection parties from the lower part of the holy cave up to Panjtarni, a spokesperson of the force said.

Additional Director General of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Vijay Kumar, who holds charge of the Kashmir range, reached the holy cave shrine on Saturday morning to supervise the rescue operations being conducted by security forces and the National Disaster Response Force.

He said the rescuers were clearing the debris to look for survivors as the administration was cross-checking the data of pilgrims to get the exact number of casualties. Every pilgrim has been provided with a Radio Frequency Identification card this time because of terror threats.

Among those who escaped the tragedy was Telangana BJP MLA T Raja Singh. The legislator and his family members, who reached Amarnath by a helicopter, decided to ride ponies on their way back as the weather began deteriorating.

“We sensed that the weather suddenly changed for the worse. In that circumstance, the helicopter service would also be cancelled. So we decided to descend the hills riding ponies. I could see the rains on the hills and then several tents got swept away in the floods,” Raja Singh said.

The annual pilgrimage, which began on June 30, has been suspended following the tragedy and a decision on its resumption will be taken after rescue operations get over, a senior administration official said.

The IMD said the deaths and destruction were due to a highly localised rain event.

According to weather scientists, the shrine reported 31 mm of rainfall between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm on Friday, which is quite low to be categorised as a cloudburst.

“The flash floods could have been triggered due to rainfall in the higher reaches of the mountains near the Amarnath cave shrine,” IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra told PTI.

“Most of the pilgrims, who were stranded near the holy cave shrine area due to the flash flood, have been shifted to Panjtarni. The evacuation continued till 3.38 am. No pilgrim is left on the track. About 15,000 people have been safely shifted till now,” the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) spokesperson said.

The BSF spokesperson said medical staff of the paramilitary force treated nine patients who were critically injured in the floods. “They have been shifted to the lower-altitude Neelgrah base camp.”

A team of BSF personnel has been deployed at the Neelgrah helipad to assist the pilgrims coming from the cave shrine. About 150 pilgrims stayed at the BSF camp set up in Panjtarni on Friday night and 15 patients have been airlifted to Baltal on Saturday morning, he said.

The injured were being treated at the Nilkant camp in Sonamarg. An integrated command centre has been set up under the charge of the divisional commissioner of Kashmir while helpline numbers have been established in Anantnag in South Kashmir, Srinagar and in Delhi for families of pilgrims to know about the wellbeing of their kin.

An Army official said an infantry battalion led by a colonel along with Quick Reaction Teams, an additional company from the Rashtriya Rifles Sector and a team from special forces had reached the shrine with specialised rescue equipment to undertake the operation.

“Through the night, the senior Army officers of the infantry battalion and Rashtriya Rifles oversaw and coordinated rescue operations. Medical resources at the cave and at Nilgrar were activated and additional resources deployed,” he said.

Nine surveillance detachments with hand-held thermal imagers, night-vision devices and other gadgets were deployed for the search operations, the official said

“Two advanced light helicopters were moved for casualty evacuation at the holy cave. However, owing to bad weather, night landing at the cave was unsuccessful. Two Through-Wall Radars and two search and rescue dog squads were also moved to the cave,” he added.

The 43-day Yatra began on June 30 from the twin routes -- the traditional 48-km path from Nunwan in Pahalgam in south Kashmir’s Anantnag, and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

The pilgrimage to the cave shrine is being held after a gap of three years. In 2019, the pilgrimage was cancelled midway ahead of the Centre abrogating Article 370 provisions of the Constitution. The pilgrimage did not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid pandemic.

Millions Of Muslims

refugee camp in west Gaza City on Saturday, excited children lined up for the innards and

trotters a cherished offering for those otherwise unable to afford meat.

In cash-strapped Afghanistan, there is usually a shopping rush for prime animals ahead of the holiday. But this year, galloping global inflation and economic devastation after the Taliban takeover have put a purchase of great religious importance beyond the reach of many.

Last year on this day I sold 40 to 50 cattle, said Mohammad Qassim, an Afghan cattle vendor. This year, I have only managed to sell two.”

