

Of Dreams, Deterrence: Inside J&K's Changing Competitive Exam

Asma Majid

The skies had shed their load after raining hard for four consecutive days. And now the sun was casting hues across, making every car and passerby on the road stop and capture the sublime moment with their eyes and cellphones. Far from this cheery crowd, Haris—seated on the Dal Lake embankment, in one of the secluded corners where lay a mound of pebbles, perhaps for the construction work—looked sombre.

He looked at the mound with a grimace, got hold of a handful of pebbles and started throwing them into the calm lake waters, one after the other.

As the ripples shook his reflection on the water, he had a rattling reality check. He thought of his two-years of physical, mental and monetary efforts, eventually boiled down to nothing.

The Preliminary test of the Combined Competitive Exam (CCE) had turned out to be a disaster for him. Haris had taken a thorough



File Photo

coaching and supplemented it by a hectic self-study schedule.

He had almost alienated himself, sabotaged his social life just

to fulfil his life-long dream of being an administrative officer.

But to his utmost disappointment, an unconventionally difficult exam had put his entire future at stake. And now, sitting by the reclusive corner of the lake, he pondered over how life had turned topsy-turvy after the decisive, yet deceptive exam.

A few sheets of stapled paper in black ink had brought about this saturnine silence to a jolly good fellow like Haris.

While coming out of the examination centre in the bustling

Jammu city, Sumit felt no difference from Haris. His sardonic expression explained it all.

It was for the second time that Sumit's dream of cracking civil services would be left unfulfilled. But unlike Haris, it wasn't his childhood dream.

In fact, Sumit's cousin, a serving Kashmir Administrative Service (KAS) officer and a year and four older than him, had encouraged him to go for the exam considering his potential for the same.

This had ignited a desire in Sumit to see himself **More on P6**

PAHALGAM ACCIDENT HM Shah Meets Injured ITBP Men At AIIMS

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Union Home minister Amit Shah on Saturday visited the AIIMS trauma centre in Delhi and took stock of the medical care being provided to three ITBP personnel injured in a road accident while coming back after completing Amarnath Yatra duty in Jammu and Kashmir.

The critically injured Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force personnel -- constables Balwant Singh, Tsewang Dorje and Bablu Kumar -- were brought to the capital from Srinagar on Friday onboard air ambulance for specialised treatment at the premier health facility.

"The Hon'ble home minister was briefed by the doctors about the health condition of the jawans and future medical procedures being followed. Senior officials of ITBP also briefed the him about the health condition of the injured.

"He wished the injured personnel speedy recovery," a senior ITBP officer said.

Pictures showed Shah standing besides the beds of the jawans and interacting with doctors and senior officers of the paramilitary force.

Seven ITBP personnel were killed while 32 others, including two Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel, were injured when their bus fell into a gorge near Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir on August 16. They were returning to their base after completing the Amarnath Yatra duty. **More on P6**

...Special Status Revocation

Right To Education, 890 Other Laws Made Applicable To J&K: LG

'At The Time Of Tribal Invasion, Women Played A Very Important Role In Keeping The People Together'

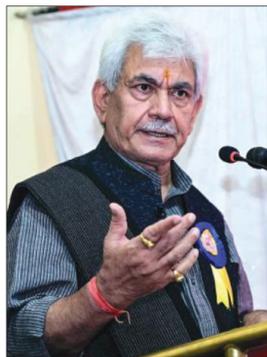
Observer News Service

Srinagar: Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that right to education was applicable in the whole country but it was not implemented in Jammu and Kashmir until August 2019, when the situation changed and it was made applicable along with all 890 central laws.

Sinha made these remarks while attending the annual day celebration at Devki Arya Putri Pathshala, here on Saturday, an official spokesperson said.

Speaking on the occasion, he said, the LG announced that the school, started in 1910, played a pivotal role in providing education to girls from underprivileged sections of society. The school, he said, has ensured greater access to quality education to students.

Stressing that excellence and inclusion is the key to lay the foundation of J&K's future, the LG, as per the spokesperson said there is need for a new thinking in school education. Scientific temper of the students must be developed and one-to-one mentoring should be encouraged to generate curiosity



and creativity.

"Intelligent, reflective and compassionate students would become the engine of innovation & development in all fields," Sinha said.

Lauding the indispensable role of womenfolk, the spokesperson said that the LG stressed that the new generation needs to know that the women of Jammu and Kashmir have contributed in many areas of nation-building.

"At the time of **More on P6**

Felicitates 110 Officers For Yatra Services

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday felicitated officers of Civil Administration, police, Army, CAPFs, NDRF, SDRF, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board for exemplary arrangements and smooth conduct of this year's Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, at the Raj Bhavan. On the occasion, an official spokesperson said, the LG also expressed gratitude towards the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for all the support and guidance, leading to successful Yatra.

"Thankful to the people, civil society, religious & political leaders, medical staff, ponywallahs, pithuwalas, sanitation workers for their support, total dedication to service of pilgrims and ensuring best possible arrangements for their comfort and well being," Sinha said.

Underscoring that Shri Amarnath ji's Yatra is a symbol of the ancient Sanatan tradition of **More on P6**

6 UNDER THE 'AAO SCHOOL CHALE CAMPAIGN', in the last one year, UT administration has enrolled 1.65 lakh children. 'Talaash' app is being used to identify such children who had to drop out of the school due to some reason in the last few years. Till now, 86000 such boys and girls have been identified and now they are being enrolled in schools,"

Top Brass Security In Jammu Discusses 'Terror Threat'

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Amid a spurt in militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir's border districts of Rajouri and Poonch, a high-level security meeting was held on Saturday to devise an action plan to counter the emerging threat, a police official said.

The conference held in Rajouri was attended by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh and senior Army officers among others.

The meeting was convened nine days after two militants

attacked an Army camp in Rajouri, killing four soldiers in a pre-dawn suicide strike that marked the return of 'fidayeen' (suicide) attacks to Jammu and Kashmir after more than three years.

Both the militants, believed to be from the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed, were shot dead.

The official said the meeting was also attended by intelligence agencies, brigade commanders, senior superintendents of police of both Rajouri and Poonch and the superintendent of police (Operations) of Shopian.

"Detailed discussion was held on the recent **More on P6**

IAF Rescues Israeli National From Ladakh

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Indian Air Force on Saturday rescued an Israeli national from a high altitude area in Ladakh as he was suffering from acute mountain sickness and having difficulty in breathing.

Srinagar based army spokesperson in a statement said that today 114 Helicopter Unit received a call for Casevac (Casualty Evacuation) from Nimaling Camp near Markha valley.

The statement reads that Noam Gil, an Israeli national was suffering from acute mountain sickness and was having difficulty in breathing in the high altitude area.

"His oxygen level had dropped to 68%. In view of the severity of his condition, he had to be rescued from this valley which is known for severe turbulent conditions. Led by Wg Cdr Ashish Kapoor, Flt Cdr 114 Helicopter Unit, with Flt Lt Kushagra Singh and Wg Cdr S Badiyaree and Sqn Ldr S Nagpal as no 2, got airborne within 20 minutes for this time critical **More on P6**

Police Raids In Poonch Over Funding Case

The police on Saturday raided multiple locations in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch in connection with a hawala racket that was unearthed with the arrest of two people who were **More on P6**

SHORT TAKES

Soldier Injured In Landmine Blast Near LoC

An army personnel was injured Saturday in a landmine explosion near the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. The landmine went off when a group of soldiers was patrolling a forward area in the Nowshera sector, the officials said. They said the injured armyman was immediately evacuated to hospital. As part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system, the forward areas are dotted with landmines which sometimes get washed away by rains **More on P6**

J&K Logs 315 New Corona Cases

Jammu and Kashmir registered 344 fresh coronavirus cases on Saturday, taking the infection tally to 4,75,768, officials said here. While 49 cases were reported from Jammu division, 295 cases were reported from Kashmir, they said. The death toll due to the virus remained unchanged at 4,779 as no new fatality was reported from the Union territory. There are 2,910 active COVID-19 cases in the Union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,68,079, they said.

School Bus Crushes Girl To Death

An 18-month-old girl was killed after being hit by a school bus in Lankreshpora area of North Kashmir's Bandipora district on Saturday. News agency GNS quoting official sources reported that Ajwa Rashid (18 months old) daughter of Abdul Rashid Khan of Lankreshpora village was grievously injured after being hit by a School Bus. She was immediately rushed to District Hospital Bandipora where she was referred to Srinagar hospital, they said. However, she died on the way, they added. Meanwhile, a police officer while confirming the incident said that the accused **More on P6**

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To Be a Good Manager, You Have to Be a Good Teacher

Ron Carucci | Harvard Business Review

As an early-career leader, one of the challenges you'll inevitably face is the moment you realize that someone on your team is struggling to do something you've asked. Some may be willing to acknowledge their need for help and readily ask for it. Others may not, instead frantically searching the internet for articles or videos to instruct them on how to tackle the task. It's common for newer leaders to make assumptions about what their team can do, giving assignments without fully vetting whether someone has the skill, knowledge, or experience to succeed. Rather than leaving things to chance, effective leaders learn to be good teachers in moments when team members have the confidence and humility to ask, "Can you show me how?" If you want to be an inspired teacher to the up-and-coming professionals you're charged with leading, here's what you can do.

Learn how others learn.

Not everyone learns the same way. Some people need extensive knowledge and preparation to build their confidence before tackling a new task, while others prefer to dive in right away and learn through trial and error. Some people learn well in groups, while others prefer the privacy to learn on their own. There's no one right way to learn, but if you know what your team members prefer, you can tailor your approach to each individual when it's time to offer guidance. How do you figure this out? Just ask. In your one-on-one meetings with your direct reports, for example, you can say, "In the past, when you've learned something new, what's been the best approach for you? Do

you prefer a hands-on experience, or do you prefer some time to think on your own before trying?" Or if you notice someone struggling in the moment, you can simply approach them and ask, "What can I do that would be most helpful to you right now?"

Ask questions to draw out learning needs and reservations.

Great teachers know that learning is not a consequence of teaching, it's a consequence of thinking. As you step into the role of actively teaching, begin by asking open-ended questions to draw out what specifically the person is struggling with. Are there aspects of the task that they have relevant experience with? What skills have they previously developed that they can use right now? Help them make those connections to build up their confidence.

For example, let's say you're working with someone struggling to learn how to write technical content for a non-technical audience, but they've only written for technical readers before. You could ask, "Tell me about a time when you had to explain your work to a friend or family member who didn't understand it. How did you do it? Did you put yourself in their shoes in order to empathize with them? Did you use metaphors to illustrate your points?" By inviting people to reach back into similar experiences, you help them make connections and apply approaches they already understand to their current challenge. They will become a more confident learner and acquire the skill or knowledge at hand through their own thinking rather than only your "instruction." Some people may be hesitant to tackle a task due to the fear of failure. If you sense this is the case, again, rather than offering reassurance, ask questions to draw out their

deeper angst. Help them discover that the nightmare scenario playing out in their head is highly unlikely. Use probing questions to help them reason their own way through a learning challenge, like, "What's the worst-case scenario? What's the best-case scenario?"

Be judicious when comparing your own learning journey.

Letting someone know that you struggled to learn the skill you're now teaching them can sometimes be comforting. It eases the pressure people may feel to "look good" in front of the boss. Stay empathic with your comparison — keep in mind, your struggles are in the past while theirs are current. Be sure that your comparison doesn't inadvertently dismiss the real angst someone is feeling.

For instance, saying something like, "Oh, I fumbled through this pitch process too, but I got through it and so will you," may send the unhelpful message of, "Just be like me and you'll be fine." Instead, you can approach the situation more compassionately by saying something like, "I know this is hard, and the fact that I'm here probably makes it harder. Would it help to hear an experience I had struggling to learn something similar, and how I got through it?" By asking permission to share your story, you demonstrate care and allow them to hear you in a way that suits their situation. You can finish by saying something like, "My intent isn't to make an erroneous comparison of my experience to yours, or imply that my example is worth following. You need to find a way through this that works best for you. I just wanted you to know that you aren't alone in the challenge, and having struggled with this myself, I'm especially sympathetic to what you're going through. I'd like to support you in a way that you'd

find useful."

