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Quote!

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NEWS DIGEST

LG Greets People On Raksha Bandhan

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday extended his greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan. In a message of felicitations, the LG said the auspicious festival of Raksha Bandhan is a symbol of care & compassion **More on P6**

J&K Logs 547 New Corona Cases

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday reported 547 new Covid cases, taking the infection tally to 4,71,374, while no fresh death due to the virus was reported, officials said. While 70 cases were reported from Jammu division, 477 cases were reported from Kashmir, they said. The death toll **More on P6**

Soldier Shoots Self Dead In Jammu

Jammu: An Army personnel allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle inside a camp here, officials said on Wednesday. Rifleman Yogesh Kumar was on guard duty at Kullian camp in Miran Sahib area on the outskirts of the city when he shot himself in **More on P6**

3 Dead In Kathua Road Accidents

Jammu: Three people were killed and a woman injured in two separate road accidents in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Wednesday. Hari Kishore (50) and his wife Madhuri (45), residents of Hamidpur in Bihar, were killed while Kishore's sister Babita (25) was critically injured **More on P6**

HACKERS STRIKE KASHMIR UNIVERSITY

Data Of Over 1 Million Students, Employees Exposed; Put On Sale

Zaid Bin Shabir

Srinagar: A data breach at the University of Kashmir has potentially exposed the personal information of over 1 million current and former students of the varsity and employees, making their personal data available on the dark web.

The alleged database of Kashmir University students has been put on sale for just \$250 on a hacking forum by a username "ViktorLustig" on 6th August. The name is inspired by the infamous con artist who

"sold" the Eiffel Tower, not once but twice.

The threat designer had shared a database index on the illegitimacy of the data he has in his possession. As a result of the attack, some files stored in the program of the University were illegally accessed, with potentially exposed data including personally identifiable information for current, former students and employees that included names, registration numbers, addresses, dates of birth, phone numbers,



employee data, password, email addresses and more.

However, as per the latest update, the thread has been

deleted from the hacking forum. But the profile of the threat actor "ViktorLustig" is still active on the forum. The only document available in the data breach is an archive of the hacked data. It is pertinent to mention here that the deleted post is still available in the Google search index, creating a serious threat to the privacy of Kashmir University students and employees.

As per the archived data thread, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the breached data includes a database of

Kashmir University's UG 3rd year with 3,47,421 entries including admit card details and other details ranging from year 2015 till 2021.

The second database includes details of UG 2nd year that has 2,72,070 entries including a variety of data from admission year 2015 till 2021. Third database is based on "Iqbal Conference" which has 196 entries including registration fees and many other details.

Another category titled, "MASTER" has 2509 entries. A database titled **More on P6**

Lashkar Commander, 2 Aides Killed In Budgam

Lateef Rather Was Involved In Killing Rahul Bhat, TV Artist Ambreen: ADGP



Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander, responsible for killing a Kashmiri Pandit employee and a TV artist in May this year, was shot dead by government forces along with

his two associates in a fierce encounter in central Kashmir's Budgam district, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Kashmir zone, Vijay Kumar said Wednesday.

Addressing a news conference here, Kumar **More on P6**

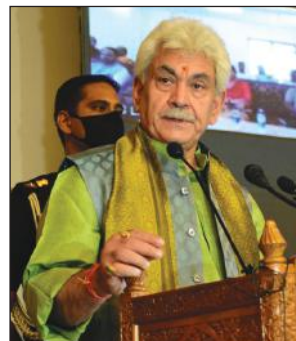
Schools: A Perfect Medium To Ignite J&K's Dev, Growth, Says LG

Launches Key Initiatives In Education Sector

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Terming schools as a perfect medium to ignite the engine of Jammu and Kashmir's overall development and economic growth, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that his government's effort is to ensure all the schools are maintaining academic standards, empowering young students to develop experimental skills, exposing them to exciting innovations.

Sinha made these remarks while inaugurating multiple key initiatives of the education sector at a grand ceremony organised at SKICC, here, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.



On the occasion, he said, Sinha inaugurated 119 civil works including 84 school buildings and other allied infrastructure projects; laid foundation for Sports infrastructure in 100 schools & two residential schools for tribal students one each in Rajouri and Shopian

and rolled out NIELIT courses for 6th to 12th class.

The LG, he said, also launched mentorship programme, and TALAASH App for mainstreaming of 93,508 identified out-of-school children, besides laying the foundation for 500 Atal Tinkering Labs and 188 model kindergartens & 1935 pre-primary sections.

Congratulating the School Education Department & the students community, the LG, as per the spokesperson said, the key initiatives including 84 new School Buildings, launch of NIELIT courses, State Mentoring Project, Talaash App, pre-primary classes & Atal Tinkering Labs as recommended by NEP 2020 will strengthen **More on P6**

J&K Citizens Upbeat Over Hoisting Tricolour

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The preparations for hoisting Tricolour across the length and breadth of

Jammu and Kashmir are going on in full swing with great enthusiasm and fervor shown by common citizens, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

Like other parts of the country, he said, Har Ghar Tiranga campaign is being carried out across the nation so that the tricolour **Full Story on P7**

DIPR Meet Discusses Implementation Of Media Policy 2020

Director Info Calls For Steps To Encourage Healthy Journalism, Subvert Plagiarism; Irregularities



Observer News Service

Jammu: The Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) on Wednesday decided to revise the recruitment rules of information directorate to bridge the gap between contemporary needs and existing employee pool.

The decision in this regard was taken in a meeting chaired by Director Information, Akshay Labroo with senior DIPR officers to review the status of implementation of actionable points under Media Policy 2020, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

Besides it, he said, the meeting decided devising of standard operating procedure for media communication during the times of natural disasters, strengthening and institutionalizing Social Media Cell by way of pooling in young, desirous employees, periodical training of the employees in Media & Digital Communications, framing guidelines for starting and institutionalizing Annual Media Awards.

"It was decided that Recruitment Rules of Information Directorate shall be revised to bridge the gap between contemporary needs and existing employee pool. The Director **More on P6**



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10% Chance Falling Rocket Parts Will Hit Someone In Next Decade: Study

Press Trust Of India

Rocket parts left in orbit from space launches have a six to 10 per cent chance of severely injuring or killing a human being in the next decade, according to a study.

Researchers from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada noted that governments need to take collective action and mandate that rocket parts are guided safely back to Earth after their use, which could increase the cost of a launch, but potentially save lives.

"Is it permissible to regard the loss of human life as just a cost of doing business, or is it something that we should seek to protect when we can? And that's the crucial point here: we can protect against this risk," said study lead author Michael Byers, a professor at UBC's department of political science.

The researchers noted that when objects such as satellites are launched into space, they use rockets, parts of which are often left in orbit.

If these leftover rocket parts have a low enough orbit, they can re-enter the atmosphere in an uncontrolled way. Most of the material will burn up in the atmosphere, but potentially le-

thal pieces can still hurtle towards the ground, they said.

The study, published In the journal Nature Astronomy, analysed over 30 years of data from a public satellite catalogue, and calculated the potential risk to human life over the next 10 years.

The researchers also looked at the corresponding rate of uncontrolled rocket body re-entries, their orbits, and human population data.

Using two different methods, they found that current practices have a six to 10 per cent chance of one or more casualties over the next decade if each re-entry spreads, on average, dangerous debris over an area of 10 metres squared.

While the calculations consider the probability of one or more casualties for people on the ground, Byers said, they do not take into account worst case scenarios, such as a piece of debris striking an airplane in flight.

They also found the risk is borne disproportionately by the global south, despite major space-faring nations being located in the north.

Rocket bodies are approximately three times more likely to land at the latitudes of Jakarta, Dhaka and Lagos than those of New York, Beijing or Moscow, due to the distribution of orbits used



when launching satellites, according to the researchers.

They noted that dangerous debris from space hitting Earth's surface is far from

unheard of, including a 12-metre-long pipe from a rocket that struck a village in the Ivory Coast in 2020, causing damage to buildings.

Study co-author Aaron Boley, an associate professor at UBC, noted that space launches are increasing. "Risks have been evaluated on a per-

launch basis so far, giving people the sense that the risk is so small that it can safely be ignored. But the cumulative risk is not that small," Boley said.

"There have been no reported casualties yet, and no mass casualty event, but do we wait for that moment and then react, particularly when it involves human life, or do we try and get in front of it?" he added.

The researchers noted that technology and mission designs currently exist that can largely remove this risk, including by having engines that reignite, as well as extra fuel, to guide the rocket bodies safely to remote areas of ocean.

However, these measures cost money and there are currently no multilateral agreements mandating that companies make these changes, they said.

Examples exist of such international collective action, Byers said, including the mandated transition from single to double hulls on oil tankers following the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, US in 1989, and the phasing out of chlorofluorocarbons to protect the ozone layer in the 1980s.

"Both required some cost to change practice but in response to new scientific analysis, there was a collective will to do so and, in both instances, they were complete successes, Byers added.

Novel At-Home Saliva-Based Covid-19 Test As Effective As PCR Diagnosis

Press Trust Of India

Researchers have developed an at-home, saliva-based testing platform for Covid-19 that is as effective as a PCR test, and can provide results in just 45 minutes. PCR tests are considered the gold standard in detecting the presence of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. However, these tests can take a few days to process, resulting in unnecessary quarantine for negative individuals or delays for those who require proof of negative testing for travel or other commitments. Rapid antigen-detecting tests, on the other hand, are convenient, but less reliable than PCR tests, according to the researchers.

To bridge the gap between accuracy and convenience, researchers at the Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) in the US developed the test which can detect the virus with the same level of sensitivity as PCR tests.

"PCR test results take about an hour to develop in a lab, but you have to factor in the time it takes to send the sample to a lab and for the lab to process it," said Weihua Guan, an associate professor at Penn State.

"We wanted to create a viable alternative to the PCR for people to use at home, without having to endure the invasive nasal test," said Guan, principal investigator of the study published in the journal ACS Sensors.