Wheat and meat prices have multiplied and hunger has spread as Russia’s war on Ukraine disrupts agriculture and constrains energy supply. The sky-high costs of animal feed and fertilizer have forced livestock salesmen to hike prices.

From Tripoli in war-torn Libya, families are looking forward to the holiday after the past two years of the pandemic and more than a decade of violent chaos. But the price tags up to USD 2,100 per sheep had buyers pacing around the dusty market near the palm-studded highway, apprehensive about the major purchase.

Honestly, the prices are crazy,” said Sabri al-Hadi, seeming exasperated.

At a livestock market in the blockaded Gaza Strip, there were hardly any buyers. Vendors said the price of sheep feed has jumped four fold in recent weeks.

Our life is full of loss, lamented Abu Mustafa, a sheep salesman in Deir al-Balah in central Gaza, which long has suffered from widespread joblessness and poverty.

On the streets of Ramallah, in the West Bank, Palestinian families were cutting back on other components of the feast typically a bounty of dishes, from offal to kaak and maamoul holiday cookies.

On days like these, there was demand for fruits, sweets and for nuts as well, but as you can see ... no one is standing to buy now,” complained fruit vendor Baligh Hamdi.

But lavish feast or no, there were community prayers a welcome sight in much of the world after years of coronavirus-related restrictions. The faithful crowded into mosques across the Middle East and North Africa on Saturday.

From Kenya to Russia to Egypt, throngs of worshippers prayed shoulder to shoulder, feet to feet.

I feel very happy that all these people came to pray, said Sahar Mohamed in Cairo, smiling widely. “There is love and acceptance between people.”

In Saudi Arabia, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims rose at dawn to trek to Mina, a wide valley ringed by barren mountains where Prophet Muhammad stopped on his route some 1,400 years ago.

One million Muslims from around the world flocked this week to the holy city of Mecca, the largest pilgrimage since the pandemic upended the event.

At the multistory Jamarat Complex, pilgrims carried out the symbolic stoning of the devil, recalling Ibrahim’s victory over temptation.

It’s among the set of rituals associated with the Prophet Muhammad and the prophets Ibrahim and Ismail, or Abraham and Ishmael in the Bible, performed every year for these five intense days.

The pilgrims threw pebbles at three large pillars that mark the places where the devil tried to interrupt Ibrahim’s sacrifice.

It’s the most dangerous point in the hajj, with masses streaming back and forth. In 2015, thousands of pilgrims were crushed to death by surging crowds.

The Saudi government never gave a final death toll. In the years since, authorities have improved access with wider streets, electronic gates and a high-speed rail link.

All Muslims who are physically and financially able to complete the spiritual journey are supposed to do so at least once in a lifetime. Saudi Arabia maintained limits to curb the spread of the virus this year, with a COVID-19 vaccine mandate and attendance less than half of pre-pandemic quotas.

Still, the scenes were a significant step closer to normal. The famous crowds thronged the holy sites, abandoning masks and safety measures.

At the end of the pilgrimage, one of the key pillars of Islam, men are expected to shave their heads, and women to snip a lock of hair in a sign of renewal.

They will return to Mecca to circle the cube-shaped Kaaba, which represents the metaphorical house of God, in farewell before heading home and continuing to celebrate the remainder of Eid ul-Azha with family.

We are feeling very proud, said Indian pilgrim Izhar Anjoom, who was stoning the devil in Mina. We are enjoying (ourselves) so much because today is Eid. (AP)

Sinha To Press

candidate said he was asked the rationale behind his Srinagar visit as Jammu and Kashmir was largely unrepresented in the presidential election.

“I told them I am going to Srinagar to highlight the injustice done to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I would like the people of rest of India to know how their compatriots in Jammu and Kashmir have been robbed of their fundamental and democratic rights,” he said.

Responding to another question, he said Jammu and Kashmir cannot be won over through management.