Demonstrate when helpful.

Sometimes it's helpful to demonstrate for learners how something is done. Always check in with your learner first by asking, "Would it be helpful for me to demonstrate this for you?"

Be sure that you're not conveying: "You should do this exactly the way I do it." Demonstrations of a new skill should enable the learner to bolster their own approach, not simply mimic the demonstrator. After you offer a demonstration, ask your learner, "What did you see that was helpful?" This gives them a chance to focus on specific things they can incorporate into their approach.

Reinforce learning through observation, reflection, and coaching.

Once you've given someone "a lesson," they may be more sensitive to your scrutiny as they practice mastering their new skill or task. Rather than letting their hypervigilance run amok, set expectations about how and when your next observation of their performance will happen. For example, if someone is working on their presentation skills, you don't want them thinking that every time they present, they'll be evaluated. Ask your learner, "Why don't you let me know when you're ready for me to assess your progress" so they feel more in control of their ongoing learning.

Then, having observed them, begin your conversation with their reflections. Ask: "How did you feel that went? What did you feel well? What would you do differently?" These questions will give you insight into how self-aware they are as a learner, and whether they tend to be overly harsh or overly lenient with themselves.

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name 1: Kotak Kanya Scholarship 2022

Description: Under the CSR Project on Education & Livelihood of Kotak Mahindra Group Companies, Kotak Education Foundation invites applications for Kotak Kanya Scholarship 2022 from Class 12th passed girl students, who have secured more than 75% and whose annual family income is less than or equivalent to INR 3,20,000. The scholarship aims to help meritorious girl students from underprivileged sections of society to pursue professional graduation courses from acclaimed universities and colleges.

Eligibility: Meritorious girl students who have secured admission to 1st year graduation programmes in professional courses from institutes of repute (NAAC/NIRF accredited) can apply. Professional courses include Engineering, MBBS, Architecture, Design, integrated LLB, etc. Applicants must have scored more than 75% marks in their Class 12th board examinations. Annual family income must be INR 3,20,000 or less from all sources.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 1.5 lakh* per year
*Disclaimer: Please note, the renewal of the scholarship every year will be at the sole discretion of the Kotak Education Foundation
Last Date to Apply: 30-09-2022
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/KKGS12

Scholarship Name 2: Keep India Smiling Foundational Scholarship & Mentorship Programme 2022-23

Description: Colgate-Palmolive (India) Ltd. is giving young students an opportunity to pursue their academic/career aspirations by providing them with scholarships for education. This scholarship program aims to provide foundational support to individuals, who are deserving and meritorious but may lack the resources to pursue their dreams.

Eligibility: Students who have passed Class 10 with at least 75% marks or Class 12 with at least 60% marks in 2022 board exams are eligible to apply for the scholarship program for pursuing their higher secondary, 3-year graduation, and 4-year professional courses (Engineering/MBBS/BDS Dental) respectively. Annual family in-

come of all applicants must be less than INR 5 Lakhs per annum.
Prizes & Rewards: Selected scholars can avail of scholarship awards of up to INR 30,000 per year for up to 3 years of studies depending on their current level of education.
Last Date to Apply: 31-12-2022
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/KISF6

Scholarship Name 3: Sensodyne IDA Shining Star Scholarship Programme

Description: HALEON India (erstwhile GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare) invites applications for the 'Sensodyne IDA Shining Star Scholarship Programme' to support meritorious and underprivileged BDS students across India.
Eligibility: Open for students pursuing their first-year Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) programme only from government and government-funded colleges. Applicants must have scored a minimum of 60% in their Higher Secondary Education. Successful applicants have to maintain a 60% score in each semester/year to continue availing the benefits for their 4 years course. The annual family income of the applicant from all sources must not be more than INR 8,00,000.
Prizes & Rewards: INR 1,05,000 per year, for 4 years
Last Date to Apply: 31-08-2022
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SSPPS1



Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING BARAMULLA.

E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No: 90/Xen/Rew/Bla/2022-2023 Dated. 18/08/2022

Eligible Contractors For and on behalf of Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on percentage basis from approved and Regd. With J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	EMD AMOUNT	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account	Position of AAA/TS
1	Construction of Fencing around Play Ground Gopalan at Palhalalan H Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Pattan	7.93	300	15860	45days	CEE, DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
2	Construction of fencing at Karata Masjid With Improvement of Road From H/O Ab. Salam Shah to H/O Ab. Razaq hajam Via Hajam Mohalla at Andergam Under ADP	5.70	300	11400	45days	CEE, DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
3	Construction of P/Bund at Different Spots at Tilgam A Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Pattan	4.95	200	9900	45days	DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
4	Development of Play field with Fencing at zangam Buran Zangam B Pyt. Halqa Buran zangam B Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Pattan	6.60	300	13200	45days	CEE, DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
5	Construction of P/Bund at Gamkhul Ward No 6 at Buran zangam B Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Pattan	3.97	200	7940	45days	DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
6	Fencing of Eidgah land at K.P.Sari Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Singhpora	10.48	600	20960	45days	BEE, CEE, DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
7	Improvement of Sumbal canal by way of lining walls at Khanpeth from culvert to onwards Halqa Khanpeth under ADP (PRI) Block Singhpora	5.53	300	11060	45days	CEE, DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded
8	Construction of Boundary Wall with Gate of Govt. M/S at Magary pora Suttanpora A Under ADP (PRI) 2022-23 Block Pattan District Baramulla	4.53	200	9060	45days	DEE	ADP	AAA Accorded

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

Date of Issue of Tender Notice	18-08-2022
Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 18-08-2022 to 01-09-2022 up to 6:00 PM
Bid submission Start date	18-08-2022
Bid Submission End Date	01-09-2022 up to 6:00 PM
Technical Bids will be opened on	02-09-2022 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Baramulla and Financial Bid opening will be declared online.

- The G.O No.238-F OF 2021 DATED:07.09.2021 issued by the Govt (Finance deptt) that the participation in the tendering process of works upto an amount of Rs 3.00 lacs is restricted to the resident of concerned panchayat. In the event of inadequate response to a tender, participation from adjoining panchayat shall be permitted.
- If the Bidder quotes his Bid exceeding the tendering Cost, his bid will be automatically rejected.
- In case of dilemma /confusion, the rate and the unit against any item shown in BOQ, the SOR rate along with its units will be applicable.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of treasury challan/receipt under HEAD 0515 mentioning therein Name of work and NIT No. in favour of the Executive Engineer, REW Division Baramulla (Tender Inviting Authority).
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site at the office of the Executive Engineer, REW Division Baramulla.
- All the Bidders has to deposit Earnest Money (2% of Advertised cost) in shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering as per the Circular of Finance Department.
- The IST Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of allotted cost of Contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days after opening of financial bid and shall be released after successful completion of DLP as per norms. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 3% performance security.

Unbalanced Bid:
7. The successful bidder shall have to deposit an additional performance security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG before award of contract in case the bid of the successful bidder is found to be unbalanced and the following scale shall apply thereto:-

S.No	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz -a- viz Adv. Cost	Additional performance security to be deposited on
1	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2	> 15% upto and including 20% below	5%
3	> 20% upto and including 25% below	10%
4	> 25% upto and including 30% below	15%
5	> 30% below	20%

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- The earnest money/performance security shall be forfeited, if-
a) Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
c) Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

10. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
10.1. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
10.2. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

10.3. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
10.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
10.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Besides, original documents related to bid be submitted physically by the bidder who is declared as LI immediately after opening of financial bid.
10.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid & no documents in terms of hard copies shall be entertained. However, in case of any clarification, the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

10.7. DOCUMENTS TO BE UPLOADED IN SOFT:
Scanned copy of valid registration card along with Latest Renewal, EMD/TR as per NIT, GST, Latest clearance, PAN.
10.8. The earnest money in favour of un-successful/ non-responsive bidders shall be released only after ensuring submission of tender document fee in original, irrespective of Hard copies, failure of submission of tender document fee by the bidder using site shall entail him for blacklisting.

No 817-824
Dated: 18-08-2022

DIPK-8318/22

Executive Engineer,
REW Baramulla

Public Notice

Public Notice I want to change the name of my Hotel bearing Tourism registration number with date as Reg/1/50/TOP (30/07/1989) FROM Hotel Classic, Langanbal Pahalgam to weclome Resort Pahalgam, Langabal Pahalgam. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file the same before the concerned authority within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Riyaz Ahmad Shahdad
S/o Ab Gani Shahdad
R/o Brein Nishat

pd

حاجی عبدالرشید شاہ (پنزو) کا انتقال

اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی آج



خبر انتہائی دکھ اور افسوس ساتھ کہ دی جاتی ہے کہ شہر خاص کے معروف تاجر (نشاط پیشکش اور شاہ سٹیبل کے بانی و مالک) حاجی عبدالرشید شاہ ساکنہ باغ علی مردان خان سرینگر بروز بدھوار 18-08-2022 اس درفانی سے کوچ کر گئے۔ مرحوم کی فاتحہ خوانی اتوار صبح 10 بجکر 30 منٹ پر ان کے ابائی مقبرہ نزدیکی غزالی مسجد ملکہ کھارہ سرینگر میں انجام دی جائے گی۔ اس کے بعد دعائی مجلس ان کے گھر باغ علی مردان میں انجام دی جائے گی۔

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ACB Arrests SMC Ward Officer For Demanding, Accepting Bribe

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Anti-Corruption Bureau on Saturday trapped and arrested a ward officer of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) for demanding and accepting bribe from a complainant.

According to a statement, ACB received a written complaint alleging therein that Ward Officer SMC of Hawal area of Srinagar is demanding Rs 50,000/- as bribe for allowing construction in favour of the complainant.

The statement reads that the complainant requested the ward officer and pleaded for justice, who, however, remained adamant on his demand for a bribe.

"He had asked the complainant to pay a bribe of Rs 20,000 as first installment. However, before paying the bribe amount to the accused person, the complainant approached the Anti-Corruption Bureau for taking legal action against the accused public servant under law," it reads.

It reads that on receipt of the complaint a Case FIR No. 33/2022 U/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered with this Bureau and investigation was taken up.

"During the course of investigation a trap team was constituted. The team laid a successful trap and caught the accused public servant Mohd Maqbool Bhat red handed while demanding and accepting a bribe amount of Rs 20,000 from the complainant as first installment of Rs 50,000."

It further reads that he was arrested on the spot by the ACB team and bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses.

"Subsequently, searches were carried out at different locations associated with the accused. Further investigation into the case is going on," it reads.

Kashmir Chapter Of 'Who Is Hussain' To Hold Blood Donation Camps On August 27

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Kashmir chapter of Britain-based charity organization 'Who is Hussain' is organizing a blood donation camp across the three districts of Kashmir Valley as part of the organization's world-wide blood donation drive.

The blood donation camps will be set up at Imambada Zadibal and Imam Bargah Ayatullah Yousuf Bemina here in Srinagar besides Markazi Imam Bargah Budgam and near Imam Bargah Gamdoo in Bandipora district on August 27.

The non-profit organization has its chapters in 109 cities worldwide including Srinagar where around 25 volunteers have been tirelessly working in order to aware people about Prophet Muhammad's grandson Hussain ibn Ali.

The donation camp is part of the global campaign 'Be a global blood hero' being held across several countries. The aim of the campaign is to set a world record-breaking challenge of collecting 50,000 units of blood on one calendar day.

"We are hopeful that the blood donation drive will evoke an overwhelming response. We for female donors. We don't want anyone to feel uncomfortable while joining us in this noble cause," he said.

Pertinently, WhoIsHussain has taken a series of initiatives over the last few years in Kashmir for the overall development of the society. The prominent NGO held sanitation drives, awareness campaigns besides relief work during the natural calamities. WhoIsHussain also carried out relief work after the outbreak of deadly Coronavirus pandemic in the Valley.



According to Abrar, the Kashmir chapter of WhoIsHussain expects to collect nearly 2500 units of blood during the one day donation drive, much beyond the total capacity of hospitals.

He also said that Salute 72, a local blood donation network, is collaborating with WhoIsHussain in the drive, considered to be the one of the largest blood donation drives held in the Valley.

"We have also made arrangements for separate beds

deprived of such a basic facility as we have to cross a huge distance to avail the facility," one of the residents said.