The researchers developed a palm-sized testing kit, where an individual spits into a cartridge and inserts it into processing platform. Within 45 minutes, test results are sent to a custom android app developed by the researchers.

The platform uses a technology called reverse tran-

scription loop-mediated isothermal amplification, or RT-LAMP, to detect the virus.

In this technology, the testing device first heats the saliva to 95 degrees Celsius, the temperature at which viral particle shells break apart and release their genetic material.

The genetic material is then mixed with pre-packaged reagents in a microfluidic cartridge. The sample is cooled to 65 degrees Celsius, triggering another chemical reaction in which a few viral molecules are multiplied into billions of copies, making the virus easier to identify.

If the virus is present in the



saliva sample, the user will receive a positive result on their connected smartphone app.

The researchers tested the set up by infusing human saliva samples purchased commercially with inactivated SARS-CoV-2 virus particles and ran the samples through the prototype.

They also tested a few clinical specimens. The platform accurately determined whether every sample was positive or negative for the virus.

"We tested hundreds of mock samples and controlled the quantity of Covid particles in each one," Guan said.

"Our platform proved to be highly sensitive to the presence of the virus in both the mock and clinical samples, with the standards set by the PCR test as our benchmark," the scientist added.

سانچہ ارتحال

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD (PHQ) J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/81/2022-23 Dated:- 06-08-2022

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of Guard Room at Womens Police Station Udhampur under Improvement of basic facilities Programme.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar	15.08 lacs	1500/-	30160/-	60 days	17-08-2022	"B" & "C"

- Date of Publishing 06-08-2022 at 1600 hours.
- The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1630 hours on 06-08-2022
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 08-08-2022 to 16-08-2022 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 17-08-2022 on line.
- The complete bidding process will be on line.
- Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 17-08-2022 at 1100 Hrs.
- The lowest bidder i.e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.
- In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).
- The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.
- Earnest Money:- The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (L1) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer incharge.
- Performance Security :- In case, the successful bidder found unbalanced i.e. 15% or below the advertised cost, shall have to produce performance security @ 3% of the quoted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar within 5-days after opening of price bid and shall be released after successful completion of the work. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP.
- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.
- The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.
- Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar. 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.
- The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.
- No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- The interested bidder can download the NIT/bidding document from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get (DSC) "Digital Signature Certificate" as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the bid. Bidders can get above mentioned digital certificate from any approved vendors. The Bidders, who already possess valid (DSC) Digital Signature Certificates, need not to procure new Digital Signature Certificate.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. The bids cannot be uploaded without Digital Signature. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para 2 (III).
- Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids whatsoever reasons may be.
- All the required information for bid must be filled and submitted online.
- Bidders can contact the undersigned for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process.
- Original Registration certificate of GST No. shall be uploaded on line.
- The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>
- No construction material shall be supplied by Police Construction Division, PHQ. However, the brands of the material will be approved by Engineer Incharge of the concerned site in consultation with Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K.
- In case of any typographical error, if found in the rates or units etc. the same shall be corrected and paid as per sanctioned schedule of rates 2020 in vogue with contractor's Tender appreciation/ depreciation.
- Any item of work not advertised in the rate list but found necessary during execution of work should be got approved by the competent authority before proceeding further beyond the allotment and payment for the same shall be made on sanctioned schedule of rates 2020 and LMR with contractor's overall appreciation/depreciation.

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

PCD (PHQ) J&K Jmu/Sgr.

DIPK-7678/22

No:-e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2022-23/6392-99

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Tourism Players Expect Increase In Tourism Footfall From September

Agencies

Srinagar: The tourism players in Kashmir are expecting a good tourism season from September again as according to them the footfall has decreased by around 60 to 70 percent in the last one month.

Mohammad Yaqoob Duno, spokesman Kashmir Houseboats said that this year there was a record breaking tourism season as in the last two years people were unable to move out.

"With decline in Covid cases, people started visiting to tourist spots and Kashmir being called Paradise on earth, tourists started visiting here and there was record breaking tourist footfall upto ending

shabandan as these restrictions will be not in practice after 11th August 2022

"Currently 90 percent houseboat and 80% hotels in Srinagar, Gulmarg and Pahalgam vacant, however, after Rakhsa Bandan, there starts marriage season in different States of India and from September we are expecting that footfall will increase again as couples come here for honeymoon," he said.

Manzoor Kundroo, senior member of Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK) and managing director Great Himalayan travels, said cancellation of holidays in many schools in India is the main reason due to which the footfall of tourists decreased.



June this year," he said. "It is routine that footfall decreases in July and August, however, in view of restrictions due to Yatra movement, most people cancelled their trips to Kashmir which further declined the footfall."

He added that the Pilgrims were not allowed to approach towards Srinagar after 4 pm from Pahalgam or Sonamarg and same rules were for general tourists who was in valley for holiday and the travel agents from rest of the country stopped their books till Rak-

"We are hoping from next month that footfall will increase again as currently there are no queries or bookings," he said. "Restrictions on movement of general tourists has sent a bad news and tourists footfall decreased suddenly."

It is around 20-30 percent tourism in Kashmir as compared to tourism in last few months, he said, adding that footfall will increase from third week of September but it won't be like it was in last few months

Taxi Drivers Protest At Lal Chowk

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The Taxi owners at taxi stand no 2 protested against the Traffic department, after the Department allegedly closed the gates of the stand.

The protesters raised slogans against the traffic Department and urged the authorities to reopen the stand.

The passengers travelling to different parts of the Kashmir valley from the city said they faced a tough time travelling to their desired destinations.

Gurmeet Singh, a passenger, said he had to travel to the Tral area of South Kash-

mir but could not board a taxi as the stand was closed by the Traffic authorities.

"I came to the taxi stand to board a sumo to travel to Tral but could not, authorities have closed the gates of the stand" he said.

SSP Traffic Srinagar, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah said there are clear directions from Honorable High Court that vehicles bound for north and south Kashmir will not enter the city.

"We implemented the High Court directions from this year, the taxi drivers in violation of the Court directions enter the city and we will not allow that" he said.

Srinagar Boy Drowns In River Jehlum

Agencies

Srinagar: A 14-year-old boy drowned in river Jehlum in Nawakadal area of old Srinagar city on late Wednesday afternoon.

Local sources told news agency Kashmir News Trust that an 11-year-old from Ha-

bakadal drowned in the river Jehlum while taking a bath.

River police launched a rescue operation to trace the boy who is feared dead.

Locals identified the victim as Momin Rasool son of Ghulam Rasool.

The operation was in progress till the filing of this report. (KNT)



The Border Security Personnel (BSF) organized a Tiranga Motorcycle rally On Wednesday as a part of the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign. KO Photo Abid Bhat

LG Inaugurates UMEED Market Place At Srinagar International Airport

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated "UMEED Market Place" under AVSAR Scheme of Airport Authority of India at Srinagar International airport on Wednesday.

A similar Marketplace was also opened at Jammu Airport. Both the outlets will exhibit products of all 20 districts.

The Lt Governor said that the initiative will support local art and artisans of Self Help Groups of J&K Rural Livelihood Mission, providing a platform to market local products directly to the customers.

The products of Self Help Groups will get exposed to the national market, strengthen the local artisan community and provide sufficient promotional avenues to their products, he added.

The Lt Governor also interacted with the Self Help Group members present there and congratulated them for the new market place.

Ms. Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj department briefed the Lt Governor about the AVSAR scheme (Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of the Region)



conceptualized by the Airports Authority of India.

The marketplace at both the Airports will provide huge visibility to the members of SHGs and promote their products to a wider spectrum, reaching out to the larger population and make rural handicraft products available at reasonable prices to the passengers. Ms Indu Kanwal Chib, Mission Director, JKRLM informed the Lt Governor about the opportunities being provided to the artisans and SHG members at the new market place.

More than five lakh women will benefit every year from stalls & counters offered to them for 15 days on a rotational basis. It will also serve as a point for passengers to place bulk orders and request for customized demands for corporate gifting as well, it was informed.

Earlier, the Lt Governor unveiled a 20X20 ft LED Video wall at Srinagar Airport.

The inauguration ceremony commenced with the display of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' theme on the LED Video Wall commemorating 75 years of Independence.

Sh Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Sh Kuldeep Singh, Airport Director Srinagar; Sh Sanjeev Kumar Garg, Airport Director Jammu; Sh Shahbaz Mirza, Deputy Commissioner Budgam; Sh Riyaz Ahmad Beigh, AMD RLM Kashmir; Ms Mridhu Slathia, AMD RLM Jammu; Sh Navneet Singh, Director Orango Solutions, besides senior officials were present during the inauguration of Market Place under AVSAR Scheme at both the airports.

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HIGHWAY STATUS



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



**HIJRI
CALENDAR**
12 Muharram
1444

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:16
ZUHR	12:36
ASR	5:26
Magrib	7:29
ISHA	8:55

This Day In History

- 1998 - Palestine Liberation Organisation and Palestinian National Authority president, Yasser Arafat, arrives in Cape Town on his first state visit to South Africa at the invitation of President Nelson Mandela
- 2003 - Jemaah Islamiyah leader Riduan Samud-din, better known as Hambali, is arrested in Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2003 - A heat wave in Paris results in temperatures rising to 112°F (44° C), leaving about 144 people dead.
- 2003 - NATO takes over command of the peace-keeping force in Afghanistan, marking its first major operation outside Europe in its 54-year history.
- 2012 - 153 people are killed and 1300 injured in Tabriz and Ahar, Iran after two earthquakes of up to 6.4 magnitude
- 2012 - 13 people are killed and 15 injured by a lightning strike at a Mosque in Bangladesh
- 2013 - 22 people are killed by flash floods in Kabul, Pakistan
- 2015 - Largest ever outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in New York - 12 dead, with over 100 cases in the South Bronx

From KO Archives

Car Bomb On Residency Road Kills 14

Observer News Service

S RINAGAR: A massive car bomb explosion near Kothibagh police station on high security residency road here left 14 people mostly security men including two officers and a press photographer dead and more than 40 injured many of them critically. Betraying a huge security lapse it was third car bomb blast in the area over the past three years.

