

Kashmir Emerging As Popular Wedding Destination In India

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: An extravagant marriage ceremony of a Canada based realtor with a Kashmiri engineer in the picturesque Pahalgam tourist resort has brought to fore the hidden potential of destination weddings in Kashmir Valley, even as more couples have chosen 'heaven on earth' to tie nuptial knot in the coming days.

The journey of Canada based realtor Rajvir Kaur started last year when she met Kashmiri engineer Jaspreet Singh for the first time in the village of shepherds

during a calligraphy camp.

Kaur, who organizes calligraphy camps in many places in the country and abroad to promote Punjabi, found her soul mate in Jaspreet. Over the time, both developed a bond and decided to enter wedlock.

The wedding finally took place on Monday in Pahalgam with as many as 170 guests, including family and friends turning up at the venue to give their blessing to the couple.

"The marriage ceremony was held at the Pahalgam Hotel. The couple had chosen Pahalgam Valley as their



WE ARE ALSO FACILITATING MEETINGS BETWEEN VALLEY hoteliers with the event managers across the country so that more weddings and events can be held in Kashmir."

wedding destination for its pleasant weather and scenic view," Kaur's cousin, Jasmeet, told Kashmir Observer.

The wedlock of Kaur and

Jasmeet has not only brought cheer to the local hoteliers but has also acted as a catalyst for the tourism department to promote Kashmir Valley as a popular wedding destination.

An official of Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department said that the government is now focusing more on wedding tourism in a bid to boost tourism in the Union Territory.

"A number of big fat weddings have been celebrated in Pahalgam and Srinagar. Many more are in the pipeline," the official told Kashmir Observer.

He further said **More on P10**

Govt Sacks Six Absent Doctors From Services

11 Other Told To Join Duties Within 21 Days

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Health and Medical Education Department on Thursday terminated six doctors for unauthorised absence while 11 others have been asked to join duties within 21 days subject to sign a bond that they will serve in J&K for at least 5 years.

The doctors who have been terminated include Dr Mudasar Bashir of Batamalo Srinagar, Dr Muzaffar Mohidin Hakeem of Palhalan Pattan, Dr Shazia Kausar of Rajbagh Srinagar, Dr Ubaid Ali of Chanapora Srinagar, Dr Nowshheen Mir of Hyderpora Srinagar and Dr Imran Khan of Kursoo Rajbagh.

As per order a copy of which lies with the Kashmir Observer, these doctors neither replied to final notice nor reported back for duties except Dr. Ubaid Ali who after completion of course had signed compulsory bond with the Karnataka Government to work there till January 2023, **More on P10**

Amit Shah To Address Public Rally in Baramulla

Agencies

Srinagar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to visit the northern district of Baramulla to address a public rally and to announce a package for OBCs and Pahari community, news reports said here on Thursday.

According to these reports, the Home Minister is likely to visit Baramulla on October 2 and address a public rally of OBCs and Pahari community there. "He will announce a package for the OBCs and Pahari's," the report said.

Shah is most likely to visit Srinagar on the same day and lay the foundation stone for the cancer hospital for which the Waqf Board has **More on P10**

Some People Not Happy With Peace In J&K: DGP

'No Religion Teaches Murder Of Humanity, Killing Of Innocent People'

Observer News Service

Shopian: The Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said on Thursday that the youth of Jammu and Kashmir have witnessed destruction of life & property over the last three decades and it is the time to forget the past and work together in strengthening the prevailing peace to build a better future.

"Some elements are disturbed by witnessing growing peace in Jammu and Kashmir and are making attempts to disturb it," the DGP said, while speaking to the media here on Thursday.

"Besides J&K Police, and other security forces, it's the responsibility of the people to consolidate this peace further," he added.

Maintaining that across the border terrorist training camps and launch pads are still active, the DGP said that infiltration attempts were made from LoC and IB, but Police and security forces have tracked down many of these infiltrators.

"During the current year around three dozen Pakistani terrorists affiliated with JeM & LeT were neutralized which indicated involvement of Pakistan and its agencies in fomenting trouble in Jammu and Kashmir," Singh said.

"Security forces and the people of J&K would continue to work together to foil their evil intentions and further strengthen the peace. I think before winter sets in some more infiltration bids would be attempted," he said.

Earlier, addressing a gathering at police station Zainapora here, the DGP denouncing terrorism and said that we all have to work jointly to stop those who are against the peace, brotherhood and harmony,



"No religion teaches murder of humanity and killing of innocent people," Singh said.

Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary) Home Department J&K, R K Goyal was also present in the function of Thana Diwas, a police spokesperson said.

The DGP, he said, asserted that India is unique in nature in which people of different faiths, castes, and colours are living together, and the youth who have traveled to different parts of the country would know the vastness of flora & fauna of the country.

Singh, he said, also maintained that Pakistan has been sending weapons to drag our youth on the path of destruction.

"With intensified efforts and strong response of J&K Police and CAPFs coupled with rejection by the youth, it is now pushing drugs to harm our younger generation," the DGP said, adding "We have to stand and work mutually to stop this trend too for better tomorrow."

According to the spokesperson, the DGP also said that Police under its social responsibility is running drug-de-addictions centers to help the drug **More on P10**



An elderly woman sorts red chilies left for drying on the terrace of her house in the Old City of Srinagar on Thursday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Banihal Highway To Remain Shut For 4 Hours Daily

Press Trust Of India

Ramban: The Jammu-Srinagar national highway will remain closed for traffic for four hours daily till September 27 to undertake repairs in various landslides prone areas, officials said.

Traffic would be halted from 3 am to 7 am during the repair work, according to the direction issued by Chief Secretary A K Mehta.

To carry out urgent repairs on shooting stone prone NH-44 stretches by NHAI, including Cafeteria Morh-Mehad, the chief secretary called for a four-hour halt of traffic for a period of five days from Friday, he said.

Mehta asked officers to ensure smooth movement of fruit-laden trucks on the highway.

He also asked officers to



complete the double laning of stretches between Banihal and Ramban and its subsequent black topping within a period of 10 days.

The chief secretary underlined the need for creating minimum obstacles for the movement of traffic during the five days and asked officials to halt traffic only during the night when traffic is

lean and minimum.

He asked officials to look for different scientific methods like use of GPS technology and others for better management of traffic and procure road safety gear.

The meeting was informed that the procurement of 213 bikes (one for each police station), 110 Royal Enfield bikes, 23 cranes, **More on P10**

Govt Orders To Hold Salaries Of Striking KP Employees

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has issued orders to stop the salaries of Kashmiri Pandit employees protesting in Kashmir valley for months demanding their relocation to a safer place amid targeted killings of minorities by the militants.

The labour department of Kashmir and additional deputy commissioner, Anantnag, had on Wednesday issued orders to stop the salaries of Kashmiri migrant employees on strike in the valley. In his order, Deputy Labour Commissioner (DLC) Kashmir Ahmad Hussain Bhat directed all assistant labour commissioners across districts in the Kashmir valley to stop the salaries of

these employees for September.

Bhat sought the leave accounts of all the employees of the department and said: "Further, salary for the month of September 2022 should not be drawn in respect of those PM package employees, who have remained absent during the month of September." A similar order has been issued by the ADC Anantnag.

Irate over the orders, striking employees intensified their agitation, which entered 133rd day on Thursday, calling the order a harassment and arm-twisting move to break their agitation.

Amid slogans of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', 'We Want Justice', and 'We Want Relocation', hundreds of employees held protests under the banner **More on P10**

WE HONESTLY PERFORMED OUR DUTY for the last ten years in Kashmir until the selective killings of our employees – like Rahul Bhat – threatened the life and dignity of our community employees in the valley."

Soldier Shoots Self Dead



A soldier on Thursday allegedly committed suicide in South Kashmir's Anantnag district. The soldier, whose name could not be ascertained, shot himself dead with his service rifle at the High Ground area in Anantnag on Thursday evening, reports said. The soldier was associated with the army's 1 Rashtriya Rifles. "The reason behind the soldier taking the extreme could not **More on P10**

26 New Corona Cases In J&K

Jammu and Kashmir reported 26 fresh cases of novel Coronavirus on Thursday, taking the total number of people infected since the onset of pandemic in the Union Territory to 479018. According to officials, 23 new cases of Covid-19 were detected in Kashmir Valley and the remaining three from Jammu division. In the Valley, they said, Srinagar reported the highest 13 new cases of virus, Ganderbal 5, Budgam 4 and Bandipora 1. No new cases were detected in the remaining six districts of the Valley. In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu **More on P10**

Beast Attack Claims Another Minor

Six days after a minor girl was killed by a leopard, a wild animal on Thursday mauled a minor boy to death in Uri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla. 7-year-old Ali Hussain was with his family in Moli Nag Mehak forest area of Dhani Syedian, Uri on Thursday evening when a wild animal attacked and dragged him into the dense forest area, reports said. The family raised a hue and cry but could not save him from the clutches of the beast. Later a police party also reached the spot and started massive searches along with the locals and family. The minor's mutilated body was recovered after thorough searches. Given the nature of injuries, officials said that animal was the leopard.

Man Killed After Sand Mound Caves In

A 35-year-old man was killed when a sand mound caved in at Ashpora area of Handwara in North Kashmir's Kupwara district on Thursday afternoon. News agency GNS quoting official sources reported that one Nissar Ahmad Sofi son of Abdul Aziz Sofi, a resident of Rangpat Ashpora in Langate was buried under an extracted sand mound while he was extracting sand alongside his other colleagues. The individual, they said, was rescued and subsequently evacuated to a nearby health facility, where the doctors however declared him as brought dead. A police official in the meantime also confirmed the death of the individual in the particular incident.'

Teen Student Found Dead

A teenage student allegedly committed suicide on Thursday inside his home in south Kashmir's Pulwama district. 18-year-old (name withheld) was found by his family members hanging from a ceiling fan inside his room in Malwari village of Nawa on Thursday morning, reports said. The family instantly removed the teenager to the district hospital, Pulwama in an unconscious state. However, the doctors there declared him dead, reports said. Meanwhile, Police have taken **More on P10**

Eight Injured After Cab Overturns

Eight people were injured when a taxi cab (Tata sumo) they were travelling in skidded off the road and overturned in Rajouri district on Thursday. News agency GNS quoting official sources reported that the vehicle (JK11-8884) was on its way to Rajouri from Buziaz when it met with the accident near Magi Mohre. Passersby immediately took the injured to nearby hospital where the condition of all of them is stated to be stable. SDPO Thanamandi Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, who along with a police party visited the injured in the hospital, confirmed that eight people suffered wounds in the accident. He said a case has been registered with the concerned police station and further investigations taken up.

Office of the Chairman

Madina Public School Syeedpora (Sopore)

RESOLUTION

In pursuance to the meeting of managing body dated on 01-09-2022 elections were held for the Managing body through secret ballot on 15-09-2022 the following members have been elected for the Managing Body of Madina Public School Syeedpora Sopore

01 Syed Ahmad Rizvi

02 Mrs. Shaheena Begum

03 Ashiq Hussain Wani

04 Mr. Shuja Hussain War

05 Mohammad Ibrahim Reshi

06 Mr Ali Mohammad Reshi

07 Mr. Firdous Ali War

S.NO.	Name	Parentage	Residence	Qualification	Occupation	Designation
01	Syed Ahmad Rizvi	Syed Jawad	Saidpoa, Sopore	B.SC	Retired	Chairman
02	Mrs Shaheena Begum	W/O Ab. Majeed Ahanger	Iqbal Nagar Sopore	B.Sc. B.Ed.	Principal of school	Member
03	Mr. Ashiq Hussain Wani	Ghulam Mohd Wani	Syedpora Sopore	M.A. B.Ed.	Vice Principal	Member
04	Mr. Shuja Hussain War	Mohammad Shafi War	Syedpora Sopore	10+02	Business	Parent Member
05	Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim Reshi	Ali Mohammad Reshi	Saidpora, Sopore	Matric	Business	Secretary
06	Mr. AH Mohammad Reshi	Ghulam Mohammad Reshi	Saidpora, Sopore	MA	Staff- Representative business	Member
07	Mr. Firdous AH War	Abdul Ahad War	Saidpora, Sopore	M.A., B. Ed.		Parent Member

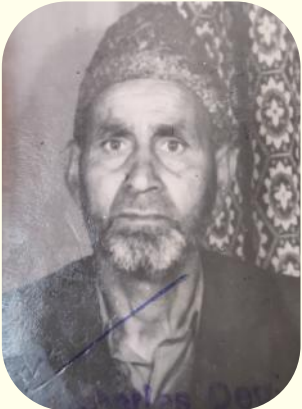
The Managing body resolved to approach the Worthy Director School Education Kashmir for the approval of above cited body.

Chairman

Madina Public School

Syeedpora (Sopore)

mps



Thanks

Thanks giving to all who have shared our grief on the bereavement of our father Late Gulam Nabi Dar Father of Muhammad Shafi Dar, JKAS (now retired as Additional Secretary) on 14th September, 2022.

Thanks once again for making such a generous donation on the name of deceased name which would not go unnoticed as being your thoughtfulness during such times. Your gestures will always be remembered. There are enough words to thank you all for your presence at the funeral at home and for sharing such kind thoughts with us.

We highly thanking you taking the time out to help plan the funeral. Having you all our side during the bereavement/funeral brought our family much-needed confort and solace. Thank You.

Yours sincerely

(Muhammad Shafi Dar

Abdul Hamid Dar

Mehrajuddin Dar

Muhammad Iqbal Dar)

Low self-esteem among reasons for body revealing social media posts, says study

Press Trust Of India

Low self esteem are among the reasons why people use body-revealing social media posts, according to a noted psychologist. There is substantial concern about body image misconstructions and their complex psychological influence during the process of content consumption and creation, said Dr Manoj Kumar Sharma, a professor in National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) here. Sharma, a professor of the department of clinical psychology, service for healthy use of technology at NIMHANS Centre for Well Being, is the corresponding author of a study titled Making the body public: Implications of the new stan-

dards of body, which has been published recently in the 'International Journal of Social Psychiatry'. People with low self-esteem due to poor academics and other reasons use such body-revealing social media posts, Dr Sharma, who also heads SHUT (Service for Healthy use of Technology) clinic at NIMHANS, told PTI on Sunday.

One of such social influencers, who used to take selfies and post on the social media used to get depressed whenever she did not get 'approvals' (read likes and comments), he said. The study said that body revealing videos have problematic effect on the prolonged exposure and sexual appeal is the primary objective of

body revealing and outfit changing videos on short film video content services. Sexual appeal is the primary objective of the body revealing and outfit change videos are widely popular on Short Film Video Content Services (SFVCS), it said. "The similarities between these body revealing videos and softcore

pornographic material are perplexing. Millions of viewers eagerly repeat the amateur videos, often carefully done and edited, according to the study. Watching such videos can exacerbate pre-existing psychological problems such as addiction, social problems, and negative well-being. When a social media influencer poses for the camera, there is a blatant copy of prominent celebrities through similar costumes, make-up, and mannerisms besides video editing tricks, it said. The content creators tend to acquire a 'famous self' status by enacting a fantasied gesture before the camera. Hence, every social media influencer has elevated themselves to micro-celebrity status, the study said.

Google Rolls Out Tool To Let People Remove Personal Info Directly In Search

IANs

Google has started to roll out a new privacy feature that will allow people to directly make a request to remove Search results that contain their personal information. Google's "Results about you" tool, announced during its annual developer conference earlier this year, is now rolling out to some users, reports 9to5Google. With this new tool, if you find your personal information like home address, email address, phone number or any other information on Google Search, just click on the three-dot overflow menu that appears in the top-right corner of each result. The existing 'About this Result' panel opens with a new "Remove result" option appearing at the bottom of your screen, the report mentioned. Currently, to remove any personal identifiable information

(PII), you need to go to a Google Support page and fill out a form containing the URL you wanted to be removed from the search results. Now, you can also monitor the progress of a removal from aResults about you' tool. In addition to an "All requests" feed, you have filters like "In

progress" and "Approved." This page also lets you make a new request with a walkthrough that involves a "Why would you like to remove this result?" step. Google earlier said that when it receives removal requests, "we will evaluate all content on the web page to ensure that we're not limiting the availability of

We will evaluate all content on the web page to ensure that we're not limiting the availability of other information that is broadly useful, for instance in news articles

other information that is broadly useful, for instance in news articles". Removing contact information from Google Search doesn't remove it from the web, "which is why you may wish to contact the hosting site directly, if you're comfortable doing so". Earlier this year, Google updated its policies around removing personally identifying information.

Published Since 1997

KASHMIR


OBSERVER

IS AVAILABLE IN SRIANGAR AT FOLLOWING PLACES

ABDULLAH NEWS AGENCY	AMIRA KADAL	BUDSHAH NEWS AGENCY	AFTAB MARKET
SIKENDER NEWS ANGENCY	AMIRAKADAL	RASHEED GAZALA	LAL CHOWK
GUPKARI NEWS AGENCY	LAL CHOWK	RAFIQ NEWS AGENCY	BATMALOO
KHAN NEWS AGENCY	REGAL CHOWK	MEHRAJ NEWS AGENCY	DALGATE
RASHEED NEWS AGENCY	DALGATE	ASHIQ NEWS AGENCY	GAGRIBAL
IMRAN NEWS AGENCY	KOHNKHAN	SAMA NEWS AGENCY	SHALIMAR
KOHINOOR NEWS AGENCY	NISHAT	WANI NEWS AGENCY	HYDERPORA
SHEIKH NEWS AGENCY	HYDERPORA	AL NOOR NEWS AGENCY	NOWGAM
FAIRDEAL NEWS AGENCY	AIRPORT	BISMILLAH NEWS AGENCY	BAGH E MEHTAB
AL FALAH NEWS AGENCY	NATIPORA	FIDA NEWS AGENCY	RAJ BAGH
FIRDOUS NEWS AGENCY	PIRBAGH	HARMINDER NEWS AGENCY	GOGJI BAGH

TANTRAY NEWS AGENCY	RAJ BAGH	BASHIR NEW AGENCY	NOWHATTA
ARIF NEWS AGENCY	JAWHAR NAGAR	AGA NEWS AGENCY	ALI KADAL
MUSHTAQ KALASH-PURI	KALASHPORA	HABBAKADAL NEWS AGENCY	HAB-BAKADAL
ALTAF NEWS AGENCY	FATEHKADAL	FAROOQ NEW AGENCY	GOJWARA
JEELANI NEW AGENCY	KHAWAJA BAZAR	DAR NEWS AGENCY	QAMAR-WARI
NAZIR NEWS AGENCY	RAINAWARI	CHANDER NEWS AGENCY	BEMINA
KHALID NEWS AGENCY	HAMDANIYA COLONY	JONSON NEWS AGENCY	SEKIDAFAR
BHAT NEWS AGENCY	JAMALLATTA	SHAFAT NEWS AGENCY	HAWAL
BILAL NEWS AGENCY	KAK SARAI	KHALIQ NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
MUZAFFAR ALI NEWS AGENCY	ALAMGIRI BAZAR	BILAL NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
TARIQ NEWS AGENCY	M.K. CHOWK	MUZAMIL NEWS AGENCY	SOURA
GULZAR NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	SUBHAN NEWS AGENCY	SKIMS SOURA
HASAN NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	NISAR NEWS AGENCY	LAL BAZAR
BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	BUCHPORA	BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL
AIJAZ NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL	YASIR NEWS AGENCY	ZAKOORA
FOR ANY QUERY, CALL CIRCULATION DEPTT. : 0194-2502327			

SAD DEMISE



With Profound grief and sorrow, We inform the Sad demise of Ghulam Nabi Baba R/o: Old Fateh Kadal.