"We approached the concerned officials several times in this regard, but all in vain. Our repeated pleas have fallen into deaf ears," they said, adding that no ATM, be it J&K Bank or others, have failed to bring respite to the people.

They said that keeping in view the sufferings of people, the authorities concerned should take steps and ensure that the facility is made available for the people so that they could heave a sigh of relief. (KNO)

NMC Increases Four Seats In MD Psychiatry At GMC

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: National Medical Commission (NMC) increased four MD Psychiatry seats at Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar.

As per the letter of intent issued by Member/President, MARB, National Medical Commission (NMC) on 18th August, 2022, a copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the admission for new seats would start from the academic year 2022-23.

"It is to inform that Medical Assessment and Rating Board has reviewed the assessor's report on 16th July, 2022 regarding faculty, their experience, publication, and other teaching facilities including infrastructure available at GMC Srinagar under the University of Kashmir, for an increase of seats in MD (Psychiatry) for the academic year 2022-23," the letter of intent issued by MARB states.

"Four seats have been approved in MD Psychiatry. The commission has decided to obtain undertaking/essential document for the issue of permission for increase in seats in MD Psychiatry with annual intake of 12 seats for the Academic year 2022-2023"



year 2022-2023"

"The applicant should provide all infrastructural facilities in terms of teaching and non-teaching staff, building equipment and other hospital facilities as per National Medical Commission norms".

The letter further states that no student should be admitted to the course till the formal permission of MARB.

"The private medical college should provide a bank guarantee of required amount against the increase of four seats in favor of National Medical Commission, New Delhi valid for three years or till the course is recognized, whichever is later, from a nationalized/scheduled bank as per the NMC/MCI's norms,"

The medical colleges or institutions are also supposed to provide an undertaking to implement the decision regarding the payment of stipends to the PG students similar to PG students of GMCs in their state.

According to the letter, the Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) reserves the right to withdraw/cancel/ revoke the letter of intent/letter of permission if it comes to the notice that the permission has been obtained from MARB by misrepresentation of fact or fraud,"

"It should be incumbent upon the medical college that the information relating to admission should be submitted within the time specified in the circular in this regard issued by this office from time to time".

Qamarabad Residents Demand Installation Of ATM

Agencies

Srinagar: The residents of Qamarabad area of Qamarwari in Srinagar here have demanded installation of Automated Teller Machine (ATM) in their locality, saying that absence of facility is pushing the dwellers to the wall.

Inhabitants said that they are being forced to walk miles to avail the facility as the authorities concerned have failed to install ATM machine within the locality for a long time.

"Hundreds of families live in this locality, but the residents are being

SKUAST Holds Poultry Distribution For Tribal Community

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As a part of the Tribal Sub-Plan under the Indian Council for Agricultural Research supported Poultry Seed Project, Chick Distribution Programme was conducted at Division of LPM, FVSc & AH, SKUAST-Kashmir, Shuhama Campus.

About 40 beneficiaries from the tribal community of Varpach and Dignibal were provided backyard poultry units comprising four-week-old Gramapriya Chicks. Prof Azmat Alam Khan, OSD to Vice Chancel-

lor, SKUAST-K and Prof Islam-Uddin Sheikh, Head Division of LPM chaired the programme. Speaking on the occasion Prof Azmat Alam Khan highlighted the activities being carried out under Poultry Seed Project and sought co-operation from the tribal farmers in implementing the Tribal Sub-Plan activities. He informed that such a programme shall be carried out in other Districts of the Valley and UT of Ladakh as well. Prof Islam-Uddin assured continuous support to the beneficiaries with regards to the healthcare of the birds.

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
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- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

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

PRAYERS	
FAJR	4:26
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	5:18
Magrib	7:17
ISHA	8:42

This Day In History

- 1541- Ottoman Turks under Suleiman the Magnificent capture Buda, the capital of the Hungarian Kingdom. Dominate central Hungary for 150 years
- 1573- Spain begin siege of Alkmaar in the Netherlands
- 1598- Deed of Transfers proclaims Netherlands independence
- 1673- Sea battle at Kijkduin: De Ruyter defeats English & French fleet
- 1703-The Edirne Event: Turkish army removes Sultan Mustafa II, lessening the power of the sultans
- 1808- Battle of Vimeiro: British and Portuguese forces led by General Arthur Wellesley defeat French force under Major-General Jean-Andoche Junot near the village of Vimeiro, Portugal, the first Anglo-Portuguese victory of the Peninsular War.
- 1914- Belgium: German troops occupy Taminnes
- 1914-French offensive in the Ardennes/Sambre
- 1915- Italy declares war on Turkey in World War One
- 1942- World War II: A Nazi flag is installed atop the Mount Elbrus.
- 1943- Japan leaves Aleutian Islands
- 1953- Sultan Sidi Mohammed Am Joessoef V of Morocco deposed
- 1957- 1st launching in Baikonur, Kazakhstan (R7 "Semioroka"-rocket)
- 1965- Gemini 5 launched into Earth orbit (2 astronauts)
- 1968-Radio Prague (Czechoslovakia) at 12:50 AM announces a Soviet led invasion
- 1968- Warsaw Pact forces continue their invasion of Czechoslovakia to end the reform movement known as the Prague Spring

From KO Archives

'Illiterate' Appointed Instead Of Namesake

Mushtaq Aftab

HADURA (BUDGAM) - Even as numerous scandals of fake appointments have surfaced in various government departments over the recent years, incidence of the wrong doing is far from being stamped out. Some diehards still manage to get a job in one or the other department by manipulating records and documents, and by tapping the 'right' person and the 'right' timer.

An illiterate villager has got a government job allegedly by impersonation, and got away with it, assurance of the finance minister to get the wrong undone notwithstanding. In the process, the genuine claimant for the appointment continues to be jobless. Reports said Nazir Ahmad Dar r/o Abdul Kabir Dar R/o Badipore, has passed his 12th (TDC) clam examination. But, it is his namesake in the neighbourhood who, though illiterate, has allegedly got a government job. The only difference between the two is in the names of their grandfathers. While the former's grandfather is named Abdullah Dar, the latter's name is Ahmad Dar.

According to reports, the uneducated Nazir Ahmad Dar was appointed in the horticulture department in 1996. He is posted in the district office at Budgam. Sources in the department said Dar managed to procure the certificates of his educated namesake which he produced in support of his claim. The department did not entertain the genuine claim of the educated Dar.

Though the serious case of alleged swap was brought to the notice of the state vigilance organisations, no action has been taken so far. The educated Dar approached the finance minister, Abdur Raheem Rather, who also happens to be his neighbour. He had assured him to get the right person appointed against the post. However, justice still eludes hint despite lapse of about four years.

In another case, Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar s/o Ghulam Ahmad Zargar r/o Badipore has managed to secure a job allegedly by producing a fake certificate of academic qualification. According to reliable sources, he is barely read up to 4th standard. However, he managed to get a certificate of having passed his 9th class (under metric) examination from the government higher secondary school, Nagam, in 1996 allegedly, through his brother, Abdul Rasheed Zargar, who is a teacher at Badipore.

On the basis of the alleged fake certificate, Zargar was appointed as a peon in the animal husbandry department. He has been working at the veterinary dispensary here for about three years past. Sources said the department did not take any action to unravel the facts and bring the accused to justice even after the matter was brought to its notice.

(Kashmir Observer, August 21, 2000)

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department Zonal Office Srinagar M A Road, Srinagar 190001 J&K T +91 (0)194 248 2658 F +91 (0)194 245 2659 E iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas Mr. Shamim Ahmed, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 04.08.2021 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely M/s K.L.B Props; Mr. Rouf Afzal Khanday/S/o Mohd Afzal Khanday/R/O Gulshan Nagar, Nowgam, Srinagar/Kashmir, to repay an amount of Rs. 14,34,29,123.00/- (Rupees Fourteen crore thirty four lacs twenty nine thousand one hundred & twenty three only) being the balance outstanding as on 30.06.2021 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 17th day of August of the year 2022.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 16,33,06,498.00 (Rupees Sixteen Crore thirty three lacs six thousand four hundred ninety eight only) together with future interest thereon from 01.08.2022 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property
(As per the schedule provided in mortgage deed/latest particulars including any accreditations)
Equitable mortgage of 2 storeyed residential house with land underneath measuring 3 kanals & 10 marlas under Khasra no 3112, Khata no 978 situated at Gulshan Nagar, Srinagar.

Dated: 17.08.2022
Place : Srinagar

Authorized Officer
DIPK-NB-3324/22

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ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

De-controlled traffic

More than 3,500 people were killed and nearly 32,500 others suffered injuries while 360 more were added to the increasing population of the physically challenged as a result of road accidents in Jammu and Kashmir during the past four years. The disturbing figures were given to the upper house of the state legislature by none other than the minister of transport, Mangat Ram Sharma, on Friday. As if he were counting his accomplishments, the ageing minister of the decaying ministry said Rs 31.40 lakh were distributed as ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of those killed in the mishaps during the period. However, suggesting that he was beating about the bush, he said the government had received five proposals from as many non-governmental organizations during the four years offering the moth-eaten department their services to administer road safety awareness packages. Of them, four NGOs were recommended to Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, government of India, for sanction and release of grant-in-aid in their favour. The centre, he said, had sanctioned Rs one lakh to the four NGOs out of which Rs 50,000 each had been released as the first installment during 2004-05. Making the alarming revelations, the minister might have forgotten what he had told the legislative assembly a fortnight earlier: that the graph of road accidents had shown constant decline in the year 2005 in comparison to those in 2004. Responding to a query by a member, he said the number of accidents reported in 2005 was 5,664 as against 6,257 in 2004 recording decrease of 600 incidents. On the overloading issue raised by a member, he evasively responds thus: "The government has taken up the matter of overloading of vehicles with concerned transport groups for increasing the service on Udhampur-Ramnagar route and the State Road Transport Authority would operate the service on the route shortly. Meanwhile, ARTO, Udhampur, is taking care of the situation and has been directed to take action against the lawbreakers as per provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act."

Obviously, the transport minister betrays blissful ignorance of the root cause of road mishaps, a daily occurrence which has been taking a heavy toll on precious human lives. In fact, the local media carry such reports as a staple for their audiences. The four year period during which no less than 3,500 people lost their lives, 360 their limbs while over 32,000 others were wounded in road accidents, Sharma held the transport portfolio. One would have expected him to own moral responsibility for the grim scenario and quit his office, which he holds for the second time, albeit on humiliating terms for the reasons he alone should know. Incidentally, part of the blame should also go to the chief minister who holds the home portfolio under which the traffic control organization falls. Unless he too is nonchalant like his transport minister, the root cause of the road mishaps could be attributed to overloading in public transport vehicles. Although armed to their teeth with fairly deterrent laws, the policemen in blue deployed in the cities of Srinagar and Jammu as also in major towns rarely take any cognizance of dangerously over-crowded buses as if to suggest that the traffic system has been de-controlled and its violations legalized. Not long ago, a bus with 84 passengers drove right from Shangas in south Kashmir's Anantnag district to Damkund way ahead of Ramban in Jammu province, with better part of the route falling on national highway, without being intercepted anywhere by the traffic police, to end up with a nasty accident claiming no less than 45 lives. While the government ordered a probe in the nature of a mere ritual, the axe had fallen on some lower-rung police personnel, that too for a while. By now the good governance merchants must have forgotten the tragedy altogether. In the principal cities, overloading even means an outright denial of cheap transport to the vulnerable sections of the society like women, children, the aged and the infirm, who cannot afford to board a bus which has desperate passengers dangling dangerously from its outer frame, indeed, under the watchful eyes of hordes of unconcerned traffic policemen. It is time the government looked at the problem more earnestly and initiated concrete steps to stem the rot that has seeped deep into the transport and traffic control systems of the state. The chief minister and his predecessor's deputy will have to sit together, summon up their self-proclaimed "zeal" for public service and evolve a people-friendly system sooner than later. Then and then alone can one expect a perceptible reduction in road mishaps.

The article is an editorial from KO's archives and was originally published on April 05, 2007

Nitish's Third About-face

As we look forward to the 2024 polls, Bihar chief minister has once again ditched the BJP. Is he seeing something that other politicians don't?