Eye-witnesses said suspected militants lobbed a decoy grenade towards a security forces vehicle on Residency Road near the heavily guarded Kothibagh police station shortly after noon which hit a vehicle parked there. No one was injured while the busy mall was deserted immediately with the people running for safety, a police party led by the superintendent of police, East, Pankaj Saxena, and hordes of media persons rushed to the spot.

A large number of army and security forces vehicles were parked in the area where the army and security personnel come for transactions with the State Bank of India's main branch located there. Army and paramilitary force jawans, who had come to the bank, also trooped out to see what had happened

On reaching the spot, police and security men straightaway started scanning the parked vehicles. While they were having a good look at a white ambassador car, bearing registration No JK 01B 9009, it exploded with a big bang resulting in death of nine people on the spot and injuries to scores of others. The blast occurred at about 12.30 p.m. Gun fire was also heard immediately after. Eyewitnesses said panicky security forces had fired in the air. Army experts in Delhi believed the explosion was triggered by PETN chemical explosive, which emanates black smoke after detonation and has been used earlier in blasting of Panam flight over Lockerbie, in Scotland in 1988.

Bodies of some victims were blown to pieces due to the heavy impact of the blast which also damaged scores of adjoining shops and buildings. A number of vehicles, including those belonging to the security forces, parked near the spot, were also damaged.

The site presented a gory scene with mutilated and charred bodies, mangled metal and broken tree brandies strewn all around. Several bodies were without limbs.

Ghulam Hasan Banka, a retired engineer, who narrowly escaped with some injuries, told Observer News Service "Just in front of me, two press photographers were shooting pictures, and probably they took the brunt of the flying splinters that could have hit me."

Officials put the toll at twelve, including eight police personnel. But, unconfirmed reports said 15 people, including eight policemen and five security personnel, were killed. A deputy superintendent of police succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. The deceased included Pradeen Bhatia, a photographer of New Delhi daily, The Hindustan Times. Soon after the incident, security forces cordoned off the entire area to conduct searches.

It was the first major-dare-devil strike here after the withdrawal of ceasefire by Hizbul Mujahideen. A caller identifying himself as the group's spokesman, told AFP in Islamabad, the twin blasts were carried out by Hizb militants.

(Kashmir Observer, August 11, 2000)



The Jammu and Kashmir Bank
Information Security Department
Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road,
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e-Request for Proposal (e-RFP)
for
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RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abcpocure.com> w.e.f. August 10, 2022, 16.00 Hrs. RFP Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is August 31, 2022, 17.00 Hrs.

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Dated: 06-08-2022 **DIPK-NB-3098/22**



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K O V I E W

Nitish’s Challenge

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has once again switched sides, his fourth time since 2013. In that year, Kumar had ditched the NDA in protest against the anointing of the then Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi as the prime ministerial candidate. He later formed a grand alliance with the Rashtriya Janata Dal of Lalu Prasad Yadav and defeated the BJP in the subsequent Assembly polls. But Kumar soon had second thoughts and a year into the government with the RJD, he switched over to the BJP. Now, Kumar has gone back to the RJD and has taken oath as Bihar chief minister as the candidate of the grand alliance, also called Mahagath-bandhan. This has pitted him once again against the BJP and not only in Bihar but also at the national level. Some see him as the best bet for the opposition to take on the prime minister Narendra Modi. Would the opposition project him as its prime ministerial candidate in the run up to 2024? This is still in the realm of speculation, more so, at a time when the larger opposition is adrift and struggling to find its bearings.

During his previous stint as the BJP opponent, Kumar had called for the formation of a Third Front to take on BJP in 2019. It, however, didn’t materialize. He had also called for a “Sangh-mukt Bharat,” twisting PM Modi’s slogan of “Congress-mukt Bharat”. He made politically right noises at the time and got noticed for these. He also made a bid for a key political role in national politics, and tried to build alliances with other regional parties. But some of the leaders of these parties had a parallel political standing and their own ambitions. For example, leaders like Akhilesh Kumar, Mamata Banerjee, Naveen Patnaik did not get on board.

Would Kumar make a second bid at stitching together a national alliance against the BJP this time around? He may very well do so. But it would be far tougher to do that. The BJP under the PM Modi is entrenched too deeply in the national polity to be easily dislodged. The PM Modi has acquired an overarching presence which seems impossible for any other leader to replace.

But this hardly detracts from Nitish’s personal credentials for the top job. He has been a prominent leader active on the national scene for over three decades and has displayed the ability to survive and flourish against all odds. Would he repeat this history, now this time pitted against the most difficult odds? Only time will tell.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Space to Learn

However, in the terminal stage, there was malfunctioning of a sensor, which led to the satellites being placed in an elliptical orbit instead of a 356 km, low-Earth, circular orbit. An elliptical orbit is defined by its long and short axes, just as a circle is defined by its radius. The short axis of the elliptical orbit achieved was small and the height the satellites were above the earth was only about 76 km. At this height, the atmospheric drag would hinder the progress of the satellite and if a huge thrust is not provided, the object would lose height and fall back to the earth, perhaps burning up; in any case it will be invariably lost to the control room. This is what happened to the two satellites being carried by the SSLV.

The SSLV has been promoted as the next workhorse rocket of ISRO after the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). Measuring just two metres in diameter and with a height of 35 m, it is indeed smaller than the PSLV which has been used to place satellites of a wide range of masses. The fact that PSLV carries smaller satellites, too, is something of an overkill, and those with masses up to 500 kilograms can be sent up using the SSLV instead. The SSLV uses solid propellants and this is more economical and easier to handle than the liquid propellant stages of the PSLV. The SSLV has the flexibility to launch multiple satellites, and satellites can be launched on demand — as the rocket requires minimal launch infrastructure. All these features make it very attractive for commercial earth observation and communication. Strategically, too, it makes sense to separate the ranges of mass being carried. This time, however, success was not to be, and the 135 kg Earth Observation Satellite EOS-02 and the 8 kg nano satellite, AzaadiSAT, were both lost. What stood out in this episode was the direct communication of S. Somanath, Chairperson, ISRO, and making available the initial analysis quickly for the benefit of all concerned. It is well known that space agencies around the world invest in testing much more than India does. India’s approach, though seemingly economical, might extract a cost at some point. Success in such circumstances is remarkable; and failure a lesson that comes at a cost.

The Hindu

Emerging Retail Market of
India: A Hope in Despair

Syed Tajamul Imran

India is one of the most promising and developing marketplaces in the world, with a population of 1.2 billion. As a result, there is a great deal of desire among multinational corporations to take advantage of the new potential in India and to enter the market first. Due to India’s wealth of resources, availability of labour at relatively low costs, and special investment wages such tax breaks, etc., foreign corporations invest there. To improve the business climate and make it far simpler than it used to be for foreign companies to register fully owned subsidiaries in India, the Indian government has implemented a number of rules, regulations, and policies. India is the fifth largest and preferred retail destination globally. The country is among the highest in the world in terms of per capita retail store availability. India’s retail sector was experiencing exponential growth with retail development taking place not just in major cities and metros, but also in small cities. Healthy economic growth, changing demographic profile, increasing disposable income, urbanisation, and changing consumer tastes and preferences were some of the factors driving growth in the organised retail market in India. But the decision of demonetisation by the government of India and the ongoing pandemic became the stumbling block for the retail market in India. Even before the pandemic, the Indian economy was marked by a slowdown in economic growth and record increases in unemployment and poverty. Thus, India’s capacity to deal with a new crisis was weak when the pandemic hit in March 2020. The economic crisis after March 2020 affected all the sectors of the Indian economy. In agriculture, farmers were faced with broken supply chains, lack of market outlets, poor demand and falling output prices. In industry, micro and small enterprises were the most acutely affected. The crisis led to a loss of employment to the tune of at least 15 million.

The announcement of the demonization of the currency caused huge inconvenience to the people. The public was severely inconvenienced by the announcement of the demonization of the money. The unexpected news had caused chaos and had a significant impact on the company. The cash shortage had brought the entire economy to a stop. Because their employers couldn’t pay their daily wages, a lot of low-wage workers were suddenly without jobs and had no daily income. The policy was challenging for the government to put into action. It was required to cover the expense of producing the new banknotes. It also struggled to introduce new money into circulation. Additionally, a large number of people secretly disposed of the demonetized currency notes, which caused a loss to the national economy. Demonetization during the Modi administration. The Modi government’s demonetization move had an impact on several sectors. How would retail be far behind? Given India’s propensity to deal in cash, especially when shopping in luxury malls and high streets, retail saw a short-term impact on sales. Retail sales dwindled in the immediate aftermath of the government’s announcement. The impact was felt largely by small traders and the unorganized retailing segment prevalent on many high streets across the country, as compared to the organized retailing and malls.

The covid-19 pandemic has also continued to impact the retail sector which seems to be far from over. Due to quarantine measures, retail customers have been opting for minimal human contact and moving towards online consumption patterns. The major concern faced by almost every retailer was either a crunch of essential supplies or a stockpile of non-essential goods. According to a study by the Retailers Association of India, retail sales in India dropped by 79 per cent in May 2021 compared to May 2019. This happened due to the country’s shutdown during the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also says that beauty, wellness, and personal care had the biggest drop in the retail sector, falling by 87 percent, followed by footwear, which fell by 86 percent. The unprecedented worldwide crisis has hurt the already low consumer sentiments that the retail sector has been tackling. Without a full-fledged solution for how shopkeepers would run their businesses, a complete lockdown occurred, which severely harmed the retail industry. The COVID-19 crisis marked a dramatic acceleration of many trends already underway, propelling some industries to record heights of performance as others dropped even further behind.



One of the most active and quickly expanding businesses in the world is the Indian retail market. The entire consumption spending is predicted to reach USD 3600 billion in 2022 if figures are to be believed. These figures have grown from USD 1824 billion in 2017. The next round of changes in the Indian retail sector would be brought on by the entry of the Transnational Companies (TNC)

E-commerce in India is growing at a rate of 51%, the highest in the world, and is expected to achieve a cap of USD 200 billion, by 2026. Online retail has a very disruptive approach to the market. Factors like cash on delivery, improved supply chain, increasing internet penetration, rising number of online shoppers, availability of deals and cashback, increase in the adoption and use of smartphones, and government initiatives like Digital India are the reasons contributing to the growth of the e-commerce market in India.

