

## HM Amit Shah To Arrive In J&K On 3-Day Visit

Public Rallies, Review Of Development Works; Darshan At Vaishno Devi In The Itinerary

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be on a three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from September 30 where he is planned to pay obeisance to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, address two rallies and review developmental activities, party leaders said on Saturday.

J-K BJP general secretary and former minister Sunil Sharma told a press conference here the visit should not be linked to yet-to-be announced assembly polls, even though a senior



leader said on the condition of anonymity the "rallies will be

the beginning of the BJP's election campaign".

Sharma told the media, "Election is the prerogative of the ECI (Election Commission of India) which is an autonomous institution and scheduling dates are up to them. The BJP is ready. This (Shah's visit) is a routine visit and linking it with polls is not right."

He said Shah will arrive at Jammu on September 30, address a rally in Rajouri (Jammu division) on October 1, and leave for Kashmir the same evening. He will address a rally in Baramulla town **More on P10**

### High Level Security Meet On Cards

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is all set to chair a crucial security review meeting in Srinagar during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir next week, reports said. Quoting official sources, a local news agency KNO reported that Shah will travel to Srinagar from Baramulla and chair a high level security meeting in the capital city to review progress on anti-militancy operations, **More on P10**

## Two Migrant Workers Shot At, Injured In Pulwama

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** Two migrant workers were shot and injured on Saturday by unidentified terrorists in Kakpora area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, police said.

Shahad Islam Shiekh and Faizan Qadri, both residents of Batya Zila in Bihar were fired upon by unknown terrorists on Saturday evening at Kharpora village of Ratnipora in Kakpora, a police spokesperson said. The injured were taken to

district hospital Pulwama for treatment. However, Shamshad was referred to Srinagar's SMHS hospital for advanced treatment.

Terrorists fired upon & injured 02 outside labourers at Kharpora Ratnipora in Pulwama. They have been shifted to a hospital where their condition is stated to be stable. Identified as Shamshad S/O Islam Shiekh & Faizan Qasri S/O Fayaz Qadri, R/O Batya Zila Bihar," police said earlier in a tweet. **More on P10**



## 2 J&K Youth Held Near IB In Rajasthan

Press Trust Of India

**JAIPUR:** Two youths from Jammu and Kashmir were apprehended from near the India-Pakistan international border in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district, police said on Saturday.

The two were collecting donations in the prohibited area without permission, they said.

After questioning, the youths were handed over to the Joint Investigation Committee. They be interrogated by security and intelligence agencies working in the district, Station House Officer (Ramgarh) Achlaram Dhaka said.

A police outpost in Khuiyala received information that two youths were roaming in the prohibited area on Friday, following which they were detained, police said.

The duo was identified as Jameel Iqbal (23) **More on P10**

Uniform Academic Calendar

## Inter-Migration Cert Made Mandatory For Board Students

Agencies

**Srinagar:** Following the implementation of Uniform Academic Calendar, the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education has said that it will not allow any 10th or 12th standard student to migrate from one affiliated institution to another without an inter-migration certificate issued by the board.

JKBOSE informed it in a notification regarding the schedule for inter-provincial migration from Kashmir division to Jammu for the Academic Session 2022-23.

"Pursuant to the promulgation of uniform academic calendar in the Union Territory of JK, it is notified for information and follow-up of all the concerned, that the eligible candidates pertaining to class 10th and 12th of recognized institutions or schools desirous to seek migration from Kashmir

division to Jammu for the academic session 2022-23 in regular capacity shall be allowed to do so," BOSE said.

In the general instructions regarding the eligibility for migration to JKBOSE has said, "No student shall be allowed to migrate from one affiliated Academic Institution to another without inter-migration having been sanctioned in his/her favour by the JKBOSE."

"The Heads of the Institutions shall not issue the Transfer Certificate until the migration has been sanctioned in favour of a candidate by the JKBOSE," it reads.

The board further said that no candidate seeking migration shall be admitted by any head of the institution even provisionally under any circumstance before his/her inter-migration is sanctioned by the JKBOSE. "Deviation, if any, will be treated as unauthorized **More on**

**NO STUDENT SHALL BE ALLOWED TO MIGRATE** from one affiliated Academic Institution to another without inter-migration having been sanctioned in his/her favour by the JKBOSE."

## Wildlife Dept Orders To Kill 'Man-Eater' Leopard In Uri



Agencies

**Srinagar:** Chief Wildlife Warden Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday issued shoot-at-sight orders to eliminate a "man-eater" leopard that recently killed two minors in Boniyar area of Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district.

As reported by Wildlife Warden North the leopard has killed two minors including a girl and boy recently in Boniyar area of Uri, reads a government order issued Saturday.

The order stated that it has also been reported that the distance between two incident

sites is only about 05 kilometres, while the leopard in the area has become habitual of child lifting.

"There is every apprehension that the problematic animal may cause further loss of life in the area and accordingly the said Wildlife Warden has sought the necessary killing permission to eliminate the leopard," it reads.

It added that keeping in view the facts and circumstances sanction is hereby accorded to hunt or cause the said animal to be hunted forthwith after completing the required formalities. "Proper **More on P10**

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## Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K

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Kashmir Office: Block A, Ground Floor, Old Secretariat, Srinagar. Pin: 190001  
Telephone: 0194-247737, 2477309, 2470486; e-mail: mdnshm@gmail.com

NHM Help Line for Jammu Division: 18001800104; Kashmir Division: 18001800102

**Interview Notice for hiring of (A) Senior Consultant (Mentoring Institute/Tele MANAS Cell at IMHANS, Psychiatric Disease Hospital, Srinagar (B) Consultant (Mentoring Institute/Tele MANAS Cell at IMHANS Psychiatric Disease Hospital, Srinagar,(C) Counsellor (Tele- MANAS Cell, IMHANS, Psychiatric Disease Hospital, Srinagar ( advertised vide no: SHS / NHM / J&K / HR /10766-72 Dated:06/09/2022.**

The interview for the posts of (A) Senior Consultant (Mentoring Institute/Tele MANAS Cell at IMHANS Psychiatric Disease Hospital Srinagar (B) Consultant (Mentoring Institute/Tele MANAS Cell at IMHANS Psychiatric Disease Hospital Srinagar,(C) Counsellor (Tele- MANAS Cell, IMHANS, Psychiatric Disease Hospital Srinagar is scheduled to be held W.e.f 27<sup>th</sup> September to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

All candidates are requested to report at 8:30 AM sharp at the office of the Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, Block A, Ground Floor, Old Secretariat, Srinagar at all days.

Eligible candidates having requisite qualification for the posts shall come along with their original certificates/documents and will only be allowed to appear in the interview, provided they fulfill all the prerequisite criteria for the said post.

**Schedule for Interview:**

S. No	Name of the Post	Serial No	Date of Interview	Interview Timing
1.	Senior Consultant	1-26	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Tuesday)	9:30 AM
	Consultant			
	Counsellor	1-80		
2.	Counsellor	81-185	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Wednesday)	9:30 AM
3.	Counsellor	186-272	29 <sup>th</sup> September (Thursday)	9:30 AM

The list of the Candidates shall be uploaded on the official web site of National Health Mission, J&K separately ([www.jknhm.com](http://www.jknhm.com)) all candidates are requested to visit the website for verifying their scheduled interview date & time.

DIPK-NB-4034/22

Ayushi Sudan, IAS

Mission Director, NHM J&K

No: SHS/NHM/J&K/HR/11680-86

Dated 22-09-22



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Administrative Officer (Estt.)

# Air pollution exposure in first 5 years of life puts kids at brain disorder risks

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In a first, researchers have linked exposure to air pollutants like particulate matter PM2.5 -- particularly in the first five years of life starting from the womb -- and alterations in the brain structure that may put children at psychiatric and cognitive disorder risks later in life. Experts assessed children's exposure to air pollution from conception to 8.5 years of age on a monthly basis.

The study, published in the peer-reviewed journal Environmental Pollution, found an association in children aged 9-12, between exposure to air pollutants in the womb and during the first 8.5 years of life and alterations in white matter structural connectivity in the brain. The greater the child's exposure before age five, the greater the brain structure alteration observed in preadolescence, according to the team led by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal).

"The novel aspect of the present study is that it identified periods of susceptibility to air pollution. We



measured exposure using a finer time scale by analysing the data on a month-by-month basis, unlike previous studies in which data was analysed for trimesters of pregnancy or childhood years," said Anne-Claire Binter, ISGlobal researcher and first author of the study. In this study, "we analysed the children's exposure to air pollution from conception to 8.5 years of age on a monthly basis", Binter added. In addition to the association be-

tween air pollution and white matter microstructure, the study also found a link between specific exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and the volume of the "putamen", a brain structure involved in motor function, learning processes and many other functions. Abnormal white matter microstructure has been associated with psychiatric disorders (depressive symptoms, anxiety and autism spectrum disorders).

The study found that the greater the exposure to PM2.5, especially during the first two years of life, the greater the volume of the putamen in preadolescence.

"A larger putamen has been associated with certain psychiatric disorders (schizophrenia, autism spectrum disorders, and obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorders)," said Binter.

The data analysed came from a large cohort of 3,515 children enrolled in the Generation R Study in Rotterdam (the Netherlands).

"One of the important conclusions of this study is that the infant's brain is particularly susceptible to the effects of air pollution not only during pregnancy, as has been shown in earlier studies, but also during childhood," the researchers noted.

"We should follow up and continue to measure the same parameters in this cohort to investigate the possible long-term effects on the brain of exposure to air pollution" added Monica Guxens, ISGlobal researcher and another author of the study.

## Scholarships This Week

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

**Scholarship Name 1: Merck India Charitable Trust (MICT) Scholarship Program 2022-23**

Description: Merck India invites applications from Class 10 passed students who are residing and studying in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane and Bengaluru. The scholarship is aimed at encouraging talented students from financially weaker families and helping them in laying a foundation for a bright and secure future.

Eligibility: The scholarship is open for students who have successfully passed Class 10 (SSC) with minimum 80% marks in 2022. They must be currently residing and studying in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane and Bengaluru. The family income of applicants must be less than or equal to INR 20,000 per month  
Prizes & Rewards: INR 35,000 per year till graduation  
Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2022  
Application mode: Online applications only  
Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/MERCK7](http://www.b4s.in/observer/MERCK7)

**Scholarship Name 2: L'Oréal India For Young Women In Science Scholarships 2022**



Description: L'Oréal India provides educational scholarships to young women who wish to pursue their graduation in any field of science, from a recognized institute in India. The aim of this scholarship is to encourage young women to pursue their education & careers in science and empower them with financial aid.

Eligibility: Female candidates who have passed class 12 with 85% in PCB/PCM/PCMB in the academic year (2021-22) are eligible to apply. Annual family income of the applicant should be less than

INR 6 Lakhs.

Prizes & Rewards: Selected women scholars will be provided up to INR 2,50,000 in instalments, towards their tuition fees and academic expenses for pursuing graduation in science

Last Date to Apply: 16-10-2022

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/LIS1](http://www.b4s.in/observer/LIS1)

**Scholarship Name 3: HDFC Bank Pariwarta's ECS Scholarship 2022-23**

Description: HDFC Bank invites applications from students studying in Class 1 to postgraduation level. The scholarship supports meritorious and needy students belonging to underprivileged sections of society.