RIYAZ WANI

For the third time since 2013, Bihar's chief minister Nitish Kumar has switched sides: from the BJP to the RJD, back to the BJP and now back to the RJD. And along the way, Kumar has shaped and dictated Bihar's politics, even while support base of the JD(U), his party, has dwindled. In last year's Assembly polls, JD(U) was the third largest party. But despite that, Kumar was chosen as the chief minister by the ally BJP, lest he goes over to the RJD, the party of Lalu Prasad Yadav which is the largest single party in the state. But true to his form, Kumar eventually did. He is now Bihar chief minister as part of the three-party combine of the RJD, Congress, and his own Samajwadi party.

Where does Kumar go from here? The question has generated a lot of interest. Some analysis of his latest move has focused on its implications for the 2024 general election. Kumar is being touted as a potential opposition leader to take on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking to the media soon after leaving the NDA, Kumar reinforced this view by reiterating his desire to work for opposition unity, a project he couldn't accomplish in his previous stint as a major opposition leader. Would he pull it off this time around? The chances remain moot. In fact, his ability to do so may be more diminished now than ever before. Kumar may continue to be a nationally-known high-profile leader, but the support base of his party in Bihar has considerably depleted, affecting his standing as a credible political opponent to the BJP.

But, at the same time, it would be a mistake to discount Kumar's ability to re-invent himself. He has proved himself as a great survivor while his one-time mentor, Lalu Prasad Yadav has fallen by the wayside. This makes Kumar a formidable challenger to the BJP, should he get his way with the opposition.

During his previous stint as the BJP opponent, Kumar had called for the formation of a Third Front to take on the saffron party in 2019.



Is Kumar seeing something that other politicians don't? Does he, by any chance, see the BJP losing? What appears to be a cakewalk for the BJP could turn out to be an uphill struggle. Who knows, he may be right again. The performance in Bihar, together with that in UP, would be critical to the BJP's retention of power at the centre

It, however, didn't materialize. He also called for a "Sangh-mukt Bharat," twisting PM Modi's slogan of "Congress-mukt Bharat". He was the only leader to craft a secular narrative at the time and got noticed for it. 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 parallel political standing and their own ambitions. For example, leaders like Akhilesh Kumar, Mamata Banerjee, Naveen Patnaik did not get on board. Nor did Congress. Despite efforts, the project of opposition unity turned out to be stillborn, forcing a disillusioned Kumar to return to the BJP despite differences with its ideology, which he saw as the reigning political creed that the splintered and discredited opposition couldn't dislodge.

What has changed now? Does Kumar no longer see the BJP as invincible? There is, so far, no answer to these questions. Kumar reportedly quit the alliance with the

BJP as he suspected the Hindutva party to split JD(U) on the pattern of what was done to Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. This could be true. But Kumar's politics has always been distinguished by its calculations. His persisting survival in politics against great odds makes him more or less an accurate predictor of the short-term political future of the country. In the run-up to 2019, he was convinced that the opposition and particularly the Congress under Rahul Gandhi stood little chance of beating the BJP. So, he went over to join the saffron party.

And now as we look forward to the 2024 polls, Kumar has again ditched the BJP. More so, at a time when the party is entrenched and looks invincible. Is Kumar seeing something that other politicians don't? Does he, by any chance, see the BJP losing? What appears to be a cakewalk for the BJP could turn out to be an uphill struggle. Who knows, he may be right again. The performance in Bihar, together with that in UP, would be critical to the BJP's retention of power at

the centre. With the JD(U)-RJD alliance, the battle for the 40 parliamentary seats of Bihar will become tougher for the BJP. In 2019, the BJP-JD(U) combine won 39 of these seats. And any reduction in the Hindutva party's tally in the UP, albeit unlikely, will affect its chances to retain national power.

But, for now, this is all in the realm of speculation. The opposition is unable to even unite over a governance issue such as inflation, let alone against the BJP. True, Kumar's departure from the BJP gives the opposition a boost, but it is debatable whether this will result in greater unanimity among the opposition ranks. And whether the opposition, at last, has an alternative political narrative. Things on this score are likely to get clearer in the weeks and months ahead.

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

The World From Other Window

World order looks different from Moscow, Beijing

M. K. BHADRAKUMAR

The Chinese Defence Ministry announced today its participation in the Vostok 2022 strategic command and staff exercise in Russia, which is slated for August 30-September 5. The low-key statement in Beijing said China will send some troops and the participation is within the framework of the two countries' annual cooperation plan.

The statement mentioned that "India, Belarus, Tajikistan, Mongolia and other countries will also participate." It said the Chinese participation "aims to deepen pragmatic and friendly cooperation with the militaries of the participating countries, enhance the level of strategic coordination among all participating parties, and enhance the ability to deal with various security threats."

In what can be construed as an oblique reference to the conflict in Ukraine and the big power tensions in general, Beijing stated that the exercise is "unrelated to the current international and regional situation."

Vostok is one of the capstone events of the Russian Armed Forces' annual training cycle to test national preparedness for large-scale, high-intensity warfare against a technologically advanced peer adversary in a multidirectional, theatre-level conflict.

Vostok 2018 involved approximately 300,000 troops — as well as 1,000 fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, 80 ships, and 36,000 tanks, armoured and other vehicles — and was unprecedented in scale. And Russian, Chinese and Mongolian forces were the sole participants and was hyped up as a carefully orchestrated Russian-Chinese military demonstration.

It seems the Chinese participation will be scaled down, notwithstanding the gathering storms on the horizon for both Russia and China. The Chinese announcement comes a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin used exceptionally harsh language to condemn the "Western globalist elites," accusing them of provoking chaos, "fanning long-standing and new conflicts and pursuing the so-called containment policy" in the pursuit of an agenda "to keep hold onto the hegemony and power that are slipping from their hands." Putin alleged, "They need conflicts to retain their hegemony."

The speech while addressing the 10th Moscow Conference on International Security in Moscow on Tuesday, also contained some pointed references to

the Asia-Pacific region. Putin said:

"NATO is crawling east and building up its military infrastructure... US has recently made another deliberate attempt to fuel the flames and stir up trouble in the Asia-Pacific. The US escapade towards Taiwan is not just a voyage by an irresponsible politician, but part of the purpose-oriented and deliberate US strategy designed to destabilise the situation and sow chaos in the region and the world. It is a brazen demonstration of disrespect for other countries and their own international commitments. We regard this as a thoroughly planned provocation."

"They want to shift the blame for their own failures to other countries, namely Russia and China, which are defending their point of view and designing a sovereign development policy without submitting to the diktat of the supranational elites."

"We also see that the collective West is striving to expand its bloc-based system to the Asia-Pacific region, like it did with NATO in Europe. To this end, they are creating aggressive military-political unions such as AUKUS and others."

Significantly, Putin called for "a radical strengthening of the contemporary system of a multipolar world." He said, "All these challenges are global, and therefore it would be impossible to overcome them without combining the efforts and potentials of all states..."

"Russia will actively and assertively participate in such coordinated joint efforts; together with its allies, partners and fellow thinkers, it will improve the existing mechanisms of international security and create new ones, as well as consistently strengthen the national armed forces and other security structures by providing them with advanced weapons and military equipment. Russia will secure its national interests, as well as the protection of its allies."

Notably, however, the Chinese commentaries generally steer clear of bracketing the Taiwan question and the conflict in Ukraine as analogous, as symptomatic of the birth throes of a multipolar world. In a commentary today, the senior editor with People's Daily, Ding Yang once again flagged that the real danger is that the US and China may "sleepwalk into conflict."

He wrote that the US is "like a runaway horse running wildly to the precipice of war," but the

aim is how to profit from a war, or rather "how to profit from someone else's war." Ding took a Marxian perspective that the US policy is driven by the interests of US capital and "Washington sees China as an enemy because it has moved the US chess."

As he sees it, at its core the US strategy is "to squeeze China out of the global market and manufacturing chain." Thus, even with regard to Taiwan, "One of the main aims is to create tensions and further pulling Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company into the US chip siege against China."

Ideology, human rights, etc., are only alibis for the capital competition for markets. Plainly put, it unnerves the US that "Chinese capital is also starting to go global."

Deng is confident that "If we follow the logic of capital development as they see it, what matters is that Chinese manufacturing will eventually push them out of the global industrial chain, leaving them with no money to make and no work to do. So the first thing they want to do is to maximise their share of the Chinese market."

"Then the next thing to do is inevitably to implement a global stranglehold on Chinese capital and Chinese manufacturing." This is where the danger lies, as "the option of war is an inherent part of US capital export and expansion."

But China's advantage is that "in contrast to the historical path of Western capital's global expansion, there is a logic of "common development" behind Chinese capital going abroad."

Interestingly, the government newspaper China Daily reported today that China's holdings of US Treasuries have been further reduced through July, but China is only one of many other countries doing so, including Japan, reacting to the Fed's tightening cycle.

But "the decline may gradually decelerate." The point is, it is "unrealistic" for China to give up on US debt holdings so long as the US Treasuries remain a critical international reserve asset! This is diametrically opposite the revisionist path Russia took.

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

A TERRIFYING TUMOUR TALE: A Woeful Woman's Jaded Journey

Sheikh Arsh

She aimlessly roamed the bustling Iqbal Park Road in Srinagar in one summer day and caught everyone's attention. There was something about that woman with sunken eyes, skinny body and parched face that turned heads around.

But despite her blatant distressed state, she conveniently concealed the signs of the dreadful disease she was carrying inside her head.

The woman's street slog ended when she boarded a bus. Her ensued phone call literally dropped a bombshell inside.

"Tell mother that I'm diagnosed with tumour," she informs someone with an unshakable voice cascading from her parched lips. "I'm travelling to SKIMS and they might admit me for some days. Tell her not to worry."

The inflection in her voice did not complement the seriousness of her situation. It felt like she was someone left with no hope to live and her disease was yet another tragedy she had to experience.

Her indifference narrated an unsaid story that made the people around her perplexed and intrigued to know the reason behind the numbness she poured.

An air of sympathy surrounded the vehicle and passengers started whispering among themselves to get certain answers that they did not expect to ask the stranger or receive answers for.

Upon disconnecting the phone call, she swiftly stretched her near crippled body on the ragged bus seat to find some comfort. She was unexpectedly intervened by a stranger who complained about her uprightness in putting forth her medical condition to the family.

An eerie silence grabbed the surroundings that broke only when she tried to put her emotions into words.

She introduced herself as Zoon—the moon—who wasn't even a pale shadow of her name. She was just a slogger in the swarm that routinely floods the streets of Srinagar.

A native of Budgam, she had left home early morning with her medical reports to meet a doctor in the city. But the results put her into a jaded journey.

She was diagnosed with cancer and was advised to get admitted in the hospital, as soon as possible.

Zoon voiced the tale of her tragedies as if trying to be heard once, even if by strangers. Every word that poured out her mouth detailed her dreadful life.

She adjusted her gown that seemed to slip off her shoulders depicting her sunkenness. The woman impassibly talked about her life that changed 10 years back when her husband divorced her and "kicked her" out of his house for not bearing a child.

Lost in the turmoil of thoughts, she walked on streets—aimlessly—thinking where to take shelter and how to meet the ends in life. It was in this moment a new tragic chapter



“Oblivious of the long-term repercussions of the injury, Zoon said, “I never thought the injury was dormant and would appear years later challenging my endurance yet again.”

huddled her life. She met with an accident and suffered a head injury.

Oblivious of the long-term repercussions of the injury, Zoon said, “I never thought the injury was dormant and

would appear years later challenging my endurance yet again.”

Caught in the ordeals of life, Zoon feared her existence, as she had no shoulder to cry on, and no helping hand to support her. Her circumstances forced her to take a refuge at her parent's home, now dominated by her sister and brother-in-law.

Her only support was her mother who's helpless to a point where she thinks of death as the only solution to her daughter's miseries.

“Che gasikh mei bronth marin (You should die before me),” prays her mother in the hope that her daughter would not be left alone in the cruel world after her death.

The woman's woe had rendered her unrecognizable. She had lost weight, leaving her with bones and a layer of skin.

The final nail in the coffin was a kick in the head by her brother-in-law during a recent family fight.