“There is no will to fight out the injustice in Jammu and Kashmir. Perhaps, that is why there are no assembly elections. Perhaps that is why the unnecessary delimitation exercise was carried out which has done justice to none. They should know that Jammu and Kashmir cannot be won over by management,” he added.

Asked the general atmosphere in the country, he said, “The situation in entire country has worsened. The harmony that existed in the country has been destroyed. The condition

of the economy is known to everyone and there is no need to go in details today.”

He went on to add: “The nation has its own temperament. The present situation is an aberration. If we all work together against it, we can be delivered from this situation.”

On being asked if the change of government in Maharashtra has dealt a blow to his chances of winning, the former Union minister said his fight was not about numbers but principles.

“The change of government in Maharashtra is nothing new. They called it Operation Kamal and there were many attempts earlier also. This is not the first time that they have subverted the people’s mandate. It has been carried out earlier in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Meghalaya,” he said.

Sinha alleged that to carry out these operations, the BJP was misusing the central government agencies.

In this process, they misuse all the agencies of government of India. There will be some losses due to change of government in Maharashtra but this fight is not about who has the numbers. This fight is about principles and ideology and that makes this fight worth it,” he said.

Sinha said there were certain things which are not known yet but will be known by July 18. “These will be reflected in the results of the polls as well,” he added.’

Highly Localised

localised cloud only over the holy cave. Such rain had happened earlier this year as well,” said Sonam Lotus, Director of the Regional Meteorological Centre in Srinagar.

The region above the Amarnath cave shrine received 28 mm of rainfall between 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm, a scientist from the IMD said.

Weather scientists said it was very difficult to predict cloudbursts due to their very small scale in space and time.

To monitor or issue nowcast, a dense radar network over the cloudburst-prone areas is required or one needs to have very high-resolution weather forecasting models to resolve the scale of such events.

Govt Re-Constitutes

H&ME Department and Planning, Development & Monitoring Department will be the Advisors in the Governing BOD.

It stated that Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor and Dean Medical Faculty SKIMS, Soura will be the special invitees of the body.

LG Greets People

strengthens the bonds of brotherhood and bring peace, happiness and joy for everyone,” Sinha said.

Hybrid Militant

a magazine besides 7 Pistol rounds was recovered from his possession.

The spokesperson said that the preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused was involved in providing logistics support for militant activities and was in touch with Pakistani militant Saifullah and Abu Zazar.

“The successful apprehension of the hybrid terrorist has evaded major terror plots and busted the module responsible for various recent attacks on PRI members and non-locals,” he said.

Moreover, the spokesperson said that the arrested militant was also actively involved in providing chemicals and other materials for carrying out an IED attack on National Highway between Narbal and Renji.

He further said that interrogation of the apprehended militant is likely to give further inputs for future counter militancy operations.

“In this connection, a case under relevant sections of law was registered and investigation has been initiated,” the spokesperson added.

Train Crushes

and said that a case has been registered in this regard for further investigations.

J&K Logs 164

Budgam reported four cases each, Kathua and Baramulla reported two cases each while Rajouri, Doda and Shopian reported one case each.

Among the total cases, 167596 are from Jammu division and 288357 from Kashmir.

There was one death from Jammu region due to the pathogen in the last 24 hours, they said. So far 4758 persons have succumbed to the virus—2333 in Jammu and 2425 in Kashmir.

Besides, they said, 84 Covid-19 patients recovered during the last 24 hours—59 from Jammu division and 24 from Kashmir Valley. There are now 754 active case— 470 in Jammu and 284 in Kashmir.

Cloudburst Triggers

some time, but it has now been restored for traffic movement, the officials said.

Probe Ordered

officer to conduct probe into the circumstances leading to the death of newly-born baby on Friday morning, they said.

Following death of the baby, people had also carried out protests on the Jammu Srinagar highway on Friday, due to which the traffic was also effected for some time near Makarkoot in Ramsoo.

Muzaffar Ahmad Sheikh, father of the deceased newborn baby, said his wife Naeema Begum delivered a baby on Friday morning and due to the some health issue of baby, “we decided to shift her to Banihal hospital for treatment.”