Eligibility: The scholarship is open for Indian nationals only. The students must be studying in any of the standards between Class 1 to 12, Diploma, Undergraduate or Postgraduate (including professional and non-professional courses) level. The applicants must have passed their previous qualifying examination with at least 55% marks and their annual family income must be less than or equal to INR 2.5 lakh. Preference will be given to those applicants who are facing a personal or family crisis that has occurred during the past three years, due to which they are unable to continue bearing the cost of education and are at risk of dropping out.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 75,000

Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2022

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/HEC12](http://www.b4s.in/observer/HEC12)

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Mr. Bilal Ahmad Dar. S/o: Mohammad Yousuf Dar.

R/o: Humhama.

Phone No: 9419419429

INF

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R/O Khalid Bin Waleed Colony  
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## Why Is Kashmir's Famed Silk Industry Suffering Slump In Business

Auqib Javed

**Srinagar:** The Kashmir Valley has witnessed a sharp decline in cocoon production meant for silk fabric used in shawls, carpets, embroidery curtains and other local handlooms products, data available with Kashmir Observer suggests.

Kashmir is known for the best quality silk, exported all over the world. Over 27000 families in Jammu and Kashmir are associated with silkworm rearing, out of which 8900 families are from the Valley and rest from Jammu division.

According to official figures, the Valley produced 893 metric

tons (MT) of cocoons in the year 2017-2018 generating an income of about Rs 22.337 crore for these silkworm rearers. In the following fiscal year, the cocoon production went down by 101 metric tons generating revenue of Rs 23.486 crore.

In the year 2019-20, the production rose slightly, however the revenue generated was recorded at just Rs 17.845 crore.

In the pandemic year of 2020-21, the production witnessed a sharp dip with farmers producing just 563 MT of cocoons and generating only Rs 12.183 crore.

During the fiscal year of 2021-22, the Valley witnessed 694 MT



of cocoons and generated an amount of Rs 17.185 crore. The data further suggested that

there is also a decline in the number of farmers associated with silk worm rearing. During the fiscal

**“ THE COCOON PRODUCTIVITY IS OF COURSE less. The government needs to take immediate steps to address these issues, so that the silk industry will flourish.”**

year of 2017-18, over 27,181 farmers were associated with cocoon rearing. However, the numbers of farmers went down to 25,218 in

the year 2018-19.

The figures further witnessed a sharp dip in 2019-20 with over a thousand giving up the job. During the pandemic, the trade was severely hit, like other business sectors and only 22,597 farmers remained associated with the trade. However, in 2021-22, more and more farmers again started cultivating the cocoons and the figures of people associated with the trade rose to 25,624.

The cocoon farmers said that they lack skills for quality cocoon rearing. “Also, the mulberry leaves are being damaged by the insects and pests, as a result the farmers are unable **More on P10**

## SIA Searches Multiple Locations In Kashmir

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir police on Saturday carried out searches at multiple locations across the Kashmir Valley in connection with a narco-terror case.

In a statement issued here, a spokesperson said that the SIA of J&K Police conducted extensive searches at different locations in Srinagar, Budgam & Kupwara today.

The spokesperson said that these searches were part of an investigation against narco-terror case, financing terrorism through smuggling hard drugs from Pakistan and selling it in J&K and in other parts of the country.

“Equipped with search warrants issued by the court of Special Judge, designated under NIA Act (TADA/POTA) Srinagar, house searches were conducted in connection with investigation of case FIR No. 17/2022 u/s 8,21,29 NDPS Act, 13,17,18,39,40 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 121 and 120-B, 121, 121-A IPC of Police Station CI-SIA Kashmir,” he said.

The spokesperson said that the case was registered by Police Station, CI-SIA(K), Srinagar on receipt of reliable information that a group of person(s) working as OGW(s) for different organization(s) under a well knit criminal conspiracy hatched with member(s) of terror organization(s) are involved in border smuggling of narcotic drugs and the proceeds thereof are passed on to the terror organization(s) for furtherance of terror activities in J&K.

“During investigation, it surfaced that organization(s) across the border in order to fuel the terror activities in Jammu & Kashmir are adopting various means and methods to provide logistic support to terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir and one **More on P10**

## FUNDING CASE

## SIA Files Charges Against Ex-Minister, 2 Others

‘Babu Singh Was In Touch With Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen, JKLF Separatists’



Observer News Service

**Jammu:** The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Police on Saturday filed charges against former minister Jatinder Singh alias Babu Singh and two others in a case of terror funding at a local court here.

In a statement issued here, an SIA spokesperson said that chargesheet was filed against former minister Babu Singh, Mohd Shareef Shah of Larnoo Anantnag and Mohd Hussain Khateeb of Doda in a case (FIR No.73/2022) filed at the police station Gandhi Nagar.

Shah, the spokesperson said, was arrested by police along with an amount of Rs 6, 90,000, meant for Jatinder Singh alias Babu Singh. The amount, he said, was intended to be used for the anti-national activities of Babu Singh and his party namely “Nature Mankind Friendly Global Party”.

“Babu Singh was in touch with the terrorists of Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen outfit (a proscribed terror organization) and separatists of JKLF (an unlawful association). These inimical entities had sent this terror fund from Pakistan through their associates for Babu Singh's party,” the spokesperson said.

“The vision document of this party floated by accused Babu Singh was to make J&K, PoK and Gilgit Baltistan as one independent country by making a condominium of Pakistan and India, for having joint control over currency, external affairs and finance,” he added.

The spokesperson further said that the investigation has revealed that Babu Singh was in contact with Khateeb, currently in Pakistan, over encrypted social media applications and had clandestinely visited Dubai for arranging funds.

Shah, he said, was designated as Secretary of the party, who received funds at Kashmir through unknown person and travelled to Jammu to hand over the same to Babu Singh.

He further said that the money arranged by Khateeb were seized by police from Shah before he could hand over this terror fund to Babu Singh.

“The investigation has established that Babu Singh was conducting online meetings and interviews with adversary and in his online address he has compared a terrorist, Maqbool Bhat with Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev and has termed Maqbool Bhat as Freedom **More on P10**



Two villagers enjoy warm sunlight in the scenic Tosa Maidan meadow of Budgam district on Saturday, as the mercury has started dropping ahead of autumn. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Rajnath Warns Powers Looking At India With Evil Intention

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday asserted that the Indian Army has the capability to give a befitting reply to any power looking at the country with evil intentions and when it engages with China now, it does so on an equal footing.

Singh made these remarks at an event to release a five-volume book on Deendayal Upadhyay in the presence of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar.

When China conducted the first nuclear test in 1964, Deendayal Upadhyay was the first one who spoke in favour of India conducting its nuclear test, Singh said.

When India carried out its first nuclear tests in 1998 in Rajasthan under the



leadership of then prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the idea was not to use the weapon against any country but to maintain a deterrent, he said.

“Because of that deterrence, the Indian Army today has full confidence of self-defence. Today in 2022, when India's army engages with China, it does so on an equal footing.

“If any power looks

towards India with evil intention, Indian soldiers have the capability to give a befitting reply,” he said.

Singh said the country's goal is not only to make items for its needs, but also to export defence items to other countries. “I can say we are moving fast towards fulfilling the dreams of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay,” he said.

He told the gathering that the Defence Ministry has issued three “positive indigenisation lists” of 310 defence items which will not be procured from outside under any circumstances after a deadline.

All those equipment will be made in India.

“You will be happy to know that we have earmarked a major part of our budget for buying only from domestic vendors,” he told the gathering. **More on P10**

## Woman Delivers Baby In Ambulance Stuck On Highway



Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** A 22-year-old woman gave birth to a boy in an ambulance as shooting stones from a hillock disrupted traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in Ramban district on Saturday, health officials said.

Shaheena, a resident of Dharam-Sangaldan in Gool, delivered her first child with the help of 108 Ambulance support staff after the vehicle was caught in a traffic jam on its way to the district hospital, the officials said.

Traffic on the highway was disrupted since morning due to the stones sliding off a hillock

overlooking the highway at Cafeteria, Mehar. Several vehicles suffered damage after being hit by the stones but there is no report of any casualty.

“When we reached Karol from Gool, some 35 km from Ramban, there was heavy traffic but Army personnel cleared a path for the ambulance. But it stopped again near Mehar due to the shooting stones,” said a relieved Mohammad Yousuf, Shaheena's husband.

“The medical support staff managed the delivery in the ambulance,” he added.

Yousuf thanked the medical staff, Army, police and civil volunteers for **More on P10**

## S H O R T T A K E S

### Two Mortar Shells Defused Along IB

Two mortar shells were found in the forward villages along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Samba districts of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Saturday. A live mortar shell was noticed by villagers at Pragwal in Akhnour sector on the outskirts of Jammu this morning, they said, adding the bomb disposal squad is working to defuse it. Another mortar shell was detected by the Border Security Force (BSF) during patrolling in Regal area of Samba district late on Thursday, they said, adding the shell was safely defused by experts. The officials said both the shells had gathered rust, indicating that they had remained undetected **More on P10**

### Falling Tree Kills Timber Smuggler

A timber smuggler died on Saturday while illegally felling a tree in Jammu & Kashmir's Budgam district. Police sources said that a group of timber smugglers were felling a large pine tree in Kanidajan forest area of Budgam district when the tree they were felling crushed one of them under it and he died on the spot. The dead timber smuggler has been identified as Rafiq Khokhar. “A manhunt has been launched for his associates after registering a case in Khag police station of Budgam district”, sources said.



### Bus Accident Leaves Passenger Dead

One person died and several others injured in a road accident after a passenger bus met with an accident near Khanetar area of Poonch district on Saturday afternoon. Reports said that a passenger bus (JK02BH-8493) met with an accident resulting in the on-spot death of a man and injury to several others. The injured persons were immediately referred to a nearby hospital for treatment. A police official also confirmed about the accident and said that a case has been registered in this regard. (GNS)



### J&K Logs 16 New Corona Cases

Jammu and Kashmir reported 16 fresh covid-19 cases even as there was no death due to the virus during the last 24 hours, officials said on Saturday. They said nine cases were reported from Jammu division and seven cases were from Kashmir Valley, taking the overall tally to 479062. Among the cases, 173954 are from Jammu division and 305108 from Kashmir Valley. Providing district wise details of the cases, they said Srinagar reported 5, Baramulla 0, Budgam 0, Pulwama 0, Kupwara 1, Anantnag 0, Bandipora 0, Ganderbal 0, Kulgam 1, Shopian 0, Jammu 4, Udhampur 1, Rajouri 1, and Kathua 2. There was no death due to the virus during the time.

### 2 Drug Peddlers Held In Udhampur

Two notorious drug peddlers were detained under the PIT NDPS Act in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, police said on Saturday. Under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, a person can be put under preventive detention for a year without bail. Dossiers of Umar Jaan and Mohd Hanief, both local residents, were prepared on the directions of Senior Superintendent of Police Vinod Kumar and sent for approval. They were detained after obtaining formal orders from the competent authority, a police spokesperson said. They are notorious drug peddlers and were supplying drugs to **More on P10**

### Light To Moderate Rain Forecast In J&K

Weather department here on Saturday forecast scattered light to moderate rain and thunder in Jammu and Kashmir in next 24 hours. A meteorological department official here said scattered light to moderate rain was also expected on Sunday and mainly dry weather thereafter till the end of this month in J&K. Regarding the minimum temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 16.6°C against 13.7°C on the previous night. The temperature was 6.2°C above normal for the summer capital during this time of the year, he said. Qazigund recorded a low of 15.0°C, same as on the previous night. The temperature was 6.1°C **More on P10**



## Ankita case: Prime accused's factory set on fire, Opposition burns govt's effigy

Agencies

Outrage in Rishikesh grew over the alleged killing of Ankita Bhandari with people setting a factory of the prime accused on fire on Saturday.