She found herself hurting at the spot of injury for days to finally consult a doctor.

After a medical examination, she came to know about the life-changing disease she

had been battling with.

Zoon felt lost in the moment but upon looking around in the surrounding with people encircling, she thwarted her lost state of mind and continued her journey all by herself.

“I don't know if the disease is my mother's prayers or curse,” Zoon wondered.

“My mother has seen me struggling for everything in life. And the fact that I will be lonely after her death and might be left on the streets to survive, makes her worried.”

She stopped for a while to regain her draining energy, stared at the ceiling of the bus where she tried to settle her paroxysm of emotions and recollected smilingly how she never failed to shower her nephews with love who have completely abandoned her in the fight for life.

Zoon would celebrate their academic success as a festivity and perform traditional rituals by garlanding them and showering them with sweets.

Traveling alone, walking on streets alone, switching from one vehicle to another to reach the hospital alone, she doesn't hope

“Che gasikh mei bronth marin (You should die before me),” prays her mother in the hope that her daughter would not be left alone in the cruel world after her death

anyone will help her through the pursuit and starts her new battle of life alone and unshakably.

As she found herself tired and exhausted with everything around her and inside her, she abruptly stopped talking. She leaned her head backwards, heaved her leg onto the seat and closed her eyes as if she disconnected herself from the surroundings and escaped the cruel world, leaving the bus in absolute silence.

The author is a multimedia journalist at Kashmir Observer

PENMAN'S NICHE

HEETHERRIAY

Namman Laeji Maenz Gopaeli!

(Tribute to the Kashmiri poetess, Naseem Shafiae-recipient of the prestigious Sahitya Academy Award for her collection 'Na Ts-ai Na Aks'.)

S Sarwar

The Baul* in me wants the whole valley to sing
Seated in front of you amid the big floral ring
Each one of us, merrily, in his or her individual way
To greet you, wish you, hug you, and kiss you today
Would it be so, that your kohli-lined eyes look where I stand
And see what the glinting Iris of my eyes hold in hand
Chosen like Shabri**, yet it is, the only one my heart picked

Many they could be, like Henna dots, bedecking my fingers pricked
Varying in size, in shape, in the degree of scent and in arty hues too
But none I found- Gift, Book, or a Card, in neon lit shops befitting you
To match the elegance, the graceful feminine sensitivity, embodied here
Recognized by all in your “Reflection and Shadow”, ecstatically kissed dear

The single rose that my crazy adoration places, on your feet, in your hand
On your lips, in your hair, my beautiful poetess, O'little Saraswati** of my poetic land

My dyed fingers found it in the recess of my singing heart, subsuming all
Watered by my artless canals, nurtured by my Helios eyes wherewithal
In the dried up Vitasta** land, where few sang by heart for Rahi, says this petty Baul
Rise not to receive it please, I a pigmy and YOU ARE TALL
O' HEETHERRIAY.

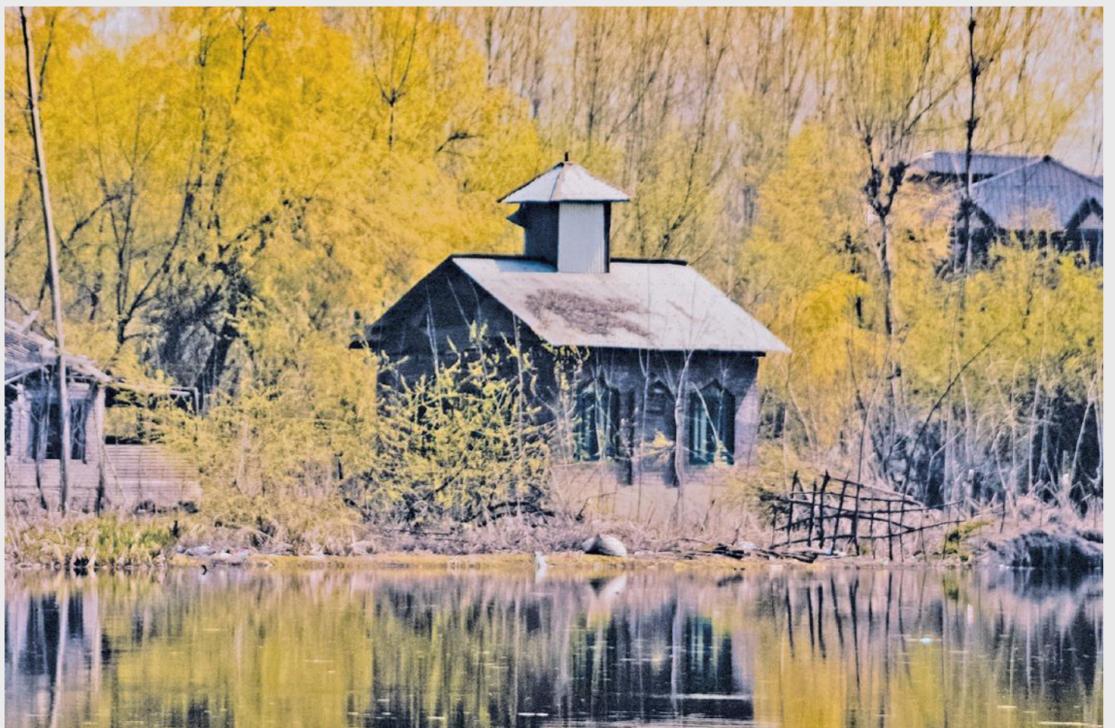
(Notes by the writer; meant for general readers.)

[* Baul : A tribe of this name is said to have existed in India. Bauls are known as Scripture-less Mystics of Celebration; drop-outs who believe in spontaneous singing and dance out of sheer all-encompassing love; that seems crazy to inexperienced people.< Not the deity, Baal- mentioned in ancient phoenician literature >.

** Shabri, Sarswati & Vitasta are linked to Sanskrit & Kashmiri Literature]



KODAK MOMENTS



A solitary hut rests amidst vivacious foliage, surrounded by the famous Nigeen Lake.

Picture Credits: Tauseef Khaliq

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India Has Established Mechanism To Resolve Friction' On Indo-China Border: Lt Gen Kalita

Press Trust of India

Kolkata: India has an established mechanism to resolve any friction related to the international border with China in Arunachal Pradesh, GOC-in-Chief, Eastern Command, Lt General Rana Pratap Kalita said Saturday.

To a question about the past disputes between the two countries on the Sino-Indian border issue along Arunachal Pradesh, the senior army officer told reporters that the particular stretch of border is demarcated by the McMahon Line.

"That border is not marked in the same way as the Radcliff Line which demarcates the Indo-Bangladesh border. The Indo-Bangladesh border is demarcated by Radcliff pillars, everyone knows the alignment of those border areas. The Arunachal border is not demarcated in that way, so there can be differing perceptions (between two sides)...however, we have the established mechanism to resolve all such frictions. There are five agreements which

guide the way to resolve all such frictions whenever those take place," Lt Gen Kalita said.

Two days after the country's independence from British rule in 1947, the Radcliffe Line, a geographical marker was published that demarcated the boundary between India and the newly created dominion of Pakistan.

The senior army officer was in conversation with Air Chief Marshal (Retd) Arup Raha and members of Bharat Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata on security-related issues.

China claims Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet which is firmly rejected by the External Affairs Ministry which has asserted that the state is an inseparable part of India. Beijing routinely protests visits of top Indian leaders and officials to Arunachal Pradesh to reaffirm its claim.

Asked about the threat perception along the Siliguri Corridor or Chicken's Neck in north Bengal in the wake of the Indo-China Doklam crisis in 2017, Lt Gen Kalita said "we are conscious about the importance

of the Siliguri Corridor to the nation as it connects the entire Northeast with the rest of the country and the narrowest part of it is only 20 km.

We have friendly relations with Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan. But the distance from the tip of the corridor to the Chinese territory is over 40 km. We are conscious of the type of threat....Requisite steps are being taken from the security point of view."

The Siliguri Corridor is a narrow stretch of land bordering Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh measuring approximately 170x60 km.

Asked about the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the senior officer said the armed forces and the government of India are aware of the developments and only time can say how it will further manifest itself.

"India is conscious of the dimensions of possibilities, lots of steps have been taken to address the concerns of both sides. Our doctrines have also been reviewed," he said.

The Lt General said Indian

armed forces have also recently ensured "our capability enhancement takes place to cope with any type of challenge from any quarters. We are prepared to face contingencies...Our doctrines have also been reviewed."

On the 'Look East' and 'Act East' policy in the last couple of decades, he said as the first step to bringing peace and stability, there is a need for development and improving connectivity.

"For any sort of development, progress (the) first requirement is connectivity. One way to take forward the Look East policy is infrastructure development. We all need to contribute," he said, adding the infrastructure network has improved greatly in the region.

"The second issue is that of connecting with our neighbours and our armed forces are playing a big role. We have a rapport with the Myanmar army despite a problem persisting there now. We also have excellent ties with Bangladesh," he said.

He said the Look East, Act East policy entails conceptualising

and implementing various steps and promises, policies, and projects which should be taken forward.

On the repeal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act from the entire Northeastern region, he said "it is not a constant thing. It is a dynamic process that is reviewed based on the situation and the ground reality, based on vital parameters. AFSPA has been totally withdrawn in many districts in certain states and partially in some other districts (in the north-east). Such decisions are based on the improvement in the ground situation. Wherever the situation has improved, AFSPA is withdrawn."

On the recent agitation and controversy surrounding the Agnipath scheme, he said "any new, big change coming in does take some time to settle in."

In June this year, the Agnipath scheme, relating to the recruitment of soldiers into the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force on a short-term contractual basis was unveiled.

31 Dead As Heavy Monsoon Rains Inflict Chaos On HP, U'khand; Odisha, Jharkhand Also Hit

Press Trust of India

Shimla: At least 31 people were killed, 22 of them in Himachal Pradesh alone, as heavy monsoon rains triggered flashfloods, landslides, and house collapses, upending normal life across large swathes of the country.

The fatalities included four each in Uttarakhand and Odisha, and one in Jharkhand.

Heavy rainfall in Himachal Pradesh since Friday caused landslides and flashfloods, with officials saying 22 people, including eight members of a family, died. Ten people were injured in the state which has reported 36 weather-related incidents.

As many as 743 roads, including the Manali-Chandigarh national highway at Mandi and the Shimla-Chandigarh highway at Shoghi, have been blocked for traffic.

In Mandi alone, 13 people died and six went missing in flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rainfall, Deputy Commissioner

Arindam Chaudhary said. Those missing are feared dead, he said.

The Chakki bridge in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra collapsed due to heavy rains on Saturday, disrupting train services between Pathankot and Jogindernagar.

In Uttarakhand, a series of cloudbursts early Saturday killed four people, while 10 went missing as rivers breached banks, washed away bridges, and threw mud and waters inside houses, forcing evacuation of multiple villages.

As the gushing waters threatened more damage, a number of roads were blocked for traffic, while all Anganwadi centres and schools were ordered shut in the Pauri district of Uttarakhand.

Rains also pounded parts of eastern India, with Odisha -- already reeling under floods in the Mahanadi river system with around 4 lakh people marooned in 500 villages reporting four deaths, and neighbouring Jharkhand one.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Of Dreams, Deterrence:

as someone who could actually make a change by stepping into the said field.

The last time, owing to an unconventional question paper from the Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC), when Sumit was unable to get through his preliminary examination, his cousin had assured, "You'll crack it in the next attempt for sure. The first attempt is mostly a hit and trial."

Prior to the examination, Sumit had high hopes about it, given his level of preparation and the constant guidance of his cousin.

But hardly did he know that while his preparation was in accordance with the demands of the JKPSC, the latter had raised its standard up a notch and more, touching the heights of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination.

After the J&K Reorganisation Act came into effect on 31st October, 2019, post the annulment of the Article 370 in the same year, the first CCE was held by the JKPSC in the year 2021.

Much to the shock of aspirants, the question paper had shown an abrupt digression from the previous year papers. The level and standard had significantly gone up. The key observations included more reliance on the current affairs and an uneven distribution of questions from the various subjects that an aspirant is ought to prepare.

The bizarre thing though was the question paper demanding an exceptional knowledge of Science which ran contrary to the 'General Science' as mentioned in the syllabus.