Since the liberalization policy of 1990, the Indian economy, and its consumers are getting a whiff of the latest national & international products with the help of print and electronic media. The social changes with the rapid economic growth due to trained personnel, fast modernization, and enhanced availability of retail space are the positive effects of liberalization. With the onset of a globalized economy in India, the Indian consumer’s psyche has changed. People have become aware of the value of money. Nowadays Indian consumers are well versed in the concepts of the quality of products and services. These demands are the visible impacts of the Retail Sector of the Indian Economy.

One of the most active and quickly expanding businesses in the world is the Indian retail market. The entire consumption spending is predicted to reach USD 3600 billion in 2022 if figures are to be believed. These figures have grown from USD 1824 billion in 2017. The next round of changes in the Indian retail sector would be brought on by the entry of the Transnational Companies (TNC). Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) are not yet promoted in the organised retail sector of India, but once they do, TNCs will attempt to displace their domestic competitors.

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

The author is an MBA in Marketing & HR, a National Award winner for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), is in Corporate for the last 6 years and has worked with Samsung, Biostard & Other companies. He is currently working with an MNC and can be reached on syedtajamul09@gmail.com



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Education in Schools Needs to be Improved

Many state’s schools should take into account the interests of students at various stages of development. It should take into account early childhood care, literacy

& numeracy fundamentals, skills-based learning, subject choice flexibility in high school classrooms, curriculum reduction to the essentials, reinventing vocational education, defining skills & content while

framing syllabi for both primary and secondary schools. The state should make use of Science and Technology for innovation, to build internet in children to engage in physical & welfare activities, early

exposure to modern technologies in schools & along with a focus on Di-vyang children.

Vijaykumar H K

Islam and Community Development

M Ahmad

COMMUNITY development practice has been need of almost all nations and is practiced in various ways through governmental or non-governmental efforts. Main theme includes service provision and problem solution at grassroots level with maximum participation of community people without any discrimination. Community development is the result of joint efforts of local community people for promoting their collective welfare and improving their lives. It means a philanthrophical gesture or initiative that is made with a view to bringing a change for the betterment of the life of community. Community development focuses on solution of community problems and bringing positive changes. All initiatives of community development bring social changes and Islam also believes in it. Community development improves quality of life and Zakat is an ideal example of it in Islam. Religion Islam guides its followers to help the needy through various services and community development also emphasizes on service provision. Islam and community development encompass principles of self-help and social justice and bring stability and solidarity in the community. Community development practitioners need to get guidance from Islamic practices for better working in local communities. Islam brought real and practical changes in all walks of life i.e., social, economic, moral and political transformation. Islam guided for changes in the social set up to build a changed society overall. Islam gives very clear and comprehensive concepts to improve quality of life. Muslims are guided for hardworking to survive and fulfil their needs which could improve their daily lives. Islam makes its followers responsible for themselves and for society too.

The tools for equitable distribution of wealth in Islamic economic system for over all development of the Society can be divided into two categories i.e. obligatory institutions and



non- obligatory institutions, contents of former are Zakat, whereas the latter consists of Waqf, Sadaqas, and Infaq, etc., Quran and Hadith both have given emphasis on it. Zakat is a religious institution to tackle poverty and promote welfare in the Society irrespective of religion. It is a social pillar encouraging Muslims for bringing social justice and equity in communities. It improves quality of life of various types of community members. It is a beautiful and workable system of fair distribution of wealth among community mem-

“The tools for equitable distribution of wealth in Islamic economic system for over all development of the Society can be divided into two categories i.e. obligatory institutions and non- obligatory institutions, contents of former are Zakat, whereas the latter consists of Waqf, Sadaqas, and Infaq, etc., Quran and Hadith both have given emphasis on it

bers. Waqf also plays a vital role for enhancement of quality of life of

poor communities. It is an important socioeconomic institution in the Islamic state and is a powerful institution for community facilitation which provides social, medical and educational initiatives in the community. Nevertheless, Islam remains as a clear outline of how those key concepts and principles should be implemented. Participation from all members of the community is necessary. Man must do something good for the community and prevents any negative elements that might affect the community. In other way, it

means that Islam generalizes the purpose of each concept, including the form of behavior which ultimately able to develop their communities by placing them as the best among other people

Meanwhile, Sadaqas (charity) has no fixed percentage and one is free to pay it as many times as one can afford or feel inclined to it. Infaq is basically pious spending in the way of Allah. It has a significant importance in Islamic economic principles, with reference to redistribution of wealth and elimination of poverty for the development of Society. Khums refers to the required religious obligation of any Muslims to pay one-fifth of their acquired wealth from certain sources toward specified causes

Islam is against injustice, inequality and discrimination. Social relationship among Muslims is based on the concept of sacrifice where they share some amount of their finances for virtue and they gain community consciousness feelings. The Holy Quran says “Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or the west, but righteousness is one who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the angels, the Book, and the prophets and gives wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans, the needy, the traveler, those who ask for help and free slaves, establishes prayer and gives zakah; fulfill their promise when they promise; and patients in poverty and hardship and during battle. Those are the ones who have been true, and it is those who are the righteous.” (Surat Al-Baqarah, 2:177)

Prophet Muhammad (SAW), said: “Charity does not in any way decrease the wealth and the servant who forgives, Allah adds to his respect; and the one who shows humility, Allah elevates him in the estimation (of the people).” (Muslim)

M Ahmad, Former Incharge
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SUMMER SOOTHING DRINKS

Anistatia Renard Miller

We all have our favourite summer cold drinks, from fruity British favourites like a cup of thirst-quenching Pimms or a refreshing goblet of Italian Aperol spritz to non-alcoholic favourites such as a tall glass of lemonade or squash.

But this summer, why not try something different? Many drinks have fallen into obscurity over time. Carefully documented in Oxford Nightcaps, which was published in 1827, they deserve their day in the sun. Here are five drinks that hail from around the world to add to your repertoire:

LIMONADE

Sweetened lemon juice and water was a cooling sip in 16th-century France. But it was the Paris debut of effervescent limonade, made with naturally sparkling spring water, that saw the drink soar in popularity in the summer of 1630.

The French passion for fizzy lemonade grew so much that in 1676 vendors formed a commercial guild called the Compagnie de Limonadiers. These licensed sellers dispensed their wares from limonadieries, which were ornate dispensers strapped to their backs.

Lemonade really took off though thanks to a little English contribution in the 1700s when artificially carbonated water was invented. Writing in a paper in 1772, the scientist Joseph Priestly described the process as “impregnating water with fixed air”. This research was used to launch the household name we continue to know and love, Schweppes, in 1783.

Today, the limonadieries are all but forgotten and bottled sparkling French lemonade is commercially sold just about everywhere, though nothing can beat the freshness of this classic version. For two servings:

INGREDIENTS

- 150 gr caster sugar
- 120 ml water
- Strips of lemon peel from 1-½ lemons
- Strained juice of 3 lemons
- 250 ml sparkling water

Method Combine sugar and water in a small saucepan. Stir over medium heat until the sugar is dissolved. Add the lemon peels and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer uncovered for five minutes. Let the syrup cool and stir in the lemon juice. Remove the lemon peels. Pour into a small pitcher and add sparkling water. Serve.

SWITCHEL

Switchel debatably originated in the Caribbean, but New England also holds credit as the source where it refreshed 17th-century New England colonists. Also known as haymaker’s punch, the drink hydrated fieldworkers toiling under the searing sun during the hay harvest.

Punched up with a healthy shot of Jamaican rum, it also braced Washington’s senators and congressmen during heated sessions in Congress during the 1800s. If molasses is not to your taste, try making this recipe with local honey. For eight servings:

INGREDIENTS

- 4.5 litres water
- 360 ml molasses
- 80 ml apple cider vinegar
- 1 tbs fresh ginger, grated

Method Blend all ingredients in a large pot. Decant into pitchers and serve in mason jars.

NIMBU PANI

In the days of the Raj, colonists encountered Nimbu Pani, lemonade’s bright cousin. The surprising twist is kala namak, which is a black salt. Ice came at a premium, even in the elite colonial clubs in Bengal, Madras (now

Chennai) and Bombay (now Mumbai). But it’s surprising how the salt chills the palate as well as the water, cooling the drink down to the last sip.

Nimbu Pani is still a popular thirst quencher in India and can still be found on street corners around the country. For two servings:

INGREDIENTS

- Strained juice of 2 lemons
- 2 tbs caster sugar
- ¼ tsp kala namak (black salt)
- 1 pinch of table salt
- 600 ml cold water
- 2 fresh mint leaves

Method Place lemon juice, sugar, water and salts into a small jug and stir until sugar and salts are dissolved. Pour into tumblers. Garnish with fresh mint leaves and add two or three cubes of ice, if desired.

Optional: For a spicy kick, add ½ tsp of chaat masala.

JULEPUM STOMACHICUM (STOMACH-IC JULEP)

Adventurous 18th century Brits sipped a sophisticated mint julep found in the 1753 edition of William Lewis’ New English Dispensatory. It was believed that this Julep helped relieve stomach issues.

Although the original included a hydrosol (a non-alcoholic distillate) of fresh mint, the whiskey infusion, and a bouquet of fresh mint sprigs in a julep cup (a metal tumbler) will more than make up for this extra step. For one serving:

INGREDIENTS

- 60 ml mint-infused Irish whiskey
- 10 ml saffron syrup

Method Saffron syrup: Bring 150 ml of water to a boil in a small saucepan. (Optional: you can use dry sherry in place of the water here.) Add 125 gr caster sugar. Stir to dissolve. Remove from heat, add 10 threads of saffron to the mixture and cool. Let the saffron rest in the syrup for a few days and strain. This syrup will last about two weeks if kept refrigerated.