He said the private vehicle carrying the baby was allegedly not allowed to come on the highway near Makarkoot by police officials posted there for the yatra duty.

He said the baby died in the vehicle and was declared brought dead by doctors at near-by hospital in Ramsoo. (PTI)

Over 2 Lakh Sacrificial Animals Sold In Kashmir: Mutton Dealers



Agencies

SRINAGAR: More than two lakh sacrificial animals have been sold ahead of Eid-ul-Azha as sales picked up after around three years in Kashmir.

Mehraj-ud-din Ganie, a senior member of the All Kashmir Wholesale Mutton Dealers Association said that the sales have picked up after three years. He said that in the last three years, there were fewer sales due to abrogation of Article 370 and Covid-19.

He said the sales have picked up and "we are expecting that around 2.5 lakh sheep will be sold in Kashmir on Eid as sales are still going on."

He added that due to Amarnath yatra, vehicles carrying sheep are being stopped due to which the mortality of sheep has increased.

"A day before, around 100

sheep died due to which the dealers were facing losses. The government should have taken wholesale dealers on board before fixing rates of animals and rates should have been as per variety as in some varieties there is 50 percent wastage while as some varieties there is just 30 to 35 percent wastage," he said.

Other dealers also said that the government is not taking dealers in confidence before taking any decision due to which the rates on the ground remain arbitrary.

They said that if the government claims that the rates they fix are genuine then they should have made livestock available.

They further added that this year sales were good after around three years and around two lakh sacrificial animals were sold and around 50 thousand more are expected to be sold till tomorrow. (KNO)

Amarnath Pilgrims Recount Horror At SKIMS



Syed Mohammad Burhan

SRINAGAR: Survivors of the Amarnath cloudburst were taken to SKIMS on Saturday after being lifted from the flash flood site. They were admitted to the Disaster ward at Kashmir valley's lone tertiary care Hospital.

Bhimji Lalji, a pilgrim from Ahmedabad, Gujarat narrated his ordeal with moist eyes. Never in his life did Lalji anticipate nature's fury would hit the cave shrine.

As thousands of pilgrims thronged the cave shrine, trouble started when it rained heavily and everyone started to run. "Pilgrims started to run for

shelter, I took shelter under a tent. In the midst of chaos, I was hit by something on my head and my tongue was also hurt" Bhimji said.

He was later taken to Amarnath Base camp for treatment.

Now undergoing treatment at SKIMS, Bhimji complained about not having food from yesterday.

"I haven't had anything for food since yesterday, it is a terrible experience".

Heena Gupta, another devotee from Jammu was injured running after cloudburst hit Amarnath Cave Shrine.

"It was raining heavily and announcements were being made to leave the place, in the

chaos many got buried under the debris".

Heena was fortunate to make it to the safe end while many others failed to run for life.

"As I was running for shelter I fell down and got minor injuries in my leg" she said.

Heena was accompanied by her father and brother, who instead of getting to the cave shrine are heading to SKIMS to get a glimpse of their loved one.

Survivors of the Amarnath cloudburst admitted at SKIMS for minor injuries say their wounds may not take much time to heal but the memories of the tragedy will haunt them for all times to come.

Work On Degree College Eidgah Comes To A Grinding Halt

Engineers Body Blames College Principal Of 'Disrupting' Work, Holding Payment Of Contractor

KO Web Desk

SRINAGAR: The work on government degree college (GDC) Eidgah has come to a grinding halt after the government-assigned nodal officer allegedly refused to release the payment for the sanctioned work.

According to officials, the work on GDC, Eidgah has been stopped for the last 10 days due to non-cooperation of the Principal Government Degree College Nawakadal Dr. Tabassum Rafiq, the government appointed nodal officer.

"Despite technical and administrative sanctions, Principal GDC Nawakadal has withheld payment for the construction of GDC Eidgah," an engineer of PWD, wishing anonymity said.