Who left for heavenly abode on 20th of September 2022 (Tuesday)

May Almighty Allah accord peace to the departed soul.

His Congregational Fateha Khawani will be held on Friday 23rd September 2:30 Pm at ancestral graveyard Malkha, Srinagar.

Breaved Family

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



SKUAST Research Scholar Bags EU Postdoctoral Fellowship

Observer News Service

Srinagar, Sept 22: Continuing with placements and research endeavours abroad, a yet another research scholar of SKUAST-K bags post-doctoral fellowship at The Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Warsaw Poland under European Union Postdoctoral Fellowship Program.

Dr Mashooq Ahmad Dar hailing from remote area of Pattan in Baramulla district recently completed his PhD research programme on "Genomic Approach for Understanding Salmonella Resistance in Poultry" from the Division of Animal Biotechnology, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, SKUAST-K, Shuhama. Working under the supervision of Dr Syed Mudasir Andrabi, he published his PhD research findings in high-impact international journals like Genomics, BMC Veterinary Research, PlosOne, BMC Genomics, Briefings in Functional Genomics, Poultry Science and Frontiers in Veterinary Science.

SMC Fails To Recruit Drivers For Garbage-Lifting Vehicles

Agencies

Srinagar: Over 200 garbage lifting small-size trucks called 'Hooper' are lying untouched for the past six months in the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) owned yard near Aloochoi Bagh area of uptown Srinagar.

These trucks had been procured by SMC to lift the solid waste material from the interiors of Srinagar city, but due to the non-availability of drivers, these vehicles have not been used for the required services and are lying where they were parked six months ago.

Insiders at SMC said that authorities are pressurizing the Ward Officers to identify those 'Sweepers' who can drive these vehicles so that they can be used to lift garbage from different wards of Srinagar city.

Sources added that not a single 'Sweeper' has shown a willingness to drive these small-size trucks so far.

"We are being scolded by top officials in every meeting. I had even identified some 'Sweepers' for the job but they don't possess driving licenses. How can a Ward Officer get driving licenses for these 'Sweepers' when they don't have one and even are not skilled drivers," one of the Ward Officers said on condition of anonymity.

Insiders added that SMC is reluctant to go for a fresh recruitment drive due to insufficient budget. SMC is keen to avail the services of existing employees and for that matter, it is directing ward officers to identify the 'Sweepers' who possess driving licenses and are skilled drivers.

"Majority of the 'Sweepers' deployed in different wards are amateur drivers without any driving license. Still, if any Sweeper knows the driving and possesses the driving license, he is reluctant to take up the new job. Top officers are shrugging their shoulders and pressurizing ward officers," said an SMC employee.

Efforts to contact Commissioner SMC, Athar Aamir Khan didn't materialize as he didn't pick up the phone. (KNT)

Photography Competition Being Held To Celebrate Legacy Of Artisans

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Department of Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir is organizing a photography competition to highlight the complexity of the Decorative Arts practiced in Srinagar and the entries for it shall be accepted from 22nd September to 30th September 2022 at the Craft Museum, School of Designs.

The event focuses on artifacts produced from the 18th century to present times with a narrative informed by archival documents, family histories, designs and production techniques. The competition carries an exciting range of prizes including Winners, Runners Up and Second Runners Up. Additionally, every participant will receive a participation certificate.

The competition investigates how transmission of the cultural exchange which has steered to the evolution of the phenomena "Kashmir Art". The main aim of the competition is to bring focus on artisans and craft ecosystem of Srinagar city, said the Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir while elucidating the purpose of the event.

He further added that the event in addition to design and production of artifacts focuses on exploring the life of the artisans whose craftsmanship resulted in this artistic production and exchange across diverse themes, regions and continents.

The Department also thanked the private parties sponsoring the event for their co-operation to make the event a success.

The event is part of the activities undertaken after the city of Srinagar being enlisted in UNESCO's Creative Cities Network in 2021. This enlistment essentially recognizes and celebrates the creative genius of the crafts persons, deftness of their skills and their engagement with these creative pursuits against heavy odds, all through the checkered history.

Waqf Plans Cancer Hospital At Eidgah, Srinagar

Amit Shah likely to lay foundation stone on October 2

Agencies

Srinagar: The Waqf Board has identified the land for the much-needed cancer hospital in Kashmir at Eidgah area of Srinagar with Chairperson Darkshan Andrabi stating that the foundation stone of the hospital is likely to be laid by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on October 2.

Andrabi said that the cancer hospital was set to come up near Hazrat Sultanul Arifeen (RA) shrine, but the Department of Archaeology didn't allow the construction of a building there.

However, she said that a huge chunk of Waqf land, which is near about 650 kanals in Eidgah is available. "The encroachment will be removed and 60-80 kanals of land will be kept for the cancer hospital so that the poor and needy people will get some respite," she said, adding that it is the time when the cancer hospital has to come up and if the step is not taken at this juncture, it can never be taken in the future.

Asked about the laying of foundation stone of the Cancer hospital, she



said, "We have requested the Home Minister Amit Shah and it is likely that he will lay the foundation stone of the hospital. We are hopeful that the Home Minister will accept our request and lay the foundation of the hospital," she said.

She further said that the Waqf runs with the charity of people, and the people here always remain ready to give donations. "We have been receiving mails and phone calls about the cancer hospital as the people are ready to donate for the great cause," she said.

Moreover, she said that the shrines are only meant for performing religious obligations and making

the religious places political platform will not be allowed at any cost. "The people visit these shrines to get peace, pray and get blessings. To keep the sanctity of these religious places, it has been decided that no political leader should be allowed to make it a political platform," he said.

"We are trying to set the things correct in the Waqf board and thus the frequent orders are being made with an aim to ensure transparency and accountability in the Waqf," she said.

"We are the caretakers of these shrines and we will take every decision to maintain the sanctity of the shrines," she said.

About the arrest of the religious clerics, she said that the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has been informed about it and the matter will be looked into and the innocents will be freed as happened in the past.

"We also appeal the government to take action against the political leaders, who have been making controversial statements," she said—(KNO)

Bemina Residents Urge Authorities To Macadamize Vital Road

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The residents of Garipora and Hyderia Colony localities of Bemina in the city outskirts have urged the authorities to macadamize roads in the locality. Locals say they have long complained of bumpy rides but authorities have failed to get the roads blacktopped.

The construction of a drainage network in the area has left roads in pathetic condition and with passing of every vehicle walking of pedestrians becomes a nightmare with dust all over the place.

Residents say the one kilometer road stretch from Garipora to Khomeini chowk is in shambles and work on the drainage system is going

at a snail's pace.

The Officials of Srinagar Municipal Corporation, negating such claims, say most of the drainage work has been completed and it is a matter of time that the road will be macadamized.

"The roads had been dug for drainage work, since then the road has been dusty", said Javeed Akhoun, a resident of Khomeini Chowk. "I work at a Bank, I leave the house with properly ironed clothes and reach the office dusty" Javeed said.

"Authorities are delaying macadamization for reasons better known to them" he added.

However, officials say the work on the Drainage is nearing completion and timely macadamization will

put an end to people's woes.

People also complain, due to bad roads Rickshaw drivers overcharge the passengers.

Passengers say, in most cases rickshaw drivers refuse to travel these areas due to bad roads. Even if they agree, they charge heavily.

"For a distance of one kilometer, rickshaw drivers charge fares from Rs 200 to Rs 300. This is sheer injustice" said a female commuter from Khomeni Chowk.

"It is sad that authorities are doing nothing to address the issue" she added.

Kashmir Observer made multiple attempts to contact Regional Transport Officer Kashmir Sajid Yahya Naqash but he did not respond to repeated phone calls.

Aura Aesthetics
ADVANCED DENTISTRY & MEDICAL AESTHETICS
SKIN | HAIR | DENTAL & LASER CLINIC
Our Derma / Cosmetic Services
PRP, MESOTHERAPY FOR FACE AND HAIR, CHEMICAL PEELS, DMC PIXIGENUS MEDIFACIALS, IONOFACIALS, HYDRAFACIALS, CARBON PEEL, TATOO REMOVAL LASER HAIR REMOVAL, SCALP MICROPIGMENTATION, MELASMA, WART REMOVAL MOLE REMOVAL, ACNE TREATMENT, UNDER EYE TREATMENT, MICRO BLADING, BB GLOW, SKIN WHITENING GLUTATHIONE IV DRIPS COLLAGEN/PEPTIDES TREATMENTS AND MUCH MORE
Our Dental Services
Root Canal Treatment & Extraction (Adults & Kids)
Bridges (Crowns)
Restorations (Fillings)
Implants
Smile Designing with Emax Crowns
Veneering(Indirect & Direct)
Teeth Whitening In Office
Scaling
Fixed Orthodontics
Braces and Invisalign
Surgical Tooth Removal
Implants
Pediatric Dentistry
 @AURA_Aesthetics @AURA Aesthetics
For Details Contact: 9797-703533 JAWAHAR NAGAR NEAR J&K BANK

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
26 Safar
1444

PRAYERS

FAJR	4 :56
ZUHR	12:24
ASR	4:45
Magrib	6:32
ISHA	7: 52

This Day In History

- 1408 - Battle of Othée; victory of John the Fearless, duke of Burgundy over Liège.
- 1459 - Battle of Blore Heath in Staffordshire, 1st major battle of the English Wars of the Roses
- 1513 King Henry III & Emperor Maximilian conquer Doornik
- 1739 - Russia & Turkey sign Peace of Belgrade
- 1913 - Serbian troops march into Albania
- 1932 - Abdulaziz Ibn Saud merges the Kingdom of Nejd and Hejaz into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 1941 - General de Gaulle forms government in exile in London
- 1941 - German air raid on Soviet naval base at Kronstadt (battleship Marat sinks)
- 1941 - The first gas murder experiments are conducted at Auschwitz. concentration camp
- 1942 - Soviet counter offensive at Stalingrad
- 1944 - Proclamation No. 30 was issued, declaring the existence of a state of war between the Philippines and the United States and the United Kingdom
- 1949 - US President Harry Truman announces evidence of USSR's 1st nuclear device detonation
- 1950 - Nobel peace prize awarded to Ralph Bunche for mediation in Israel - 1st African American winner

From KO Archives

Beerwah Police, CRPF Taste RR Ire

Cops Accused Of Harboring Militants

Observer News Service

Srinagar- In an unprecedented operation, army carried out a cordon and search operation at a police station in the central Kashmir district of Budgam yesterday. Administration and police authorities have taken a strong exception to the incident which left the police and central reserve police force (CRPF) personnel shell shocked and gripped in fear.

Quoting police, agency reports said troops of 34 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) led by Col T Shashidharan laid siege to the police station at Beerwah at about 6 p.m. yesterday and called out all the policemen and the CRPF personnel from its 197 battalion deployed in a portion there. Six persons lodged in the police lock up at the moment were also brought out.

Accusing the police of harbouring militants in the police station, the army officer told the officials a suspect had entered the premises shortly before. That was why the operation was started, he said. The surprised policemen produced one Ghulam Rasool before him saying he had come to report the theft at his home earlier.

Denying that he was the person who had entered the premises earlier, the army officer allegedly threatened the policemen of torching the police station along with the personnel in the event of any untoward incident there. The entire premises including the police station and the family quarters were thoroughly searched. The operation lasted one and a half hours.

On learning about the incident, the deputy commissioner, Budgam, accompanied by the superintendent of police, visited the police station this morning, primarily to mollify the visibly agitated police officials. They assured them of investigation into the matter and 'appropriate action' against those responsible.

Reports said the RR action has generated fear not only among the police and security forces, but among the local people as well. Residents told API the RR personnel had allegedly made their life miserable. Viewed in light of their action against the police and CRPF, they said, one could easily guess what could be the extent of the harassment they caused to the common people.

It may be recalled the RR camp located next to the police station was stormed by the Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jami'at-ul-Mujahideen groups in a pre-dawn sneak attack on 12th of this month killing about a dozen army jawans and injuring several others before getting killed themselves. An API report had put the toll in the incident at 21. The deputy commissioner, Rohit Kansal, said this evening the army had searched some private buildings adjacent to the police station, including a building "being used by the police for various purposes". The police matter had been taken up with the army authorities at the corps headquarters here and they were enquiring into it.

When contacted, the deputy inspector general of police, Srinagar-Budgam range, K Rajender, confirming the incident, told Observer News Service the matter had been taken up with the army authorities at the corps headquarters here and they were enquiring into it.

(Kashmir Observer, September 23, 2000)

What Is Popular Front Of India - An Explainer Amid India's Largest Raids

Agenceis

Thiruvananthapuram: In 2006, leaders of three like-minded outfits from Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka sat together and discussed the need for forming a pan-India organisation for empowering the Muslim community from their socio, economic and political backwardness.

On the basis of the decision arrived at the meeting held at Manjeri in Kerala's Malappuram district, leaders of the National Development Front (NDF) in Kerala, Manitha Neethi Pasarai in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka Forum for Dignity assembled at Bengaluru few months later and announced the merger of the three outfits, leading to the emergence of the Popular Front of India (PFI).

Sixteen years later, on Thurs-

day, anti-terror probe agency - The NIA or National Investigation Agency and the Enforcement Directorate or ED raided on PFI activists in 11 states and arrested many of them for their alleged terror-related activities following raids, described by officials as the "largest-ever" such exercise.

The outfit protested the "fascist regime's move to use agencies to silence dissenting voices." The PFI claims to strive

for a neo-social movement ostensibly for the empowerment of marginalised sections of India. It is, however, often accused by law enforcement agencies of promoting radical Islam.

After its birth in 2006, Popular Front of India or PFI soon expanded its operations in other states in north, west and east and northeastern parts of the country. It further spread its wings after the merger of various social organisations with it.

The PFI now has various allied organisations including its political arm Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), the student wing Campus Front of India, National Women's Front, an NGO called Rehab India Foundation and a think tank called Empower India Foundation.

Several analysts have traced the roots of the PFI to the NDF,



day, anti-terror probe agency - The NIA or National Investigation Agency and the Enforcement Directorate or ED raided on PFI activists in 11 states and arrested many of them for their alleged terror-related activities following raids, described by officials as the "largest-ever" such exercise.

The outfit protested the "fascist regime's move to use agencies to silence dissenting voices." The PFI claims to strive

a radical Islamic outfit which was formed in 1993, in response to the demolition of the Babri Masjid a year ago.

Founded by former leaders of the banned outfit Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), the activities of the NDF were widely discussed in Kerala following communal riots in Kozhikode district in 2002 and 2003 which saw killings of people belonging to two communities.

Army Begins Process To Erase British Colonial Legacy: Report

Agenceis

New Delhi: In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's directions, the Indian Army led by General Manoj Pande has initiated the process to do away with the colonial practices and names of the units and regiments in the force, reported news agency ANI.

"Some of the legacies, practices which require a review like customs and traditions from the colonial and pre-colonial era, army uniforms and accoutrement, regulations, laws, rules, policies, unit establishment, institutes of colonial past, English names of some units, renaming the name of buildings, establishments, roads, parks, and institution like Auchinleck or Kitchener House," an Army document said.

An Army headquarters official said, "While doing away with the British colonial legacy, it is essential to move away from the archaic and ineffective practices."

He said the Indian Army also needs to review these legacy practices to align with the nation-



al sentiment in consonance with the five vows that the Prime Minister had asked the people to take.

The list of items being reviewed includes the "pre-independence theatre/battle honours, awarded by British to quell the Indian states and freedom and affiliation with Commonwealth Graves Commission," Army officials said. This includes practices like the grant of honorary commissions and ceremonies like beating the retreat and the regimented system.

The names and Insignia in Unit, Crest of Colonial times, along with officers' mess procedures and traditions and customs, would also be reviewed.

RSS Chief Visits Mosque, Cleric Calls Him 'Rashtra Pita'



Agenceis

Taking forward his outreach to the Muslim community, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday visited a mosque and a madrasa here and held discussions with the chief of the All India Imam Organisation who termed him *rashtra pita*.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh sarsangchalak' went to a mosque in central Delhi's Kasturba Gandhi Marg and followed it up with a visit to the Madarsa Tajweedul Quran in Azadpur in north Delhi.

This is the first time he has visited a madrasa, an RSS official accompanying him said.

All India Imam Organisation chief Umer Ahmed Ilyasi used the *rashtra pita* descriptive for Bhagwat while talking to children at the madrasa. However, Bhagwat intervened to say there is only one father of the nation and said everyone is *Bharat ki santan* (child of the nation), according to the RSS official.

He said the RSS chief also spoke to the children about the need to know more about the nation and stressed that while the modes of worship could be different, all religions must be respected.

Ilyasi and Bhagwat held talks for about an hour at the mosque,

which also houses the office of the All India Imam Organisation and the cleric's residence.

"He is a *rashtra pita*." We discussed several issues for strengthening the country," Ilyasi told PTI, adding that Bhagwat had visited the mosque as well as madrasa on his invitation.

"With this visit of Bhagwat, a message should go that we all want to work towards strengthening India. For all of us, the nation comes first. Our DNA is the same, it is just that our religion and methods of worshipping god are different," Ilyasi said, echoing the RSS chief's words.

Bhagwat was accompanied by senior Sangh functionaries, including joint general secretary Krishna Gopal and Muslim Rashtriya Manch patron Indresh Kumar.

In a statement after the visits, RSS Prachar Pramukh Sunil Ambekar said, "Sarsangchalak meets people from all walks of life. It is a part of the continuous general 'Samvad' process."

The significant visits by the head of the BJP's ideological mentor came on a day multiple probe agencies conducted raids across the country and arrested more than 100 activists of the Popular Front of India for allegedly supporting terror activities

in the country.

The RSS chief has been holding discussions with Muslim intellectuals for strengthening communal harmony over the last few weeks.

He recently met Delhi's former lieutenant governor Najeeb Jung, former chief election commissioner S Y Quraishi, former Aligarh Muslim University vice chancellor Zameer Uddin Shah, former MP Shahid Siddiqui as well as businessman Saeed Shervani.