Mint-infused whiskey: Crush seven sprigs of fresh mint into an empty glass bottle. Pour in Irish blended whiskey to fill. Seal and allow to infuse for seven days. Strain into a fresh, empty bottle.

To serve: Fill a julep cup halfway with crushed ice. Pour in the whiskey and syrup. Using a long bar spoon, lift the ice and its contents to blend. Then add more crushed ice to fill. Add a bouquet of fresh mint and a pair of short straws to serve.

PONCHE (DIAPENTE)

Lexicographer Francisco Sobrino defined ponche or diapente, in 1732, as an English drink made with aguardiente, water, lime, and sugar. Sound familiar?

Ponche predated grog, the drink ordered by Admiral Edward “Old Grog” Vernon to replace the daily beer ration, which spoiled too quickly during long voyages and was too heavy to transport. (The daily rum ration was abolished in 1970 after concerns that drinking alcohol would lead to unsteady hands).

But when the Royal Navy captured and held the port of Havana in 1762, the fleet introduced the locals to this drink which they adapted into the canchánchara, a honeyed ponche, and later, the now famous Daiquirí Frappé. For one serving:

INGREDIENTS

- 250 ml cold water
- 20 grams caster sugar
- 32 ml fresh lime juice
- 60 ml aguardiente or silver Cuban rum

Method Stir ingredients together in a mixing glass to dissolve the sugar. Strain into a tall glass. Add a couple of cubes of ice, if desired.

By arrangements with The Conversation

Nitish Takes Oath As Bihar CM for record Eighth Time

Press Trust of India

Patna: JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar on Wednesday took oath as Bihar chief minister for a record eighth time in a no-frills ceremony at Raj Bhavan, a day after snapping ties with the BJP-led NDA and joining hands with the RJD to form a Mahagathbandhan' government.

Kumar was sworn in besides RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, who is likely to be designated as his deputy. A notification is likely to be issued tonight, naming him as the deputy chief minister.

Other cabinet ministers will be sworn in later once the three main alliance partners -- the JD(U), RJD and Congress -- decide on the number of berths and the legislators who will be made ministers.

Kumar is likely to retain the all-important Home portfolio, while the RJD may get most of the departments that were previously with the BJP, a highly-placed source said.

He said an in-principle agreement has been reached about the composition of the new cabinet, which is likely to have 35 members or more, drawn from Kumar's JD(U), the RJD and the Congress.

Euphoric scenes were witnessed outside the Raj Bhavan and residences of Kumar and Yadav, as hundreds of supporters of JD(U) and RJD celebrated beating drums, bursting crackers and distributing 'laddus' (sweetmeats).

Talking to reporters shortly after he was administered the oath of office by Governor Phagu Chauhan, Kumar rubbished BJP's claim that the new government will not last its full term, and said his former ally "will be back where they were after the 2015 assembly polls" when the NDA could get less than 50 seats in the 243-strong assembly.

Meanwhile, leaders of the BJP, which is the second largest party in the assembly with 77 MLAs, were conspicuous by their absence at the swearing-in ceremony.

We have received no invitation. We would have, in any case, not liked to witness formation of a government which has been installed after betraying the people of Bihar, who voted for the NDA in the last assembly polls, and is an insult to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who stuck to his promise of backing

Kumar for another term, despite the JD(U)'s poor performance, BJP leader Sushil Modi told a press conference.

"Nitish Kumar has been in a habit of ditching allies. He will not be loyal to the RJD as well, and try to break that party taking advantage of Lalu Prasad's ill-health... We are accused of betraying our allies by the JD(U) which cites the example of Shiv Sena. Shiv Sena came apart. And we were not its allies then," he said.

Back in the reckoning as a potential secular alternative to Narendra Modi, which the disjointed opposition could project, Kumar said he had no daawedari" (claims) when asked about prime ministerial ambitions, but quipped they should remember 2014 is past. They need to worry (chinta karni chahiye") about 2024 .

Sushil Modi also claimed that Tejashwi Yadav as the leader of the numerically bigger party will try to act as the de facto CM.

He will also be under pressure to deliver on the promise of 10 lakh government jobs he had been making to the people of the state. This will unsettle Nitish and the internal contradictions will cause the government to collapse before 2025, the former deputy CM said.

Invite People Mentioned By PM In 'Mann Ki Baat', Kin Of Martyrs To Guv's 'At Home': MHA to States

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Women village heads, kin of martyred soldiers and people mentioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his 'Mann Ki Baat' radio address will be among the invitees at the 'At Home' function to be hosted by the governors and lieutenant governors on Independence day.

In a communication to states and Union Territories, the Union Home Ministry stressed that apart from the usual protocol-based invitees, the attendees should represent diverse fields.

The invitation for the 'At Home' function to be held at Governor or LG House on August 15 evening should be sent to physically challenged achievers in different fields, people who made an exemplary contribution to society, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, eco-warriors and those who have contributed to environmental

conservation, it said.

The home ministry said those mentioned in references from states and UTs in the prime minister's 'Mann ki Baat' radio address, Padma awardees from the state, families of martyred soldiers along with participants and winners of Olympics and other important sports events of national and international standards should be invited.

During his monthly radio address, Prime Minister Modi usually speaks about people from various walks of life who have contributed to society and the nation and can be an inspiration to others.

Frontline health workers, children bravery awardees, women 'sarpanches', student toppers, best researchers and innovators should also be invited, the communication said, adding at least 25-50 invites may be reserved for such achievers.

The names of such invitees should be announced in

advance to enable them to prepare for the occasion.

The home ministry said there should be a system whereby the invitees' list is generated afresh every year so that the opportunity is given to a broad set of people.

It could be considered that a person gets an invite just once.

It said that special attention may be paid to the band at Governor and LG House.

"It should play patriotic songs and not simply songs from movies," the ministry said.

The invitation card for Governor and LG 'At Home' should be created in a way that these are treasured for life as a souvenir by the invitees, marking it as a special once-in-life occasion, the home ministry said.

'At Home' function is organised at Rashtrapati Bhavan and Raj Bhavans on the evening of Independence day and Republic day where invitees attend high tea.

Justice Uday Umesh Lalit to become second CJI to be directly elevated to SC bench from Bar

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, who was on Wednesday appointed as the 49th Chief Justice of India (CJI) after President Droupadi Murmu signed his warrant of appointment, will become the second head of the Indian judiciary to be directly elevated to the Supreme Court bench from the Bar.

Justice S M Sikri, who became the 13th CJI in January 1971, was the first lawyer to be elevated directly to the top court bench in March 1964.

Justice Lalit will assume charge on August 27, a day after the

incumbent CJI Justice N V Ramana demits the office. Justice Lalit will have a brief tenure of less than three months as the CJI and he would retire on November 8 this year. The retirement age of judges of the Supreme Court is 65.

Justice Lalit, who was a senior advocate before being appointed a judge of the apex court on August 13, 2014, has been part of several path-breaking verdicts including the one which held the practice of divorce through instant 'triple talaq' among Muslims illegal and unconstitutional.

In January 2019, he recused himself from hearing the politically-sensitive Ram

Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land title dispute in Ayodhya.

Justice Lalit, who was part of a five-judge Constitution bench headed by then CJI Ranjan Gogoi, had "expressed his disinclination to participate in the hearing any further" and opted himself out of the Ayodhya matter.

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, appearing for a Muslim party in the matter, had told the Constitution bench that Justice Lalit had appeared as a lawyer for former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Kalyan Singh in a connected matter in the year 1997.

One of the path-breaking verdicts of which Justice Lalit was part, was

SC To Hear Pleas Of Muslim Body, Others Against Demolitions On Sep 7

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Wednesday said it would hear on September 7 the petitions filed by Muslim body, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind and others seeking directions to various state governments to ensure that no further demolition of properties of alleged accused in rioting cases of violence is carried out.

A bench comprising Justices B R Gavai and P S Narasimha said that it would hear as many as five petitions, including the one filed by CPI (M) leader Brinda Karat, on September 7.

Earlier on July 13, the top court had refused to pass any interim direction staying demolition of properties of accused involved in violent protests across various states.

It had wondered how it could pass an omnibus order on demolitions if there is an illegal construction and the corporation or the council is authorised to take action.

The bench had also asked the parties to complete pleadings

in the matter in the meantime.

On June 16, the apex court had stated that "everything should be fair" and authorities should strictly follow the due procedure under the law while giving the Uttar Pradesh government and its authorities three days to respond to pleas which alleged that the houses of those accused in last week's violence were illegally demolished.

The top court was hearing pleas filed by Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind seeking directions to the Uttar Pradesh government to ensure that no further demolitions of properties of alleged accused of recent violence are carried out in the State.

The Muslim body had said in its plea that no demolition of properties be carried out without following due process and such exercise is done only after adequate notice.

The Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind had earlier filed the plea on the issue of demolition of buildings in the Jahangirpuri area of the national capital.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Data Of Over 1 Million

"eSolBCABBA" has 57,772 entries including details of membership, payment applications, department contacts, entrance roll numbers, payment form details and many more. A database titled, "Users" has 38,049 entries.

The threat actor has also created a "eSolDataBaseKupwara" that has 57,300 entries with alleged payment details and more. Database titled, "MPharma" has 1,71,139 and "eSolDatabaseDistance2019" has 1,08,229 entries allegedly including roll numbers and payment details.

A database with "eSolDatabase2018" title has 3,87,445 entries and "eSolDatabase" has 3,47,968 entries. A database with tagline "eSolMCME" has 1,69,846 entries.

Pertinently, the breach was spotted by a Twitter user Abhishek Verma who received a confirmation from the admin of the forum "pompompurin", who said that the alleged database is legitimate.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Abhishek Verma said that he wasn't sure about the legitimacy because no database was actually shared. "But the database index caught my attention," Abhishek said, adding that only Kashmir university can confirm the legitimacy of the alleged data breach.