Ever since the recovery of Ankita's body on Saturday morning, people are demanding death sentence for the accused.

A mob at AIIMS, Rishikesh, vandalised Yamkeshwar MLA Renu Bisht's car. Sensing the situation to be grim, Renu Bisht left the city.

The prime accused in the case is Pulkit Arya, son of former state minister Vinod Arya.

The BJP has expelled Vinod Arya and Pulkit's brother Ankit Arya from the party.

Ankit Arya has also been removed from the post of Deputy Chairman of the Uttarakhand Other Backward Classes Commission with immediate effect.

Meanwhile, the Opposition burnt Uttarakhand government's effigy and demanded strict punishment for the guilty.

On Friday, the protesters had

vandalised Pulkit's resort. On the direction of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the resort has been razed to the ground.

Expressing deep grief over the incident, Assembly Speaker Ritu Khanduri Bhusan said: "This is a heart-breaking incident that shames humanity. We have lost a daughter of Uttarakhand for which we all are sad."

She also expressed condolences to the bereaved family.

The Speaker said that the state government and she herself are with Ankita's family, assuring that justice will prevail and the guilty will be punished.

"Now we have to think as to how much the revenue police is effective in the area. Should revenue police be given policing rights. Strict decisions need to be taken about probing all the illegal resorts," she said.

Pulkit and his two aides have been sent to 14-day judicial custody.

Teams of Municipal Council and Revenue Department have reached Pulkit's place where Vinod Arya said, "We will cooperate with the administration."

## OPERATION 'MEGHA CHAKRA'

# CBI cracks down against online child sexual abuse, raids 56 locations



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The CBI on Saturday carried out searches at 56 locations in 19 states and a Union Territory in connection with two cases of circulation of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) online as part of Operation 'Megha

Chakra', officials said.

The searches were based on inputs from Interpol Singapore and intelligence obtained during last year's Operation Carbon, conducted against peddlers of CSAM on the Internet using cloud storage, they said.

The operation is targeted at

cloud storage facilities used by the peddlers to circulate audiovisuals of illicit sexual activities with minors, thus earning the code 'Megha Chakra'.

The agency, being the first agency to set up a cyber crime unit, has hit CSAM peddlers across India, an official said.

## US relaxes internet sanctions on Iran in support of protesters



Agencies

**WASHINGTON, DC:** The Biden administration has issued a license to relax sanctions on internet services in Iran, saying the move aims to "support the free flow of information" for Iranians amid widespread anti-government protests.

The US Treasury Department said on Friday that the decision comes in response to the Iranian authorities choking off internet access in the country to disrupt demonstrations and "prevent the world from watching its violent crackdown on peaceful protesters".

"With these changes, we are helping the Iranian people be better equipped to counter the government's efforts to surveil and censor them," Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Wally Adeyemo said in a statement.

The ongoing unrest in Iran was sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini following her arrest in the capital, Tehran, for "unsuitable attire" last week.

Iranian police have denied that Amini was beaten in custody, but her case has mobilised demonstrations across the country, igniting a global outcry against Tehran.

Earlier this week, internet watchdog NetBlocks documented a "near-total disruption" to internet service in western Iran and a partial one in the capital, as well as countrywide restrictions on the social media and

communication platforms Instagram and WhatsApp.

"As courageous Iranians take to the streets to protest the death of Mahsa Amini, the United States is redoubling its support for the free flow of information to the Iranian people," Adeyemo said on Friday.

The US license expands sanction exemptions to social media platforms, video conferencing and cloud services, as well as "anti-censorship tools and related software".

Since former US President Donald Trump nixed the Iran nuclear deal in 2015, various sectors of the Iranian economy have been under heavy US sanctions.

President Joe Biden is seeking a return to the pact, which saw Iran scale back its nuclear programme in exchange for a lifting of sanctions against its economy, but diplomatic efforts to revive the deal have stalled.

In recent days, Biden and his top aides have expressed support for Iranian protesters.

"Today, we stand with the brave citizens and the brave women of Iran who right now are demonstrating to secure their basic rights," Biden told the UN General Assembly on Wednesday.

Earlier this week, the US administration also imposed new sanctions on Iran's "morality police" over the death of Amini and subsequent crackdown on protests.

## Shashi Tharoor gets nomination forms collected to contest for Congress president poll



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Saturday got the nomination forms for the AICC presidential poll collected from the party headquarters here, all but confirming an electoral face-off for the top party post with Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.

Tharoor's close aide Aalim Javeri collected the forms from the office of the party's central

election authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry at the AICC headquarters here on the first day of the start of the nomination process.

After over two decades, the Congress is set to see a contest for the post of party chief with Rajasthan Chief Minister Gehlot, who has announced his candidature, expected to take on Tharoor.

Tharoor on Monday had met Sonia Gandhi and expressed his

intention to contest poll, while the Congress president conveyed that she would stay "neutral" in the elections, according to sources.

Sonia Gandhi welcomed the idea of more people contesting the poll and dispelled the notion that there would be an "official candidate".

This report is auto-generated from PTI news service. ThePrint holds no responsibility for its content.

## Facebook violated rights of Palestinian users, report finds



Associated Press

**A**ctions by Facebook and its parent Meta during last year's Gaza war violated the rights of Palestinian users to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, political participation, and non-discrimination, a report commissioned by the social media company has found.

The report Thursday from independent consulting firm Business for Social Responsibility confirmed long-standing criticisms of Meta's policies and their uneven enforcement as it relates to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: It found the company over-enforced rules when it came to Arabic content and under-enforced content in Hebrew.

It, however, did not find intentional bias at Meta, either by the company as a whole or among individual employees. The report's authors said they found "no evidence of racial, ethnic, nationality or religious animus in governing teams" and noted Meta has "employees representing different viewpoints, nationalities, races, ethnicities, and religions relevant to this conflict."

Rather, it found numerous instances of unintended bias that harmed the rights of Palestinian

and Arabic-speaking users.

In response, Meta said it plans to implement some of the report's recommendations, including improving its Hebrew-language "classifiers," which help remove violating posts automatically using artificial intelligence.

"There are no quick, overnight fixes to many of these recommendations, as BSR makes clear," the company based in Menlo Park, California, said in a blog post-Thursday. "While we have made significant changes as a result of this exercise already, this process will take time — including time to understand how some of these recommendations can best be addressed, and whether they are technically feasible."

Meta, the report confirmed, also made serious errors in enforcement. For instance, as the Gaza war raged last May, Instagram briefly banned the hashtag #AlAqsa, a reference to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem's Old City, a flash point in the conflict.

Meta, which owns Instagram, later apologized, explaining its algorithms had mistaken the third-holiest site in Islam for the militant group Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, an armed offshoot of the secular Fatah party.

## US Military May Allow Hijabs, Skull Caps, Turbans, Beards As Presidential Panel Suggests It

Press Trust of India

**WASHINGTON:** A US presidential commission has recommended that all branches of the US military should adopt a standardised uniform policy that presumptively allows for accommodating religious articles of faith, such as turbans, beards, hijabs, skull caps and yarmulkes. The President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders on Friday released its inaugural report detailing recommendations that were approved on May 12.

Religious articles of faith, such as turbans, beards, hijabs, and yarmulkes, a skullcap worn in public by Orthodox Jewish men, were banned from the US military's uniform guidelines in 1981.

The US Army and Air Force changed their uniform policies in 2017 and 2020, respectively, to presumptively allow these articles of faith. "Now, hundreds of service members currently serve in the US Army and Air Force with their articles of faith," the commission said.

"But the US Navy and Marines have provided limited religious accommodations to service mem-

bers and, as a result, force them to violate their religious practice to serve their nation," it said.

The process and policy for religious accommodations is inconsistent between the different branches of the military, the commission said.

The commission has also recommended that the federal government should ensure that emergency and disaster prevention, planning, response, mitigation, and recovery programmes are inclusive of and reflect the experiences of limited English proficient populations.

"Public and emergency alerts should be simultaneously accessible to persons with limited English proficiency at the same time as English-speaking persons," it said.

Federal agencies should provide key documents, digital content, and forms on their websites translated into multiple AA and NHPI (Asian Americans (AA), Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders) languages, the commission recommended.

The White House Domestic Policy Council is currently reviewing the recommendation before it can be sent to President Joe Biden for his decision.

## "Have Plans But..": Pak Minister Bilawal Bhutto On Marriage Question

Agencies

**NEW YORK:** Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, who is considered one of the most eligible bachelors in his country, has revealed plans to marry, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

When asked by Arab News if he plans to marry, Bilawal Bhutto replied, "Of course, I have plans to marry." But added that he is in "no rush."

Bilawal Bhutto, the chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), took over as the 37th Foreign Minister of the country in April this year.

He is the son of former Prime Minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto and former Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari. Bilawal Bhutto is considered one of the key architects who helped oust Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan from power in April.

The Pakistan foreign minister is currently in New York to attend the 77th session of UNGA.

On Friday, Bilawal Bhutto called for generous international support dur-



ing the next phases of rehabilitation and reconstruction due to the Pakistan floods.

Addressing a press conference on the sidelines of the 77th session of the UNGA, he called for "climate justice" for Pakistan.

"This is a tragedy of monumental

proportions," the Pakistan FM was quoted as saying by The Nation newspaper in New York.

According to Bilawal, the total flood damage in Pakistan was over USD 30 billion, 10 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP), with one-third of the country under water.

## Assuming He's In "Coma", Family Keeps Man's Dead Body At Home For 18 Months

Press Trust of India

**KANNUR:** In a bizarre incident, the family of an Income Tax department employee who died last year kept his body at home for almost 18 months assuming that he was in a coma, officials said on Friday.

The man's wife, who appears to be mentally unstable, sprinkled 'gangajal' on his highly decomposed body every morning, hoping that it would help him come out of the coma, they said.

In a statement, the Kannur police said Dixit's death certificate issued by a private hospital stated that he died due to sudden cardiac respiratory syndrome on April 22, 2021.

Vimlesh Dixit, who worked in the Income Tax department, died in



April last year but his family was reluctant to perform his last rites because they believed he was in a coma, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Alok Ranjan said.

"I was informed by Kanpur's Income Tax officials, who requested that the

matter be investigated as the family pension files hadn't moved an inch," he said.

When a team of health officials along with policemen and the magistrate reached Dixit's house in the Rawatpur area on Friday, his family members insist-

ed that he was alive and in a coma, Ranjan said.

After much persuasion, the family members allowed the health team to take the body to Lala Lajpat Rai (LLR) Hospital, where medical tests declared him dead, he said.

The CMO said a three-member team has been constituted to look into the matter thoroughly and asked to submit its findings at the earliest.

Police said the body was found in a highly decomposed state.

Dixit's family had also told their neighbours that he was in a coma. His wife appears to be mentally unstable, an official said on condition of anonymity.

Neighbours told police that the family members were often seen taking oxygen cylinders home.

## NEWS MAKERS





## Expert Committee To Evaluate 'Out Of Syllabus' Paper: KU

### Agencies

Srinagar: Following the allegations of out of syllabi 'Child Law and Juvenile Justice' paper of B A LLB 10th semester, University of Kashmir (KU) has said that it will get the paper evaluated by an expert committee.