Thus, while preparing their students for the upcoming year, the coaching centres and mentors thereby had kept the new standard set in by the JKPSC into consideration.

But considering the response of aspirants to the CCE of 2021, it was even floated that JKPSC had assured of not going out of the box while framing question papers in future. Whether what was floated in the name of JKPSC was true or not, the CCE 2022 was going to decide.

Thus, on the cloudy morning of 31st July, 2022, the many clouded minds of as many as 35000 aspirants were going to get the answer of the one question that had been haunting them for the past several months. The curtain was to be raised and this unveiling was decisive for all except few who were going to appear in the examination for the heck of it.

"As the clock struck 9:30 am and we were asked to open the seals of the question paper, my hands were trembling. As I took a glance at the entire paper, I was sure of not being able to qualify it," exclaims Zarnish while coming out of the examination centre, with a flustered face and a stammering tone.

Shaking his head in utter disappointment, Shakir, another aspirant, makes no bones about the 'change' that has altered the exam.

"It was the toughest question paper ever," he says. "I had consulted the previous year question papers of the last 15 years and they were nowhere close to this one. I felt like I was appearing in the UPSC examination and not the StatePSC one."

In response to the weightage of Science in the paper which was anything but 'General' as mentioned in the syllabus, Gurdeep, a Post Graduate in Plant Sciences, says, "I wonder if JKPSC is planning to produce administrators or scientists! At one point of time, I felt like I am taking test for some kind of a Science Olympiad! Being a student of Science stream, I was unable

to answer most of the questions, and that intrigues me to know about what others might've done!"

After the Paper-I shift was over, the aspirants were looking forward to the Paper-II (which happens to be of qualifying nature only).

The Paper-II aka the CSAT (Civil Services Aptitude Test) paper had never been much challenging and to qualify it was not so difficult a task considering the trend of the previous years' examinations, including that of the year 2021.

While Paper-I had dispirited some of the aspirants, others were stimulated to fight back in the next paper which was to be held in the second sitting of the day.

But then, again, the Paper-II was quite unexpected and hence as hard a nut to crack as the Paper-I for a majority of students, with a difficulty level of easy to moderate.

The second shift was over and scores of students came out of their examination centres grumbling and grouching about the exceptionally difficult exam that had left a disagreeable taste in their mouth.

Talking about this significantly altering-pattern of the CCE conducted by JKPSC and its close proximity with the UPSC exam, an Economics expert in 'Quintessence Classes for Civil Services', one of the reputed civil services coaching institutes of the valley, Tehleel Ahmad refrains from commenting on the JKPSC adopting a new standard in the afore-mentioned scenario.

But he makes it a point to mention that students opt for state-level PSC examinations for a reason. "They [students] know that the standard is much more approachable here (state-PSC) as compared to UPSC," he says.

"In states like Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the state PSC exam is always a level lower than the UPSC exam and a level higher than other state-level exams."

However, commending JKPSC for taking its level of examination at par with the UPSC, Navdeep Singh—manager 'Bajirau IAS/KAS Academy Jammu' and a teacher of Indian Polity—believes that the factual and non-analytical nature of the JKPSC examinations in the past few years have rendered the J&K students incompetent to crack the UPSC-level examinations.

Singh welcomes the new standard ushered in by the JKPSC for its administrative examinations.

Vijay Kumar, a Bio-diversity, Environment and Ecology specialist at the Chanakya IAS Academy (Srinagar Wing), the leading institute in providing UPSC training to candidates all across the country, acquiesces to the fact that because the syllabi of UPSC and JKPSC are the same, students can expect a similar type of pattern but "raising the standard so much and so abruptly does not really go well with the students," he believes.

In response to the excessive thrust of JKPSC on Science since 2021 examination, Kumar believes that such questions are consciously put there as part of a filtering technique, so that students are not able to solve them and the objective of preliminary examination is properly achieved.

Yet, he empathises with the aspirants, especially the ones who lack a Science background: "Now that JKPSC is conducting examination at par with the UPSC level, we need to train our students accordingly."

Seconding Kumar, Ishitiyaq Dar, who happens to be a civil services coach as well as an aspirant himself, identifies with the plight of the students.

"We are not expecting a cakewalk here," he says, "but if the level of our

state-PSC examination has been raised so much, let JKPSC raise the status of the job that the examination eventually aims at as well. Also, while other state-PSCs of the country have an upper age limit of 35, 37 and even 40 years in some cases, JKPSC should also take care of the same in case of J&K where the upper age limit to appear in the said examination is only 32 years. Justice should prevail."

Amid the debate over the changes, Peer Shujaat Amin, a serving KAS officer, believes that time has come to teach youngsters to keep up with the changing times and adapt themselves to the competitive era.

"We need to follow a proper way," Amin says. "New systems and patterns should be ushered in gradually. Only then can they bring about a positive change. Abrupt changes are often fatal."

Meanwhile, a brooding Haris sitting on the Dal embankment continued to throw pebbles in the murky waters. He still wasn't able to come to terms with what had befallen him. All he could think of was his dream that had been dashed to the ground.

While creating ripples in the water, a holler from somewhere around startled him. He looked around to find an old man shouting, "Son, do save some pebbles for what they have been lain there for!"

Haris at once restored the left-out pebbles from his fist to the mound, got up, dusted himself off and walked away.

HM Shah Meets

The border force, primarily tasked to guard the 3,488 km stretch of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, was part of the comprehensive security deployment for the annual 43-day-long Amarnath Yatra that ended on August 11.

Right To Education

tribal invasion, women played a very important role in keeping the people together," the LG said.

According to the spokesperson, the LG also recalled Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, and said that he was a pioneer of women's empowerment and women's education, and believed that women of our country are not less than men in any form and they should be respected as much as men.

Sinha, he said, also observed that in the post-independence years, women were deprived of their rights due to draconian laws.

"Right to Education was applicable in the whole country but it was not implemented in Jammu and Kashmir. After August 2019, the situation changed and it was made applicable along with all 890 central laws," the LG said.

Highlighting the interventions in the education sector of the UT, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that in the last two years, efforts have been made to provide quality education to the children.

"Under the 'Aao School Chalein Campaign', in the last one year, UT administration has enrolled 1.65 lakh children. 'Talaash' app is being used to identify such children who had to drop out of the school due to some reason in the last few years. Till now, 86000 such boys and girls have been identified and now they are being enrolled in schools," the LG said.

"Enrollment levels, which were falling steadily before 2019, have increased within two years. Sustained efforts are being made for Early Childhood Care & Education as recommended by the National Education Policy. Despite the constraints of the Corona, 1.24 lakh children were enrolled for Early Child

Care Education and we have decided that this year, 2000 Kindergartens will be established. This year we have decided that 14,000 girls will be provided NEET coaching on behalf of the administration, the expenditure of which will be borne by the administration," he added.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Mrs Veena Chandhok, Chairperson, DAPP High School, Mrs Kailash Mehra, renowned singer and alumni of the School, and Arnab Sethi.

Felicitates 110

India and one of biggest spiritual festivals for J&K, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that 1 crore 30 lakh citizens of Jammu and Kashmir have wholeheartedly participated in the Yatra and have set a new benchmarks of the rich cultural tradition of the UT.

Lauding the officials for their hard work, the LG, he said, observed that the successful event is the result of team spirit, sacrifice and service by all the officers.

According to the spokesperson, the LG handed over mementos to around 110 Officers for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2022 in recognition of their selfless service.

Sinha, he said, also stated that this successful Yatra has set many new records. Even after being the most weather affected Yatra, around 3.65 lakh pilgrims have successfully performed darshan at the Holy cave owing to efficient planning, immaculate implementation and seamless coordination between all the stakeholders.

"Every person and every pilgrim associated with Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is now the brand ambassador of Jammu and Kashmir and this amalgamation of humanity and spirituality is being discussed in every corner of the country," the LG said.

Sinha, according to the spokesperson, also appreciated the LG Fellows, PRIs for their immense contribution in this year's Yatra.

"The management of cleanliness, water and security has also been commendable throughout the pilgrimage period. The feedbacks we have received from pilgrims are very encouraging," the LG added.

J&K Govt

now eligible to vote. Also, anyone who is living ordinarily can avail the opportunity to get enlisted as a voter in J&K under the provisions of The Representation of the People Act," Kumar told reporters in Jammu on August 17.

He said the projected 18-plus population in Jammu and Kashmir is around 98 lakh while the number of enlisted voters is 76 lakh.

"We are expecting an addition of 20 to 25 lakh new voters in the final list," Kumar had said, adding the officials concerned have been asked to ensure the list is error-free and covers all eligible voters.

He had also said there is no need for a person to have a domicile certificate of Jammu and Kashmir to become a voter.

"An employee, a student, a labourer or anyone from outside who is living ordinarily in J-K, can enlist his or her name in the voting list. The documents will be scrutinised by government officials concerned who will take a decision after being satisfied with the claim," Kumar had said.

The advertisement published in local dailies by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, stated the summary revision of electoral rolls is undertaken by the Election Commission from time to time according to the laid down process.

There is no change in the special

provisions for Kashmiri migrants for their enrolment in the electoral rolls of their native constituencies and the summary revision will cover existing residents of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, it said.

"They will continue to be given the option of voting at their place of enrolment or through postal ballot or through specially set up polling stations at Jammu, Udhampur, Delhi, etc," the advertisement said.

The administration said there have been media reports claiming over 25 lakh voters will be added to the electoral rolls once the revision process starts.

"This is a misrepresentation of facts spread by vested interests. This revision of electoral rolls will cover existing residents of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the increase in numbers will be of voters who have attained the age of 18 years as of October 1, 2022, or earlier," it said.

Mainstream political parties have alleged that "inclusion of non-locals was a clear-cut ploy to disenfranchise the people of Jammu and Kashmir".

To clear the air, the Jammu and Kashmir administration in the newspaper advertisement said the summary revision was to enable eligible young people to register themselves as voters.

Besides, it also allows a person who has changed his residence to enrol at a new location by getting his name deleted from the electoral rolls at the earlier location, it said.

The number of electors in the Special Summary Revision of Jammu and Kashmir state in 2011 was 66,00,921 and the number in the electoral roll of the Union Territory now is 76,02,397, the Information Department said. "This increase is mainly due to the new voters, who attained the age of 18," it added.

The administration clarified there is no change in rules for buying property and getting jobs in Jammu and Kashmir and "have no link to the representation of voters or otherwise".

Welcoming the clarification, Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari said "it was a victory for the people". He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah and said the clarification has put an end to the controversy.

Earlier, the Congress said it will oppose the inclusion of non-local voters in the electoral rolls of Jammu and Kashmir and is mulling a legal challenge.

The move is illegal, claimed AICC J-K in-charge Rajini Patil in Srinagar, adding the Congress will attend the all-party meeting convened by Farooq Abdullah over the issue.

The BJP defended the chief electoral officer, saying his remarks are "legally and constitutionally" correct.

Chief spokesperson of the party's J-K unit Sunil Sethi said under law any citizen of India can choose to be a voter in any area, state or Union Territory, where he or she may ordinarily reside. "The same is being made applicable to Jammu and Kashmir only. Post abrogation of Article 370, there has to be 'One India One Law,'" he said and accused the other parties of trying to project a "wrong picture" while still living in pre-August 5, 2019.

"They are trying to create exceptions in Jammu and Kashmir which is not permissible. People have welcomed the decision (Article 370 abrogation) without exception or reservation. Political parties have to realise it and live with it," he said.

Top Brass Security

trends of the militant activities

in which the intelligence agencies briefed those attending the meeting. An action plan was devised to counter the emerging threat," the official said.

The ADGP also visited Thanamandi and was briefed by SSP, Rajouri, Mohammad Aslam and other officers on suspected movement of militants.

On August 15, militants fired at government forces during a cordon-and-search operation in the Sojan forest area of Samote in Rajouri but managed to escape taking advantage of bad weather conditions.

The official said the ADGP held separate meetings with police officers and gave instructions to each officer regarding their role and responsibilities in countering the militant threat.

In the recent past, the police busted two modules of the LeT instrumental in carrying out militant acts and ferrying drone-dropped weapons from Pakistan to the Kashmir valley.