During the meeting, Bhagwat reportedly raised the issue of the usage of the word "kafir" for Hindus, which he said does not send out a good message. The group of Muslim intellectuals, on their part, objected to some right-wing activists calling Muslims "jihadi" and "Pakistanis".

They also reportedly told Bhagwat that the real intent behind the word 'kafir' was something different but it is now being used as an abuse in some quarters.

The RSS chief, it is learnt, acknowledged the views of the intellectuals and underscored that the "DNA of all Hindus and Muslims are same".

The All India Imam Organisation is the representative voice of the community of Indian imams and claims to be the largest imam organisation in the world.

“WITH THIS VISIT OF BHAGWAT, A MESSAGE SHOULD go that we all want to work towards strengthening India. For all of us, the nation comes first. Our DNA is the same, it is just that our religion and methods of worshipping god are different.”

Supreme Court Reserves Verdict On Pleas Against High Court Order Over Hijab Ban

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday reserved its verdict on a batch of petitions challenging the Karnataka High Court judgement refusing to lift the ban on hijab in educational institutions of the state.

On March 15, the high court had dismissed petitions filed by a section of Muslim students from the Government Pre-University Girls College in Udupi seeking



permission to wear hijab inside the classroom, saying it is not

a part of the essential religious practice in Islamic faith.

The state government had, by its order of February 5, 2022, banned wearing clothes that disturb equality, integrity, and public order in schools and colleges.

Several pleas have been filed in the top court challenging the high court verdict.

A bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and Sudhanshu Dhulia reserved its verdict in the matter.

Protest Death Toll Rises In Iran As Officials Accuse Western Nations Of Meddling

Agenceis

Protests in Iran have claimed the lives of at least 10 people, as citizens take to the streets for five days to demand answers for the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini.

The Kurdish woman died in police custody in the hours following her arrest for the alleged improper wearing of the hijab, a mandatory item of clothing for women in the Islamic Republic.

Four security officers were killed overnight on 21 September in different cities; furthermore, at least six civilians have lost their lives during the five days of mobilizations, which began after Amini's funeral.

Authorities have denied that the security forces killed any protesters, suggesting instead they may have been shot by "armed dissidents."

side dozens of other women.

Amini is later seen talking to a female officer before collapsing onto the floor. The footage further shows her being carried away on a stretcher into a waiting ambulance.

On Wednesday, the Director General of Forensic Medicine in Tehran, Mahdi Forosh, confirmed that there were no traces of physical violence or wounds on Amini's head and face, and said "misleading information" had been spread about her.

Speaking with the state-run Tasnim News Agency, Amini's father said his family wants "the perpetrators [to be] questioned in public as to why they did this and to be punished for their actions."

Amjad Amini also denounced those "who seek to exploit the issue of Mahsa's death," saying the family has nothing to do with these groups.



Internet access has reportedly been curbed in several cities, including access to social media applications Instagram and WhatsApp. At the same time, several government websites have come under cyber attack, allegedly by hacker collective Anonymous.

Protests took off in Iran following Amini's funeral on Saturday.

While unverified eyewitness reports in Persian media claim Amini was "beaten" by officers inside a police van, officials released a video showing her entering a police station and sitting along-

On 22 September, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) issued a statement calling the protests "a conspiracy and an absurd attempt that is doomed to failure."

"We expressed sympathy with the family and relatives of the late Mahsa Amini, and we have requested the judiciary to identify those who spread false news and rumors on social media as well as on the street and who endanger the psychological safety of society and to deal with them decisively," the IRGC statement adds.

Ansarallah Claims Yemen Skies Safe Thanks To New Weapons That Can Reach 'As Far As Israel'

Agenceis

Yemeni official told Russia's Sputnik news agency that the skies of Yemen are now safe from aggressions thanks to locally-made missile defense systems and modern drones that were revealed during a massive military parade on 21 September, marking the eighth anniversary of the revolution.

According to the Ministry of Information official in the National Salvation Government (NSG) Tawfiq al-Hamiri, these new weapons - including surface-to-surface, surface-to-air missiles, and air defense systems - will safeguard the war-torn country from airstrikes by the Saudi-led coalition.

The weapons revealed on Wednesday include new generation 'Quds' winged missiles that can reportedly reach into occupied Palestine, and the 'Quds-3' missile, which is capable of evading radar detection and was built "to protect the city of occupied Jerusalem."

In recent months, Ansarallah officials have issued stern warnings to Israel about their role in supporting the Saudi-led war in

Yemen. The resistance's rhetoric hardened after Tel Aviv claimed to have struck a target in Sanaa during its most recent blitz on Gaza.

In matters of air defense, the resistance group unveiled the 'Mi-raj' missile, which can reportedly overcome interference attempts, as well as the 'Saqr' missile, which has a speed of up to 200 meters per second. Furthermore, Sanaa has now developed three different air defense systems that can detect and track hostile targets, as well as the 'Khitaf 2' aircraft which can be used to defend against armored vehicles.

Among the new weaponry revealed by Ansarallah is the 'Waid' drone, which has a reported range of 3000km, and the 'Falaq' missile, a long-range liquid-fueled ballistic missile that can carry several warheads.

The Yemeni navy also revealed its new arsenal, including the 'Red Sea' high-speed missile, which works with two thermal and radar systems, as well as several advanced warships that have high maneuverability and can perform offensive and defensive missions against fixed or moving targets.

NEWS MAKERS

Pakistan's Imran Khan Apologises To Woman Judge Over His Remarks

Agenceis

Islamabad: Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan on Thursday apologised before a top court here for his controversial remarks against a female judge and promised that he will not repeat it in the future.

"I am sorry if I have crossed a red line," Khan told a larger bench of the Islamabad High court headed by Chief Justice Athar Minallah and comprising Justices Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri and Babar Sartar.

The bench was expected to formally indict Khan in contempt proceedings against him for passing controversial remarks against Additional District and Sessions Judge Zeba Chaudhry during a rally here last month.

Khan, who appeared before the court amid tight security, went on to assure the court that "I will not do something like this in the future." The court deferred



contempt proceedings against Khan after he expressed his willingness to apologise to Chaudhry for his controversial remarks.

As the hearing began, the former prime minister and chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party sought permission to put his statement on the record, saying he was barred from speaking at the last hearing.

"I am ready to apologise to the female judge," he told the court. "The court thinks that I have crossed a line. My intention was

not to threaten the female judge. If the court says so, I am ready to personally go to the judge and apologise," the 69-year-old cricketer-turned-politician said.

As he made the plea, Chief Justice Minallah asked if he was ready to visit the female judge to offer an apology then it was enough. "It is your personal decision as to visit the judge in person...If you have realised the mistake and are ready to apologise for it...that is enough," he remarked.

Following Khan's response, the court said that it was "satisfied with the apology rendered by the respondent." Chief Justice Minallah also asked the former premier to submit an "affidavit detailing what you have said" and adjourned the hearing till October 3.

During the rally here on August 20, Khan threatened to file cases against top police officials, election commission and political opponents over the treatment meted out to his aide Shahbaz Gill, who was arrested on charges of sedition.

Congress's Gourav Vallabh Slams Shashi Tharoor, Supports Ashok Gehlot As Party Chief

Agenceis

New Delhi: Congress leader Gourav Vallabh today hit out at Shashi Tharoor over his probable AICC president poll bid, saying his "only major contribution" to the party was to send letters to Sonia Gandhi when she was hospitalized.

In a first indicator of leaders taking sides in the upcoming contest for the top post, Mr Vallabh also voiced support for another likely contender, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who seems to have the backing of the current leadership.

"The choice is very simple and clear," said Mr Vallabh on Twitter.

Mr Vallabh is also a party spokesperson but he asserted his comments were as a Congress worker and not spokesperson.

"Like crores of workers, my first wish is that Rahul Gandhi ji should provide his leadership to the Congress and the country. But if Rahul Gandhi ji remains



steadfast on his decision (of not taking up the Congress chief post) and one has to choose between the two names that are appearing in public discussion, then there is no comparison between the two," Mr Vallabh said.

On one hand, there is Ashok Gehlot who has the experience of being a Union minister, three times chief minister, five times MP, five times MLA, and who has defeated PM Modi-Amit Shah in a direct contest and who has had 45 years of "spotless" political life, Mr Vallabh said.

"On the other hand there

is Shashi Tharoor sahib who has only one major contribution to the party in the last 8 years -- sent letters to Congress President Sonia Gandhi ji when she was hospitalized, this act caused pain to crores of party workers like me. The choice is very simple and clear," he said.

Mr Vallabh's remarks were in reference to the letter sent by a group of 23 leaders, including Mr Tharoor, to Sonia Gandhi in 2020 seeking large scale reforms in the party. The race for the Congress president's post heated up on Wednesday with Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot giving a clear indication that he could enter the poll fray and Shashi Tharoor meeting the party's poll panel chief to enquire about the nomination formalities.

After over two decades, the Congress is set to see a contest for the post of party chief. Ashok Gehlot and Shashi Tharoor are being seen as the likely contenders.

Robbers Uproot ATM in Rajasthan, Steal ₹12 Lakh



Agenceis

Jaipur: Some unidentified persons fled away with an automated teller machine (ATM) having over 12 lakh cash after uprooting it in Rajasthan's Sawai Madhopur, police said on Thursday.

The incident happened on Wednesday night at State Bank of India's ATM in Sarsaunp village, Station House Officer (SHO) Tinu Sograwal said. The persons fled from the spot with the ATM machine having 12.10 lakh cash, the SHO said.

On the bank management's complaint, a case has been registered at Chauth ka Barwara police station, Sograwal said.

The footage of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras installed in the bank is being scanned to trace the robbers, police said.

INSULT TO NATIONAL FLAG

Govt Orders Probe
Against Then Executive
Officer MC Magam

H&UDD directs VC SDA to submit report within 15 days

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir government has ordered an inquiry against the then executive officer, Municipal Committee, Magam over alleged insult to the national flag during the “Har Ghar Tiranga” campaign.

The Housing & Urban Development has appointed Harris Ahmad Handoo, vice-chairman, Srinagar Development Authority, as inquiry officer to hold a detailed inquiry into the misconduct of Syed Aijaz Manzoor, then in-charge executive officer, Municipal Committee, Magam, for insulting the national flag during the “Har Ghar Tiranga” campaign.

‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ was a campaign under the aegis of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” to encourage people to bring the Tiranga home and to hoist it to mark the 75th year of India’s independence. The campaign ended on August 15.

It is worthwhile to mention that district administration Budgam had already ordered an inquiry into the matter and put Syed Aijaz Manzoor under suspension.

According to an order, the Housing & Urban Development Department has directed VC, SDA to hold an inquiry into the matter and submit a report to it within 15 days from the issuance of the order. The order was issued on Tuesday.

“In terms of Rule 33(4) of Jammu and Kashmir (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, sanction is hereby accorded to the appointment of Mr. Harris Ahmad Handoo, JKAS, Vice-Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority, as an inquiry officer, who shall conduct a detailed inquiry in addition to the preliminary enquiry ordered by the deputy commissioner Budgam, into the misconduct of Syed Aijaz Manzoor, the then I/C executive officer, Municipal Committee, Magam for insulting the national flag during the programme of Har Ghar Tiranga campaign at Municipal Committee Magam,” reads the order.

According to the order, Muhammad Rafiq Bhat, Deputy Director (admn), Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir, has been appointed as presenting officer in the case—(KNO)

Children Hospital Bemina
To Function From Sept 26

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The much-awaited 500-bed Children Hospital in Bemina area of Srinagar will be made functional from September 26, officials said here on Thursday.

An official said that all machinery and other equipment have been shifted to the hospital and it will be made functional from Monday, reported news agency KNO.

He said that machinery and all equipment have been installed at the hospital so that the patients won’t suffer.

“From Monday 10 am, OPD and admissions at GB Panth will be closed and at the same time, ad-

mission of patients will start at Children hospital Bemina,” he said.

Notably, work on the hospital was initially started in 2013 but the then chief minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed gave an extension in October 2015 and laid the foundation stone for a 500-bedded Mother and Child Hospital.

In 2019, the government accorded sanction to the conversion of the 200-bedded Maternity Hospital and the 300-bedded Paediatric Hospital into a full-fledged 500-bedded Children Hospital.

After missing several deadlines, the hospital was completed and OPD services started functioning in October last year.

Amit Inspects Mining
Blocks Of Budgam District

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Secretary, Mining Department, Amit Sharma on Thursday conducted an extensive tour of Budgam district to oversee mining operations in different blocks of the district besides getting firsthand account of field activities here.

He was accompanied by a team of officers including Joint Director Geology & Mining Kashmir, Nisar Ahmad, SDM Chadoora, Dr Prince Hamid, DMO, Dr G.D Bhat and others.

Secretary had a tour of major mining areas of Budgam especially Doodhganga stream wherein two blocks are functioning and Shaliganga stream wherein one block is functional after the allotment to concerned leases through e-auction. He took stock of ground position and issuance of e-Challans besides assessing public usage of e-Marketplace to ensure transparency in operations after launch of G2B2C Website geologymining.jk.gov.in.

He directed the officials and all stakeholders that there should be strict adherence to NCT guidelines issued from time to time regarding conduct of Mining activities.

DMO Budgam informed Secretary that 280 Illegal Mining Vehicles including JCB, L&T make

were seized in current financial year till date through which a fine to the tune of Rs. 55 lakh has been imposed and deposited in the government exchequer. DMO further disclosed that most of these vehicles have been seized when some habitual offenders try to transport mining material illegally during night hours.

Amit Sharma directed his team to ensure on spot redressal of genuine public grievances. He appreciated the performance of the officers of the department including the role of SDM Chadoora for taking lead in smooth Mining operations in all three blocks of Budgam district.

Later, Secretary held a detailed meeting with Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Syed Fakruddin Hamid, who flagged few important issues before him.

Secretary issued spot directions to all the concerned officers to address them on a war footing basis. He also asked DC Budgam to extend full support to the Mining teams to check illegal mining especially during night hours ensuring uninterrupted supply of construction material in the form of clay, GSB and aggregates from reserved blocks of the district for ongoing projects of national importance like Ring Road, National Highway, etc.



ARO SRINAGAR CONDUCTED RECRUITMENT for Agniveers for J&K and Ladakh at Haiderbeig, Pattan on Thursday. Commander 10 Sector RR visited the rally site to oversee preparations and conduct. Candidates from Anantnag district were screened on 21 and 22 September for recruitment into the Indian Army. Candidates have been advised to produce 10th class mark sheets in original for entry to the rally site for easy and quick verification.

Corruption Cases Up In J&K,
94 Cases Filed In 2021: NCRB

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Corruption cases in Jammu and Kashmir have seen an increase with 94 cases filed under prevention of corruption and related sections of IPC last year.

According to the NCRB report, there was a continuous decline in the number of corruption cases in J&K from 2018 to 2020. Eighty-two corruption cases were filed in 2018, 73 in 2019 and 71 in 2020. But the cases jumped to 94 in 2021, reflecting an upward trend in graft cases.

According to the data, the cases registered by Anti Corrup-

tion Bureau, vigilance and other agencies include 29 trap cases, 15 cases of disproportionate assets, two cases of criminal misconduct and 48 other cases.

It said that 386 cases of corruption were pending in J&K by end of 2020 besides that four cases were reopened for investigation, two cases were transferred to other state or agency, in 29 cases final reports have been submitted, 55 cases have been chargesheeted and 398 cases were pending by end of year 2021.

The data said that three cases were convicted, seven cases ac-

quitted, trials of 10 cases completed, 16 cases disposed of by courts, 606 cases pending for trials and with that conviction rate is 30 percent and pendency percentage is 97 percent.

It said that under action taken by the court, 384 persons have been arrested in J&K, 342 persons charge-sheeted, 3 persons convicted and 18 acquitted.

Under departmental action, no person has been dismissed from service on corruption charges in J&K while just three persons were imprisoned or awarded major punishment, it said—(KNO)

MeT Predicts Isolated To Scattered
Light Rain In J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Weather department here on Thursday forecast isolated to scattered light rain and thundershowers during the weekend in Jammu and Kashmir.

A meteorological department here said that while rain eluded Kashmir valley in the last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, Jammu district received 10.2mm, Katra 0.8mm and Bhaderwah 1.9mm.

Regarding the minimum temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 13.°C against 15.2°C on the previous night.

The temperature was 1.4°C above normal for the summer capital during this time of the year, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 11.0°C against 13.8°C on the previous night. The temperature was 0.7°C above normal there, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at 7.8°C against 11.6°C on the previous night and it was normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 12.2°C against 14.2°C the previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal for the place, he said.

World famous Gulmarg resort recorded a low of 7.5°C against 8.0°C on the previous night. It was 0.4°C below normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at 10.7°C against 10.8°C on the previous night, the official said. It was 0.5°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 22.5°C against 25.1°C on the previous night. It was 0.9°C above normal for J&K’s winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 11.4°C, Batote 14.1°C, Katra 20.2°C and Bhadarwah 13.4°C. (GNS)

Advisor Bhatnagar Reviews Winter
Preparedness Of Various Govt DeptsDirects Officers To Adopt Meticulous Approach For Effective
Implementation Of Snow Clearance Action Plan

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Thursday chaired a high level meeting to review the winter preparedness and logistic arrangements of different road agencies in view of coming winter season at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, PW (R&B), Shailendra Kumar; Commissioner SMC, Athar Amir; Chief Engineer, Mechanical Engineering department (MED), Jammu/Kashmir, Chief Engineer, PMG-SY, Jammu/Kashmir, Chief Engineer, Mughal Road, Regional Officer, NHAI, representatives of NHIDCL, BRO and other agencies both in person and through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Advisor held detailed review of Snow Clearance Action plan of all road agencies and also took stock of other logistics required for successful implementation of the plan.

Addressing the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar directed the concerned officers to adopt a meticulous approach to address the requirements th general public; particularly those living in critical and snow bound areas. He asked the officers to take personal interests while working in the field and be responsive to general public for addressing their genuine concerns.

Laying special emphasis on ensuring uninterrupted road connectivity during winters, Advisor Bhatnagar directed



the officers to deploy the snow clearing machinery and equipments for snow clearance in critical habitations well in advance so as to avoid any exigency due to uneven snowfall.

The Advisor also stressed upon the officers of road agencies to work in coordination and synergy while implementing the plan and no lackadaisical approach will be entertained while carrying out required works under the plan. He also enjoined upon the officers to procure the necessary machinery by the end of October for timely deployment.

Highlighting the need for training of field staff, Advisor Bhatnagar impressed upon the officers that a short refresher training course for the field staff should be organised for better on the ground management. He also asked the officers to organise training for drivers and associates of the high end machines like Snow Unimogs, Snow cutter Blowers and others procured by the department recently.