KU has said, "Some examinees of B A LLB 10th semester have claimed that their examination paper of 'Child Law and Juvenile Justice' which was held on September 24, 2022 was allegedly out of syllabus."

"As per the Standard

Operating Procedure to be followed in such cases, the said question paper will be sent for evaluation by an expert committee to ascertain the genuineness of the claims of the examinees, in a time-bound manner," KU authorities said.

It also said that further course of action will be taken only after the expert opinion is received.

"Students are advised to stay assured that appropriate justice will be done with them to safeguard their examination prospects," reads the KU statement—(KNO)

## Member NCSC Dr Anju Bala Visits SKUAST-K

### Observer News Service

Srinagar: Member National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), Dr Anju Bala visited Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shalimar to assess the facilities and welfare of the employees and students belonging to the scheduled

iversity's major initiatives undertaken by the university and the current status of the university at the national level which is only possible when the University's actions match with the oneness, solidarity with each other and sharing of common feelings which are basic principles for attaining heights.

Dr Anju Bala after hear-



caste category.

She was accompanied by Director NCSC, Sanjay Kumar Singh and other staff members of the commission.

Besides holding a meeting with Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, directors and deans of the university, she held detailed interactions with the SC and ST category employees and students.

She heard all the students and employees and hailed the SKUAST-K administration for being sensitive and careful about the SC & ST category of employees and students across the University Faculties, Colleges and other Research Stations.

Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai spoke about the uni-

ing the students and staff expressed her satisfaction and confidence in university management under the leadership of Prof Ganai. She also congratulated the Vice-Chancellor of the University for the ranking of the University and for being so careful about the employees and students in general and that of SC and ST in particular.

She also asked the university to come up with a proposal for creating more facilities for SC and ST students and employees in terms of building new hostels and creating facilities for extracurricular activities so that they can contribute more efficiently to the overall development of the university

## LCMA Carries Out Demolition Drive In Ashai-Bagh



### Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Enforcement Wing of LCMA on Saturday carried out a demolition drive in the area of Ashai-bagh Ranger-stop to demolish the illegally raised structures.

During the drive, three tin wallings, three Sheds and two tin raised second stories were demolished / removed.

LCMA in a statement said that during the demolition process some miscreants assembled at various sites and hurled stones on

the demolition team but the team remained on forefront and managed to demolish the illegally raised structures.

Further, legal action against the violators was also initiated.

LCMA has warned people not to resort to any illegal encroachments and asked to get proper building permission from the competent Authority before taking any construction in hand.

During the drive the Police Contingent from PCR, Police Station Nigeen was accompanying the drive.



The residents of Khomeini Chowk, Bemina have urged the authorities to macadamize roads in the locality. KO Photo

## Capacity Building Workshop for Copper Artisans Held At Kashmir Haat

### Observer News Service

Srinagar: A Capacity Building programme was organized for the Artisans of Copperware of Srinagar at Kashmir Haat on Saturday.

The event was conducted in coordination with the Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom (DHH) Kashmir and the PHDCI-Kashmir, under the Support of the Department of Commerce-Ministry of Commerce & Industry Government of India.

In a two day capacity building programme for the artisans of Copperware of Srinagar, the artisans of Copperware attended the programme and acquired the knowledge and awareness about Design Development, Quality improvement, e-commerce, digital marketing and importance of packaging for Copperware.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir, Mahmood Ahmad Shah said that Kashmir is a place possessing rich intangible cultural heritage, including traditional

craftsmanship. Due to globalization processes many of these traditions are in need of safeguard-



ing measures, including those aimed at transmission of this heritage to the next generations.

In this regard, PHDCCI and Handicrafts and Handloom Department are initiating a series of Capacity Building programmes

on traditional craftsmanship, design and entrepreneurship. The capacity-building activity aims at safeguarding, developing and promoting the intangible cultural heritage of Kashmir and, in particular, traditional craftsmanship.

Moreover, the main goal of the trainings is to improve the economic and social well-being of local communities, including women and youth, by creating sustainable income-generating opportunities for them.

He further added that Copperware known as Traam has been an indispensable commodity in Kashmir since ages and the artists associated with the artform of Copperware earlier have faced huge discouragement and it is due to this reason that the department has taken necessary steps towards preserving this craft and it was apprised to artisans that department is initiating the hologram based labeling mechanism on handmade copperware items which shall certify the genuine copperware along with encouraging the e-platform for the copper products being crafted by hand.

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• CAPD: 18001807011  
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SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



### RAILWAYS

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

### HIGHWAY STATUS

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



### PRAYERS

FAJR 4 :57  
ZUHR 12:23  
ASR 4:42  
Magrib 6:28  
ISHA 7:48

## This Day In History

- 1066 - Battle of Stamford Bridge; English army under King Harold Godwinson defeat invading Norwegians led by King Harald Hardrada and Harold's brother Tostig, who were both killed
- 1340 - England & France sign disarmament treaty
- 1396 - Battle of Nicopolis: Sultan Bajezid I defeats Crusades armies
- 1493 - Columbus sails with 17 ships on 2nd voyage to the Americas
- 1513 - Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa crosses the Panama Isthmus becoming first European to see the Pacific Ocean
- 1597 - Amiens surrenders to French King Henri IV
- 1639 - First printing press in America
- 1639 - Suzuki Shosan, Samurai monk of Zen Buddhism, found awakening
- 1654 - England & Denmark sign trade agreement
- 1663 - Austrian Fort Neuhausl surrenders to invading Turkish army
- 1690 - Publick Occurrences, first newspaper in the American colonies (Boston), publishes first & last edition
- 1777 - British general William Howe conquers Philadelphia
- 1780 - Benedict Arnold joins the British
- 1804 - 12th amendment to US constitution, regulating judicial power
- 1820 - French Physicist Francois Arago announces electromagnetism in his discovery that a copper wire between the poles of a voltaic cell could laterally attract iron filings to itself
- 1846 - US troops under Gen Taylor occupies Monterey Mexico
- 1857 - Relief of Lucknow by Havelock & Outram begins
- 1911 - French battleship Liberte explodes at Toulon Harbor, 285 killed.
- 1912 - Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism is founded in New York, New York.

## From KO Archives

## Food Insecurity, Drying Rivers Stare Kashmir In The Face

### Observer News Service

**S**RINAGAR- Kashmir is teetering dangerously on food insecurity as precious paddy land shrinks by conversion to rain-fed orchards and climate change wreaks havoc with rivers, reducing their level by two-thirds over the past forty years, a recently conducted study says.

Kashmir's current 40 per cent food grain deficit is likely to touch over 60 per cent in the next 10 years, a report on climate change released here Monday said. The ActionAid International, an NGO working in over 40 countries, in a 28-page report on climate change and its impact in Kashmir, 'On the brink' said that more and more paddy land is being changed into rain-fed orchards resulting in the food grain deficit.

The report also reveals that the deficit in food production in Kashmir valley region has reached 40 per cent putting food security to a greater risk. The food deficit was just 23 per cent in 1980-81.

Kashmir runs in deficit in food grain production while its horticulture sector earns a revenue of Rs 20 billion.

The report warns that the large scale transition from paddy cultivation to rain-fed crops poses risk to food security in Kashmir.

"In the post-World Trade Organisation scenario, as foreign fruits mainly apples have started flooding Indian markets, demand for Kashmir fruits is likely to reduce and the low demand could cripple the capacity of poor and small farmers to buy food grains from the market," says Arjmand Hussian Talib, the author of the report.

Action Aid International had carried a sample survey which revealed that 1489 acres of paddy land have been converted into rain-fed dry land in north Kashmir districts of Kupwara, Baramulla and Bandipora, south Kashmir districts of Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian and central Kashmir district of Budgam.

Warming Shrinks Kashmir's Rivers, Streams: Water levels in Kashmir's rivers and streams have decreased by two-thirds as a result of global warming which is melting most of the Himalayan region's glaciers, a report said on Monday ss

(Kashmir Observer, September 25, 2000)



ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Anti-Social Welfare

The Social Welfare Department of Jammu and Kashmir government is in the news, yet again for the wrong reasons. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has indicted its officials for “wasteful / idle expenditure, non-implementation of various schemes, misappropriation and locking of funds worth over Rs 49 crore.” Its team has allegedly detected “massive irregularities in distribution of nutrition in Anganwari centres under the integrated child development service scheme, which has been introduced to improve the nutrition and health status of the children in the age group of 0-6 years to reduce the incidence of mortality and malnutrition. The scheme envisages provision of nutrition at the Anganwari centres for 300 days in a year. The disturbing report comes close on the heels of the minister, Haji Nisar Ali’s candid admission describing the Social Welfare Department as “a private limited company.” Winding up the discussion in the legislative council on the grants for his departments last week, he threw the bombshell saying that before assuming the charge over four months back, “the Social Welfare Department had been converted into a private limited company where there was no transparency but I assure the House that in coming months, I will set the department in order.” He attributed the murky goings-on to what he termed as “sheer political intervention and misdeeds in the department.” As if he were delivering a sermon like a cleric, Haji said, “I have made it clear to the officials of the department to either render their service honestly and to the best advantage of needy and poor sections associated with this department or face the axe. Koi suspension nahin, koi attachment nahin, seedha chargesheet hoga.” The minister also threatened action against those accused of wrong-doing in engagement of Anganwari workers. He must certainly be aware of large scale bungling reported almost daily by the local print and electronic media about the Anganwari loot. By setting up official committees to hear the complaints, the department has virtually acknowledged that malpractices had indeed taken place.

By all the available indications, the department entrusted with a variety of social services essentially in the nature of providing the much-needed humanitarian succour to the less fortunate segments of the society like orphans, widows, physically challenged and other destitutes, has, over the years, degenerated into a can of worms. Even the State Vigilance Organization has unearthed some high-profile multi-crore scandals in which its officials have been accused of embezzlement of huge sums meant for buying food items for what are derisively known as Daal centres for being served to the children of indigent families. One would ask the minister what action has been taken to bring the identified culprits to justice. Undoubtedly, they deserved to be sent to the gallows for the heinous crime they have committed. In view of the recent amendment which makes the anti-corruption law much more stringent, the least the government could do was to confiscate the huge assets the scoundrels have amassed during their shameful stint in the department. Indeed, many of them are known to be connected with politicians who might prevail on the government to “take a lenient view” in the matter. What inference can one draw except that instead of initiating retrospective action against the anti-socials within the department, the minister stopped just short of dispensing justice in the case. His tone and tenor would suggest he has condoned what has happened so far and would instead go for prospective action only. Even as the SVO has painstakingly established the criminal involvement of the officials, the government is yet to take the proceedings to the logical end. A huge question mark, it seems, hangs over the government’s intention, whether the threats being hurled day in and day out would at all be executed. At stake, nonetheless, is not merely the future of a department but the credibility of the entire government headed by Ghulam Nabi Azad whose own reputation as a go-getter would appear to be at a serious discount in case the culprits in duly established cases are not handed an exemplary punishment essentially to send the right signal across the state administration. Instead of feeding the state people with mere rhetoric, he would better substantiate it with concrete action.

The article is an editorial from KO’s archives and was originally published on April 4, 2006

For the Women

Takeaways from women’s empowerment during Prophet's (PBUH) Time

For a religion which is labelled “backward”, in its own time, Islam bothered contemporaries for being “too progressive”

Neelofar Rafeeq

The tests of the times are such that it has become increasingly difficult to see our beliefs as they are instead of how they’ve been interpreted or perceived. Whether it is the worldover Islamophobic demonization of muslim women’s choices or the policing within their own communities; women have found it extremely difficult to form an untainted opinion of their own choices as Muslims. There’s been so much said about the oppressed state of women in Islam that one would think it true. One would think that Islam has only set limitations and boundaries upon women. Infact, in some cases, within our own communities too, these biases often keep us from realizing the true benefits of the rights given to women by Islam.