"The estimate of the project is Rs. 2 crore and the government through the said Principal has already disbursed a payment of Rs 50 lakhs but the further payment has been stopped by the nodal officer despite the fact that our superintending engineer has already submitted the required documents necessary for the disbursement of the payment."

The visibly upset engineer, who is looking after the construction of the educational institute, further added that despite requests, the Principal's 'absurdity' has forced the contractor to stop the work due to lack of funds.

"It has been more than 10 days since the work at the degree college was stopped by the contractor. His work depends on this money. The Principal doesn't know that these funds are the only thing for which the contractor works. He has to pay his laborers and other staff," he said.

"Hypothetically speaking, if the payment isn't released in this month, the project deadline will be missed. And if the deadline is missed, the contractor and PWD will be blamed by the Government," the engineer said, adding that the Principal is making a mockery of the Government's development idea for Kashmir.

However, Principal Tabassum Rafiq refuted the allegations of deliberately withholding the payments.

"Despite repeated requests, engineers from PWD have failed to submit original documents which are required for releasing payment," the Principal told Kashmir Observer.

"They've only submitted photocopies of the documents, that too, without the Executive Engineer's signature. Even the proposal of the building isn't submitted. And there are no details about the technical vetting by a third party. How can I release any payment without confirming the veracity of the proposal?" she said.

However, engineers from the department accused the principal of lying. "We've already submitted these documents to her junior, Dr. Javid," another engineer from the department said.

"She keeps on asking for the Utilization Certificate (UC) but that certificate is issued only after the completion of a project. That certificate is used by the Principal body to check the utilization of funds. How can we issue UC when the project is still in phase one?"

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Principal Secretary Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal, said, "I will look into the issue and sort it out after Eid."

Dr Farooq Calls For Probe Into Amarnath Tragedy

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said the government should order an inquiry to ascertain how tents and community kitchens were set up in a highly-vulnerable area close to the Amarnath cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas, which was hit by flash floods on Friday.

"We are hopeful that the government will form an inquiry commission to know how it happened and why it happened," Abdullah told reporters after meeting Yashwant Sinha, the joint opposition candidate for the July 18 presidential polls, here.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister questioned the decision to set up tents and "langar" (community kitchen) at such a vulnerable area.

"The location of the tents and langars is such that I do not think these things were done



there earlier. Panjtarni is such a nice area for this. This needs to be investigated, may be it is a human error," Abdullah said.

He said the kin of the victims should be given compensation and steps should be taken to ensure that such incidents do not take place again.

The death toll in the flash floods triggered by heavy rain near the Amarnath cave shrine rose to 16 on Saturday as the search operations continued without a break amid fears that many are still trapped under the debris.

Place Facts About Amarnath Tragedy: Yashwant Sinha To Govt

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Opposition's joint candidate for the presidential election Yashwant Sinha on Saturday expressed anguish over the lives lost due to a cloudburst near the Amarnath cave shrine and urged the government to place facts about the incident before the country.

Sinha, who arrived here this morning to seek support for his candidature, was speaking at a meeting with opposition parties of Kashmir.

"I express deep anguish over the loss of life in the Amarnath tragedy. We don't know exactly how many people have been killed but it seems that many lives have been lost," the former Union minister said.

"It is our duty that we try to bring

out the truth. The government should place facts about the tragedy before the nation and not hide anything," Sinha said.

At least 16 people have died and 25 have been injured in a flash flood triggered by the cloudburst near the Amarnath cave shrine. Many are feared trapped under the debris, according to officials.

Searches for the missing people continued without a break after tents and community kitchens were swept away by the flash flood and landslides.

The annual Amarnath Yatra, which began on June 30, has been suspended following the tragedy and a decision on its resumption will be taken after rescue operations get over, a senior administration official said.

Arrival Of Hajj Flights To Commence From 16th July

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Hajj committee on Saturday said the arrival of the flights off Hajj pilgrims will commence from 16th July, 2022.

Following arrival of Hajj Flights from 16th July 2022, the Hajj Committee has asked the relatives of the pilgrims desiring of receiving the pilgrims at airport

to collect vehicle passes from the office of respective Deputy Commissioner's two days prior to date of arrival except in case of Srinagar the same shall be available at Haj House, Bemina, two days prior to date of arrival.