Pertinently, the database is listed on Breached Forums, the famous hacking forum that came into global limelight earlier this month with a data breach exposing over 1 billion Chinese residents. As per Abhishek, who has also shared the screenshots of the hacked data being put on sale on the platform, the hacker has shared a txt file named "dbs.txt" showing an index of the hacked data.

Meanwhile Kashmir University in a statement said that the varsity data was "unmodified and that further analysis is going on in the matter."

"The alleged breach is being analyzed and as per the preliminary analysis it has been found that the data is unmodified," a Kashmir University spokesperson said in a statement. "Any breach on data read (which is already accessible in public domain) is being analyzed in-depth and depending upon the analysis, University will take further course of action and take an appropriate legal recourse accordingly," the spokesperson said.

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, DySP cyber police, Sleet Shah said that the department is yet to receive any complaint from Kashmir University about the alleged hack.

"We ourselves came to know about this hack through media portals. We'll let you know if there's any update," she added.

Lashkar Commander

said that the operation was

launched by police, army and CRPF on the basis of inputs provided by the Special Operations Group (SOG), Srinagar, about the presence of militants in the Muqam area of Waterhal in the district.

He said that the joint team came under heavy fire from the militants when they approached towards the suspected spot. In the retaliatory fire, he said, all the three "terrorists" were killed.

The trio has been identified as LeT commander Lateef Rather @ Abdullah of Badipora village in Chadoora and Saqib Mushtaq Khan and Muzaffar Ahmad Chopan, both residents of Khonmoh area of Srinagar.

"One of the terrorists was identified as Lateef Rather who was involved in the killing of Rahul Pandit and Ambreen Bhat," Kumar told reporters.

Rather, he said, was arrested in 2001 soon after he took up arms.

While describing Rather as the right-hand man of killed Pakistani commander Abu Qasim, Kumar said he provided "logistic support to the terrorists" who attacked an Army convoy on 24 June 2013 in which eight soldiers were killed and many left wounded.

"Rather provided shelter to the attackers and dropped them to Hyderpora to attack the Army convoy in his vehicle," the top police officer said.

Besides, the killed commander was also responsible for plotting, planning and killing of SHO Police Station Chadoora Shabir Ahmed in year 2013.

"Subsequently, he was again arrested by Police in 2013 and prosecuted for his involvement in several terror crime case; however in November-2021 he got released from Jail," police said in a handout issued Wednesday evening.

Post his release, the spokesperson said, Rather again started working for LeT/TRF outfit in Srinagar City and joined the "terror folds" in February-2022 and assumed the role as Commander TRF.

"During the year 2022, on the directions of his across border handler Sajjad Gul, killed terrorist Lateef Rather carried out several terror crimes and civilian atrocities including killing of a Kashmiri Pandit employee Rahul Bhat and an artiste Amreen Bhat in Chadoora area," he said.

Moreover, the spokesperson said that Rather was also involved in recruiting the gullible youth of Budgam, Pulwama and Srinagar areas to "strengthen the terror folds of proscribed terror outfit TRF in these areas".

Giving details about Saqib, he said, the killed militant was also involved in several terror crimes including killing of DDC Member Sameer Ahmed Dar and firing on non-local labourers in Nowgam area.

"Besides, terrorist Muzaffar Chopan was recently recruited by terrorist Lateef Rather and was involved in a grenade

attack in Khanmoh area," he said.

The spokesperson further said that incriminating materials including huge cache of arms & ammunition have been recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further course of investigation.

"In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and further investigation is into progress. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared off of the explosives, if any," he added.

30 Kg IED Recovered

generated by police, Additional Director General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said.

"An IED weighing approx. 25 to 30 Kgs recovered near Tahab Crossing on Circular road in #Pulwama by Police and Security Forces. A major #tragedy has been #averted by specific input generated by Pulwama Police," the ADGP Kashmir wrote on Twitter.

Schools: A Perfect

beginning will redefine the teaching-learning process and bring qualitative changes in overall functioning of schools," the LG said.

"Our effort also focuses on knowledge & values, development of emotional quotient and intelligence quotient to help the child to grow into a well-balanced personality," he said, while stressing on ensuring access, equity, quality and outcome-oriented quality education for all.

According to the spokesperson, the LG termed schools as a perfect medium to ignite the engine of J&K's overall development and economic growth.

"Our effort is to ensure all the schools are maintaining academic standards, empowering young students to develop experimental skills, exposing them to exciting innovations," the LG said.

Sinha, the spokesperson said, appreciated the efforts of the School Education Department for successfully bringing a large number of out-of-school students, students from underprivileged sections to schools through initiatives like Ao School Chalen, Dastak and Talaash.

The LG, he said, also expressed pleasure for J&K's better performance and ranking in the NISHTHA program than many states in the country.

"We have overcome several old constraints & carried out more than 20 lakh surveys to identify and mainstream out-of-school children. The School Education Department has shown major gains in enrolment and retention and bridging the gender gaps," Sinha said.

The spokesperson said that the LG also noted that the National Education Policy has laid the foundations for

developing the capabilities of a child to optimum potential. He further said NEP-2020 takes special care in providing students an opportunity to study the subjects according to their own choice and ability, so that their talent is developed and nurtured without any pressure.

Sinha, he said, termed the teacher's role as vital in the holistic development of students and said that the Mentorship Programme: Student Teacher Engagement for Educational Reinforcement (STEER) will revolutionize the school education system by identifying learning gaps and understanding the constraints of the children, their capabilities, besides providing the teachers an opportunity to bring changes their teaching methods. Under this mentorship program, the spokesperson said, more than 21,000 schools have been covered and five lakh students mapped. Moreover, 40,000 teachers have been trained to mentor the students in 1:10 ratio.

He said that the LG further asked the School Education Department, teachers & student community to actively participate in "Har Ghar Tiranga campaign".

"He also asked the department to give dedicated focus to redress the issues like rationalization of teachers," the spokesperson said, adding that the LG felicitated the 10th class toppers for their remarkable performance in the examination.

He further said that an MoU was signed between Samagra Shiksha J&K and HCL for the TECHBEE programme for students of class 12th in the UT.

ECI Reschedules

updating database and printing of supplements has been fixed for November 19 before the publication of final electoral rolls on November 25, an Election Commission's order, reproduced by the Chief Electoral Officer's office here, said.

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

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

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha had assured that the assembly elections will take place in Jammu and Kashmir after the completion of the ongoing revision of electoral rolls.

However, political observers are of the opinion that the much-awaited polls are likely to be deferred to next year after the end of the harsh winter in the Kashmir Valley and the Chenab region.

The Election Commission of India in pursuance of legal amendments in Section 14 (b) of the Representation of People's Act 1950 and consequent modifications in Registration of Electors Rules whereby a provision for four qualifying dates (January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1) as eligibility for youngsters to register in Electoral Rolls as opposed to earlier single qualifying date of January 1 only, has been made, revised the Special Summary Revision exercise for the UT of Jammu and Kashmir with reference to October 1, 2022 as qualifying date.

This means that any person who attains the age of 18 years on or before October 1, 2022 and is otherwise qualified to be enrolled as an elector in the Electoral Roll, can apply for his registration during the Revision, the order said.

It noted that presently, the pre-revision activities as well as post-delimitation follow up, work is going on in Jammu and Kashmir wherein the existing electoral rolls are being mapped into newly delimited assembly constituencies as per the Delimitation Commission's final order made applicable by the Union Law Ministry with effect from May 20, 2022.

As part of the pre-revision activities, the process of rationalisation/re-arrangement of Polling Stations, removal of discrepancies of Demographically Similar Entries/Photo Similar Entries, Duplicate EPIC, preparation of supplements and integrated draft rolls with reference to October 1, 2022 as the qualifying date is going on at present in J&K.

The integrated draft rolls with reference to October 1, 2022 as qualifying date shall now be published by all Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of the UT on September 15, 2022, marking formal beginning of the revision activities, the order said.

In order to provide more opportunities to the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, the order said, the commission has extended the period for filing of claims and objections from 30 days to 40 days, i.e. September 15 to October 25, 2022.

DIPR Meet Discusses

also instructed the Divisional Joint Directors to initiate the process of empanelment / de empanelment as per the due process stipulated in Media Policy to encourage healthy journalism and subvert plagiarism and irregularities," he said.

Labroo, according to the spokesperson, instructed the concerned officials to complete the implementation of above mentioned deliverables in a stipulated timeline and ensure that the functioning of the Directorate of Information is effectively governed by the rules stipulated under Media Policy 2020 and that objective standards are benchmarked for vibrant, contemporary and healthy

multi-sectoral communication of government with the citizens.

Earlier, he said that threadbare discussions were held on various aspects regarding the effective implementation of Media Policy 2020 through a detailed Action Plan.

He said that Joint Director HQ, the Divisional Joint Directors, Deputy Director Central, Deputy Director Audio Visuals, Deputy Director Public Relations, Culture Officer, Jammu, Information Officer(s) and the Administrative Officer were present in the meeting.

LG Grooms People

our early childhood care & education and skilling ecosystem.

Sinha, he said, also asserted that the infrastructure-projects, initiatives and schemes dedicated to the future generation of J&K would instill in them free thought, scientific temper and consciousness along with playfulness to produce future ready, global citizens of the 21st century.

"This new and a reminder to all about the high place accorded to women in our society.

"The celebration of bonding between brothers and sisters is also a celebration of core values of love, affection, sharing, solidarity, and humanism. Let us rededicate ourselves to upholding the dignity and respect of women and take a pledge to end discrimination on the basis of gender," Sinha added.

J&K Logs 547

due to the virus was 4,776, officials said.

There are 4,927 active cases of the disease in the Union Territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,61,671, they said.

According to officials, there are 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in the Union Territory.

Soldier Shoots Self

the head, the officials said.

Kumar, a resident of Himachal Pradesh, died on the spot and later his body was taken to hospital by police for postmortem. Police have started inquest proceedings.

3 Dead In Kathua

when their scooter was hit by a truck near Government Medical College Kathua on the Jammu-Pathankot highway on Tuesday night, a police official said.

The three were on way to their rented accommodation in CTM colony in Kathua when the accident took place. The injured woman has been hospitalised while the driver of the truck was arrested, the official said.