For a religion which is labelled “backward”, in its own time, Islam bothered contemporaries for being “too progressive”. A reason for this was the Prophet’s fight for the rights of women.

The Prophet’s phenomenal success in his mission has always intrigued scholars and laymen alike. As Muslims, we believe that his success was due in no small measure to his outstanding qualities as a leader and divine support. Thanks to the Prophet’s extraordinary leadership skills, he inspired people to join his cause and commit wholeheartedly to it. He encouraged both men and women, young and old, of various levels and ranks. Many A adith are related to women’s status, role, and societal position. Abdullah ibn Amr reports that the Messenger of Allah said, "The world is the provision, and the best provision is a righteous woman." [Shahih Muslim: 1467].

Abu Huraira reports that the Messenger of Allah , said, "I enjoin you to treat women well, for the women were created from a rib and the most cursed part of the rib is its uppermost part. If you try to straighten it, you will break it, but if you leave it as it is, it will remain curved. Thus, I enjoin you to be good to women". [Shahih Bukhari- 3153].

Before the advent of Islam, women were often treated worse than animals. The prophet wanted to stop all cruelties against women. He preached kindness towards them. He told the Muslims: "Fear Allah in respect of women"; "The best of you are they who behave best to their wives"; "A Muslim must not hate his wife, and if he is displeased with one bad quality in her, let him be pleased with one that is good"; and "the more civil and kind a Muslim is to his wife, the more perfect in faith he is."

The Prophet was most emphatic in enjoining Muslims to be kind to their women when he delivered his famous Khutbah on the occasion of Hajj al Wada (Farewell pilgrimage) and said: "Fear Allah regarding women. Verily you have married them with the trust of Allah and made their bodies lawful with the word of Allah. You have got (rights) over them, and they have got (rights) over you in respect of their food and clothing according to your means."

The first person to believe in Allah as the lord and Muhammad as the Messenger and prophet, was his wife, Khadija. She was the first person to support the messenger of Allah . She strengthened him, assured him, and consoled him. She received the prophet and his message with her big heart. After her, many women em-

braced Islam, not in compliance with their husbands' will, out of tribal solidarity, or in obedience to their father's command. Instead, these women, in most cases, embraced Islam independently, out of conviction, and in demonstration of their right of choice.

Khadijah [R.A], the prophet's wife, was undoubtedly the first person to embrace Islam. It is worth remembering that she was attracted to the prophet by his trustworthiness and noble character. A successful entrepreneur of immense wealth, she rejected proposals for marriage from several men of high status. However, she was the one who proposed marriage to the prophet. Khadija [R.A] was not only the first to embrace Isla, but was also the first to place all her wealth at the service of Islam. When the Quraish taunted the prophet, saying that he was the poorest man in Makkah, she went out to the courtyard of the Haram where the Quraish had gathered and declared that she had gifted all of her wealth to Muhammad! Khadija stood by the prophet like a firm pillar of support until the end-sacrificing everything for the cause of Islam.

the messenger,' there are also 'women around the messenger.' Each of these women played their role in the best and noblest way in the arena of faith and sincerity. These women excellently maintained a necessary balance between the two segments of humanity: male and female. They stand out as outstanding models in the history of humanity in a way that made them unrivaled in the history of nations from the time of Adam until Allah inherited the earth and all that is on it. This essential and critical aspect in the life of Allah's Messenger, the message that he was carrying, the journey of Islam in its first step, and the appearance of the dawn of Islam after the stark darkness in which the entire humanity was living then needs to be written down in many reasons.

Allah's Messenger [S.A.W] imparted teaching to the women companions making these allowances and emphasizing them. There was a proper arrangement for women's education in the prophet's times. They did not come to the prophet's classes as men did, but other methods were adopted to teach them. The sahabah [R.A] taught their women and children the Quran at home. When

If there are men companions, there are also women companions. If there are 'men around the messenger,' there are also 'women around the messenger.' Each of these women played their role in the best and noblest way in the arena of faith and sincerity. These women excellently maintained a necessary balance between the two segments of humanity

Khadija [R.A] was not alone in giving up everything for the cause of Islam. Another pioneer was Sumayyah, the mother of Ammar, Who is reported to be the seventh person to choose Islam. Her master unleashed a torrent of punishments upon her as soon as she decided on Islam. She was offered the choice of renouncing Islam or suffering ordeals. She preferred the latter, ultimately surrendering her life. She thus became the first martyr in Islam. The examples set by Sumayyah [R.A] were followed by women from all walks of life under varying circumstances. The sister of Umar [R.A] stood up to her brother, a notorious and relentless persecutor of Muslims, before his conversion to Islam. Umm Salamah and others were among the first batch of emigrants sent by the prophet to Abyssinia. She provided us with the narrative of their encounter with the emperor and the story of their experience in Abyssinia. The prophet's hijrah to Madinah was planned and executed with utmost finesse and skill. It was not a men's affair; women also played a crucial role. A highly guarded secret, it was entrusted to both Asma [R.A] and Aisha [R.A]. They were in charge of arranging provisions for the journey. Even though Asma was in an advanced stage of pregnancy, she would deliver requirements by climbing mountains considered challenging for the toughest of men. Both refused to disclose the prophet's whereabouts and his companion despite threats from Abu jahal, described as the women did not lag behind men in any of the decisive events, which were always at the forefront alongside men.

If there are men companions, there are also women companions. If there are 'men around

the prophet said Knowledge of religion would disappear, Ziyad ibn Labid Ansari [R.A] submitted (How can Knowledge disappear from us when we recite the Quran, and by Allah, we will recite it and teach it to our women and our children). [Musnad Ahmad 4/160, Tirmidhi 3653].

The Prophet used to go to the exclusive gatherings of women companions to educate, encourage them. Syed Asma bint Yazid ibn sakan Ansariyah [R.A] was a knowledgeable and religious woman companion. The other women companions (sahabiyat) sent her as their envoy to the Prophet She said to him, "I have come to you as an envoy of the wives of Muslims who say....and I say too- that Allah has sent you to men and women. We, women, have believed you, and we obey you. We are behind the veil and stay indoors in our homes. We fulfill every wish of our men and raise their children while men offer Salah with the congregation, participate in the funeral and jihad, and earn rewards and excellence. When they go to battle, we look after their property and children. These are evidence that the sahabiyat were very eager to acquire Knowledge. The prophet encouraged them.

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

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How the West Poisoned Its Money

YANIS VAROUFAKIS

Capitalism conquered the world by commodifying almost everything that had a value but not a price, thus driving a sharp wedge between values and prices. It did the same to money. The exchange value of money always reflected people's readiness to hand over valuable things for given sums of cash. But, under capitalism, and once Christianity accepted the idea of charging for loans, money also acquired a market price: the interest rate, or the price of leasing a pile of cash for a given period.

After the 2008 financial crash, and especially during the pandemic, a strange thing happened: money held its exchange value (which inflation diminishes), but its price tanked, turning negative on many occasions. Politicians and central bankers had inadvertently poisoned “humanity’s alienated ability” (Karl Marx’s poetic definition of money). The poison they administered was the post-2008 policy, in Europe and the United States, of harsh austerity for most to finance socialism for the few.

Austerity reduced public expenditure precisely when private expenditure was falling like a brick, accelerating the decline of the sum of private and public expenditure – which is, by definition, national income. Under capitalism, only Big Business has the capacity to borrow significant amounts of the money that lenders, mostly rich people with large savings, are willing to lend. This is why the price of money tanked after 2008: demand for it dried up, as Big Business responded to

austerity’s calamitous effect on demand by canceling investments, even as the supply of money (to Big Business) burgeoned.

Like stockpiles of potatoes that no one wants to buy at the prevailing price, the price of money – the interest rate – drops when demand for it lingers below the quantity available to be lent. But here is the crucial difference: Whereas a rapidly falling potato price cures quickly any over-supply problem, the opposite happens when the price of money falls fast. Instead of rejoicing that they can now borrow more cheaply, investors think: “The central bank must think things are grim to let interest rates drop so much. I won’t invest even if they give me free money!” Even after central bankers cut money’s official price sharply, investment failed to recover – and the price of money kept falling, until it reached negative territory.

It was a strange situation. Negative prices make sense for bads, not goods. When a factory wants to remove toxic waste, it charges a negative price for it: its managers pay someone to get rid of it. But when central banks begin to treat money like car manufacturers treat spent sulfuric acid, or nuclear power stations their radioactive wastewater, one knows that something is rotten in the kingdom of financialized capitalism.

Some commentators now hope that Western money is being purified in the flames of inflation and interest-rate hikes. But inflation is not driving the poison out of the West’s money system. After more than a decade of addiction to poisoned money, no obvious detoxification method presents itself. Inflation today is not the same

beast the West faced in the 1970s and early 1980s. This time around, it threatens labor, capital, and governments in ways that it could not 50 years ago. Back then, labor was organized enough to demand wage increases that averted a cost-of-living crisis, and neither states nor private corporations relied on free money to keep going. Today, there is no optimal interest rate that will restore the balance between money demand and money supply that does not trigger a massive wave of private and public bankruptcy. That is the long-term price of poisoned money.

The US government faces the impossible dilemma of curbing domestic inflation and forcing Corporate America and many friendly governments into a solvency crisis that will threaten America’s own stability. Things are far worse in the eurozone, where policymakers refused to do the obvious once Europe’s banks had failed after 2008: establish a proper federation’s foundation – a fiscal union. Instead, they let the European Central Bank do “whatever it takes” to save the euro. Only by poisoning its own money could the ECB keep the euro show on the road. Today, the ECB owns huge quantities of Italian, Spanish, French, even Greek debt that it can no longer justify holding as a means of achieving its inflation target, but which it cannot renounce without calling the euro’s existence into question.

While pondering the unresolvable conundrum Europe and America face, this is perhaps a good moment to contemplate the deeper reason why money can be poisoned (which is not the same as being debased by inflation). A good start is to borrow Albert Einstein’s

idea that we can make sense of light only of if we accept that it features two distinct behaviors: that of particles and that of waves.

Money, too, has two natures. Its first nature, that of a commodity that we trade with other commodities, can never explain why money would ever acquire a negative price. But its second nature does: Money, like language, is also a reflection of our relation to one another and to our technologies. It echoes how we transform matter and shape the world around us. It quantifies our “alienated ability” to do things together, as a collective. Once we recognize money’s second nature, everything makes a lot more sense.