For prompt response and better redressal of grievances during winter months, Advisor Bhatnagar directed the Commissioner SMC to work out the

modalities for linking all control units of MED with the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) of Srinagar Smart City so that better services could be provided to general public. He asked them to issue timely weather advisories and make every necessary emergency facility available through this centre to deal with any contingent situation.

Speaking during the meeting, Shailendra Kumar impressed upon the officers to complete all the deployments of machinery as well as other attachments of snow related equipments well in time. He also asked the representative of NHIDCL to make the escape tunnel near Z-Morh tunnel construction site ready for dealing with any kind of exigency.

During the meeting, Chief Engineer, MED Kashmir gave a detailed presentation on the Snow Clearance Action Plan. He informed the meeting that MED has upgraded the fleet by around 50% from last year besides several high end snow clearance equipments like Unimogs and Snow Blowers have also been procured by the department which will effectively help in snow clearance operations.

LUMPY SKIN DISEASE

J&K Bans Import,
Inter-District
Movement Of Bovines

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday imposed complete ban on import of bovine animals from neighboring states and inter-district movement of bovines within the UT for any purpose, till 25th of October, 2022.

This government order has been issued in the wake of spread of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in J&K and some states

of the country as a measure of abundant precaution and in view of declaration of whole UT of J&K as “Controlled Area” for Lumpy Skin Disease vide S.O 424, dated 05.09.2022 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 10 of the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases Act, 2009.

The order further said that the decision will be reviewed on the basis of evolving situation.

IMHANS Frame Drug
De-Addiction Policy‘Focus On 4-Step Strategy To Eradicate Menace
Of Substance Abuse’

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The draft drug policy framed by the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) Kashmir has come up with a four-pronged prevention strategy to eradicate the menace of substance abuse in J&K.

The draft drug de-addiction policy states that the policy will be based on the preventive model of disease which involves prevention at primordial, primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

According to reports, the focus will be on reducing behaviors’ in individuals that lead to substance use and making early intervention and preventing complications in cases where substance use does occur.

The policy has suggested preventing relapse of successfully treated cases and their rehabilitation into the community.

Under primordial prevention, the policy aims to reduce the emergence of risky behaviors in the general population that are likely to result in addiction and other related problems.

“The main goal of the policy will be to increase the knowledge base of the community about the potential risk factors and consequences of substance use and the means that can be adopted in order to avoid those factors,” the drug de-addiction policy reads.

The policy has suggested the promotion of a healthy environment at schools and work-places besides promoting physical

and mental health in the community.

At primary level, the policy suggests to focus on enhancing the specific protective factors and reduce the impact of existing risk factors.

“The goal should be to target at-risk populations and focus on decreasing their vulnerabilities and to strengthen existing laws and to introduce new laws for increasing restrictions on the production and sale of illicit substances,” it reads.

The policy has called for identification of cases and their successful management at the secondary level and increasing awareness about symptoms of drug withdrawal and intoxication as well as educating families and school teachers about the pattern of behavior associated with substance use disorders.

“Training of all health-care providers at primary, secondary and tertiary care levels to deliver basic de-addiction and counseling services,” the document reads.

The policy has framed the strategy of treating complications, preventing relapse and ensuring successful rehabilitation of treated cases into the community, at tertiary level of prevention from drug abuse.

“Routine screening for common complications like hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, STDs and skin infections should be done besides making at-hand medical help available for management of acute emergencies,” it reads—(KNO)

Explosives Recovered
Near LoC In Poonch

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Security forces on Thursday recovered explosives near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir’s Poonch district, officials said.

During a search operation, Army troops found a bag near

the LoC in Noorkot area, they said.

They recovered a radio set, grenades, one circuit and one metal box, which is likely to be an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), from the bag, they said.

Further investigation is going on, they said.

Chief Secy Reviews
Developmental Scenario
In Ganderbal

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Thursday visited Ganderbal district to review the developmental scenario and implementation of various scheme in the District in a meeting held at Conference Hall of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, P K Pole, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir, Additional Principal, Chief Conservator Forest, Directors of various departments, Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti, PMG-SY, R&B and RDD, HODs and district heads of various departments attended the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a sector wise detailed PowerPoint presentation of various ongoing developmental works and status of flagship schemes being executed by different departments in the district.

The Chief Secretary took comprehensive review of district Capex budget 2021-22 & 2022-23, Financial/ physical progress under district Capex budget, Status of Back to Village programme, Languishing projects and other flagship programmes. While reviewing School Educa-

tion Department, DC informed that district administration has launched GAASH Literacy Campaign in the district with the purpose to enlighten general masses about the importance “being literate” besides education department launched special drive to cover left out, never enrolled, and out of school children to achieve the target of 100 percent enrolment by 2nd October 2022.

The Chief Secretary directed for adopting regular student feedback system from class 6 onwards and by local panchayat members in primary schools besides biometric attendance shall be ensured in all schools. He also stressed for ensuring availability of basic facilities including functional toilets, water and electricity in all schools of the district.

The meeting also discussed the power scenario in the district for which SE, PDD said that 48131 households connections are in district besides district is meeting out 100 percent demand of electricity in summers and in winters there is shortage of only 25MWs that too will be meted out once the augmentation of Badampora Grid is completed.

K O V I E W

Kashmir as G20 meetings venue

Jammu and Kashmir is reportedly among the possible destinations for the upcoming G-20 meetings, which will set the stage for the group's summit next year in New Delhi. Other possible places are Siliguri, Rann of Kutch and Goa. India will assume the G-20 presidency from December 1, 2022, to November next year. During this period, it will host 215 G-20 meetings over 55 locations, four of which will be focused on promoting the tourism sector. The one that will be held in Jammu and Kashmir is focused on the tourism sector. But the planned meetings in the union territory have drawn a lot of attention. This is despite the fact that Kashmir will no longer be the site of the G20 summit meeting. The administration in Jammu and Kashmir has already started making preparations for the meetings.

Earlier, when New Delhi indicated that the G20 summit itself might be held in Kashmir, there were protests from Pakistan and its ally China. India, in a snub to Beijing, subsequently planned a part of the event in Ladakh too, with Ladakh administration even issuing an order to this effect.

Interestingly, the west has not reacted to India's selection of Kashmir and Ladakh as G20 venues which could be read as a tacit acceptance of India's choice. If that be so, it would be seen as a big diplomatic victory for India. The west reconciling to Kashmir as a G20 venue would mean that it no longer considers the region as an issue.

In June, Jammu and Kashmir administration constituted a five-member committee headed by the Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, to coordinate the G-20 meetings that are to be held in the union territory. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator of the G-20 Secretariat in the Ministry of External Affairs has already written to chief secretaries of all the states and Union Territories that India's presidency of the G-20 provides a unique opportunity to place "our narrative in the global agenda and to showcase India's development and cultural diversity."

That said, in the recent past, India has sought to portray Kashmir as a Davos-like venue for global events. In December 2020, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said that the union government was planning a hill station, more enchanting than the world-famous Davos in Switzerland, in the picturesque landscape between the 18-km stretch of Zojila tunnel in Ladakh and Z-Morh tunnel in Jammu and Kashmir.

Similarly, the ski-resort of Gulmarg was also called Davos of East. In 2015, the then Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed said the government intended to promote Gulmarg in Kashmir as the Davos of India, where the country's top business and policymakers could hold their annual summits to frame new policies and strategies. With possible G20 meetings, such a prospect seems one step closer.

O T H E R O P I N I O N

Life In The Aftermath

There is some debate about whether the disaster is the initial 'big bang' or the years that follow," the recovery expert Prof Lucy Easthope writes in her recent book *When the Dust Settles*. "Life after disaster is perpetual, chronic, with a pain that ebbs and flows like tides," with initial events followed by a "new, long, chronic loss". Extreme events rip lives apart. The terrifying force of nature unleashed makes headlines and fills broadcasts with compelling, appalling images: torrents of water, vast lakes where fields once stood. But it is the aftermath which determines the true physical, economic, social and psychological cost.

This weekend, the World Health Organization warned of a "second disaster" as waterborne diseases and other illnesses spread by the disruption soar. The displaced, now living in makeshift camps, face rising levels of dengue fever, malaria and diarrhoea. Beyond that immediate threat lie the challenges of housing and feeding people. In all, 33 million people in Pakistan – equivalent to half the population of the UK – have been affected. Experts say it will take months for the waters to fully drain from Sindh, the hardest-hit province. Agricultural land has been devastated, and huge quantities of livestock lost. Roads and railway lines have been washed away.

Physical and psychological recovery requires more than simply providing building materials and rice, however. Meeting the real needs of the population is impossible unless their knowledge and wishes are sought, welcomed and incorporated. Even well-intentioned reconstruction efforts often go awry: in Banda Aceh, following the Boxing Day tsunami of 2004, universities and factories were built but never used, while women were given sewing machines to start businesses, but not taught to use them. Prof Easthope also notes the importance of preserving communities, so that survivors can support each other and maintain their sense of identity when so much else has been lost.

Visiting Sindh earlier this month, the UN secretary general, António Guterres, said he had never seen such "climate carnage" – and also warned that we can expect many more such disasters. A study by an international team of climate scientists has found that the intense rainfall was made worse by global heating. This year alone, the country had already experienced a gruelling heatwave, wildfires and drought. Climate catastrophes will be disproportionately experienced by developing countries, which have made a minimal contribution to global heating. As Mr Guterres pointed out, that makes massive financial support for Pakistan a matter of justice, not generosity. So far, other governments have pledged only a tiny proportion of the estimated \$30bn needed for recovery in a country already in dire economic straits. They must do better in funding reconstruction – as they must in tackling their carbon emissions, and funding vulnerable countries to prepare for future disasters.

Guardian

Geopolitics First?

World powers are paralysing the UN and pulverising the planet



Marwan Bishara

The United Nations General Assembly has opened its 77th session amid urgent global challenges, including environmental disasters, economic instability, basic food and fuel shortages, cultural wars and populist nationalism, and intra- and international conflicts. But as the world powers clash and collide over Ukraine (and Taiwan), their geopolitics is undermining the UN agenda and stalling the multilateral cooperation needed to remedy the many planetary crises.

Well over a hundred world leaders have arrived in New York, with two notable absentees – the Russian and Chinese leaders – and two notable attendees – the US and British leaders, who are expected to speak firmly and fervently against the Russian war in Ukraine and in support of the virtually present Ukrainian leader.

All eyes will be on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who has been granted special permission to speak to the world's parliament through a video link, just as he did to various national parliaments this year. His army's successful counter-offensive against the Russian aggression in recent weeks will amplify his words as they echo across the UN chamber.

In his speech to the UN last year, Zelenskyy urged world leaders to "wake up" and face the daunting challenges his and other countries are facing, but the world marched into an even bigger, deadlier conflict, eyes wide open.

What's to become of this war will have huge ramifications not only for Ukraine, but the world over. And it may fall upon the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and French President Emmanuel Macron, who have closely engaged both sides since the Russian invasion, to put forward a proposal on how to end it. Their speeches at the UN may signal the viability of a solution.

Many world leaders would like to see the conflict resolved quickly so that the UN may refocus its attention on other urgent issues, including Yemen, Libya, Afghanistan, Syria, Mali and Palestine.

The Russian war in Ukraine has already dominated the agenda of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and left no space for other urgent issues that require international attention. While the UNSC has made some progress on the diplomatic or humanitarian fronts in Libya, Yemen and Mali, it has fumbled miserably in Ukraine, as the world powers continue to use its platform to score points against each other.

“
As the world powers clash and collide over Ukraine (and Taiwan), their geopolitics is undermining the UN agenda and stalling the multilateral cooperation needed to remedy the many planetary crises

Expect more of the same this week, as dozens of world leaders in love with the sound of their own voices turn the "high-level debate" into low-level diatribe, boast of their achievements, or blame others for their failures. Their speeches will contain lofty language and alarmist expressions about the planet's future, but will only pay lip service to remedies, responsibilities and commitments.

And so, Ukraine will continue to harden and deepen the divide between the United States and Europe in the West and Russia and China in the East. With the four comprising some 60 percent of the world economy, and all the veto powers at the UNSC, expect their conflict and collision to sap the energies of the United Nations and paralyse the multilateralism that could help the world to tackle global disasters. They also happen to be the biggest polluters in the world.

The EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell is correct to say that the Russian war in Ukraine has shown that we live in a world "shaped

by raw power politics, where everything is weaponised" in a fierce battle of narratives. However, to be clear, both Eastern and Western powers are to blame for those geopolitical tensions. Sadly, Western powers have not lived up to their lofty values and the Eastern powers have failed to take their international responsibilities seriously, with both sides hypocritically citing international law and norms only when convenient.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres is also right to say that "the choices we make – or fail to make – today could result in further breakdown and a future of perpetual crises, or a breakthrough to a better, more sustainable, peaceful future for our people and planet." That will depend on the United Nations being united.

Hyperbole aside, we are better off as a human civilisation than we have ever been in terms of quality of life, health, wealth, and life expectancy, as well as education, science, discovery, industry, technology and so on. And we are more capable than ever before of taking on global challenges if the will is there to do so.

But we have utterly failed to take care of the more vulnerable and less fortunate. A million more people have died of COVID-19 unnecessarily so far this year, well after vaccines were developed. And more than 800 million have gone hungry, or 150 million more people than before the pandemic.

And we are also consciously failing the younger generations as we pollute the environment and abuse our planet, having caused more harm to mother nature in the past several decades than in the past millennia. The exceptionally hot summer, the devastating fires, floods and droughts can no longer be treated as unrelated coincidental events.

Climate change is here and it is real, and global warming will not wait for geopolitics to cool down. Yet, it is not too late for world leaders to wake up and do the right thing, to stop the fighting and start the healing. Where there is a will, there is indeed a way forward.

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 Al Jazeera. The author writes extensively on global politics and is widely regarded as a leading authority on US foreign policy, the Middle East and international strategic affairs. He was previously a professor of International Relations at the American University of Paris



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

► MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O. Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Digitally Sound

COVID-19 has pushed people to the digital universe, now, more than ever. This, however, does not mean that this proliferation has been entirely positive. With more people on the internet, it has also become a vulnerable space. It is especially true for women.

Women face a number of issues online. Stalking, trolling, harassment

and blackmailing — to name a few.

Trolling, out of all these, is often brushed under the carpet and is trivialised. This trivialisation of trolling helps no one and is absolutely unacceptable. In a country like India, there is every chance that digital abuse can translate into physical harm. Women are already in danger here and add to that the access that

internet gives to possible offenders.

Therefore, we must find ways to collaboratively call out abusive handles and ensure the safety of women on the internet. Additionally, vocal women need to be supported and protected because they're always at the receiving end of hate. Moreover, those who aren't aware of how to use internet safely, should also be edu-

cated.

Students should be taught provisions under law for digital offences from the school level itself. It is imperative to have an all-hands-on-deck approach to ensure that we give a safe internet to women.

Ameera Shah

Want to Cure Your Perfectionism? Try Self-compassion

Waseem Kakroo

"If I'm not perfect, I'm a failure."
"If I don't aim for perfection, I won't get anything done or be successful."
"I shouldn't commit errors,"
"I ought to be able to foresee issues before they arise."

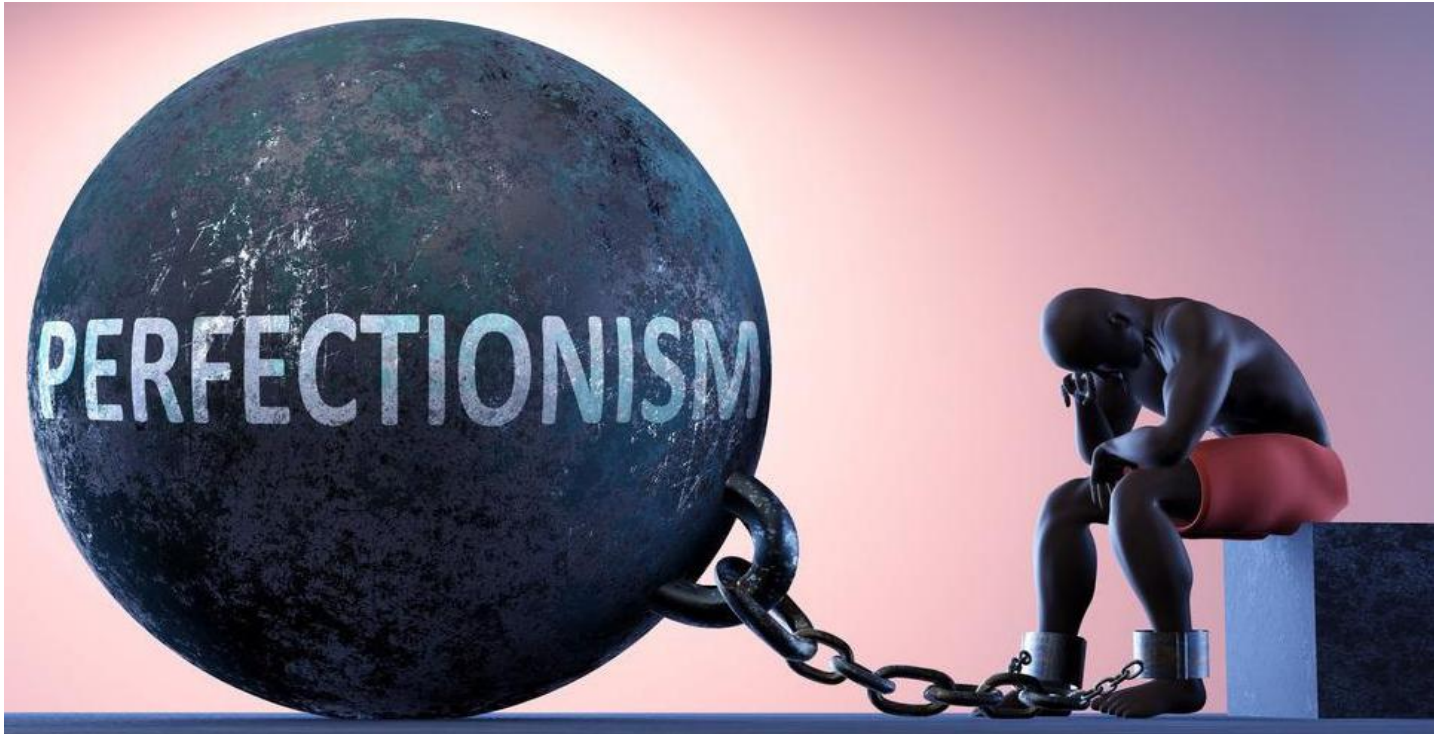
All of the above negative thoughts are the result of perfectionism, and unpleasant feelings like these can cause anxiety, depression, addictions of various types and kinds, as well as sense of helplessness out of a fear of failing.

WHY IS PERFECTIONISM SUCH A BAD THING?