In another accident, a resident of Kathua was killed after an unidentified vehicle hit his cycle at Barnoti on Tuesday night.

SIA Files Charge Sheet Against Two Punjab-Based Smugglers

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday filed a charge sheet against two Punjab-based smugglers involved in a narco-terrorism case.

The SIA has filed charge sheet in a local court here against two Punjab-based narco-smugglers and terrorists -- Gurbreet Singh alias Billa and Manpreet Singh alias Mani -- who were booked under several sections of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, NDPS Act and forgery on February 6 this year, an official statement said.

The case pertains to recovery of 36 kilograms of heroin and several pistols, along with magazine and nine rounds, by the BSF from border out post Whale Back in Glar along International Border in Samba district. During the incident, three smugglers and intruders were killed on February 6, 2022.

As per the charge sheet, the duo was in contact with Pakistan-based narco-terror handlers and some Punjab-based persons, in respect of whom investigation is still going on.

The terrorist gangs adopt the modus operandi of enticing and inciting individuals especially youths of border area of Punjab for destabilizing the economic security of India, by smuggling huge consignment of narcotics, which has now become a new terror front of proxy war being unleashed by the adversaries from across the border, the statement said.

The charge sheet said that it is long term damage to the monetary stability of India because the proceeds obtained from such transactions become part of regular supply chain of economy.

The smuggling of narcotics and weapons are well thought strategies of Pakistan to give shape to their nefarious design against India and a part of such transactions also land in the hands of anti-national elements for subversive activities, it said.

With respect to other accused, the investigation is going on.

The statement further said that the supplementary charge sheet shall be produced by the investigating agency in the court vis-à-vis all the involved characters soon.

Namgyal Relieved, To Join As Inspector General Of SSB

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Authorities here relieved Tsewang Namgyal Kalon (IPS) relieved Director SKPA Udhampur for taking up post of Inspector General in Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) on deputation basis for an initial period of five years.

"Consequent upon the approval of the Competent Authority to the appointment of Tsewang Namgyal Kalon, IPS (AGMUT: 1995), Director, SKPA, Udhampur, to the post

of Inspector General in Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), on deputation basis, for an initial period of 05 years with effect from the date of joining the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier, he is hereby relieved to enable him to take up the new assignment at the Centre," reads government order.

Garib Dass (IPS), Commissioner, Civil Military Liaison, Home

Department, has been asked to hold the charge of Director, SKPA, Udhampur in addition to his own duties, till further orders. (GNS)

Outbreak Of Skin Disease Among Dairy Animals Diagnosed

Agencies

JAMMU: A rare outbreak of skin disease among dairy animals from various districts of the Jammu division has been diagnosed.

Experts told a local news agency KNO that the major symptoms of the disease include multiple nodules all over the body, swelling of limbs and lymph nodes, fever, lameness, decreased milk production, discharges from the eyes and nose, edema, pneumonia, and abortion in pregnant animals.

The clinical signs resemble lumpy skin disease which is an infectious viral disease caused by the Capripox virus of Poxviridae family. The virus spreads

from animal to animal through vectors like mosquitos, ticks, flies etc.

These vectors bite the infected animals and then transmit the disease to healthy animals.

Initially, similar symptoms were observed among crossbred cattle from Bishnah of Jammu in the month of May, 2022.

However, with the onset of monsoon and increase in the population of vectors, rapid spread in an outbreak form observed these days in many districts of the Jammu division like Jammu, Reasi, Poonch, Samba, and Kathua.

The disease generally affects around 20-30% of animals with a death rate of 1-5%.

Preparations For Hoisting Tricolour Across J&K Going On In Full Swing

Citizens Showing Great Enthusiasm For 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign: Govt



Abid Bhat/KO

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The preparations for hoisting Tricolour across the length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir are going on in full swing with great enthusiasm and fervor shown by common citizens, an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

Like other parts of the country, he said, Har Ghar Tiranga campaign is being carried out across the nation so that the tricolour is hoisted at every house and office to mark India's 75th year of Independence.

"As part of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' initiative of the government celebrating 75 years of Independence, various activities are being conducted by different departments and schools in every district of J&K," he added.

The spokesperson said that Painting, National Anthem singing, essay competitions, quiz programmes, debates and seminars are being held in various Govt. Degree Colleges, schools besides, Tiranga Ral-

lies, Flag hoisting on buildings as well as homes are also being held across the districts.

He said that the spirit of young generation are so high that they have started preparations for the event many days before with regular rehearsals. Students are proactively participating in various activities and events and are very excited to perform in upcoming Independence Day functions.

"The students are also taking part in quiz, essay, painting and debate competitions on varied topics of National Symbols, National Monuments, Freedom Struggle and other related topics," he added.

The Department of Rural Development, FCS&CA, MCs, Poshan Mission and Health are also organising awareness programmes, Tiranga Rallies, Flag Hoisting ceremonies, highlighting the importance of the celebrations.

Similarly, other departments are also conducting programmes in order to spread the message of Har Ghar Tiranga campaign to all people. Flags have been distributed across all the district and Tiranga has been hoisted on many estab-

lishments, private buildings and residences across the district besides preparations are also in full swing for the Mega event of Har Ghar Tiranga between 13th-15th August this year. Rumysa Rafiq, Councillor, Khanabal Anantnag has asked the youth to take lead in HarGharTiranga campaign to show love for country.

Similarly BDC Chairman Goudi Aarti Sharma says she is working closely with all departments, PRIs, social activists to make the #HarGharTiranga successful.

Echoing their views, a PRI member from Rajouri says every citizen of country is proud of our flag which reflects our oneness and secular character. It also reminds us of sacrifices by brave hearts for the nation.

A resident of Bela Boniyar in north Kashmir's Baramulla district stated that he is very happy with this decision of the government.

Meanwhile Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) had launched the National Anthem Singing Competition -2022 for which entries were made open online between 1st August to 7th August, 2022.

Teenager Drowns To Death In Rajouri

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A teenage boy drowned to death while taking a bath in Jhori Nallah in Dandote village of Rajouri district on Wednesday evening, officials said here.

An official said that the boy identified as Umar Farooq (17) son of Mohammad Farooq of Gabbar village was returning from school at around 3:30 when he decided to take a bath in Jhori

Nallah near Hayan bridge.

He said that the boy drowned while taking a both the Nallah and soon after the incident a rescue operation was launched to retrieve his body.

He added that his body was later retrieved from the water body at around 7:15 pm in the evening.

The official said that body of the teenager is at PHC Kotranka and will be handed over to family members after medico-legal formalities--(KNO)

CBC Organises ICOP On 'Har Ghar Tiranga' In Bhaderwah

Observer News Service

BHADERWAH: Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Field Office Doda on Wednesday organised a Mini Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (ICOP) on the theme of Har Ghar Tiranga.

The Outreach Programme was organised at Government Degree College Bhaderwah with the aim to generate mass awareness regarding the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga campaign.

In his address, Ghulam Abass, Joint Director, CBC J&K and Ladakh said that Har Ghar Tiranga campaign is an opportunity to celebrate achievements and identify unaccomplished dreams. Abass also presented an overview, structure and working of CBC, J&K during the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Aftab Alam, Additional Superintendent of Police, Bhaderwah said that we all must feel proud to be part of celebrations of 75 years of independence and Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. He further added that the campaign is an opportunity to pay tributes to the heroes of our freedom struggle.

Others present were Sh Khurshed Yousuf, Field Publicity Officer, Ministry of I&B, Govt. Of India, Field Office Udhampur, Rajesh Sharma, Incharge CBC, Field Office, Doda, Faculty Members of GDC, Bhaderwah, PRIs and ICDS Workers.

Experts who delivered lectures in the programme on the included Prof. Sanjay Kumar, Dr. Sandeep Kotwal and Prof. Surinder Parihar, faculty members of Govt. Degree College Bhaderwah.

CBC installed informative standees on Har Ghar Tiranga for the awareness of the people. Cultural programmes were also presented by the private registered troupes of CBC, Regional Office, Jammu.

SRINAGAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

FRESH E-TENDER NOTICE NO: 08/EE of 2022-23

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Development Authority, the Executive Engineer, Srinagar Development Authority, invites tenders by e-tendering system on item rate basis from Registered PWD contractors of J&K UT for below mentioned works:-

S.No	Name of work	Amount of work	CDR Amount	Class of contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion
01.	Repair/Renovation of Terminal Building at Bus Terminal Panthachowk.	Rs.21.20 lacs	Rs.42400/-	(A&B)	Rs.2000/-	(90)days

Position of Funds (Available)

01. Date of Publishing 08/08/2022.
02. The Bidding document can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 10.00 PM from 09/08/2022 to 29/08/2022 upto 4.00PM.
- a. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 15/08/2022 to 29/08/2022 upto 4.00PM. The bids received will be opened at 12.00 Noon on 31/08/2022 on 4in&
- b. The complete bidding process will be on line.

No:- SDA/EE/630-636

Dated: 8/08/2022

Executive Engineer

Srinagar Dev. Authority

DIPK-NB-3117-22

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER. MECHANICAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR

email: xenmds@gmail.com | website: www.medkashmir.org

NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERM e-TENDERS

NIT No. MDS/TS/2022-23/43/e-tendering Date: 03.08.2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from registered consultants for the below mentioned service:

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Estimated Cost of consultancy services in Rs	Time of completion (in days)	Position of AA	Position of funds
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Structural design, drawings and furnishing of BOQs and estimates as per latest JKSSR schedule for wooden truss and high rib CGI Roofing of accommodation for Snow clearance operators at Tullabagh Ganderbal.	200/-	500/-	20,000/-	10	Approved vide No: SEMK/TS/26/AA/14 of 2022-23 Dated: 09.07.2022	Under MH-3054

The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 05-08-2022 (16.00 PM).

1. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from **05-08-2022 (16.00 PM) to 13-08-2022 (18.55 PM)** in two covers.
2. The bid uploaded on the Web Site up to due date and time will be opened **on 15-08-2022 (13.00 PM)** in the office of the undersigned.