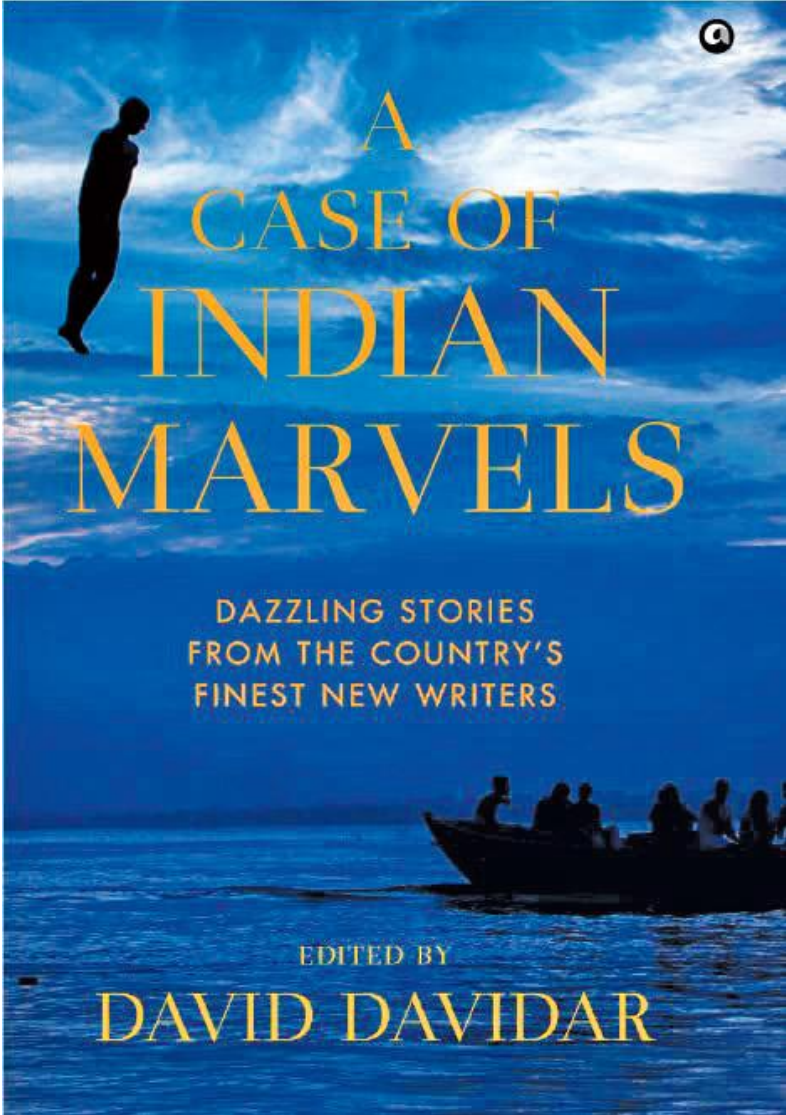
Socialism for bankers and austerity for most of the rest thwarted capitalism’s dynamism, plunging it into a state of gilded stagnation. Poisoned money flowed in torrents, but not into serious investments, good jobs, or anything capable of reanimating capitalism’s lost animal spirits. And now that the specter of inflation hovers above us, no monetary policy can purify money, restore equilibrium, or channel investments where humanity needs them.

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



BOOK REVIEW

# "Goby aer": Untangling the Thread of Grief



**BOOK DETAILS:**  
**A Case of Indian Marvels: Dazzling Stories from the Country's Finest New Writers**  
by David Davidar  
Category: Fiction  
Price: Rs 999

Tooba Towfiq

Millennials and Gen Z are often deemed pernicious to content's future. Ravaging across different platforms, they seem to have transformed content. This transformation is dominantly criticised for demoting the sanctity of true art. Every generation has gone through its own tryst with literature and we've found skeptics and prophets across them. Value judgments aside, there's no harm in heeding to the puritans at times. Perhaps, this is why Aleph Book's new anthology of short stories written by Millennials and the Gen Z authors is praiseworthy.

The anthology *A Case of Indian Marvels: Dazzling Stories from the Country's Finest New Writers* (edited by David Davidar) features forty short stories which deal with India as it had been for the past few decades and India as it is now. The variety captures the pulse and status of India's condition very intimately, trying to bring stories from every niche.

In the confluence of these stories, we find Kashmiri writer Sadaf Wani's literary genius, *Goby aer*.

Kashmir Observer got in touch with the writer to understand the intricately woven tale. Filled with a unique intimate symbolism which almost runs like an indecipherable code, we try to read her story with her.

**Why is writing important for a place like Kashmir and what drove you to writing, especially, fiction writing?**

For a place like Kashmir, where *Goby aer* finds itself sedimented in our bones, writing or any other form of creative expression, can be a radical act as well as a practice for personal healing, catharsis, and comfort. While the bigger existential questions loom over us, creative practices give us something to cling to during this waiting period. I also turn to writing for the same reason.

I enjoy fiction and non-fiction writing. I find it fascinating how non-fiction, specifically research writing, allows us to look around

and identify how external structures shape and govern our most private and intimate life decisions. The whole process of investigating, shifting frameworks, and then seeing familiar things in a whole new light is very exciting to me. In fact, one of my major next projects is a non-fiction book, a short biography of Srinagar.

Fiction performs a very different and, in my opinion, a more superior function, its creative potential allows us to radically imagine and create alternate realities. For most things in life, we tend to accept our roles in normative systems without much thought. Fiction enables us to question, not just our roles but the very existence and functioning logic of these systems. I find it almost magical in how it allows us to communicate, transcend, and subvert our personal and socio-cultural limitations and gives us a chance at being something more. In places like Kashmir, we rely more on such possibilities.

**What is it about the genre of short-stories that makes it a better bet than other genres?**

I don't know if the short stories genre is better than other genres, but I am inclined towards it because, for someone like me, who is still developing their writing style and literary identity, it allows me to experiment without committing to a particular plotline or writing style. This flexibility works both ways, even for readers who can't commit to longer works, short stories allow them the space for engagement and building sustainable reading habits.

A lot of folk tales I grew up hearing from my grandparents and cousins have registered as a series of short stories in my head. There were always familiar background settings, and the characters would appear and disappear without revealing much about themselves. I found it really cool how you could enjoy a narration without making the whole narrative about character construction.

**In the short story "Goby aer", the first-person narrator is invisible and an observant specter-spectator. What is this choice trying to convey?**

I've used this narration style of the looming spirit which tracelessly moves around Kashmir in "*Goby aer*" and in a number of my other short stories. This narration style came very organically to me, partly because it is rooted in my formative experience of growing up in Kashmir, and partly because

of the collective expectation that is placed upon us women, to exist in shadows, especially when it comes to public spaces, our own cities, towns, and villages.

Finding the narration style is a challenging step for every piece of writing, and I have always felt deeply uncomfortable using a narration style that tries to speak for, or homogenize Kashmiri experiences. Therefore, the narrator in my stories always only refers to their experiences and is very conscious of being an observer who can only speculate what people are experiencing.

**Why did you rely on symbolism so much?**

Any work is invariably a product of its times. And this piece too is a product of self-censorship that has seeped into our consciousness as a result of the times we live in. Like many other writers, I too place my faith in symbolism and its potential for communication.

I have been very clear in my head that my writings - both fiction and non-fiction are largely for Kashmiri audiences. That clarity helps, because once the readership is loosely defined, I don't feel the pressure to explain or break down cultural experiences and motifs, so I write with reassurance that there is some shared understanding between me and the readers, and they will get references without me having to walk them through it. Besides, I think it's very important that in our scholarship, and literature we Kashmiris, look inwards and address each other. Recent works which I

feel have achieved the same, include Shabir Ahmad Mir's *The Plague Upon Us* which skillfully employs symbolism to show us that a lot can be said even when you can't say much.

**Kashmiri women carry with them the double-trouble of a matrix of marginalisation. Is this why you've called your complaints of "not being seen", "not being heard" "little inconveniences"?**

In a way, yes. Even though the looming spirit in the stories does not have a normative gender, its experiences (by virtue of it being an extension of me) are essentially gendered. The spirit and its longing for visibility and mobility within the streets and lanes of its 'home-land' is derived from how Kashmiri women are expected to conduct themselves. While this kind of surveillance and prohibition on mobility and leisure are not exclusive to Kashmiri women, they are a part of our lived realities and they are intensified for us by intersecting factors such as political conflict, militarization, patriarchy, financial dependence, etc.

In *Goby aer* and in other short stories also, you can see the visual imagery of how men interact with their surroundings is very different from women. Men are seen in tea shops, in larger gatherings, on roads, in playgrounds, etc. whereas women are almost always indoors. When women are depicted in outdoor spaces, their mobility outside the house and neighborhood is always justified by their domestic duties.

This forced invisibilization of women from public spaces and public conversations is also a manifestation of violent oppression, but because there are so many other forms of oppression at play, we are barely allowed to address these conversations. Women are not, and have never been, just passive observers of the *Goby aer*. "But the men never stop talking, and so the women always leave the room in frustration."

# Winner, Yet More Than Winning

John William Devine

Roger Federer's retirement from competitive tennis means the sun is starting to set on a golden generation of men's tennis, underpinned by the extraordinary feats of Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. News of his retirement has reignited debate about whether he is not just a great of men's tennis but the GOAT: the greatest of all time.

For many, Federer stands alone at the apex of this and every other generation. But this view is not borne out by the numbers. Federer has won fewer grand slams than Nadal and Djokovic, spent fewer weeks at world number one than Djokovic, and won fewer ATP titles than Jimmy Connors.

However, raw numbers are an inadequate measure of sporting success. For one thing, they obscure the effect of events that disrupt equality of opportunity across the generations. For example, the numbers do not reflect the recent COVID interruption (and subsequent exclusion from competition of the unvaccinated Djokovic), nor do they capture the transitional period from amateur to professional tennis.

How many grand slam titles would Rod Laver have won had he not been banned from grand slam events for five years (1963-1967) following his departure from the professional tour? Laver won 11 grand slams during his career, including a calendar grand slam (winning all four slams in the same year) both prior to, and following, his ban. The achievement of even one calendar grand slam has eluded Federer, Nadal and Djokovic.

Even if we had a fair and accurate means to compare sporting success across generations, this would not settle the question of greatness. For sporting greatness is not reducible to sporting success. This distinction may be what Federer fans allude to when they refer to him as the GOAT. Rather than nostalgia for a time when the numbers stacked up in his favour, they may be pointing to a broader notion of sporting greatness.

**WHAT MAKES SPORTING GREATNESS?**

We should embrace a more nuanced understanding of sporting greatness than one restricted to rankings and titles. Victory is one sporting value among many. To operate with the restricted view overlooks important sporting values that were the hallmark of Federer's career: excellence, aesthetics and integrity.

**EXCELLENCE**

Federer played "total tennis". He possessed the full repertoire of skills and capacities - elements of excellence - that the sport tests and makes possible. During his prime, he could serve-and-volley to win points



quickly or grind out long rallies from behind the baseline.

As he entered his mid-thirties, he reinvented his game to play on the baseline and take the ball earlier. While his rivals relied on executing a narrower set of "excellences" supremely well, Federer adapted his game to whatever the circumstance demanded by showcasing different elements at different times.

**AESTHETICS**

The great players do not just perfect the sport as it is, they alter our understanding of what it can be. While aesthetics is central to a sport

such as gymnastics, it is incidental to tennis. An ugly point counts for just as much as a sublime point; un-gainly strokes can be as effective as elegant strokes.

However, Federer's style was uniquely pleasing to the eye. He brought tennis to new aesthetic heights with the grace and fluidity of his strokes and his smooth explosive athleticism. He showed that efficiency need not come at the cost of beauty. His style eliminated the distinction between racket and player; in his hand, the racket was an extension, not an addition. Federer revealed new aesthetic possibilities in

tennis while never compromising on the pursuit of excellence.

**INTEGRITY**

Finally, Federer's greatness also lies partly in his ethics. His integrity as an athlete was most clearly evident in how he conducted himself on the court, how he managed his rivalries, and, perhaps most memorably, how he competed against his greatest rival.