They also arrested five members of two militant modules, including top commander Talib Hussain.

Police Raids

allegedly routing money to MILITANT outfits Lashkar-e-Taiba and Al Badr, officials said.

Abdul Hamid Mir, a resident of Poonch, and Delhi-based garment trader Mohammad Yaseen were arrested from Jammu bus stand and the national capital on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively. Hawala money worth Rs 24 lakh was recovered from them.

The officials said police have been carrying out searches at multiple locations in Poonch since early this morning.

"The raids are going on and further details are awaited," an official said.

According to police, Yaseen, a resident of Delhi's Turkman Gate, revealed that the hawala money was being routed to India through South Africa and collected in Surat and Mumbai.

He ran a garments business in Meena Bazaar and was the Delhi link to send this money to "terror operatives" in Jammu and Kashmir through couriers, the police had said earlier.

IAF Rescues Israeli

mission," it reads. It added that braving strong winds and turbulent conditions, the formation reached to the spot in about 45 minutes, however, the casualty was in a steady move to lower altitudes.

"After a continuous search of 30 minutes the casualty was spotted at river gorge at valley bottom. The valley being very narrow there was difficulty in manoeuvring the aircraft. The formation leader led in for an approach on an unprepared surface on the valley bottom."

It further said that with the assistance of number 2 holding overhead and proficiency of number 1, the landing was carried out in one of the most restricted spaces ever landed in this particular valley.

"The casualty was emplaned at low hover and the formation got airborne immediately. Being on less fuel, the formation routed back via standby route, braving all the difficulties the formation finally landed at Leh," it added.

Soldier Injured

resulting in such types of accidents, the officials said.

School Bus

driver has been arrested and the school bus has been seized. "Further investigations have been set into motion," he said.

It was not immediately known how the girl was at the spot.

Pilgrimage To Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Resumes

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The yatra to the famous Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district resumed on Saturday morning after remaining temporarily suspended overnight following heavy rains, officials said.

Over 1,500 devotees were allowed to resume the journey on the old track around 6.30 am from Darshani Dodi in Katra, the base camp for the yatra, they said.

However, the Himkotli (battery car) track which is also known as the new track, is still closed due to ongoing clearance operation, even as the helicopter service remained suspended due to bad weather, officials said.

The pilgrimage was temporarily suspended Friday evening following heavy rains in the Trikuta hills. Thousands of pilgrims were present at the shrine when it started raining heavily around 6 pm and continued till midnight.

Several videos shared on social media show flood-like situations on the Vaishno Devi track.

Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Anshul Garg said there was no report of any casualty or damage due to the heavy rainfall.

"We have reached as per our scheduled programme and are ea-

gerly waiting to have darshan at the shrine," Kumar Yogesh, a resident of Madhya Pradesh, said while waiting in a queue of the yatra.

Delhi-resident Rita (45) said she heard about heavy rains at the shrine but still responded to 'Mata's' call. We are shortly leaving for the Bhawan to seek her blessings, she said.

Many pilgrims, however, were disappointed to return to the base camp without 'darshan' amid heavy rains.

"We were asked to return to the base camp by the security personnel. We are staying back to complete our yatra," Joginder Singh, a resident of Haryana, said.

He said panic had gripped the pilgrims on watching the water gushing down the hill but the shrine board management worked overtime for their safety.

The shrine board stopped the upward movement of the yatra from Katra late Friday evening as a precautionary measure in the interest of safety of the pilgrims.

It also accorded priority to yatis, who were holed up in Bhanwan area, to come down towards Sanjichhat and then Katra under close watch of Shrine Board staff, Anshul Garg and CRPF officials.

Disaster Management teams and medical units have also been kept on alert to respond to any emergency.

MeT Predicts Widespread Light To Moderate Rain In J&K



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Weatherman on Saturday predicted widespread light to moderate rains and thunderstorms over Jammu and Kashmir in next 24 hours.

A meteorological department official here said that there was a possibility of scattered light and moderate rains and thunderstorms for subsequent two days in J&K.

Regarding minimum temperature, he said that Srinagar recorded a low of 21.4°C against 18.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 4.0°C

above normal during this time of the year for the summer capital, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 18.8°C against 16.4°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.3°C above normal there, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at 16.3°C against 15.6°C on the previous night and it was 4.1°C above normal for the south Kashmir resort.

Kokernag recorded a low of 17.5°C against 17.8°C the previous night and it was 2.4°C above normal for the place, he said.

Popular tourist resort Gulmarg recorded a low of 11.5°C against 11.2°C on the previous night. It was 0.5°C below normal for the north Kashmir place.

Kupwara town saw a low of 16.1°C against 16.2°C on the previous night and it is normal for the place during this time of the season, the official said.

Jammu recorded a low of 26.7°C against 26.4°C on the previous night. It was 1.9°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 20.8°C, Batote 19.6°C, Katra 23.8°C and Bhadarwah 18.8°C.

2 Militants Arrested For I-Day Grenade Attack In Budgam

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Two "hybrid terrorists" of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) have been arrested in connection with a grenade attack in Budgam on Independence Day in which a civilian from a minority community was injured, police said on Saturday.

On August 15, militants lobbed a grenade at Gopalpora Chadoora in Budgam district in which a person identified as Krishna Kumar sustained injuries. A case was registered at the local police station, an official said.

"Budgam Police cracked grenade lobbing incident on minority at Gopalpora on 15/8/22 in which 1 person from minority was seriously injured. 2 Hybrid terrorists of LeT namely Sahil Wani & Altaf Farooq @ Amir arrested. Vehicle used by terrorists also seized. Investigation going on," the Kashmir Zone Police tweeted on Saturday.

During the investigation in the case, CCTV footage revealed

that two scooty-borne suspects were involved in the grenade lobbing incident, he said.

Many suspects were picked up for questioning and during further investigation, police received information that Sahil Ahmad Wani of Tangnar Kralpora Chadoora was involved in the attack, the official said.

He said Wani was arrested and during questioning, he admitted that he and main conspirator and hybrid militant Altaf Farooq alias Amir of Tangnar Kralpora were involved in the commission of the crime.

A raid was conducted and Farooq was arrested, he said.

During a search, posters of terrorist organisation TRF, incriminating materials and a hand grenade were recovered, the official added.

The scooty used in the commission of the crime has also been seized, he said.

Farooq was found involved in receipt and distribution of funds from the LeT, the official said.

The investigation is at an ear-

lier stage and more arrests and recoveries are expected, he said.

The grenade was thrown at the behest of the LeT and TRF to create an atmosphere of fear in the society, the official added.

"Hybrid" militants is a term coined by the security forces in Jammu and Kashmir to describe those militants who carry out a subversive task assigned to them by their handlers before slipping back into normal life.

Meanwhile, the security forces on Saturday arrested a militant in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir and recovered arms and ammunition from his possession, police said.

"Bandipora police & Army arrested 1 recycled terrorist namely Imtiyaz Ah Beigh @ Ina Bhai S/O Abdul Nawab Beigh R/O Beigh Mohalla Fatehpura, Baramulla," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a tweet.

Incriminating materials, and arms and ammunition, including an AK-47 rifle, two AK magazines and 59 AK rounds, were seized from him.

Rail Traffic In J&K Not Affected By Chakki Bridge Collapse: DTM

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The railways operations remained normal and not a single Jammu Kashmir bound train was affected due to the collapse of a portion of Railway Bridge over the Chakki river in Pathankot, Punjab, officials said here.

According to the Station Director cum Divisional Traffic Manager, Jammu Uchit Singhal departure and arrival of all Jammu Tawi or Katra bound trains remained as per schedule and not a single train was affected due to the bridge collapse.

"We got quarries about the train operations since morning as many social media accounts

claimed that the train route of Jammu was also affected but I would like to clarify that the collapsed bridge was carrying narrow gauge track from Pathankot in Punjab to Jogindernagar in Himachal Pradesh. The Jammu railway track is different and it has not been affected at all," he said.

The DTM further said that the Chakki Railway bridge is already under restoration and operation of the train has been suspended since July this year.

"The railway authorities had already declared the bridge unsafe and train service on the narrow-gauge track from Pathankot in Punjab to Jogindernagar in Himachal Pradesh has been suspended," he elaborates.

AC Approves Land For Police Station Khansahib

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the proposal of Revenue Department to transfer a parcel of land for Police Station Khansahib.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The Administrative Council approved the transfer of land measuring 05 Kanal at Khansa-

hib, district Budgam in favour of the Home Department for construction of Police Station Khansahib.

The upcoming police station will tighten the vigil on all illegal activities in these areas, check security-related incidents, and ensure availability of police personnel to respond to any law and order situation, natural or man-made disaster.

The Administrative Council further directed that the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CTNS) shall be comprehensively implemented in Jammu and Kashmir in next 3 months.

JKJA Organises One Day Refresher Training Programme On 'Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996: Law, Practice And Procedure'

Arbitration As An Extremely Powerful Medium Of Dispute Resolution: Chief Justice



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Judicial Academy (JKJA) under the inspiring vision of Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Judicial Academy) and guidance of Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson Judicial Academy and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal; members of Governing Committee for Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy, Saturday organized One Day Refresher Training Programme on "Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996: Law, Practice and Procedure" for District & Sessions Judges of UTs of J&K and Ladakh.

The training programme was held both in physical as well as virtual mode.

The training programme was inaugurated by Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in presence of Justice Sindhu Sharma who had joined the inaugural session of the programme through virtual mode, from Jammu.

Manish Mehrotra, Advocate, High Court, Lucknow was the Resource Person for the training programme.

In his inaugural address, Justice Pankaj Mithal described Arbitration as an extremely powerful medium of dispute resolution which should be simple, clear, and more responsive to the requirements of the situation.

Chief Justice, while emphasiz-

ing on the importance of the inclusion of an arbitration clause in all agreements and deeds executed between the parties, stressed upon the necessity of developing the arbitration law in India capable of catering to the specific requirements of dispute resolution in the Indian context instead of adopting a foreign model. He stated that it is necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the present law and its usefulness, particularly in small business ventures to realize the objective of dispute resolution through the mode of arbitration.

Manish Mehrotra, resource person of the programme, in his special remarks described arbitration as a parallel system of dispute resolution for dispensing justice although it is more often seen as an alternative mode of dispute resolution. He underscored the effectiveness of arbitration as a medium of peaceful settlement of discords.

Director, J&K Judicial Academy, Shahzad Azeem while welcoming the participant, gave an overview of the programme. He stated that arbitration is a healer of conflicts and is a trusted mechanism for attaining justice and establishing peace. He also stated that arbitration has been a practiced concept of non-judicial dispute resolution much prior to any codified law and is a credible resort for peaceful dispute resolution which must be simple, technical and more responsive to the realities of the situation.

2 Minors Killed In House Collapse In Udhampur

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Two minors were killed after their mud house collapsed due to heavy rains in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said on Saturday.

The mud house collapsed in Tikri block's Samole village during the intervening night of Fri-

day and Saturday. The bodies of both the minors, aged between two months and one-and-a-half years, were recovered by the rescuers, officials said.

They said several other houses in the area were also damaged.

Police and revenue officials are on the spot and further details are awaited.

Tareekh-e-Pampore

Book of Noted Scholar Released Posthumously

Observer News Service

PAMPORE: Six months after the death of noted Islamic Scholar Er Nazeer Ahmad Mir Pampori, his book Tareekh-e-Pampore was released at Shah-e-Hamdan Memorial Trust on Saturday.

Prof G N Khaki- Chairman Markaz-i Noor centre for Shaikhul Aalam Studies University of Kashmir, Prof Shad Ramzan, Dr Sartaj Ahmad Sofi- BGSBU Rajouri, Dr Ather Shahbaz-IUST Awantipora, Dr Tanveer Hayat, Moulana Showkat Husain Keng, Mirwaiz-e Kashmir Moulana Reyaz Hamadani, Syed Hameedullah Haqani, Moulana Jalaluddin Bhat- Chairman SHMT and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Born in Pampore on 26 March 1962, Pampori who has authored scores of books on Islam and Islamic beliefs, died on 19 February this year after prolonged illness.

His book Tareekh-e Pampore

was released before the galaxy of scholars and Ulema. The book covers the social, political and religious history of the Pampore and its adjacent villages.