We know for the fact that there is no such thing as perfect in this imperfect world. Pursuing perfection is like chasing the mirage and hence it may become self-destructive. An unattainable and unrealistic ideal of how we should appear or behave is created in our minds by perfectionism.

As a result, we establish an impossible, continually shifting bar that we are chasing but never able to attain. We judge ourselves as undeserving of that "ideal body," "perfect home," "perfect career," or even "perfect love" because we feel incapable of obtaining it. Thus, even if we do succeed in achieving our goal that we had once set for ourselves, we come to the conclusion that it was unsatisfactory and establish a higher standard. Sometimes, we persuade ourselves that our loved ones will perceive us negatively in one way or the other. We are, in a sense, always on a hamster wheel because we let destructive thoughts of perfection wreck havoc in our lives. We are never able to get to a point of genuine contentment and acceptance because pursuing perfection is a draining, addictive effort.

Even while we might be able to accept and comprehend the faults of others, we are frequently our own harshest critics, unable to accept the same faults in ourselves or mistakes of our own. Perfectionism is a manifestation of shame or the sense of not being good enough. Fortunately, the mental agony that perfectionism causes can be reduced or even completely eliminated by engaging in self-compassion practices.



WHAT IS SELF-COMPASSION?

Being self-compassionate means learning to control your inner dialogue and shifting it from "You'll never be good enough" to "I am enough." It is the process of looking after oneself and speaking to oneself with care and kindness.

WHAT DOES SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SAY ABOUT SELF-COMPASSION AS A TOOL TO DEAL WITH PERFECTIONISM?

In order to comprehend the effects that self-compassion has on perfectionism and depression, researchers in Australia published a paper in February 2018 based on their study of more than 1,000 children and adults. According to the study's findings, persons who were compassionate toward themselves were able to lower their perfectionism levels, which can result in depression and other undesirable side effects.

Another study showed that high self-compassion levels reduce the likelihood of

depressive symptoms in those with high levels of maladaptive perfectionism. Given that perfectionists are more likely to experience depression, the findings of the study imply that therapies that teach patients to practice self-compassion may enhance treatment outcomes for depression.

HOW DOES SELF-COMPASSION HELP IN HANDLING PERFECTIONISM?

Perfectionism may prevent us from attempting new things because we may be afraid of failing and falling down and hence it may lead to procrastination due to anxiety of not being able to live up to high-standards. When something isn't "perfect," it could also make us feel bad about ourselves. On the other hand, in such vulnerable times, self-compassion gives us the room we need to grow, break, recover, and rise back again

► It enables us to learn lessons from our past mistakes rather than looking at those mistakes as something we

should be ashamed of.

- Instead of limiting ourselves to what we are confident we can do well or not attempting at all, it enables us to freely explore the possibilities the world has to offer, no matter how vast or tiny.
- Instead of comparing ourselves with others or aiming for impossible standards, it enables us to accept and value everything that makes us who we are.
- Self-compassion enables us to be both attentive and understanding of our flaws, faults, and failures while being non-judgmental of the suffering these things cause us to go through.
- Self-compassion encourages us to discover acceptance and understanding within rather than seeking validation and approval from outside sources (such as grades, compliments, and Instagram, Facebook etc. likes and followers).
- It permits us to be human.

HOW TO CULTIVATE SELF-COMPASSION?

Next time you struggle with thoughts of perfection, practice self-compassion by performing the following actions:

- Maintain your physical health by eating healthy and working out.
- Practice being mindful and simply observe your perfectionism-based thoughts, labeling them as such as soon as you have such thoughts and respond to such thoughts with warmth and tenderness.
- Try journaling the negative events while having a caring attitude and being kind in your description of such unpleasant experiences.
- Decide on a few things you want to excel at. Instead of having a single benchmark for all areas, be flexible in your approach and don't expect to perform at your peak all the time. Make your goals attainable and consider your achievement instead of continuously evaluating yourself and criticizing yourself for falling short of them.
- Keep in mind that you are not alone. There are others who experience perfectionism as well. It's natural to want to please other people and to strive for perfection in an effort to spare oneself the hurt of blame, criticism, and shame.
- Be gentle to yourself. Put your hand over your heart. Allow the warmth and understanding to permeate your body with each beat. Remind yourself that you are completely acceptable with all your imperfections. You are adequate just the way you are.
- Consider what you would say to a friend in a similar circumstance. Can you speak to yourself with the same kindness and support?

You can escape the terrible cage that perfectionism has imprisoned you in by engaging in self-compassion practices.

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar) and works as a consultant clinical psychologist at Centre for Mental Health Services (CMHS) at Rambagh Srinagar. He can be reached at 8825067196

Sign Language — Connecting Beyond Barriers On International Day of Sign Languages

M Ahmad

Language is the ability to acquire and use complex systems of communication. It is thought to have originated when early humans started gradually changing their early communication systems. The structures of language have evolved to serve specific communicative and social functions. Language is not the creation of one person or of one period but it is an institution, on which hundreds of generations and countless individuals have worked on. Language is thought to have originated 10,000 BC. Language is a vital part of human connection. Although all species have their ways of communicating, humans are the only ones that have mastered cognitive language communication. Language allows us to share our ideas, thoughts, and feelings with others. It has the power to build societies, but also tear them down. Language is any formal system of gestures, signs, sounds, and symbols used or conceived as a means of communicating thought. There are over six thousand language schemes currently in use around the world. The language spoken by the greatest number of people on the planet is Mandarin; other widely spoken languages are English, Spanish, and Arabic.

Language is what makes us human. It is how people communicate. By learning a language, it means you have mastered a complex system of words, structure, and grammar to effectively communicate with others. Language helps us express our feelings and thoughts — this is unique to our species because it is a way to express unique ideas and customs within different cultures and societies. Our language is the most important part of our being. It's important to learn other languages besides our own because it helps us to learn about other peoples and cultures but the most important one that we can learn is our own mother tongue as this is one of the most basic parts of our identity. The act of communicating with our hands has always preceded formal language. When

we're babies and children, we point and grab to communicate what we want. We'll shake our heads and turn away to signal when we don't want something. In other words, we all use a version of sign language to communicate before we know how to speak.

Hearing loss is the most common sensory deficit in humans today. As per WHO estimates in India, there are approximately 63 million people, who are suffering from Significant Auditory Impairment; this places the estimated prevalence at 6.3% in Indian population. As per NSSO survey, currently there are 300 persons per one lakh population who are suffering from severe to profound hearing loss and of these, a large percentage is children between the ages of 0 to 14 years. With such a large number of hearing impaired young Indians, it amounts to a severe loss of productivity, both physical and economic. An even larger percentage of our population suffers from milder degrees of hearing loss and unilateral (one sided) hearing loss. Everything from mild hearing loss to complete deafness occurs, and the communication skills needed will depend on the person and the severity of their condition. For mild hearing loss, it may simply be a case of ensuring that you enunciate clearly and slow down your speech slightly to achieve clarity and understanding. With more severe deafness, lip reading and sign language are primary communication tools.

For someone who maintains the condition of deafness and can't hear sound, the use of auditory language to exchange information is a no-way. A large number of the population is disconnected from the mainstream hearing-dominated society and lie at the risk of being marginalised, because people who are limited to using only speech can't communicate with them. A lack of accessibility to support the conversation between both communities also adds to the problem. Because of this, a huge challenge in the form of a communication gap between D/deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing people arises.



Also academicians and the community of people associated with the education of hearing and speech impaired have expressed happiness over standardisation of the Indian Sign Language (ISL), a move advocated in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

To bridge this gap, a non-verbal language known as sign language exists. Every language, whether verbal or non-verbal, has its own elements and functions and differs from each other in how they are used. Even though sign language is another means of communication and also has every basic feature of language, it is still different from spoken language in many ways.

Sign language is defined as a way to communicate using hand gestures and symbols for words or letters of the alphabet, often used by those who are hard-of-hearing. An example of sign language is the means of communicating used by Helen Keller Sign language, any means of communication through bodily movements, especially of the hands and arms, used when spoken communication is impossible or not desirable. The Practice is probably older than speech. Sign language may be as coarsely expressed as mere grimaces, shrugs, or pointings; or it may employ a delicately nuanced combination of coded manual signals reinforced by facial expression and perhaps augmented by words spelled out in a manual alphabet. Wherever vocal communication is impossible, as between speakers of mutually unintelligible languages or when one or more would-be communicators is deaf, sign language can be used to bridge the gap. Sign language is manual communication commonly used by people who are

deaf. Sign language is not universal; people who are deaf from different countries speak different sign languages. The gestures or symbols in sign language are organized in a linguistic way. Each individual gesture is called a sign.

The question of who invented sign language has sparked much debate and has a vague answer. One of the earliest written references to a sign language is from the fifth century BC, in Plato's Cratylus, where Socrates says: "If we hadn't a voice or a tongue, and wanted to express things to one another, wouldn't we try to make signs by moving our hands, head, and the rest of our body, just as dumb people do at present. The first person credited with the creation of a formal sign language for the hearing impaired was Pedro Ponce de León, a 16th-century Spanish Benedictine monk. His idea to use sign language was not a completely new idea. In the 1800s, Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet developed American Sign Language (ASL). Inspired by a desire to help his neighbour's deaf daughter, Gallaudet went to Europe to meet with Laurent Clerc, a deaf instructor of sign language. In the 1800s, Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet developed American Sign Language (ASL). Inspired by a desire to help his neighbour's deaf daughter, Gallaudet went to Europe to meet with Laurent Clerc, a deaf instructor of sign language. Together they founded the first American school for the deaf and established a sign language unique to the USA.

It was inspired by the French Sign Language, signs from Martha's Vineyard and might have been inspired by the signing system of the Great Plains Native Americans. American Sign Language (ASL) is a complete, natural language that has the same linguistic properties as spoken languages, with grammar that differs from English.

ASL is expressed by movements of the hands and face. It is the primary language of many North Americans who are deaf and hard of hearing and is used by some hearing people as well. Indian Sign Language (ISL) is used in the deaf community all over India. But ISL is not used in deaf schools to teach deaf children. Teacher training programs do not orient teachers towards teaching methods that use ISL. There is no teaching material that incorporates sign language. It was Sibaji Panda, a deaf teacher, who created and introduced the first-ever formal training course in ISL at the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AJNISHD), in 2001.

The Internet now allows deaf people to talk via a video link, either with a special-purpose videophone designed for use with sign language or with "off-the-shelf" video services designed for use with broadband and an ordinary computer webcam. The special videophones that are designed for sign language communication may provide better quality than "off-the-shelf" services and may use data compression methods specifically designed to maximize



The Internet now allows deaf people to talk via a video link, either with a special-purpose videophone designed for use with sign language or with "off-the-shelf" video services designed for use with broadband and an ordinary computer webcam. The special videophones that are designed for sign language communication may provide better quality than "off-the-shelf" services and may use data compression methods specifically designed to maximize the intelligibility of sign languages

the intelligibility of sign languages. Some advanced equipment enables a person to remotely control the other person's video camera, in order to zoom in and out or to point the camera better to understand the signing.

The UN General Assembly has proclaimed 23 September as the International Day of Sign Languages in order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf. It is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users. During the 2022 celebration of the International Day of Sign Languages, the world will once again highlight the unity generated by our sign languages. Deaf communities, governments and civil society organisations maintain their collective efforts - hand in hand - in fostering, promoting and recognising national sign languages as part of their countries' vibrant and diverse linguistic landscapes.

Indian Sign language (ISL) is set to receive a boost as an Indian sign language dictionary of 10,000 words was recently released by PM Modi. "The Dictionary along with NCERT textbooks in ISL accessible teaching-learning resources will benefit special needs students, their teachers, parents and even the general population who would like to learn a new language like ISL. These resources will also promote the use of Indian Sign Language across the country, and thereby give an impetus to inclusive education. Also academicians and the community of people associated with the education of hearing and speech impaired have expressed happiness over standardisation of the Indian Sign Language (ISL), a move advocated in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Writer M Ahmad, former Incharge Abhedananda Home-Higher Sec Institution for Specially-abled (Deaf & Mute) Children, Srinagar and is a regular writer for this newspaper and can be reached at specialachivers78@gmail.com

Consumption Of Tea May Lower The Risk Of Getting Type 2 Diabetes: Study

ANI

Moderate use of black, green, or oolong tea is associated with a lower risk of acquiring type 2 diabetes, according to a systematic review and meta-analysis of 19 cohort studies involving more than 1 million adults from eight different countries. The research indicates that having at least four cups of tea per day is linked to a 17% lower risk of type 2 diabetes (T2D) over an average of ten years, according to findings presented at this year's European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) Annual Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden (19-23 September).

According to main author Xiaying Li of Wuhan University of Science and Technology in China, "our results are intriguing because they imply that people can do something as easy as drinking four cups of tea a day to potentially lower their chance of acquiring type 2 diabetes."

Because of the numerous antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anticarcinogenic components that tea contains, it has long been known that drinking tea frequently may be healthy, but the link between tea consumption and the risk of T2D has been less obvious. Cohort studies and meta-analyses that have been published so far have presented conflicting results.

To clarify the connection between tea drinking and future T2DM risk, researchers carried out a cohort study and a dose-response meta-analysis. First, they looked at 5,199 participants (2583 men and 2616 women; average age, 42) from the China Health and Nutrition Survey (CHNS), who were enrolled in 1997 and followed up within 2009



and had no prior history of T2D. The CHNS is a multicenter prospective study that examines inhabitants from nine provinces' socioeconomic conditions as well as their physical and mental health.

Participants initially completed a food and drink frequency questionnaire and supplied details on lifestyle choices such regular exercise, smoking, and alcohol use. 2,379 (46%) participants reported drinking tea overall, and 522 (10%) persons had T2D by the conclusion of the trial. Researchers discovered that tea drinkers and non-drinkers had comparable risks of getting type 2 diabetes (T2D) after correcting for vari-

ables such as age, sex, and physical inactivity that are known to be associated with higher risk of T2D. And when patients who got diabetes during the first three years of follow-up were omitted or the results were broken down by age and sex, they did not significantly alter the findings.

The researchers then conducted a systematic evaluation of all cohort studies examining the relationship between tea consumption and the risk of T2D in adults (aged 18 or older) up until September 2021. The dose-response meta-analysis comprised 19 cohort studies totalling 1,076,311 participants from eight different nations.

They investigated the potential effects of various tea consumption patterns (less than one cup per day, one to three cups per day, and four or more cups per day), gender (male and female), and research region (Europe and America, or Asia), on the risk of T2D.

Overall, the meta-analysis discovered a linear relationship between tea consumption and T2D risk, with each daily cup of tea lowering risk by about 1%. Adults who drank 1-3 cups of tea per day had a 4% lower risk of T2D than those who didn't, while those who drank at least 4 cups per day had a 17% lower risk.

The relationships were shown regardless of the type of tea people drank, whether they identified as male or female, or where they resided, indicating that the quantity of tea taken may be more important than any other factor in explaining the associations. Our results imply that drinking tea is beneficial in lowering the risk of type 2 diabetes, but only at large levels (at least 4 cups a day), adds Li. However, more research is needed to pinpoint the precise dosage and processes underlying these observations.

She continues, "It is plausible that specific tea constituents, like polyphenols, may lower blood glucose levels, but it may need a significant quantity of these bioactive substances to be effective. It may also be the reason why, despite looking at higher tea intake, we did not discover a link between type 2 diabetes and tea drinking in our cohort analysis."

The same plant that is used to produce green and black teas is also used to manufacture oolong tea, a traditional Chinese beverage. The processing method makes a difference; oolong tea is partially oxidised whereas black tea is permitted to fully oxidise. Green tea is not allowed to oxidise substantially. Despite the significant results, the authors point out that as the research was observational, it cannot conclusively show that tea consumption decreased the incidence of T2D but rather provides evidence that it probably does.

The researchers also highlight a number of cautions, such as the fact that they relied on estimates of the amounts of tea consumed that were made subjectively, and that they cannot completely rule out the possibility that residual confounding from other lifestyle and physiological factors may have impacted the findings.

'Indoor Pollution Leads To Over 10 Ailments Including Cough, Headaches, Itchy Eyes And More'

IANS

A headache, itchy skin and a stuffy or runny nose may not be just symptoms of cold.

It could be because of poor indoor quality in your home.

Research carried out among women and children in Lucknow has found poor indoor quality leading to over 10 ailments including cough and wheezing, dry throat, shortness of breath, itchy eyes and more.

The research was undertaken by a team led

by Alfred Lawrence of the chemistry faculty at the Isabella Thoburn College of the University of Lucknow to assess the health risk among the women and children specifically due to indoor air pollution.

The findings of the research presented recently at an international conference at the University College of Stockholm, Sweden, found headache as the most common symptom as reported by 60 per cent women, while in children it was stuffy nose as reported by 62 per cent.

The participants included 560 women from three microenvironments.

While 434 (77.5 per cent) women were from planned residential areas, 107 (19.1 per cent) were from the industrial belt of the city, whereas 19 (3.4 per cent) were from the commercial belt of the city.

The study was done using a real-time portable air sampler that was placed in the living area to study the variation pattern and was placed at least two metre away from doors and walls of the room.

It found the concentration of PM 2.5 pollutants indoor to be almost six times higher than the WHO standards.

Research scholar Samridhi Dwivedi said the study also found 51.1 per cent of women consciously unaware of household air pollution. The study found that the deposition of particles in women was the highest in the head region (61.1 per cent) followed by pulmonary (21.1 per cent) and tracheobronchial region (17.3 per cent).

Among 408 children, who were part of the study, 62 per cent complained of a stuffy nose, followed by dry/sore throat reported by 30.6 per cent children.

The study found that in most of the cases, these symptoms were more prevalent during October and November, followed by February and April.

The study found that poor indoor quality is also keeping children at increased risk of attention deficit hyperactivity.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE,
ANANTNAG, J&K
(Main Campus Dialgam, Anantnag)

Phone: 01932-227624 e-mail: gmcanantnag2018@gmail.com

INTERVIEW NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of all the candidates who have applied for the post of Senior Resident vide Advertisement Notice No. 79 GMCA (RA) of 2022 Dated 06.08.2022 and 91 GMCA (RA) of 2022 Dated 14.09.2022 in the following below mentioned departments on academic arrangement basis under S.O-364 of 2020 dt. 27.11.2020 that the interview for the said posts is scheduled to be held on 29.09.2022 (Thursday) at 11:00 AM in the office Chamber of Principal, GMC Anantnag at Main Campus Dialgam, Anantnag.

S. No.	Departments	S. No.	Departments
01	Anaesthesiology	09	Chest Medicine
02	Community Medicine	10	Psychiatry
03	Radio diagnosis	11	Physiology
04	Pediatrics	12	Pathology
05	Forensic Medicine	13	Anatomy
06	Gen. Medicine	14	Bio Chemistry
07	Gen. Surgery	15	Ophthalmology
08	Dermatology	16	Radiotherapy

The concerned candidates are advised to bring all original documents/testimonials and other relevant documents for verification by the selection committee on the date of interview. No TA/DA shall be paid to the candidates on this account.