For one so acquainted with winning, Federer knew how to lose well. Throughout his career of more than 1,700 matches, he never retired from a match, never feigned or submit-

ted to injury as a contest began to slip away. He was awarded the ATP sportsmanship award 13 times, an accolade voted on by his fellow professionals on the men's tour.

At each stage of his career, he cultivated relations of reciprocal respect and appreciation with his main rivals, whether it was Andy Roddick in his early period, Nadal in his middle period, or Djokovic in his late period. Through his rivalry with Nadal in particular, we witnessed competition at its best - a mutual quest for excellence in which both players laid down a challenge to each other, and in so doing extended each other's abilities and improved one another in the process.

While their complementary strengths and weaknesses combined to make for compelling contests, the moral quality of the Federer/Nadal rivalry also stands out. They showed us how to compete well. They competed as fiercely as two athletes can, for the highest stakes in their sport, yet neither resorted to the morally dubious means of cheating or gamesmanship.

Even when chasing history, they proved that competition does not have to be cutthroat. Their example puts the lie to any cynical view of competition according to which rivals must be enemies and every opportunity for advantage must be seized. In doing so, Federer and Nadal have done a service not just to tennis but to sport.

Federer has honoured and deepened a tradition of tennis that stretches back through his idol, Pete Sampras, and Sampras's idol, Rod Laver. This tradition prizes attacking flair, fluid technique and impeccable conduct. The modern history of men's tennis arguably begins with Laver, so it is appropriate that the Federer era ends this weekend at the Laver Cup.

In the final analysis, where Federer stands in the pantheon of great tennis champions is less important than how he broadened our understanding of sporting greatness itself. Success is part of it, but only part - excellence, aesthetics, and integrity also define the greatest of all time.

By arrangements with The Conversation



# New Cutting-Edge Tech Diagnoses Heart Failure In Record Time

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have developed an innovative technology that can halve the time taken to detect patients with heart failure, and may be useful for improving diagnosis and delivering more effective treatments to patients.

The technology developed by researchers at the University of East Anglia (UEA), UK, makes use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to develop detailed four dimensional (4D) flow images of the heart.

However, unlike the conventional MRI which takes up to or more than 20 minutes, the new scanning technology takes just eight minutes, they said.

The results provide a precise image of the heart valves and blood flow inside the heart, helping doctors determine the best course of treatment

for patients.

“Heart failure is a dreadful condition resulting from rising pressures inside the heart. We have been re-searching one of the most cutting-edge methods of flow assessment inside the heart called 4D flow MRI,” said lead researcher Pankaj Garg from UEA.

“In 4D flow MRI, we can look at the flow in three directions over time - the fourth dimension,” Garg said in a statement.

According to the research, published in the journal European Radiology Experimental, the best method to diagnose heart failure is by invasive assessment, which is not preferred as it has risks.

An ultrasound scan of the heart called echocardiography is routinely used to measure the peak velocity of blood flow through the mitral valve of the heart. However, this method can be unreliable, they said.



“This new technology is revolutionising how patients with heart disease are diagnosed. However, it takes up to 20 minutes to carry out

a 4D flow MRI and we know that patients do not like having long MRI scans,” said Hosamadin Assadi, said PhD student at UEA.

The research team investigated the reliability of a new technique that uses super-fast methods to scan the flow in the heart, called Kat-ARC.

“We found that this halves the scanning time – and takes around eight minutes. We have also shown how this non-invasive imaging technique can measure the peak velocity of blood flow in the heart accurately and precisely,” Assadi said.

The team tested the new technology with 50 patients at two hospitals in Sheffield, UK. Patients with suspected heart failure were assessed using the new Kat-ARC 4D heart flow MRI.

The team hope their work could revolutionise the speed at which heart failure is diagnosed, benefitting hospitals and patients world-wide.

# New Drug To Lower Symptoms Of Severe Eczema Discovered By Scientists

ANI

Researchers from Northwestern Medicine discovered a new drug that was highly effective in lowering the signs and symptoms of moderate-to-severe eczema. This is the first trial to use a biologic therapy (monoclonal antibody) instead of immune-suppressing drugs to treat moderate-to-severe eczema in infants and children aged 6 months to 5 years.

More than half the children experienced at least a 75 per cent reduction in eczema symptoms, highly significant reductions in itching, and improved sleep after a 16-week course of dupilumab, a drug that targets a crucial immunological system in allergies.

This is the first massive, random, placebo-controlled trial of a monoclonal antibody for any skin condition, including eczema, in kids as young as six months. The study, which covered 31 locations across Europe and North America, will be released in The Lancet on September 15.

According to the lead study author Dr Amy Paller, chair of dermatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and an attending physician at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, "preschoolers who are constantly scratching, awake multiple times a night with their parents, irritable and markedly limited in their ability to do what other children their age can do improved to the extent that they sleep through the night, change their personalities, and have a normal life -- as babies and children should."

Eczema, also known as atopic dermatitis, is a chronic inflammatory skin condition that causes itching, red, dry skin, and frequent weeping. It can have a significant impact on the life of both the patient and their family.

More than one-fifth of all children under the age of six are thought to have

eczema and 85 to 90 per cent of those who have the condition as a whole experience its commencement in the first five years of life.

The crippling itch of the kids causes sleep disruption, poor neurocognitive growth, and, on average, a full night of lost sleep every week.

Infants and young children who suffer greatly from this disease will live far better lives if they can take this medication, according to Paller. "There is a lot more to atopic dermatitis or eczema than just scratchy skin. It is a fatal condition. Severe eczema has a quality of life that rivals many illnesses that are potentially fatal, not just for the child who has it but also for the parents."

This study led to the availability of this drug for infants and preschoolers as young as 6 months. According to Paller, it has "an amazing safety profile" and doesn't even need any laboratory tests before the prescription is started.

The remaining one-third or more of young children with eczema have the moderate-to-severe illness and require more active therapy, even if half to two-thirds of them have mild symptoms that can be managed with steroid ointment and moisturisers.

"Up to now, all we have had to treat more severe eczema is immune-suppressing medications, such as oral steroids, which we try to avoid in children because they are associated with so many side effects and thus are not a preferred treatment for a chronic skin disease," Paller said.

"The potential long-term impact on the development of the immune system in young children is also of concern with these immunosuppressants."

The first "biologic" treatment to treat eczema in a targeted manner or a focused attack on only what researchers have discovered is causing the disease's skin symptoms, has recently been accessible and is called dupilumab. This medication

was determined to be efficient and secure in tests involving adults, adolescents, and other school-aged children.

However, Paller noted that children under 5 were not assessed for safety and could not receive this drug.

The child receives a monthly shot of the drug from a parent or medical professional.

"The effect for most of these younger children is dramatic and at least as good as we've seen with the risky immunosuppressant medications," Paller said.

Potential added benefit by treating associated allergies

Although it has been proven to be helpful in treating asthma, gastrointestinal allergy symptoms, and other allergy-related issues, this medicine is not currently licenced for use in newborns and young children.

In fact, more than 80% of children in this experiment had already developed at least one allergic disease, such as asthma or a food allergy, by the time the dupilumab was started. 66% of children in this trial had eczema during the first six months of life.

"By treating more aggressively to calm the immune system activation in these young children with early, severe eczema, we may also reduce the risk of their developing a range of allergic problems, changing their life beyond improving eczema," Paller said.

"These associated allergic issues most often begin after eczema starts."

Every four weeks for 16 weeks, children were randomly assigned to receive either a placebo injection or the weight-based dose of dupilumab. The only kids who could enrol were those whose topical treatments weren't working well on them, and even then, their severity level had to be high.

Paller added that as a consequence of the study, researchers and medical professionals can begin to comprehend the connections between eczema and a number of allergy problems and can think about whether to use this medicine for additional conditions that affect these very young children.

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NOTICE INVITING – TENDERS  
FRESH E-NIT NO—IFC/ Sumbal/18 OF 2022-23

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor, J&K Union Territory, e-tenders are invited (in single cover system) on "Item rate basis" from Eligible Registered/ Approved and valid agencies registered with J&K Government for the following works: -

S. No	Name of Work	Appr. cost of Rest. (in Lacs)	Earnest Money	Cost of T.D	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	M.H of Account	Position of Funds
01	Clearance of sump and intake channel and drainage cut of Duslipora Dewatering cum Irrigation scheme at Duslipora	0.59	1180.00	200.00 <small>Indicate Name of work with NIT Sd/o on RF/ E-Channel</small>	10 days	DEE	2702-M&R	Available
02	Construction of crate protection work on right embankment of Shadipora Nallah	1.01	2020.00	200.00 <small>Indicate Name of work with NIT Sd/o on RF/ E-Channel</small>	20 days	DEE		
03	Construction of protection wall on Sumbal canal right branch at Mujkund	0.97	1940.00	200.00 <small>Indicate Name of work with NIT Sd/o on RF/ E-Channel</small>	20 days	DEE		
04	Repairs/ renovation to ground floor of Irrigation Sub Division Sumbal	0.46	920.00	200.00 <small>Indicate Name of work with NIT Sd/o on RF/ E-Channel</small>	15 days	DEE		

**POSITION OF AAA = 11-SE/Hyd/DB/I&FC OF 2022-23 Dt. 21/06/2022**

01. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings (if any), book of quantities (BoQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below.

01	Publishing Date	21/09/2022
02	Download date Starts	From 21/09/2022
03	Bid submission date starts	21/09/2022
04	Bid submission date ends	26/09/2022 upto 04:00 PM
05	Submission of hard copies	<small>Hard copies shall be submitted only from the bidder who is declared as 1<sup>st</sup> lowest bidder (L1) on the time of opening of tenders. The cost of tender documents will be collected through e-challan / receipt under head of account 0702. However, the unsuccessful bidders will submit the same separately after the opening of bids online.</small>
06	Date and time of opening bids online	27/09/2022 In the office of Executive Engineer I&FC Division Sumbal (Jal Shakti Department)

2) The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

3) The bids uploaded on the Web site up to due date and time will be opened in the Office of the **Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Sumbal** in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of Holidays or office happening to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. The complete bidding process will be online. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document (Non- Refundable/ Non-transferrable) to be deposited under **MH: 0702-Rev. Misc.** in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt or e-Challan (mentioning therein NIT No, Serial No of work and Adv. Cost of work) to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Irrigation and FC Division Sumbal and **Bid Security declaration form duly self-attested instead of Bid Security (EMD) as per Finance Department J&K Civil Secretariat Jammu/ Srinagar Circular issued vide No. A/ Misc(2018)-III-895/J**, besides the date on the instrument must not be prior to date of issuance of this tender Notice. However, in case of compelling circumstances the same shall be obtained from the successful bidder by this department. (Refer Appendix-I).

4) **Performance Security upto 0.3%** shall have to be furnished by the successful tenderer whenever asked by the department (Refer Appendix-I).

5) The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of Price bids.

6) Instructions to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a) Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual form the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) acquaints bid submission process.

b) To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act- 2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor,

c) The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

d) Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in above at Serial No. 1.

e) Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary Documents.

**Note: Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.**

7) The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of tender due to any reason/ reasons.