The passes can be had against production of Xerox copy of identity card having cover number written on the same.

Former JKPSK Chairman Shamsuddin Ganai Passes Away

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Former Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission Khawaja M Shamsuddin Ganai (Rtd IAS officer) passed away on Saturday morning at his Srinagar residence. He was 92. Originally a resident of Mattan Anantnag, Ganai also served as Deputy

Commissioner of different districts besides Principal Secretary, GAD as well as various other postings during his illustrious career in administrative service. He was also uncle of retired IAS officer Khurshid Ahmad Ganai and father-in-law of retired IAS officers Mohammad Iqbal Khanday and Basharat Ahmad Dhar and IPS officer Shafqat Ali Watali.

Kashmiri Poet Muzaffar Aazim No More

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmiri Poet and former Director Sericulture Muzaffar Aazim passed away in USA. He was 88. Aazim was Director Sericulture but availed voluntary retirement at the age of 50.

Aazim was a great lover of Kashmir language and created Gulmarg software to enable computer users to type Kashmiri script. He also translated Leo Tolstoy's War and Peace into Kashmiri.

He had other poetic collections to his credit as well. He was closely associated with Adbee Markaz Kamraz at its initial stage and was a prominent speaker at its conferences.

He went to limelight during 1970s. He had received Jammu & Kashmir Cultural Academy awards in seventies for his poems as well. His demise is being widely mourned.

Teenager Electrocuted To Death At SK Payeen

Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: An 18-year-old boy was electrocuted to death in Suderkoot Payeen area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Saturday afternoon, officials said.

Officials said that a teenager received an electric shock at his home following which he was taken to a nearby hospital where he was declared as brought dead.

He identified the deceased boy as Irshad Ahmad Sheikh (18), son of Gulam Nabi Sheikh of Suderkoot Payeen.

Meanwhile, police has taken the cognizance of this incident and after legal medical formalities, the body deceased was handed over to his family, the officials added.

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT ASYM DISTRICT HOSPITAL BUDGAM

Stop Female Foeticide.....Save Girl Child
Email-Medsupdhb@gmail.com Tel/Fax :01951-255238

Notice Inviting Tenders

No:DHB/NHM/170/22-23 Dated:-09-07-2022

On behalf of Lt. Governor of UT Jammu and Kashmir, sealed tenders affixed with Rs. 5/- Revenue stamp along with CDR of Rs. 10,000/- pledged to Medical Superintendent ASYM District Hospital Budgam are invited from authorized security agencies which should reach the office of the u/s by or before 19-07-2022 upto 1PM. The details of the items and tender documents can be had from the office of the Medical Superintendent District Hospital budgam from 09-07-2022 to 19-07-2022 during working days from 10 AM to 4PM against the payment of Rs 500/- in shape of bank draft pledged to Medical superintendent District Hospital Budgam payable at J&K Bank Ltd. Budgam.

The tenders complete in all respects along with necessary documents should be dropped personally in the tender box kept for the purpose in the office of Medical Superintendent District Hospital Budgam by or before 19-07-2022 upto 1pm. The tenders shall be opened on the same day at 2PM. The tenderers or their representatives who wish to be present at the time of tender opening shall therefore present themselves in the office chamber of Medical Superintendent District Hospital Budgam.

DIPK-5820/22

Medical Superintendent
ASYM District Hospital Budgam

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, Sopore

email :xenphesopore@gmail.com

TENDER DOCUMENT

(Technical Bid-Volume-I)