DIPK-10543/22

Sd/
Principal
Government Medical College,
Anantnag.

No:- GMCA/RA/SR/Interview/2022/1940-48

Dated:- 22.09.2022

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department (IAPMD)
Zonal Office Srinagar
M.A. ROAD Srinagar, Kashmir-190001

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. Asaf Rasool Kanue 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 02.12.2021 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely 1.) Mr.Mehraj ud din Yatoo S/O Mohammad Shaban Yatoo R/O Rawatpora,Bagaat Barzulla, near M.E.T School, Srinagar-190005 2) Mrs.Ishrat W/o Mehraj-ud-Din Yattoo R/O: Rawatpora,Bagaat Barzulla, near M.E.T School, Srinagar-190005 (Borrower cum Mortgagor) (3) Mr. Muzaffer Shaban Shiekh S/O Mohammad Shaban Sheikh R/O Rawatpora Bagaat Barzulla Srinagar (Guarantor) 4) Mr. Ghulam Nabi Mir S/O Abdul Salam Mir R/O Hamdania Colony, Bemina Srinagar (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs 99,12,555.67 (Rupees Ninety Nine Lacs Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Five And Sixty Seven Paise only) being the balance outstanding as on 30.11.2021 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 21st day of September 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 1,04,69,184.67 (Rupees One Crore Four Lacs Sixty Nine Thousand One Hundred Eighty Four And Paise Sixty Seven Only) together with future interest thereon from 31-08-2022 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 property along with land underneath & appurtenant thereto measuring 01 Kanal & 7 ½ Marlas , bearing Khalsa No: 851 min, 852 min,2626/743 min and 2629/743 min, Khata No: 282,377 and 380 and Khawat No: 121 and 179 (As per Sale Deed Khalsa No: 2626/743 min, 2629/743 min (01 Kanal 04 Marlas-263 sft) ,744 min (02 Marlas -145 sft) Khawat No: 179,208) situated in Estate: Habba Kadal; Tehsil :Srinagar South; District: Srinagar, Kmr standing in the names of Mr. Mehraj ud din Yattoo and Mrs Ishrat Mehraj.

Date: 21.09.2022
Place:- Srinagar

DIPK-NB-4021/22

Asaf Rasool Kanue
Authorized Officer

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
(R&B) DIVISION SUMBAL
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

FRESH NIT No: 90 of 2022-23/SUMBAL Dated: 21-09-2022

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on an item rate basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/ Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money @2% (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Upgradation of Main road Zoonipora, balance portion inner links Hakbara Harkarbagh Mohalla Pahlipora by way of wet mix macadam, 25mm semidense, 6mm thick seal coat. Machine mix laid by paver.	11.00 Incl. C/o Tar	600/-	22000/-	7 Days	Cities and Towns	DEE/CEE/BEE The successful bidder shall have to establish a legitimate /legal Access (Ownership/OEM/MoU) to plant and Machinery as stipulated in relevant specification for items of work.
2	Upgradation of Dompura Arampora allied links by way of P/L of 75mm wet mix macadam, 25mm semidense, 6mm thick seal coat. Machine mix laid by paver.	29.64 Incl. C/o Tar	1100/-	59280/-	7 Days	Cities and Towns	AAV/BEE The successful bidder shall have to establish a legitimate /legal Access (Ownership/OEM/MoU) to plant and Machinery as stipulated in relevant specification for items of work.
3	Upgradation of link road from Pahlipora Masjid to Bone Mohalla at Hakbara.	13.69 Incl. C/o Tar	600/-	27380/-	7 Days	Cities and Towns	DEE/CEE/BEE The successful bidder shall have to establish a legitimate /legal Access (Ownership/OEM/MoU) to plant and Machinery as stipulated in relevant specification for items of work.
4	Upgradation of road from Sumbal Singhpura main road to Ganie mohalla and allied links by way of P/L 75mm thick WMM, 50 mm thick Bituminous macadam, 25 mm thick semi dense finished with 6mm thick seal coat machine mix laid with paver"	14.00 Incl. C/o Tar	600/-	28000/-	7 Days	Cities and Towns	DEE/CEE/BEE The successful bidder shall have to establish a legitimate /legal Access (Ownership/OEM/MoU) to plant and Machinery as stipulated in relevant specification for items of work.

Position of funds Available

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below: -

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	22/09/2022 from 10.00 A.M.
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	22/09/2022 from 10.00 A.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	22/09/2022 upto 4.00 P.M.
4.	Bid Submission End Date	28/09/2022 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal.
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	

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

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

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

5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

1.1 Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.jktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process.

1.2 In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate.

1.3 Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted.

1.4 Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1.

1.5 Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.

1.6 The successful bidder shall have to establish a legitimate /legal Access (Ownership/OEM/MoU) to plant and Machinery as stipulated in relevant specification for items of work.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
No: R&B/SB/22/3122-28.
Dated:- 21-09-2022

Sd./
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Sumbal

DIPK-10465/22

Rupee Tanks 83 Paise To Close At Record Low Of 80.79 On Fed Rate Hike

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The rupee plunged by 83 paise -- its biggest single-day loss in nearly seven months -- to close at an all-time low of 80.79 against the US dollar on Thursday after the US Federal Reserve's interest rate hike and its hawkish stance weighed on investor sentiments.

Forex traders said the US Fed's rate hike and escalation of geopolitical risk in Ukraine sapped risk appetite.

Moreover, the strength of the American currency in the overseas market, a muted trend in domestic equities, risk-off mood and firm crude oil prices weighed on the rupee.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 80.27, then fell further to an all-time intra-day low of 80.95 against the American currency.

It finally ended at 80.79, down 83 paise over its previous close of 79.96. The rupee suffered its biggest single-day fall since February 24 when it had declined by 99 paise.

The US Fed hiked interest rates by 75 basis points to 3-3.25 per cent. It was the third straight 75 basis points hike. Fed Chair Jerome Powell reiterated the central bank's commitment to taming inflation.

Focus will be on Bank of Japan (BoJ) and Bank of England (BoE) monetary policies next, forex traders said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index,

which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, advanced 0.38 per cent to 110.06.

Besides the hawkish US Fed stance, the US Dollar extended gains against its major crosses after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced partial military mobilisation.

"An aggressive Fed Chair Jerome Powell and Russian President Vladimir Putin's escalation of geopolitical risk in Ukraine turned on the green light for King Dollar against most currencies," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Rupee along with other Asian peers tumbled to a record low. "We believe the current downtrend in the rupee may continue for a while even after strong domestic fundamentals. The local currency will react to a stronger greenback but there could be outperformance among the regional currencies," Parmar said, adding that spot USD-INR now has resistance in the area of 81.25 to 81.40 while the previous top 80.12 would act as support. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures rose 0.36 per cent to USD 90.15 per barrel.

"Rupee fell to fresh all-time lows against the US dollar after the Fed raised rates by 75bps. Dollar rose to fresh 20-year high as the Fed signalled more large increases at its upcoming meetings," said Gaurang Somaia, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.



Sensex Tumbles 337 Pts Post Fed Rate Hike; FMCG Cos Buck Trend

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Equity benchmarks retreated for the second session on the trot on Thursday, in lockstep with a bearish trend overseas after the US Federal Reserve increased interest rates by 75 basis points and projected more rate hikes to quell scorching inflation.

The rupee plunging 90 paise to an all-time closing low of 80.96 against the US dollar further weighed on sentiment.

The hawkish stance by US Fed and anticipated rate increases by other global central banks sparked a sell-off across emerging markets, hitting equities, currencies and other asset classes.

Falling for the second session, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 337.06 points or 0.57 per cent to close at 59,119.72. During the day, it tanked 624 points or 1.04 per cent to 58,832.78.

On similar lines, the NSE Nifty went lower by 88.55 points or 0.50 per cent to end at 17,629.80.

PowerGrid was the biggest loser in the Sensex pack, dropping 2.80 per cent, followed by HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC, Bajaj Finserv, ICICI Bank and UltraTech Cement.



On the other hand, Titan, Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, Maruti, ITC and Dr Reddy's were among the gainers, spurring as much as 2.73 per cent.

"Fed turned more hawkish than anticipated increasing its rate forecast to 4.4 per cent by the end of 2022. The indication is that 125 bps more rate hikes can be expected in the next 2 policy meetings scheduled this year. Following this, the US dollar index rose above 111, depreciating INR to beyond 80.

"Indian stock market was able to sustain its resilience with limited cuts but if the rupee continues its weakness domestic market would turn less attractive for foreign investors in the short-term, effecting performance," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

J&K Bank, SDA Launch Property Management Portal For Public



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Continuing the drive towards digitalization of public utility services, J&K Bank and Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) Thursday launched 'Property Management Portal for Public' in a simple but impressive function held here at the Bank's corporate headquarters.

Vice Chairman SDA Haris Ahmad Handoo and Bank's General Manager (Government Business) Syed Rais Maqbool jointly launched the portal in presence of Director Land Management SDA Tahir Mustafa Malik, Bank's Deputy General Manager Manju Gupta, Cluster Heads Riyaz Ahmad, Syed Adil Bashir and other senior officers of SDA and the Bank.

Expressing gratitude to the Bank on the occasion, Vice Chairman Haris Ahmad Handoo said, "I thank and congratulate J&K Bank for providing us with such user-friendly portal that will make our services easily

accessible for the people. The portal has automated the process of application that will help us to connect with our clients round the clock in efficient and transparent manner."

"It is a single-point access to host of application services for the citizenry that I hope will be beneficial for both the institutions", he added.

Terming the launch of portal as welcome step in the journey of collaboration between J&K Bank and SDA, General Manager Syed Rais Maqbool said, "The idea of collaborating with SDA and other important institutions for digitalization of public amenities is to enhance ease-of-services for the people and today's launch is a small but welcome step in that direction only."

"As an institution we value relationships very much and understand well that relationships need to be reinforced through connect. In coming days, we would like to strengthen our bond with SDA further to facili-

tate people avail the services of the department", he added.

Participants, on the occasion, watched live demonstration of the registration process on the portal that has been designed by the Bank in collaboration with its technical partner Ideogram Technology Solutions for providing hassle-free government services to the people. The function concluded with vote of thanks' presented by the Bank's DGM Manju Gupta.

Notably, the services offered by SDA to citizens on the portal are application for transfer of lease hold rights, application for transfer of lease hold rights to Proprietary rights, transfer of ownership rights/addition, deletion of name in allotment, lease and license, application for mortgage of property for raising financial assistance for construction/renovation of residential house, application for grant of no dues certificate and application for allotment of Strip of land available to adjacent plots.

J&K Bank Conducts Shopian DLRC Meet

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: To review the performance of Banks under Annual Credit Plan (ACP 2022-23) for the April-June quarter, J&K Bank Thursday convened District Level Review Committee (DLRC) and DDC meetings.

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya chaired the meetings that were attended by DDM NABARD, District level officers of various Government Departments, district coordinators of all the Banks, Govt. departments and other developmental agencies.

Lead District Manager (LDM) Shopian, Farooq Ahmad Bhat informed the house that the Banks operating in the district have disbursed Rs 262.05 Cr to 8565 beneficiaries during the 1st quarter of financial year against the financial target of Rs 1910.41 Cr and physical targets of 32019 beneficiaries under DCP 2022-23, thereby achieving the annual financial targets by 14% and annual physical targets by 27%.

While taking on priority



sector lending he informed the house that the banks have made total credit disbursement of Rs 1408.31 Cr as on June 30, 2021 to Rs.1383.87 crore as on June 30, 2022 and in the Non priority sector lending has increased from Rs 255.79 Cr as on June 30, 2021 to Rs 391.30 Cr as on June 30, 2022 thereby achieving a growth of 52.97% on YOY. The deposits of the district have increased from Rs 1260.12Cr to Rs 1419.50 Cr by the end of 1st quarter, thereby registering a growth of 12.64% on YOY basis. The advances of the district have increased from Rs1664.10 Cr to Rs 1775.17 Cr in this quarter, thereby achieving a growth of 6.67%on YOY basis

and 2.13% on quarterly basis from Rs 1738.09 Cr as on 31st March 2022. The CD ratio of the District stood at 125 as on June 30 2022.

He also informed the house that J&K Bank alone has disbursed Rs 247.11 Cr out of the total disbursement of Rs.262.05 Cr by all banks operating in the district during the Financial Year 2022-23.

While taking the review, Chairman DLRC stressed on the need for 100% achievement under District Credit Plan. He directed the banks to expedite the disposal of Govt. Sponsored cases and emphasized the need for bringing more and more people under the cover of social security schemes.

India Cools Off On Demand For Russian Crude Oil

Reuters

NEW DELHI: Indian refiners are set to skip purchases of Russia ESPO crude oil this month due to higher freight rates, turning to Africa and the Middle East instead, industry sources said.

India, which rarely used to buy Russian oil, has emerged as Moscow's second biggest oil customer after China since Moscow's invasion of Ukraine in late February.

Refiners have been snapping up nearly all grades of Russian crude, taking advantage of discounts after some entities in the West halted purchases.

However, higher prices are set to cool off demand, channeling supplies to China.

"On net back basis after factoring in the freight, the landed cost of ESPO is turning out to be \$5-\$7 a barrel costlier in comparison to similar grades from other countries such as UAE's Murban," said an industry source familiar with the matter, adding that Russian oil has previously been cheaper.

Instead of ESPO, Indian companies are buying other grades such as those from West Africa that give better yields, he said.

The price gap between Brent and Dubai benchmarks has also narrowed, opening the arbitrage window for Atlantic Basin grades to Asia.

African Volumes Up

India's monthly Russian oil buying has fallen since hitting a record high in June.

About 2 million tonnes (14.35 million barrels) of Russian crude have been loaded for India so



far this month versus 3.55 million tonnes of August, including 585,090 tonnes of ESPO crude, Refinitiv data showed on Thursday.

In contrast, India has loaded 2.35 million tonnes of African oil so far this month versus 1.16 million tonnes in August, the data showed.

Overall, India is likely to lift less crude in September due to planned maintenance shutdowns of units at some refineries operated by companies including Indian Oil Corp Reliance Industries, Bharat Petroleum and Nayara Energy.

Middle East producers have also cut official selling prices for their supplies in October, hitting the appeal of Russian oil, said Ehsan Ul Haq, an analyst with Refinitiv.

While supplies from Russia to India takes about a month, Middle Eastern crude arrives in a week, he added.

Shiptracking data from Kpler showed that all but one seaborne ESPO cargo for September departure are heading to China.

Russian ESPO exports in September slipped to 720,000 barrels per day (bpd) from more than 800,000 bpd in July and August, the data showed.

India's Success In Popularising Digital Payment Proved Sceptics Wrong: FM

Press Trust Of India

PUNE: The successful implementation of digital payment systems in India has proved the naysayers wrong, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said.

Speaking on '20 years of Modi governance' before a gathering of BJP workers here on Wednesday, she credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's approach to governance and his trust in people for this success.

During the lockdown induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, people received money in their bank accounts just by pressing a button, she said.

"If they could not go to the bank or did not know how to take it, the bank Mitra went to the village and delivered their money," she said.

During the same period some "advanced economies" were writing (aid) checks, putting them in an envelope and sending them to people through the post, she noted.

Several doubts were raised about how electronic payments would work, especially in rural areas where Internet connectivity is patchy, but now "in spite of COVID India leads the world in UPI payments," said the minister.

It was Modi's approach to gov-

ernance which starts with "trust our people, trust our industry, trust our women and trust our families," that made the difference, Sitharaman said.

A few years ago, a UPA minister had said it was impossible to popularise electronic payments as "how would one pay Rs 7 to a vegetable vendor electronically," she said.

This doubt has been dispelled now, she added.

When the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) was in power, a new corruption scam would emerge every day, but in the last eight years nobody has even "carelessly" accused the Modi government of corruption, the BJP leader said.

Sitharaman also spoke about how the profile of Padma awards recipients had changed under the Modi government.

"We do not know any of them. They are picked from the hinterlands, from the corners of the country. They are great achievers themselves but we did not have time to recognise them. We did not know how to locate them. But Modi's team locates every one of them," she added.

"Delivery is the story", the finance minister said, adding that there had been slogans like 'Garibi Hatao' and promises to provide things like potable water in the past.

SHORT TAKES

SC Gives 6-Month Jail Term To Former Fortis Promoters

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday awarded six months jail term to former promoters of Fortis Healthcare Ltd, Malvinder Singh, and Shivinder Singh, in a case related to the sale of shares of Fortis to Malaysia-based IHH Healthcare.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit awarded six months jail term to the former promoters of Fortis Healthcare who were earlier held guilty of contempt.

The top court also ordered a forensic audit of the share sale in Fortis Healthcare Ltd.

"Everything goes back to the executing court," the CJ said. The former promoters of Fortis Healthcare Ltd were facing the court battle after a Japanese firm, Daiichi Sankyo, had challenged the Fortis-IHH share deal to recover the ₹3,600 crore arbitration award that it had won before a Singapore tribunal against the Singh brothers.

The IHH-Fortis deal is stuck due to the legal fight between Daiichi Sankyo and the former promoters of Fortis Healthcare.

In 2018, when some Indian lenders sold the pledged shares of Fortis Healthcare to the Malaysia-based firm, Daiichi Sankyo went to court alleging that the former promoters of Fortis had assured them that their shares in the Indian hospital chain will cover the arbitral award amount.

Internet Calling Apps May Soon Need Telecom Licence

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Apps like Whatsapp, Zoom, Skype and Google Duo which provide calling and messaging services may soon require licences to operate in the country, according to the draft telecommunication bill 2022.

The draft bill has included OTT Apps as part of the telecommunication service. "For provision of Telecommunication Services and Telecommunication Networks, an entity shall have to obtain a license," the draft bill released on Wednesday evening said. The government in the bill has proposed a provision to waive fees and penalty of telecom and internet service providers. The ministry has also proposed a provision for the refund of fees in case a telecom or internet provider surrenders his license.

"Seeking your views on the draft Indian Telecom Bill 2022," Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said in a post on a social media platform in which he also shared the link of the draft bill. The last date for public comment on the draft is October 20. According to the draft, the central government may, "waive in part or full any fee, including entry fees, license fees, registrations fees or any other fees or charges, interest, additional charges or penalty" for any licence holder or registered entity under the telecom rules.

ABG Shipyard: ED Attaches Rs 2,747 Cr Worth Assets

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The ED on Thursday said it has attached dockyards, agricultural lands, commercial properties and bank deposits worth more than Rs 2,747 crore as part of an alleged bank loan fraud linked money laundering investigation against ABG Shipyard Ltd, its group companies and linked entities.