No: MDS/TS/2421-25
Date: 03.08.2022
DIPK-7738-22

Sd/-
(Er. Jahan Ara)
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Division Srinagar

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

ESTATES WING, MAIN CAMPUS SHALIMAR – 190 025

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-NIT No. (45) of 2022-23

Dated: 05.08.2022

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

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion
1.	Construction of "Main Garage cum Shed for Organic Fertiliser" at MLRI, Manasbal, SKUAST-Kashmir	22.00	44,000	B & C Class	1000/-	90 days
2	Construction of "Upgradation of Clinical Lab" at MLRI, Manasbal, SKUAST-Kashmir	15.22	30,440	B & C Class	750/-	60 days
3.	Construction of "Upgradation of FEED STORE" at MLRI, Manasbal, SKUAST-Kashmir	07.15	14,300	C & D Class	500/-	45 days

Position of AAA: Accorded

a) **Position of T.S : Sanctioned**

b) **Position of funds: Available**

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	05.08.2022
2.	Date of start of downloading	05.08.2022
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	05.08.2022
5.	Bid submission end date	18.08.2022 (06.00 PM)
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid (online)	19.08.2022 (11.00 AM)
7.	Date of opening of Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online)	22.08.2022

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

No. Au/Estates/e-NIT (45)/456
Dated: 08.08.2022

DIPK-NB-3104-22

Sd/-
Estates Officer/ Chief Engineer

YSS Anantnag Holds U-19 Cricket Tournament



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) District Anantnag kick-started its Inter-School District Level cricket tournament among various Higher Secondary Schools of the District on Wednesday.

The event was kick-started at two venues in the district, including Sports Stadium Naanil and Sports Stadium Dooru.

On the inaugural day, four matches were played between HSS Seer vs DPS Anantnag, HSS Nowgam vs Public School Bhijbehra, HSS Manzmoh vs HSS Dooru and HSS YK Pora vs HSS Kabamarg, in which some great cricketing techniques were dis-

played in all sectors, that is, Batting, Bowling & Fielding.

At the Dooru venue, HSS YK Pora scored 132 runs, in which Zahid Ahmad was the highest scorer with 67 not out, and in return, HSS Kabamarg chased the target for the loss of 2 wickets only, with the highest score from Suhail Salam of 79 not out. In another match at the same venue, HSS Dooru won the match in a thrilling battle by defeating HSS Manzmoh.

At Sports Stadium Naanil, HSS Seer defeated DPS Anantnag by a margin of 4 wickets, while in another match HSS Seer was declared as winners due to no response from Public School Bhijbehra.

PM Modi Lauds Indian Medallists At Chess Olympiad 2022



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday appreciated the people and government of Tamil Nadu for being "excellent" hosts for the 44th Chess Olympiad and congratulated the Indian teams for winning bronze medal in their categories.

"The people and government of Tamil Nadu have been excellent hosts of the 44th Chess Olympiad. I would like to appreciate them for welcoming the world and showcasing our outstanding culture and hospitality," he tweeted.

"The just-concluded 44th Chess Olympiad in Chennai witnessed encouraging performances by the Indian contingent. I congratulate the India B team (Men's) and India A team (Women's) for win-

ning the Bronze Medal. This augurs well for the future of Chess in India," he added.

Modi also congratulated individual members of the Indian contingent who won board medals. "These are outstanding players who have shown remarkable grit and tenacity. Best wishes for their future endeavours," he said.

The 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad drew to a close in Chennai on Tuesday amid extravagant cultural events, with India's 'B' team settling for a bronze medal in the Open section.

Presiding over the closing ceremony, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK leader M K Stalin said the state government has been implementing several schemes under the 'Dravidian model', to make the state a pioneer in sports.

More Trouble For Former AIFF Chief Patel

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Committee of Administrators (CoA) currently running football in the country has filed a contempt petition against ousted AIFF president Praful Patel for "interfering with the proceedings" of the Supreme Court which last week ordered elections to the national federation.

In the contempt petition, the CoA said Patel "conducted a meeting of the 35 Intervening Member Associations (state associations of the AIFF) with the express purpose of interfering with the proceedings of this Hon'ble Court..." The petition also attached transcripts of the said meeting, which was conducted over Zoom at 11 am on August 8.

It said the contemnors have "interfered with the administration of justice by committing gross contempt of the orders" passed by the top court.

The petition made the plea to bar Patel "from participating in and holding any football related posts forthwith, including and not limited

to positions in FIFA and AFC".

It also requested the top court to initiate proceedings for contempt of court against the alleged contemnors "for interference in the administration of justice, and the willful and flagrant disobedience of orders... and punish them with maximum penalty in accordance with law".

Along with Patel, the virtual meeting was attended by IFA (Bengal football body) chairman Subrata Dutta, Delhi Football chief Shaji Prabhakaran and five others, who form the seven-member committee to represent the state associations of the AIFF in the negotiations for the drafting of new constitution.

T20 Rankings: SKY No 2 As Babar Stays Top



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Indian batter Suryakumar Yadav aka SKY held on to his second position while compatriot Shreyas Iyer moved up six places to 19th in the latest ICC T20 rankings released on Wednesday.

Yadav is the best-placed Indian with 805 points in the batting list headed by Pakistan's Babar Azam, who has 818 points.

Iyer, who had hit a 40-ball 64 in the final T20 after a subdued

show in the first four matches of the recently-concluded series against West Indies, has 578 points.

Among bowlers, spinners Ravi Bishnoi and Kuldeep Yadav also made massive gains in the rankings.

The 21-year-old Bishnoi, who scalped six wickets in two matches in the T20I series against the Windies, galloped 50 places to take 44th position, while Kuldeep, who had a three-wicket haul in the last

game, leapt 58 places to 87th.

South Africa's Reeza Hendricks is the main gainer in the T20 rankings, moving up to 13th position with knocks of 74 and 42 in a 2-0 series win over Ireland.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam has managed to hang on to his mantle as the No.1 ranked T20I batter while Australian Josh Hazlewood and Afghanistan's Mohammad Nabi continue to top the chart as the best bowler and all-rounder respectively.

Reliance Unveils MI Emirates & MI Cape Town

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: The owners of Mumbai Indians, Reliance Industries Limited on Wednesday unveiled the name and brand identity of its franchises for the UAE's International League T20 and Cricket South Africa T20 League.

The two franchises will be known as MI Emirates and MI Cape Town.

While MI Emirates will be a part of the UAE's International League T20, MI Cape Town will feature in the Cricket South Africa T20 League.

Nita M. Ambani, Director of Reliance Industries, said, "It gives me great pleasure to welcome 'MI Emirates' & 'MI Cape Town', the newest additions to our #Onefamily.

"For us, MI goes beyond cricket. It embodies the ability to dream, be fearless and foster a positive attitude in life. I am sure that both MI Emirates and MI Cape Town will embrace the same ethos and take MI's global cricket legacy to even greater heights."



FIFA Could Start World Cup In Qatar 1 Day Early



Agencies

GENEVA: The World Cup in Qatar will kick-off a day earlier than scheduled if FIFA's ruling bureau agree to a plan to hold the opening ceremony and the host nation's first match on Sunday Nov. 20th, a source close to the discussions told Reuters.

The original plan was for the opening ceremony to be held before Qatar's game on Nov. 21 against Ecuador -- which created the unusual situation of two matches being held before the ceremony.

Normally the ceremony is conducted before the kick-off of the first game of the tournament.

The Group A match between Senegal v Netherlands and the Group B match between England and Iran were scheduled to take place before the ceremony on the Monday.

The plan has to be voted on by the heads of FIFA's six regional confederations and president Gianni Infantino but, despite the late notice, is expected to win support.

The switch to a Nov. 20 opening ceremony and game would allow the Senegal-Netherlands match, scheduled for 1300 local time on Nov. 21, to kick off later in the day. The Group B matches on that day, which also include the United States v Wales, would be unaffected.

Another source close to the proposal said the switch could be confirmed as early as Thursday and that the plan was to ensure that fans did not have to pay for any changes to flights or accommodation.

"The financial impact to fans has been assessed and that any additional costs to fans will be absorbed by organisers, but it is unclear who will bear these costs, whether it is FIFA, Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy or another entity," said the source.

'Kohli Has All Tools To Come Out Of Batting Slump'



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Star India batter Virat Kohli is a quality player and has all the tools needed to come out of his prolonged dip in form, said former Sri Lanka skipper Mahela Jayawardene.

Kohli and a fit-again KL Rahul on Monday returned to a 15-member Indian squad for the Asia Cup scheduled to be held in Dubai and Sharjah from August 27 to September 11.

Kohli is enduring his worst slump in form and has not scored a century in international cricket since November 2019.

His last assignment was the England tour where he could

manage just 76 runs from six innings across formats, which included the rescheduled fifth Test, two ODIs and as many T20s in July.

The former skipper was rested for limited over West Indies tour and the upcoming ODIs against Zimbabwe.

"It is unfortunate what Virat is going through right now at the moment, but he is a quality player," said Jayawardene in the latest episode of The ICC Review show.

"I believe Virat has the tools to come out of it (the form slump). He has done that in the past as well and I'm sure he'll come through this. Class is permanent and form is temporary."

NZ Board Release Boult From Central Contract

Agencies

World class fast bowler Trent Boult was released from his central contract with New Zealand Cricket (NZC) at his own request on Wednesday so he can spend less time travelling and more time at home with his family.

The 33-year-old, who has played 70 Tests and 137 limited overs internationals since 2011, will continue to play for his country but have a "significantly reduced role", NZC said.

"This has been a really tough

decision for me ... playing cricket for my country was a childhood dream and I'm so proud of everything I've been able to achieve," Boult said in an NZC statement.

"Ultimately this decision is about my wife Gert and our three young boys. Family has always been the biggest motivator for me and I feel comfortable with putting it first and preparing ourselves for life after cricket."

The left-arm quick has taken 317 Test wickets, 169 in ODIs and a further 62 in T20s.

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