His friends and disciples said that engineer Nazir's book Jamea Tarikh-e-Pampore is an attempt to awaken the consciousness in the society by presenting facts beyond all prejudices and free from any influence. Sufis, scholars, intellectuals, poets and even majzoobs are mentioned in detail in this book.

They said the book also contains a detailed description of Pampore and its adjoining areas. Pampore's ancient history, geography, climate, gardens, agriculture, business, caste and tribe and ancient monasteries, hermitages, forts and mosques of historical importance have also been mentioned in great detail. The historical background and background of different areas of Pampore are also described in this book.

SVAMITVA Giving Seamless Access To Revenue Records: Govt

Srinagar First District In Country To Achieve 100 Percent Saturation Under SVAMITVA

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The issuance of property cards under SVAMITVA Scheme is going on in full swing across all districts of J&K with an objective of empowering villagers and land owners.

The SVAMITVA is giving seamless access to landowners regarding their revenue records of properties, obviating the dependence on human interface.

SVAMITVA is like a property card with legal sanctity, an authoritative source reflective of record of ownership/possession. The scheme encompassing the length and breadth of the Union Territory involves the use of the most modern technology for surveys, extraction of data and final compilation of the records for public use. These are the latest initiatives in the gov-

ernment of India's reforms in Land Records.

The technology based scheme is changing rural landscape in terms of quick and convenient access to the land owners, especially those living in abadi-deh. The initiative also helps in eliminating corruption and hence, it is another step towards people-friendly, transparent, corruption-free governance as promised to people of J&K.

Notably, Srinagar district has become the first district in the country to achieve 100 percent saturation under the Survey of Villages Abadi & Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) Yojna.

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha while tweeting on the development said that the Srinagar district has become the first

district in the country to achieve 100 percent property cards generation/distribution to the landowners.

SVAMITVA is a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj, launched nationwide by Prime Minister on National Panchayati Raj Day, 24th April 2021 after successful completion of pilot phase of scheme (2020-2021) in 9 states.

The Scheme helps in establishment of clear ownership of property in rural inhabited (Abadi) areas, by mapping of land parcels using drone technology and providing 'Record of Rights' to village household owners with issuance of legal ownership cards (Property cards/Title deeds) to the property owners.

The scheme covers multifarious aspects viz. Facilitating

properties and enabling bank loan; reducing property related disputes; comprehensive village level planning, would be the stepping-stone towards achieving Gram Swaraj in true sense and making rural India Atmanirbhar

The scheme also helps in preparation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by making use of GIS maps besides creation of accurate land records for rural planning and reduce property related disputes.

It also brings financial stability to the citizens in rural India by enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits. It also helps in creation of survey infrastructure and GIS maps that can be leveraged by any department for their use.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION SRINAGAR,
NEAR J&K BANK ZALDAGAR

Telefax No. 0194-2503195 | e.mail Id: xenmidrsrinagar@gmail.com

Sub:- Extension in bidding time for this e-NIT No.19 OF 2022-23, Dated: 21-07-2022 for below mentioned work:-

"Repairs/winding of 425HP capacity, 3 phase, vertical induction motor of pumping unit No. 03 at Lift Irrigation Scheme Marval Stage-II".

Ref:- JK Government official e-Procurement portal Tender ID No :- 2022_IFC_180206_1

EXTENSION NOTICE 2

Due to poor response to this office above referred e-NIT for the subject work, the critical dates are again extended as under:-

Bid submission/ Document download / sale end Date	26/08/2022 at 1400 hrs
Date and time of Bid opening	27/08/2022 at 1400 hrs

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division
Srinagar

No. MIDS/Ts/ 1894-99
Dated:- 18-08-2022
DIPK-8332-22

J&K Sports Council's 'Football School' Begins



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K Sports Council (JKSC) on Saturday kick started its Open Football School for children under the age of 12 with a short training session at Synthetic Turf TRC.

The session saw a considerable number of young football enthusiasts and their parents as JKSC's professional football coaches imparted footballing lessons to the children.

JKSC's 'Open Football School' initiative is part of the Council's Football Academy setup and is scheduled to be held every

Wednesday and Saturday at 4:00 PM at the Synthetic Turf TRC. The cut off age for the trainees is 01-01-2010. Interested guardians/parents/players can avail forms from the Office of the Incharge/Manager Synthetic Turf Football Stadium TRC.

The Football School has a monthly fee of Rs. 500 and requires various documents, including an Aadhar Card of the Trainee, a Municipality issued Birth Certificate, etc.

For further queries, JKSC has asked the interested individuals to contact its Executive Officer at 9419010038.

DYSS Organise Golf Training For 50 Girl Students



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) J&K, Sarmad Hafeez on Saturday inaugurated the first Gold training camp for 2022 at Kashmir Golf Course here.

The first batch of the student golfers started their 15 days of training and other batches shall follow.

Expressing happiness on the occasion, Secretary DYSS, Sarmad Hafeez said that golf is considered by people to be an elite game but the J&K administration is trying to make it available to the common people especially to the children studying in government schools.

"It is a matter of great pride that one of the oldest golf clubs with rich history, will be now available for students," Sarmad Hafeez said,

adding that the students from government schools will experience them along with the nuances of the discipline during the coming 15 days of training.

"The administration is working diligently in creating a flourishing sports culture and providing right platforms to budding sports talents," he added.

Pertinently 50 girl students selected from different government schools of Srinagar district are being imparted training in the game. The Department of Youth Services and Sports is organising these training courses with the help of J&K Tourism Department.

Director SKICC Javid Bakshi, DYSS Officer Srinagar Balbir Singh, senior officials of YSS and Tourism Kashmir, budding golfers and sports personalities attended the launching ceremony.

DYSS Anantnag Holds U-14 Cricket Tournament



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Anantnag on Saturday began its District Level Inter Zonal cricket competitions for Under-14 Boys. The competition kick started

at Sports Stadium Anantnag. Only one match was played on the opening day and saw Zone Mattan lock horns against Zone Qazigund.

Zone Mattan won the toss and elected to field first and won the match by 5 wickets.

AIFF Ban: 'Distraught' Gokulam Kerala Women To Return Home

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: A "distraught" Gokulam Kerala women's team will return home on Monday from Uzbekistan after it was removed from the AFC Women's Club Championships following the FIFA ban on India.

The 23-member team, led by India captain Ashalata Devi, were left stranded in Tashkent for four days since arriving at the Uzbekistan capital on August 16, the day the news of the ban imposed on the AIFF by the world governing body FIFA reached India.

Gokulam, the Indian Women's

League champions, were to play against home side Sogdiana-W in Qarshi on August 23 and against Bam Khatoon FC of Iran in its next round-robin match on August 26.

"Yes, it is confirmed. The sports ministry has told us that its request to FIFA and AFC to allow us to play in the AFC Women's Club Championships has been refused. So, we are not playing. The organisers have also told us that we can't play," Gokulam Kerala president V C Praveen told PTL.

The AFC has also removed Gokulam Kerala's scheduled matches which were earlier there on its website.

India Beat Zimbabwe By 5 Wickets In 2nd ODI



Press Trust of India

HARARE: Sanju Samson produced a responsible unbeaten 43 after a clinical bowling display, led by pacer Shardul Thakur, as India sailed to a five-wicket win over Zimbabwe in the second ODI to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series in Harare on Saturday.

It was not quite a domination like the first ODI but the paltry 162-run target meant that the KL Rahul-led side did not have to sweat much

despite a mid-innings jolt.

Opting to bowl, comeback man Thakur (3/38 in seven overs) brilliantly set it up and became the wrecker-in-chief as the Indian bowlers once again came out on top to skittle out Zimbabwe for 161.

Dhawan and Gill then showed the same flair and authority as they did in the opening ODI, even as the duo batted in different positions this time, posting identical scores of 33.

But the duo could not steer

the team home this time as India endured some anxious moments in the middle following the departure of Dhawan.

Luke Jongwe (2/33) produced a double blow, dismissing Ishan Kishan (6) and a well-set Shubman Gill in successive overs, to reduce India to 97 for four at the drinks break.

With just 65 runs needed from 36 overs, Deepak Hooda and Samson produced a sensible stand of 56-run together to virtually seal the match.

Injured Shaheen Afridi Ruled Out Of Asia Cup

Press Trust of India

KARACHI: Pakistan's lead pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi was on Saturday ruled out of the upcoming Asia Cup and the home series against England with a knee injury, dealing a massive blow to the team's prospects.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said Shaheen has been advised four to six weeks rest by the its medical advisory committee and independent specialists, following scans.

The board said that while Shaheen has been ruled out of the T20 Asia Cup and the seven-match T20 home series against England, he is expected to return to competitive cricket in October with the New Zealand tri-series, which will be followed by the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia.

Pakistan and India meet on August 28 in the Asia Cup at Dubai.

Sri Lanka Name Strong Squad For Asia Cup



Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: Young uncapped left-arm seamer Dilshan Madushanka was handed a maiden call-up as five-time champions Sri Lanka on Saturday announced an 18-member team for the Asia Cup, beginning in Dubai next week.

Besides the 21-year-old Madushanka, the squad, led by regular skipper Dasun Shanaka, also includes Ashen Bandara, who last represented Sri Lanka in July 2021 in a T20I against India.

Charith Asalanka will be the vice-captain of the team, which will begin its Asia Cup campaign against Afghanistan in the tournament opener at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on August 27.

Also returning to the T20I mix is the experienced duo of Dinesh Chandimal and Dhananjaya de Silva, and Jeffrey Vandersay, all of whom missed Sri Lanka's last T20I series against Australia at home in June which the visitors won by a 2-1 margin.

The Asia Cup will also see the participation of seven-time champions India, two-time winners Pakistan and three-time finalists Bangladesh.

SRI LANKA SQUAD:

Dasun Shanaka (c), Danushka Gunathilaka, Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Charith Asalanka, Bhanuka Rajapaksa, Ashen Bandara, Dhananjaya de Silva, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh Theekshana, Jeffrey Vandersay, Praveen Jayawickrama, Chamika Karunaratne, Dilshan Madushanka, Matheesha Pathirana, Nuwanidu Fernando, Dushmantha Chameera, Dinesh Chandimal.

Kane Sets Record As Spurs Beat Wolves 1-0



Agencies

LONDON: Harry Kane scored for the second straight game to secure a 1-0 win for Tottenham over Wolverhampton in the Premier League and maintain his team's unbeaten start to the season on Saturday.

Kane lost his marker near the back post to head in following a flick-on from Ivan Perisic at a corner in the 64th minute.

It was his 185th Premier League goal, moving him into outright fourth place in the all-time list above former Manchester City striker Sergio Agueiro. Only Alan Shearer, Wayne Rooney and Andrew Cole are above him.

The England captain also glanced in a stoppage-time equalizer to earn Tottenham a 2-2 draw

at Chelsea last weekend.

Tottenham has seven points from a possible nine, having opened the season with a 4-1 win over Southampton.

Wolves, who only have one point from three games, started new signing Matheus Nunes in midfield and had the better of the first half to frustrate Spurs and the home fans.

The visitors didn't create any clear-cut chances, though, and Tottenham came more into the game after halftime as Perisic — making his first start since his off-season move from Inter Milan — started to have some joy down the left.

Kane headed against the crossbar from a cross by Dejan Kulusevski and Son Heung-min was denied by a last-ditch tackle after being sent through by Kane's quick free kick. (AP)

Man United Agree Deal To Sign Real Madrid's Casemiro

Agencies

MADRID: Manchester United have reached an agreement with LaLiga champions Real Madrid for the transfer of defensive midfielder Casemiro, the Premier League club said on Friday. United said that the transfer is subject to the agreement of personal terms, British visa requirements and a medical.

Reuters understands that the 30-year-old is to sign a four- to five-year deal at United with wages of

around 16 million euros (\$16.1 million) per year.

British media said United had closed on a deal worth up to 70 million euros for Casemiro, who has 63 caps for Brazil.

Earlier, Real coach Carlo Ancelotti said Casemiro wanted to leave Real to face a "new challenge".

Casemiro's addition will boost United's options in midfield, with Ten Hag currently having only Fred and Scott McTominay as the regular players in that department.

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