TOP SHEET

Fresh E-NIT .12 of 07/2022, dt. 08-07-2022

E- TENDERFOR

S.No	Name of Work
1	Fresh to ENIT 04 of 06/2022 dated: 02-06-2022 (S.No 01) Design, Soil testing, construction of 0.15MGD Filtration Plant, 2 No.OHT's having capacity 30000 gallons & 45000 gallon with staging height of 20Mtr and Sump Cum Pump House at Saidpora and Dangerpora and allied works/electro mechanical components for W.S.Scheme Saidpora Dangerpora (under NRDPWP) JMM
2	Fresh to E-NIT 06 of 06/2022 dated:02-06-2022 (S.No 01) Composite tender for various works viz laying and fitting of various dia pipes revamping of filtration plant, renovation of quarter, Electric and Mechanical works and other allied works for W.S.Scheme Zaingeer (under languishing Programme)

The Bidding documents consisting of eligibility criteria, specification, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms & conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the e-procurement Portal "http://jk-tenders.gov.in" as per schedule of dates given below:-

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
1	Publishing date of NIT	09	07	2022	6.00PM
2	Download start date	09	07	2022	6:00 PM
3	Bid submission start date	09	07	2022	6:00PM
4	Bid submission end date	22	07	2022	04:00PM
5	Bid opening date (Technical Cover)	23	07	2022	11:00AM

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

DIPK-5811/22

SD/-
Executive Engineer,
(JSD) PHE Division Sopore.

Rybakina Powers Past Jabeur To Wimbledon Title

Agencies

LONDON: Elena Rybakina produced a sensational display of power tennis to beat Tunisia's Ons Jabeur 3-6 6-2 6-2 and become the first player from Kazakhstan to win a Grand Slam singles title at Wimbledon on Saturday. Jabeur, bidding to become the first African woman and first Arab to win a Grand Slam singles title, settled quickly to take the opening set in blazing sunshine.

But the 23-year-old Rybakina began to find her

mark with her powerful serve and groundstrokes and seized control.

She looked nervous serving at 5-2 in the decider but stayed composed to claim the title, barely celebrating as Jabeur fired wide on match point.

With Russian and Belarussian players banned from the grasscourt major following Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, Rybakina would have been excluded from this year's Wimbledon had she not switched allegiance from Russia four years ago.



JKFA Delegation Meets PS YSS



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A delegation of Jammu & Kashmir Football Association (JKFA) on Saturday met Principal Secretary Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS), Alok Kumar, to discuss football and its development in the region.

"The (JKFA) members discussed with him the present scenario regarding the game of football. They discussed with him the conduct of Elections of J&K Football Associations," the FA said in a press release.

"Alok Kumar emphasised the need for the development of Football across J&K for the budding footballers. He assured the delegation that YSS and JKSC will provide all possible help for the development of the game to the Association."

"He assured the delegation that the elections of JKFA will be conducted soon. Garbi Rashid Additional Secretary to Govt. YS&S was also present in the meeting," the statement concluded.

Eid MUBARAK

Eid-ul-Adha 2022

Ellaquai Dehati Bank wishes Happy Eid to all its clients in particular and all the Muslim community in general. May this Eid bring peace, prosperity and happiness in the lives of all