The seized properties include shipyards located at Surat and Dahej in Gujarat, agricultural lands and plots, various commercial and residential premises in Gujarat and Maharashtra and bank accounts owned by ABG Shipyard Ltd., its group companies and other related entities, the federal agency said in a statement.

The total value of the provisionally attached assets, under the Prevention of Money Laundering (Act), is Rs 2,747.69 crore.

The Enforcement Directorate action comes a day after the CBI arrested the founder of the company Rishi Kamlesh Agarwal.

Probe found that the ABG Shipyard Ltd. and its Chairman & Managing Director Agarwal availed various credit facilities/loans from consortium of Banks led by the ICICI Bank, Mumbai on pretext of meeting its capital requirements and other business expenses, the ED said.

India Defends Its Decision To Ban Rice, Wheat Exports

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India has defended its decision to ban export of wheat and rice at a WTO meeting even as some member countries have flagged concerns over the country's stand, an official said.

At a meeting last week in Geneva, Senegal, the US and the European Union raised questions over this decision, stating it could have adverse implications on global markets.

In May, India restricted export of wheat to enhance domestic availability. This month, it also banned export of broken rice and imposed a 20 per cent export duty on non-Basmati rice except for parboiled rice to boost domestic supplies amid a fall in area under paddy crop in the current kharif season.

Defending its decision, India clarified that the ban on export of broken rice, which is used in poultry feed, follows a rise in the grain's exports in recent months which put pressure on the domestic market.

In the case of wheat, food security concerns necessitated export curbs. India has also stated that the measures are temporary in nature and under continuous monitoring, the official said.

Spicejet Hikes Salary Of Section Of Pilots

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: SpiceJet has hiked salary of its captains and senior first officers by around 20 per cent from October as it gets the first tranche of funds under the government's credit guarantee scheme, according to an internal communication.

The loss-making Ajay Singh-promoted carrier is also expected to deposit TDS of all employees in next two to three weeks, as per the communication sent to the airline pilots on Wednesday.

The communication to the airline pilots came on the day it sent 80 of its cockpit crew on Leave Without Pay for three months and aviation regulator DGCA announced that it has extended the 50 per cent restrictions on its flights till October 29.

On September 2, airline sources had told PTI that the carrier was likely to receive around Rs 225-crore under the government's credit guarantee scheme ECLGS.

SpiceJet has received the approval for a loan under the central government's ECLGS scheme. The first tranche of the payment has already been received, SpiceJet Chief of Flight Operations, Gurcharan Arora stated in the communication.

He, however, did not mention the quantum of funds received in the first installment.

Rains Drench Delhi For 2nd Day On Trot; More Likely

Agencesis

New Delhi: An incessant spell of light to moderate rain drenched Delhi for the second consecutive day on Thursday, leading to waterlogging in several areas and affecting traffic movement on key roads across the city.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) also issued a 'yellow alert', cautioning people about moderate rain at most places in the city on Friday.

The Palam Observatory reported heavy rain -- 81 mm between 8:30 am and 8:30 pm.

Rainfall recorded below 15 mm is considered light, between 15 and 64.5 mm is moderate, between 64.5 mm and 115.5 mm heavy, between 115.6 and 204.4 very heavy. Anything above 204.4 mm is considered extremely heavy rainfall.

The fresh spells of rains just before the withdrawal of monsoon from the National Capital Region will help cover the large deficit (46 per cent till September 22 morning) to some extent. It would also keep the air clean and the temperature in check.

The city recorded a minimum temperature of 23.8 degrees Celsius and a maximum temperature of 28 degrees Celsius, seven notches below normal.

The 24-hour average air quality index settled at 66 (satisfactory category) at 4



pm, improving from 109 on Wednesday.

The Safdarjung Observatory, Delhi's primary weather station, gauged 31.2 mm of rainfall between 8:30 am and 5:30 pm.

The weather stations at Lodhi Road, Ridge and Ayanagar received 27.4 mm, 16.8 mm and 45.8 mm of precipitation during this period.

The Delhi University area, Jafarpur, Najafgarh, Pusa and Mayur Vihar recorded 16.5 mm, 18 mm, 29 mm, 24.5 mm and 25.5 mm of rainfall, respectively. The Safdarjung Observatory has recorded 58.5 mm rainfall against a normal of 108.5 mm in September so far (till Thursday morning).

It had recorded 41.6 mm rainfall in August, the lowest in at least 14 years, due to the absence of any favourable weather

system in northwest India.

Overall, Delhi has recorded 405.3 mm rainfall against a normal of 621.7 mm since June 1, when the monsoon season historically sets in.

The IMD on Tuesday said the southwest monsoon had withdrawn from parts of southwest Rajasthan and adjoining Kutch, three days after the normal date of September 17.

Usually, it takes around a week after its withdrawal from west Rajasthan for the monsoon to retreat from Delhi.

The withdrawal of southwest monsoon is declared if there has been no rainfall in the region for five days along with the development of anti-cyclonic circulation and water vapour imagery indicates dry weather conditions over the region.

Woman Lawyer Sexually Harassed On Mumbai Train, Accuses Police Of Insensitive Behaviour

Press Trust of India

Mumbai: A 25-year-old woman lawyer on Thursday accused the railway police of treating her with insensitivity and apathy after a man sexually harassed her in the ladies' compartment of a Mumbai local train.

The police force needs to be sensitized about how to behave with the victims of such incidents and be held accountable for their duties, the woman said in a long Twitter thread which went viral.

The incident took place on Wednesday morning when the woman was traveling to her workplace from Cotton Green to Jogeshwari on the harbour branch of Central Railway. According to police, a man, around 40 years old and apparently mentally unstable, boarded the ladies' first class compartment in which she was traveling alone at Andheri.

As the train approached Jogeshwari station, he sexually harassed her before jumping out and fleeing. "Upon reaching the Andheri Railway Police station, I was visibly distressed and crying. As I spoke to the police in-charge and told them I was molested and I'd be comfortable speaking about it to a female cop, the first question he asked me was "Molestation kya hota hai" (what is molestation)," the woman wrote in a tweet.

As she identified the perpetrator in the CCTV footage, one of the women police personnel kept telling her that being a lawyer, she should have hit the man, the woman said. She was made to narrate the incident three-four times and her statement



TODAY SCARES ME. I'M A PRIVILEGED WOMAN LIVING CLOSE TO SOUTH BOMBAY.
I take a packed local at peak morning hours to reach my workplace. I'm educated and financially independent. Being an advocate helps because I know the exact ambit of the duties of the police."

was recorded after three long hours at the Andheri Railway Police Station, she claimed.

At this point, the officials told her that the spot where she was sexually harassed falls under the jurisdiction of the Borivali railway police station and the information would be forwarded to them, she said.

In the evening she received a call from the Borivali Railway Police Station, summoning her once again to identify the perpetrator in CCTV footage.

"I have to go back and relive the most traumatic day of my life again because the Andheri railway police didn't forward the details of the exact person

who did this to me," she wrote.

"Today scares me. I'm a privileged woman living close to South Bombay. I take a packed local at peak morning hours to reach my workplace. I'm educated and financially independent. Being an advocate helps because I know the exact ambit of the duties of the police," she said.

While she can take a day off from work to calm herself down, "the way our police handle these situations is absolutely heart-breaking," the woman added. If she hadn't known that she had the right to ask for a woman police personnel to accompany her at the time of the recording of statement or if she had been

"younger, from a minority, from a weaker economic background, someone who wasn't aware of those rights", her situation would have been much worse, she said.

The Twitter thread received more than 13,000 likes and 4,800 retweets during the day.

The Government Railway Police (GRP) later expressed regret in a tweet. "Ma'am, we deeply regret the inconvenience caused to you. The investigation is underway and we appreciate your cooperation all day through. We have noted your account of our personnel's behaviour and will sensitise them accordingly," the GRP tweeted.

The case was being investigated by Borivali GRP under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner of Police, Western Zone, it added. The accused man, seen in semi-naked state in CCTV footage, seemed to be mentally unstable and efforts were on to nab him, said a police official.

EWS Row: Reservation Has Social, Financial Connotations, Meant For Oppressed, Says SC

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Observing that poverty is not a "permanent thing", the Supreme Court said on Thursday the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among upper castes could be promoted through various affirmative actions at the "threshold level" like giving them scholarships instead of 10 per cent quotas in government jobs and educational institutions.

It said the term reservation has different connotations such as social and financial empowerment and is meant for the classes that have been oppressed for centuries.

A five judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit said reservation has been given to those stigmatised

for centuries due to their caste and vocations and the EWS among forward classes could have been given facilities like scholarship and free education without the government getting into the "reservation issue".

When it is about other reservations, it is attached to lineage. That backwardness is not something which is temporary. Rather, it goes down to centuries and generations. But economic backwardness can be temporary, said the bench.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, defended the 103rd constitutional amendment, saying the 10 per cent quota for the EWS of general category has been provided without disturbing the 50

per cent reservation available to SCs, STs and OBCs, and the parliamentary wisdom, leading to a constitutional amendment cannot be set aside without establishing that it violated the basic structure of the Constitution.

The other side is not denying the fact that people, who are struggling or who are poverty stricken in that unreserved class, needed some support. There is no doubt about that.

"What is being submitted is that you can try to elevate that class by giving them sufficient opportunities at the threshold level, say at the 10+2 level... Give them a scholarship. Give them the freeship so that they get the opportunity to learn, to educate themselves or to elevate



themselves, said the bench which also comprised Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, S Ravindra Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and J B Pardiwala.

The court said reservation as a traditional concept has different meanings and connotations

and it is not just about financial empowerment but social and political empowerment.

"It enables the disadvantaged class to be part of the apparatus of the government. So, the reservation has various other facets to

it not just trying to improvise the economic situation...But, here is only one facet that is to improve the economic status of a man or a woman of general class. You could have done anything else. Why do you have to indulge in this reservation issue, it said.

The solicitor general argued in detail on the state's power to take affirmative action to elevate the poor among the general category and said the constitutional amendment furthers and strengthens the basic feature of the Constitution and its validity cannot be tested on grounds of some statistics.

While analysing the basic structure, the principle guide is the preamble. Considering the preamble of the Constitution, the amendment does not

destroy the basic structure, rather it strengthens it by giving justice - economic justice to those who have not been the beneficiaries of affirmative action like reservation, the law officer said.

When a statutory provision is challenged, then it is often said that it violates a particular article of the Constitution, but, here Parliament has inserted a provision of the Constitution itself and hence its validity cannot be questioned, he added.

The Constitution is not a static formula and Parliament can always take a decision to cater to the aspirations of the nation and, if some action has been taken without disturbing the quota for SCs STs and OBCs, then it cannot be set aside, he said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Kashmir Emerging

the upcoming weddings are likely to be celebrated in five star hotels like Vivanta by Taj and the Grand Lalit, nestled in the lap of Zabarwan forest range and overlooking the pristine Dal Lake.

The official said that the tourism department is also focusing on MICE tourism (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, Exhibitions) and have hosted a number of companies including MakeMyTrip and Asian paints for annual conferences at SKICC (Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre)

"We are also facilitating meetings between Valley hoteliers with the event managers across the country so that more weddings and events can be held in Kashmir," the official added.

At the same time, the initiative of the tourism department to promote Kashmir as a wedding destination has brought cheer to the tourism players of the valley.

General Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Hoteliers Club (JKHC) Tariq Rashid Ghani said that the destination weddings in Valley is a welcome step and will certainly boost tourism in all the seasons.

"We have the best infrastructure to organise weddings and cater the needs of the esteemed guests," Ghani said, adding that the government needs to promote Kashmir Valley as a popular wedding destination.

Asif Iqbal Burza, who runs a chain of hotels, told Kashmir Observer that the destination weddings have a huge potential to boost tourism in the Valley.

"I can say Pahalgalam has sufficient infrastructure to host large scale, high-end weddings. It also has the club of JKTCDC that can host a large number of people," said Burza.

He further added that from the last few years, a number of weddings have been hosted at his hotels in Pahalgalam.

At the same time, the Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation (JKTDC) has activated all its assets to accommodate people who visit the Valley for destination

weddings.

Menga Sherpa, Managing Director, JKTCDC says that the department has launched special offers on marriage parties at Pahalgalam Club and the Convention Centre.

"Some of our prime assets like the Pahalgalam club have been catering the needs to the wedding ceremonies and annual conferences. We recently hosted the annual conference of Doctors Association Kashmir," Sherpa told Kashmir Observer.

Sherpa added that these packages are very affordable and attractive, which will ultimately boost the tourism sector.

Pertinently, the valley has witnessed record breaking tourist footfall with officials claiming that over 1.06 crore tourists visited Jammu and Kashmir during the current year.

Govt Sacks Six

without any intimation to Health & Medical Education Department.

"Willful absence from duty after the expiry of leave renders a Government servant liable to disciplinary action and absence without leave or after the end of leave involves loss of appointment, except as provided in Article 203 (b) or when due to ill health in which case the absentee must produce the certificate of Medical Officer and cases of these doctors have been examined thoroughly in the department in view of the rule position governing the subject and it has been found that since these doctors have not resumed their duties despite notices issued to them and this act on their part is a voluntary act and they are liable to be discharged from services on account of unauthorized absence from duties for more than five years." It adds.

Meanwhile 11 other doctors namely Dr Tariq Abdullah of Kuthair Anantnag, Dr Mudasir Mumtazil of Sonawari Bandipora, Dr Shahid Hameed of Shadimarg Pulwama, Dr Malik Suhail of Doru Anantnag, Dr Adil basher of Kanth Bagh Baramulla, Dr

Ahmed Wajeed Yousuf of Malla Bagh Hazratbal Srinagar, Dr Shabir Ahmad Mir of Wagar Khansahib Budgam, Dr Mufeed Ahmad Bhat of Kamad Anantnag, Dr Iftikahr Ahmad Dugga of Nai Basti Khanabal Anantnag, and Dr Rayees Ahmad of Kuder Kulgam have been given a time of 21 days.

However, as per separate order, these doctors can resume services within 21 days by giving a written bond that they will serve in Jammu and Kashmir for five years and provide an undertaking that they are not involved in subversive activities and are not employed anywhere.

"The case of these doctors were examined in the Department and in the interest of patient care, it has been decided that the doctors who have submitted their joining report/reply in the Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir/Administrative Department in compliance to the notices served upon them, be allowed to resume their duties," the order states.

Sanction is hereby accorded to allow the doctors to re-join within a period of Twenty one (21) days in the Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir to resume their duties, with prospective effect, subject to the conditions that these doctors are/were not involved in any subversive activities as well as not employed in any other Government/private sector during the said period, for which an affidavit duly authenticated by the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate shall be obtained by the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir, from the doctor concerned and they shall given in writing (in the shape of bond) that they will serve the UT of J&K, at least for a period of five (05) years." It adds.

"The period of their un-authorized absence shall be decided separately," the order reads.

Amit Shah To

identified land at Eidgah area of Srinagar.

The Home Minister is also scheduled to meet J&K LG Manoj Sinha,

and top security officials of the UT. He will review the security situation in Kashmir as well in a meeting if time allows. "The Home Minister will also review ongoing developmental projects in the UT," the report said.

Some People

affected persons.

"Jammu Kashmir Police & Civil Administration are making their efforts to provide different services to the people at their doorsteps," Singh said.

Terming Block Diwas and Thana Diwas as initiatives to provide better services to the people, the DGP, as per the spokesperson said assured the redressal of the issues highlighted by the people in the gathering.

"He directed SP Shopian to organise a special guidance/counseling camp for the aspirants of UPSC. He also said that J&K Police would ensure to guide the youth in different sports activities," he added.

Referring to the opening of new cinema halls in Shopian, Pulwama and Srinagar, the DGP said that the means of entertainment are meant to enjoy good times and have peace.

In his address, the spokesperson said that ACS Home, R K Goyal expressed his pleasure and said that Thana Diwas is a medium to come more close to the general people.

"We have all come to listen to you adding that Thana Diwas is an initiative taken under the directions of Lt. Governor J&K Manoj Sinha to extend Police services to the people of J&K," he said.

Goyal, the spokesperson said that the ongoing Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan is going on to eradicate the drug menace as well to aware people especially youth against the ill effects of drugs.

"We have to take action against all those involved in drug peddling and its trade," he said.

Earlier, the spokesperson said that ADGP Kashmir Zone, Vijay Kumar said that J&K Police has organised various sports activities and will continue to

provide all support to the youth for sports.

Referring to the issue of drug abuse, Kumar said that parents have an important role to mould the young minds of youth in right direction adding that they should watch the activities of their children.

Banihal Highway

20 mobile vehicle interceptors, 16 highway patrolling vehicles has been completed and their retrofitting is going on for their customised use.

It was also stated that an amount of Rs 152 lakh is being spent on acquiring of other traffic equipment, they said.

Govt Orders

of All Migrant (Displaced) Employees Association Kashmir (AMEAK) - one of the organisations spearheading the agitation.

"It is a step towards harassment of the community. It is a conspiracy against us.

"We honestly performed our duty for the last ten years in Kashmir until the selective killings of our employees - like Rahul Bhat - threatened the life and dignity of our community employees in the valley," a protester told reporters here.

"What is our crime? We have taught children of the majority community with utmost sincerity for ten years. Why are we being targeted and killed," said another employee.

The employees said that on the one hand they are getting letters with death threats from the terror outfits, and on the other, they are being forced to come to work and risk becoming sitting ducks for the militants to target.

"Please provide us security which is your prime duty. Why are you threatening us with these orders? We are not afraid of stopping of our salaries or anything else. If our lives are threatened, we will leave jobs," said one of the leaders of the agitation.

"We want to tell the government you cannot torture us and our

families," he said.

The Kashmiri Pandit employees recruited under the Prime Minister's special rehabilitation package and posted in different parts of the Kashmir valley said they were soft targets for the terrorists and the government has failed to protect them.

Nearly 4,000 Kashmiri Pandits began working in different departments in the valley after their selection under the prime minister's employment package.

They have been on an indefinite strike with a demand for their relocation outside the valley since the killing of their colleague Rahul Bhat.

Bhat was shot dead by terrorists inside his office in Budgam district of central Kashmir on May 12.

Hundreds of the employees have already returned to Jammu and are holding regular protests at the office of the relief commissioner, while their colleagues in the valley are on protest at their camps, despite repeated attempts by the government to end the impasse with the assurance of their relocation to safer zones within the valley.

Soldier Shoots

be immediately known", officials told a local news agency GNS

Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigation in this regard.

26 New Corona

registered two new cases of Coronavirus while Samba one.

Also, the officials said that the death toll in the pandemic remained unchanged at 4785 in J&K, as no fresh fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

Besides, they said, 25 Covid-19 patients recovered during the last 24 hours--19 from Jammu division and 6 from Kashmir Valley.