Ellaquai Dehati Bank
Nirman Complex, I.G Road, Barzulla, Srinagar

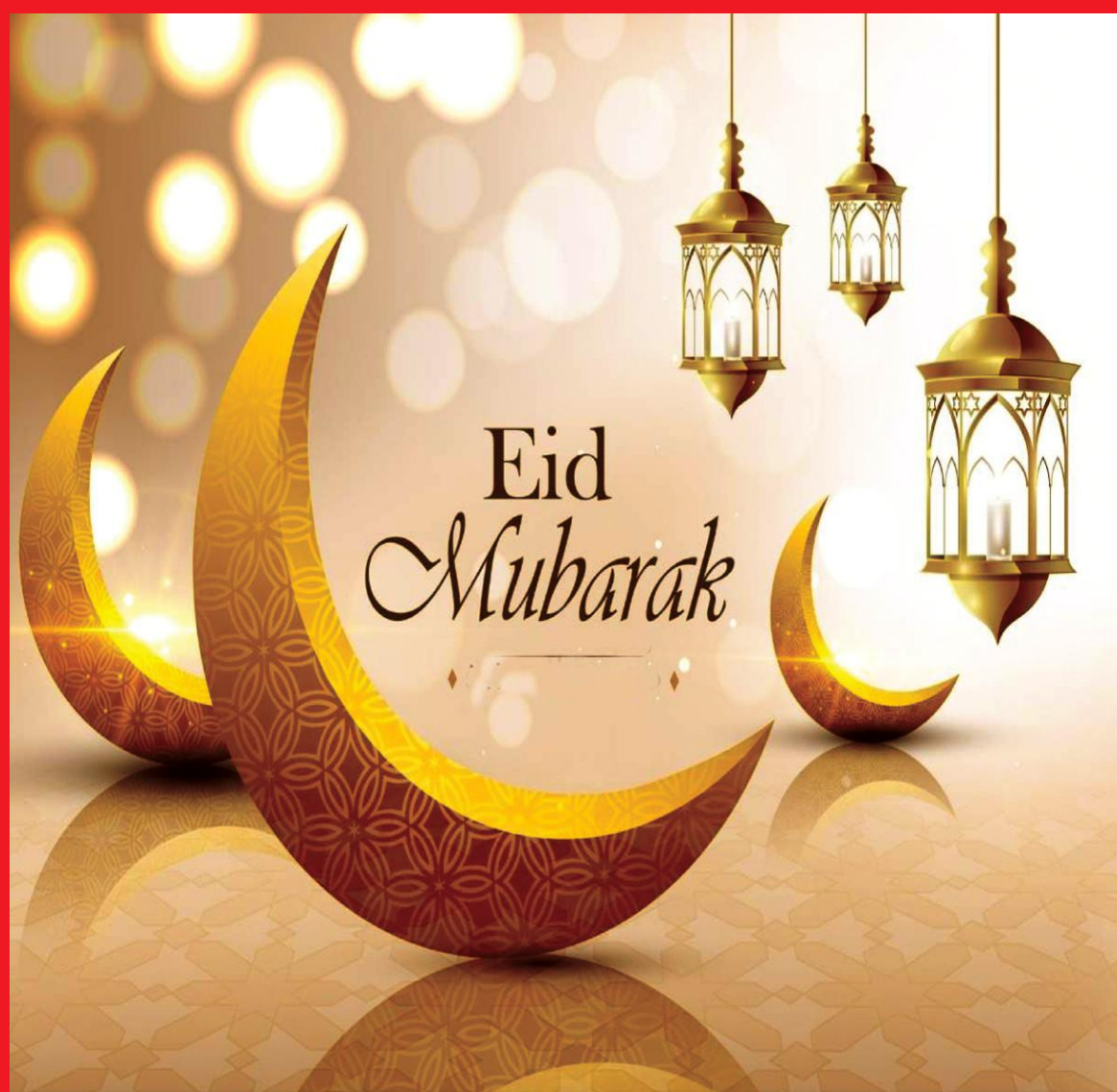
Abbas Ads: 7006444730

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

UNIT-KASHMIR (Affiliated to AIBOA)

Samad Complex, M.A Link Road Srinagar

Greets Entire Ummah Eid-ul-Adha



HOPE THIS EID WILL BRING PROSPERITY, GOOD HEALTH, AND BRIGHT FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

HAPPY EID-UL-ADHA

Ujala Cygnus
HEALTH CARE SERVICES
(an Amar Ujala Group collaboration)

Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital
Be a Part of Health Care Excellence

Pohru Crossing, Nowgam Bye Pass Srinagar-190015
For Further Details Contact Dr. Shakeel
7006938373

LEADING ADS | 9103797979

Do You Get Your Copy of

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Regularly?

**If Not**

Contact Circulation Incharge:

9797818919

Eid Mubarak عید مبارک | Wishing you all a prosperous drive this Eid!

MG J&K : ARISE AUTOZ PVT LTD
TENGPORA BEMINA BYPASS SRINAGAR, +91 8899880038, +91 9541910188

ARISE AUTOZ PRIVATE LIMITED

MORRIS GARAGES

Business Creations/9419021786

Spectrum advt/7006500019