Teen Student

cognizance of the incident and initiated proceedings under law.

IND vs AUS 2nd T20I: Bumrah Mystery Amid Death Bowling Woes

Press Trust of India

NAGPUR: Jasprit Bumrah's fitness status will be a matter of attention when an out of sorts Indian team will look at course correction options against Australia in the second T20 International and strive to keep the three-match series alive, here Friday.

Bumrah, who has been out of action since the end of England tour, skipped the Asia Cup due to back injury.

However, to everyone's surprise, the team management didn't play him during the high-scoring first T20I in Mohali, raising doubts whether he has still attained peak fitness or not.

To compound the team's worries, the 'three-and-a-half' pronged pace attack, including Hardik Pandya, conceded 150 runs in 14 overs.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar, the seasoned pro, has already been taken to cleaners. He has leaked 49 runs in the three penultimate overs (19th) that he bowled against Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia.

In this backdrop, a fit and fiery Bumrah is a pre-requisite for India as the home bowlers are increasingly being found out on batting belters.



The worst part about the team is that with five more official T20Is left before the opening T20 World Cup game against Pakistan on October 23, the Indian team looks highly unsettled.

If the approach of top three was a problem going into the Asia Cup, the bigger worry has been the bowling which has been exposed in good batting conditions.

Yuzvendra Chahal, who has been India's go-to spinner in all conditions, isn't looking menacing

anymore. He has been expensive in the last few games and he will have to find a way to trouble the batters on wickets which doesn't offer much purchase.

However, all-rounder Axar Patel, who was shoed in as a like-for-like replacement of injured Ravindra Jadeja, has once again proved his worth with a three-wicket haul on Tuesday.

India were also sloppy on the field, as they were guilty of dropping three catches, which drew

criticism from former head coach Ravi Shastri.

In batting, India's aggressive approach reaped dividends as KL Rahul, Hardik Pandya and Suryakumar Yadav took the team beyond the 200-mark after top order batters Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli were dismissed early.

Designated finisher Dinesh Karthik didn't get much chance on Tuesday and is likely to be given extended game time with the management looking to keep all options

open going into the world cup.

Australia, on the other hand, have looked like a well-oiled machine, despite the absence of key players such as David Warner, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Stoinis and Mitchell Marsh.

All-rounder Cameron Green nicely slipped into the shoes of Warner with a sizzling fifty at the top in only his second T20I, while Steven Smith and debutant Tim David also gave the team the required impetus with crucial cameos.

The experienced Matthew Wade too lived up to the finisher's role with a stellar 45 not out off 21 and India will have to pull up their socks to stop Australia from going on a rampage.

Australia, however, would hope for a more disciplined show from their bowling unit after the pace trio of Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood and Green bled runs in Mohali.

The wicket at VCA stadium, however, will be different than the Mohali track. It is expected to be on the slower side, which will make bowlers' role more prominent in this game.

With dew setting in the evening, teams will prefer to chase than defend totals.

Match starts at 7.30 IST.

3rd T20I: 4 Injured In Rush To Buy Tickets

Press Trust of India

HYDERABAD: Four people got injured when a stampede-like situation prevailed on Thursday at the Gymkhana Grounds in the city, where thousands of cricket-lovers gathered to buy tickets for the India-Australia T20 match scheduled here for September 25.

The injured people, including two women, were hospitalised and were fine, police said.

The stampede-like situation took place as a large crowd tried to get in at once when it rained, they said.

Police said they faced a tough time in managing the situation.

About 15,000 people gathered at the ground and some of them said they arrived there early today.

Some of them alleged that tickets were sold in black.

Media reports said the rush for tickets is because Hyderabad is hosting an international match after over two years.

CS Inaugurates LG's Rolling Trophy Cricket Tourney



Observer News Service

v Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday inaugurated LG's Rolling Trophy Cricket 2022 here at Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium, Sonwar being organised by Mission Youth in collaboration with Youth Services and Sports Department.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary urged the participating youth to not only play themselves but involve their elders as well. He observed that 38000 youth across all the districts of J&K have initially registered themselves for this tournament.

Dr Mehta interacted with the players there and asked them about their interests and strong areas of the game. He also administered pledge to youth about working against drug abuse.

LG's Rolling Trophy is a big initiative taken by the government to provide a platform for the Youth of J&K in the age group of 19 to 35 years. The cricket tourney will be played as per T-20 format and is being conducted on three tier basis. Tier 1 (Basic Level) is already complete as trials in cricket have been completed in all the 186 Physical Education Zones.

Similarly in Tier 2 (Intermediate Level) zonal level teams selected by the experts will compete at District Level for the title. During the competitions best players will be selected and a District Team shall be constituted which will represent that District at UT level.

It was further given that in the final leg (Tier 3) of the trophy 20 teams, from 20 districts will compete at the apex level.

3-Day Cycling Event Flagged Off In J&K



Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday flagged off the Kashmir Cyclothon, which will cover eight mostly unexplored destinations in the Valley over three days.

About 60 cyclists from across India and Nepal are taking part in the cyclothon, which was flagged off from Royal Springs Golf Club here.

Mehta told reporters, "The purpose of the cyclothon is for people to explore Kashmir in a better way. They will also carry the message of 'nasha-mukt abhiyan' (drugs-free campaign)."

He said 60 cyclists -- some over 60 years of age -- from across the country and even Nepal, were taking part in the

event.

"It is a very good activity, very refreshing. The cyclists have come from all over the country and even Nepal. It is good to see people over 60 (years) participating," he said.

Mehta added that the participants would cover the 300-km distance over three days.

Tourism Secretary Sarmad Hafeez said Kashmir was one of the finest destinations for cycling and mountain biking.

Hafeez said the cyclists would travel through Verinag, Koker-nag, Daksum, Vasaknag, Dubjan, Aharbal, Shikargah, and Srinagar for the event.

The cyclists described the event as an opportunity to explore Kashmir.

Till last reports, the Cyclothon had reached Keegam, Shopian.

IPL To Return To Its Old Home & Away Format



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Indian Premier League (IPL) will return to its original, pre-COVID-19, home-and-away format from the 2023 season, BCCI President Sourav Ganguly has conveyed to the Board's affiliated state units.

The IPL has been held at only a few venues since the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020 as the lucrative league unfolded behind close doors across three venues in UAE -- Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.

In 2021 too, the tournament was held across four venues -- Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Chennai.

However, with the pandemic under control, the cash-rich league will return to its old format in which each team plays one home and one away match.

"The next season of men's IPL will also go back to the home and away format with all ten teams playing their home matches at their designated venues," read a Ganguly's note to state units. The note gave them a "snapshot" of the ongoing domestic season.

The BCCI is conducting a full-fledged domestic season for the first time since 2020 and all multi-day tournaments will also return to the traditional home and away format.

The BCCI is also working to host the inaugural edition of the much-anticipated Women's IPL early next year.

"The BCCI is currently working on the much-awaited Women's IPL. We are expecting to start the first season early next year," Ganguly wrote in the letter dated September 20.

In Form Neymar Eyes Pelé's Record As Brazil's Record Goal Scorer



Agencies

Neymar is winning everyone over this season with his goals and attitude for Paris Saint-Germain. He's also been injury-free after years of being plagued by ankle, hamstring and foot injuries.

Even though Neymar suffered a small cut in his right knee and needed minor treatment during Wednesday's training session, Brazil coach Tite said he was expected to start against Ghana on Friday in a potentially dazzling attack with Raphinha, Vinicius Junior and Richarlison.

Neymar's work-rate for PSG has been exemplary. He's fitter than for many years and scoring prolifically, with 11 in 11 games overall.

The 30-year-old forward has been creating, too. Will this form continue all the way to the World Cup in Qatar, where Brazil aims for a record-extending sixth title but a first for 20 years?

Brazil fans hope so. Even more so if Neymar enters the tournament in Qatar with the additional psychological boost of being Brazil's all-time leading scorer.

He's on 74, behind only three-time World Cup winner Pelé's record of 77.

He has another chance of overtaking Pelé in a friendly against Tunisia next Tuesday at Parc des Princes, also the home of PSG. The last time Brazil played at the stadium was in 1992, when Neymar was six months old.

Brazil's World Cup opponents in Group G are Serbia, Switzerland and Cameroon. Neymar will be confident of bolstering his goal tally in those three games as he bids to write his name alongside Pelé's as a World Cup winner.

Sarwar-e-Azam Stadium To Come Up In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Government officials on Thursday laid the foundation stone for Sarwar-e-Azam Stadium at Malabagh, here.

The foundation stone was laid by Mayor SMC Junaid Azim Mattoo in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Ajaz Asad; Commissioner SMC, Athar Amir Khan; SSP Srinagar, Rakesh Balwal and many senior officers from PHE and SMC.

Lauding the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, the Mayor said that the youth are the engine for the national development and have a vital role in an overall development of the welfare society.

Stating that the sufficient funds would be kept at the disposal for the project, Mattoo said that he will personally ensure

that the project is completed within the four months of the stipulated time.

Sarwar-e-Azam Stadium will house both cricket ground and football ground and is expected to come up at the cost of 134 lakhs in Malabagh on the outskirts of Srinagar. The stadium will be equipped with all the latest facilities and would cater to the needs of a large section of sports enthusiasts in particular and the public in general in and around the area.

On the occasion, a cricket match, SAM T20 was also organized by a Sports Association Malabagh. The match was played between Malabagh United and Spartan Zakura.

At the culmination of the match, Mayor SMC distributed prizes among the winners and the participants of the match.

JKSC's MYMP Activities Continue Across Kashmir



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council's flagship programme, My Youth My Pride, witnessed various sporting activities across Kashmir on Thursday.

The Baramulla district Yogasana championship was held in Rafiabab Public School Dangiwa-cha. The event was organised by the district unit of J&K Yogasana Sports Association in association with JKSC under MYMP. More than 150 participants comprising boys and girls drawn from the different educational institutions of the district competed in different categories.

The event was supervised by Zubaida Lateef Joint Secretary District Srinagar Yogasana Sports Association along with Zarka Fayaz and Sania Amin.

Competitions for the categories of sub junior, junior and senior were held. Reyan and Faheem and Mustaqeem bagged gold, silver and bronze respectively in sub junior category while Amir Shaikat and Afnan were standout performers in junior boys category. In senior boys category Sahil emerged as the best player and in sub junior girls Aaliya, Hurmat and Madiha bagged three respective medals. Uzma, Raziya and Suriya were three position holders in the junior girls category while the senior girls title went to Shabnam.

The best performers of the event have been selected for the upcoming UT level Yogasana Championship.

Meanwhile the 2nd edition of Bandipora Cricket Cup was won by BCC Bandipora defeating their opponents Rising Star by 6 wickets.

India Among Top Ten Countries With Highest Type 2 Diabetes Prevalence: Lancet Study

Agenceis

An estimated 8.4 million people were living with Type 1 Diabetes across the globe in 2021, and India was among the top ten countries with highest prevalence of the disease, according to a modelling study published in The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology journal.

This number is predicted to increase to 13.5-17.4 million people living with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) by 2040, the researchers said.

"Given that prevalence of people with T1D is projected to increase in all countries to up to 17.5 million cases in 2040, our results provide a warning for substantial negative implications for societies and healthcare systems," said Professor Graham Ogle, one of the authors of the study, from the University of Sydney, Australia.

"There is an opportunity to save millions of lives in the coming decades by raising the standard of care for T1D and increasing awareness of the signs and symptoms of T1D to enable a 100 per cent rate of diagnosis in all countries," Ogle said.

Researchers modelled data on childhood, adolescent and adult T1D prevalence in 97 countries, along with incidence over time data from 65 countries.

They also analysed mortality data from 37 countries to predict T1D incidence, prevalence, and mortality in 2021 for 201 countries, with projections of future prevalence through 2040.

The estimates were tested for accuracy against real world prevalence data from 15 countries.

In 2021, the model estimated that 8.4 million individuals worldwide were living with T1D. Of these individuals, 18 per cent were under 20 years old, 64 per cent were between 20-59 years, and 19 per cent were over 60 years.

"These findings have important implications for diagnosis, models of care, and peer support programmes," said Professor Dianna Magliano, one of the authors of the study, from Monash University, Australia.

"Such programmes, in countries where they exist, are almost exclusively designed, and delivered for children and youth with T1D," Magliano said.

The ten countries with the highest estimated T1D prevalence US, India, Brazil, China, Germany, UK, Russia, Canada, Saudi Arabia, and Spain account for 5.08 million (60 per cent) of global cases of T1D, the researchers said.

Model estimates also suggest that 21 per cent of individuals with T1D live in low income countries (LICs) and lower and middle income countries (LMICs), they said. Model estimates place global deaths due to T1D at 175,000 in 2021, the researchers said.

Of these, 35,000 or 20 per cent were attributed to non-diagnosis, of which 14,500 were in sub-Saharan Africa and 8,700 were in South Asia, they said.

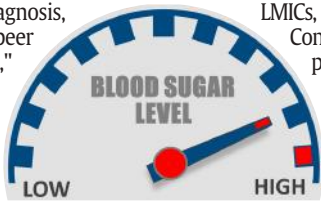
The researchers estimate that an extra 3.1 million people would have been alive in 2021 if they hadn't died prematurely due to suboptimal care of T1D, and a further 700,000 people would still be alive if they hadn't died prematurely due to non-diagnosis.

"Our findings indicate that the overall footprint of T1D is much larger than previous estimates have indicated, when missing prevalence due to excess mortality is accounted for," said Professor Kim Donaghue, one of the authors of the study, from the University of Sydney, Australia.

"This is particularly true in low- and middle-income countries for example in sub-Saharan Africa which accounts for 357,000 cases of T1D or 4 per cent of global prevalence but 23 per cent (40,000) of the lives lost each year highlighting the urgent need to increase awareness of the signs and symptoms of T1D in LMICs," Donaghue said.

The projected T1D prevalence in 2040 given by the model was 13.5-17.5 million people, with largest relative increases predicted to occur in LICs and LMICs, the researchers said.

Conservative estimates place the relative increase in the number of people living with T1D by 2040 compared to 2020 at 66 per cent, they added.



Shah Rukh Khan's Wife Gauri Khan Opens Up About Tough Times They Faced After Aryan's Arrest

AGENCEIS

Nothing can be worse than what her family has "just been through", Gauri Khan has said while expressing gratitude to friends and well-wishers for supporting her and superstar husband Shah Rukh Khan in "tough times".

The couple's eldest son Aryan was arrested last year by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in an alleged drug case and spent 22 days in jail. Following the arrest, the family was under intense media scrutiny, was the subject of much speculation and innuendo and also received ample support from fans, industry friends and colleagues.

"As a family, I think nothing can be worse than what we've just been through, obviously as a mother as a parent. But today where we stand as a family, I can say that we are in a great space," Gauri told good friend and filmmaker Karan Johar on his chat show 'Koffee with Karan' season 7.

Taking no names, Karan asked the 51-year-old interior designer about emerging stronger as a family after facing turbulent times. "We feel loved by everyone," she said in response.

"All our friends and so many people who we didn't know you know, so many messages and so much of love.



I just feel blessed. I think today, we feel blessed. And I will say I'm grateful to all the people who've helped us through this," she added.

This is perhaps the first comment anyone from the family has made on the trauma they went through during Aryan's weeks behind bars.

Shah Rukh and Gauri are also parents to daughter Suhana and son AbRam.

In the episode, Gauri was accompanied by Maheep Kapoor and Bhavana Pandey of Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives fame.

Guterres Warns Against Continued Global Warming, 1.5-Degrees Limit 'On Life Support'

Agenceis

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that global warming continues and the most ambitious goal of the 2015 Paris accord -- to limit Earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels -- is "on life support".

"The 1.5-degrees limit is on life support, and it is fading fast," the top UN official told reporters late Wednesday after he concluded two meetings with many heads of state and government to talk about the climate emergency and the triple global crisis of food, energy and finance.

"You have all seen the appalling images from Pakistan. This is happening at just 1.2 degrees of global warming... We are headed for over 3 degrees," Xinhua news agency quoted the UN chief as saying.

Guterres said that he told the assembled leaders that "we need their action, their leadership, now".

"First, more ambition on mitigation to keep 1.5 alive. Emissions must decline by 45 per cent before 2030. Current commitments will see them rise by 14 per cent."

The Secretary-General said that he particularly called on



G20 leadership "to end our fossil fuel addiction".

On financing, the top UN official called for efforts to "deliver in full" commitments to the developing countries.

"The world needs clarity on how developed countries will deliver the \$100 billion dollars a year. I emphasized the need to double adaptation support to 40 billion dollars a year by 2025," he added.

Turning to food security, Guterres said "without enough fertilizers, next year's harvest

may not be enough to feed the world".

"We need international cooperation and solidarity to bring down prices, increase support to developing countries, including through social protection floors, and to prevent a larger crisis next year," he said.

Guterres called on international financial institutions to step up support for developing countries.

"They need immediate debt relief," the UN chief added.

3 In 4 Brands Increase Mobile Gaming Ad Spend In India: Report



Agenceis

As mobile gaming explodes in India, three in four brands have significantly increased their investment in mobile gaming advertising in the last year owing to higher audience attention and engagement, a report showed on Thursday.

According to the report, 75 per cent of brands have been advertising on mobile game apps for more than a year, which has led to a two-fold increase in gaming ad spends since the pandemic.

Mobile gaming advertising witnessed a 2 times jump in ad spends (on-year) as 97 per cent of marketers advertising on mobile gaming environments said they are satisfied with results, according to the report by InMobi's Mobile Game Advertising 2022.

"Mobile game advertising is evolving into more than simply a trend as audience reach keeps growing, ad formats diversify,

and ad budgets keep rising," said Rishi Bedi, Managing Director, Asia Pacific at InMobi.

"Over time, more and more advertisers are including mobile game advertising in their media mix owing to the positive outcomes and impactful results," Bedi added.

Top key drivers for Indian advertisers to adopt mobile gaming advertising are higher audience attention and engagement and better targeting and personalisation.

According to the report, gaming witnessed a 32 per cent YoY growth in average spending by advertisers.

India is home to more than 430 million mobile gamers and the number is estimated to grow to 650 million by 2025, according to latest data provided by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).

As the Indian gaming market is poised to hit \$3.9 billion (in value) by 2025, over 40 per cent of hardcore mobile gamers are paying for their games with an average spend of Rs 230 per month.

Bun Maska
Chai

Donner Kebab

@

REGULAR	BARBECUE
₹120	₹150
CHILLI GARLIC	LEBANESE
₹120	₹120

Bun Maska
Chai

Famous Irani Chai of Bombay now in Srinagar

JK Bank Lawns, Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard, Srinagar

Despite being geographically distant from Kashmir how Kashmiris in West maintain cultural, social, and emotional linkages with their homeland. Tune-in to latest KO podcast

KASHMIR
OBSERVER



KO PODCAST