8) Scanned copy of Bid Security Declaration Form as per Appendix-4, cost of tender documents in shape of e-challan or Treasury challan/ receipt pledged to the Executive Engineer Irrigation and FC Division Sumbal enlistment card duly renewed, G. S. Tin No.,

9) Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of quantities) contents, in no case they should attempt to create similar manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

10) The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes /Royalty up to completion of the work unless otherwise, specified. 1.1) Special Conditions:

a) Price escalation and Taxes: The item wise cost / offer be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the cost quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes including royalty till completion of work.

b) Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill of the contractor as per the rates prevailing at that time.

c) Bidders are advised to use "My Document" area in their uses on JK tenders e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

d) The bidder shall have the experience of having executed such nature of works i.e., water retaining structures.

e) Complete Bio Data of contractor/ agency as per Appendix (II).

f) Errors/omissions, if any shall be read with SOR 2002.

g) Nothing shall be paid on account of dewatering, diversion or construction of ring bund quantities executed in or under water, making of tracks, ramps and removal of the same after completion even if involved at site. The contractor shall quote their rates accordingly.

h) Drawl of Agreement within 10 days after fixation of contract.

i) Production of original documents necessary for verification on declaration of the lowest bidder by or before 07 days of the opening of Price Bid/generation of comparative statement.

11) **Material:** -

a) In case of non-availability of stocks in divisional stores the contractor may purchase the required material of quality and specifications prescribed, to be certified by Engineer in charge after getting non availability certificate from Executive Engineer and shall not be entitled for any type of excessive rates on this account. 1.3) Qualification criteria for the work and other terms and conditions are as below: -

a) All bidders shall include the following information and documents with their bids G.S.T No./ PAN No/ Regd. Card duly renewed for the current year.

b) If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the BOQ, such item/items shall be deemed to be part of the overall/ total contract value and no rate shall be allowed for such item/ items.

c) The date of start of the work shall be reckoned with in 7th day from the date of issuance of LOI/ contract allotment as the case may be.

d) Restoration of work:- On completion of contract the contractor shall be responsible to remove all un-used material and restore all work in its original position at his own cost, any damage if caused during execution of work shall be restored by the contractor at his own cost.

e) The contractor has to manage housing for labours, electricity, water storage for material, watch and ward and other facilities at his own.

f) Arbitration: The Arbitration and conciliation Act-1996 shall be deemed to apply to the arbitration, disputes, if any regarding reference to Courts shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the J&K Courts only.

g) Defect Liability Period (DLP): The contractor should be responsible to maintain the work within a defective liability period of Six (06) months.

h) Safety: The contractor shall be responsible for safety of all activities at site of work during execution. i) Termination: The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes any fundamental breach of the contract, which shall include stoppage of work without any reason.

j) The Deptt.reserves the right to reduce the actual quantum of work to suit actual site conditions coupled with availability of funds and no claim on this account shall be entertained.

12) The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

13) Insurance: - Insurance cover to labour / Machinery/ Work/ Plant/ Material/ Equipment by the contractor shall be mandatory

14) Since the quantities reflected in the BOQ are tentative / unforeseen and execution should depend upon the actual quantity/ exigency of situation and apprehension of no work or part thereof cannot be ruled out and no claim on this account shall be entertained

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

No:- I&FCD/Sbl/ Sd/-  
Dt:- 21/09/2022 I&FC

**DIPK-10568/22**

Executive Engineer  
Division Sumbal  
(Jal Shakti Deptt)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG  
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS  
Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No.19 of 2022-23

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jand K U.T, e-tenders on percentage basis are invited in Single cover system from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K.U.T Govt. for the following works: -

S. NO.	NAME OF WORK	Estt Cost (Rs in lacs)	Earnest Money (EMD) Rs	Time for completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender document (Rs)	Major Head of Account	Tender opening authority
1	Renovation of Divisional Building of Irrigation Division Anantnag	47,09,080/-	1,42,000	09 Months	AAY & BEE	500	MH-4702 (UT Capex)	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
2.	Construction of Residential / Guest Facility at wande-valgamBrengi, Kokernag	61,12,503/-	1,84,000	09 Months	AAY	500	MH-4702 (UT Capex)	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
3	Construction of lining wall including bed treatment on Sethar minor of Awantipora Canal	37,64,445/-	1,13,000	09 Month	AAY & BEE	500	MH-4702 (UT Capex)	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information , eligibility criteria , specifications , bill of quantities (BOQ) set to terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from :-

1.	Publishing date	22.09.2022	04.00 PM
2.	Download Date Starts	22.09.2022	04.00 PM
3.	BID Submission Date Starts	22.09.2022	04.00 PM
4.	BID Submission Date Ends	11.10.2022	11.00 AM
5.	Date of opening of tenders	11.10.2022	11:30 AM

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and The bids uploaded shall be opened online on above mentioned date by the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday or office happening to be closed on the basis of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (on 100dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag / latest GST clearance certificate /Registration card duly renewed along with Verification/BID Security in the form of EMD as per above.The date of CDR/ FDR/BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder shall be asked to deposit the CDR/FDR pledged to tender receiving authority and other documents in original. The CDR/ FDR and other documents in original shall be deposited within two Days positively after opening of tenders. The EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful bidder will be retained as performance security deposit till expiry of defect liability period, whereas the EMD of unsuccessful bidders will be returned latest by 30 days after award of the contract. The check list of documents for cover 1<sup>st</sup> is attached with the NIT & bidders are advised to recheck the uploaded documents as per the Check list.

2. In case the bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to upload additional performance security deposit in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG as per the breakup given below failing which the tender shall be rejected. The date of CDR/FDR/BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.

3.

S.No	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz. Quoted percentage on BOQ.	Additional Performance Security
01.	Upto and including 15% Below	Nil
02.	> 15% upto and including 20% Below	5% of Advertised Cost
03.	> 20 % upto and including 25% Below	10 % of Advertised Cost
04.	> 25% upto and including 30% Below	15 % of Advertised Cost
05.	> 30 % Below	20 % of Advertised Cost

4. Contractor / Bidder who fails to submit the CDR/FDR / Treasury Challans as required, there EMD will be forfeited besides they will be barred/prohibited from participating in the Tendering process for a period of Six Months (06 Months) in the first instance. Their online uploaded tenders will not be considered for the said period.

No.IDA/3907-29  
Dated:-22-09-2022.

**DIPK-10628/22**

Executive Engineer,  
Irrigation Division Anantnag



## Protests in Kargil Against Desecration of Holy Quran

Observer News Service

**KARGIL:** Ugly scenes of anti-government protesters desecrating holy Quran and other sacred symbols in Iran has enraged people of Kargil.

Recently, protests have erupted in support of Masha Amini, a 22-year-old Iranian girl. She died in hospital following her arrest after she refused to wear a Hijab in a public place which is mandatory in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

These protests, which started in support of Masha Amini, turned violent, and they burned buses, ambulances, Muharram flags, and the Holy Quran.

Some of these protesters released a video in which they burned Holy Quran and provoked other people to do so.

"Jamiat Ul Ulama Isna Ashaira, Kargil strongly condemns the burning of the Holy Quran and the desecration of other Islamic

symbols by the west backed miscreants. We know protests are expected in every democratic society, and so does in Iran. But taking advantage of these protestors damaging public property and spreading disinformation are unacceptable and also seen as a huge conspiracy," Jamiat said in a press release on Saturday.

"From day one, we also condemn some of our national media's spreading propaganda against the Hijab and Islamic values under the pretext of Iran protests. JUIAK congratulate Iranian women who supported the Hijab and Islamic values yesterday," the statement added.

Jamiat Ul Ulama Isna Asharia Kargil has also demanded the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to take stern action against those who are involved in the desecration of the Holy Quran and other Islamic symbols.

## Work Starts To Provide Piped Water To Hilltop Village In Doda

Press Trust Of India

**BHADERWAH:** After struggling for decades, households of a hilltop village in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district will get potable water under the central government's 'Jal Jeevan Mission' (JJM) scheme with a project cost of over Rs 1.78 crore.

District Development Council (DDC) chairman Dhananther Singh Kotwal, along with vice chairperson Sangeeta Rani Bhagat, kick started the work on the project, which is expected to be completed during the current financial year, bringing cheers on the faces of the people of Dhara village.

"We are thankful to Lt Governor administration and Jal Shakti Vibhag for listening to our pleas regarding water scarcity in our area and sanctioning the project under JJM, local DDC councillor Thakur Yudhvir Singh said.

He said the villagers had to face numerous problems, especially during the winter when there is heavy snowfall, to fetch water from a nearby spring.

"After waiting for decades, our dream and struggle is finally going to be fulfilled as work on this project has started," Singh said.

Officials said the source of the water supply scheme to 160 households is Nandooni spring running near the village.

The water supply scheme shall have different components including civil (inlet tank, sedimentation tanks, service reservoirs, filtration plants) and laying and fitting of pipes for gravity main and distribution system, which shall provide 55 functional household tap connections (FHTC's), said.

DDC chairman, Doda, Dhananther Singh congratulated the people for commencement of work on this prestigious project and said they will be relieved from the cumbersome work of fetching water from outside.

DDC vice chairperson Bhagat said it was a long pending demand of the people, which has been addressed.

"More projects under JJM will be inaugurated across Doda district in coming days, she added.

## RP School Nagbal Holds Science Exhibition

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** A Science exhibition titled "Hayat al Sindh Science Exposition" was organised by RP School, Nagbal.

The theme of the exposition was "Contribution of Muslim Women in Science" to boost the morale and interest of female students in science across the valley.

The chief guest of the event was Shayambir Singh, the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, while guest of honour were Z.E.O Ganderbal, Abdul Rehman Mir, Dr Shafa Abeeda, Medical Superintendent SKIMS Medical college, Bemina and Farooq Ganderbali, President, Voice for peace and justice

Students showcased around 50 models based on original innovative ideas. More than 100 students participated in the exhibition.

"The students have outsmarted their age, when I was in school I wasn't even half of what they are!" said Shayambir.

Talking about the benefits of the exposition, Muzzafar Ahmad, Principal RP School, Nagbal said, "Science exhibition is a showcase of the abilities and creative thinking of students. It provides a platform for the students to use their scientific knowledge and put it to practice"

"The main motto of the Science Exhibition is to utilize every natural element found in the environment by keeping in accordance with nature to lead a life of contentment. Science exhibition is a wonderful tool to develop the curiosity to learn more which otherwise is not developed by listening to monotonous lectures" said Najmu Saher, Year Advisor, RP School, Nagbal.

## 2,783 Underground Bunkers Completed Along LoC In Rajouri

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** As many as 2,783 underground bunkers have been completed for the safety of civilians along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Saturday.

District Development Commissioner, Rajouri, Vikas Kundal chaired a meeting of the officers concerned to review the progress on the border bunkers being constructed by the Public Works Department (PWD) and the Rural Development Department (RDD) in the district, an official spokesman said.

He said the meeting was in-

formed that the RDD has so far completed 1,528 bunkers, while 1,255 bunkers were completed by the PWD.

Kundal asked the officers to complete the work on all the slab-level bunkers in one week and all the other bunkers under execution in two weeks.

He directed them to ensure that the bunkers are provided to all the border inhabitants so that their lives are saved from the cross-border shelling.

The cross-border shelling has almost died down after India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir since February 2021.

## Curfew Like Restrictions Imposed In Pattan Villages

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The district authorities in Baramulla on Saturday imposed curfew-like restrictions in several villages of Pattan to avoid any breach of peace in view of religious gathering on 28th day of the Islamic month of Safar.

The decision in this regard has been taken by the district magistrate, Dr Sehrish Asgar in view of the court orders regarding the performance of religious practices of 28th Safar in Imam-bargah of Gund Khawaja Qasim and reports received from reliable sources there is apprehension of breach of peace in the said area, a local news agency CNS reported.

The order issued by DC Sehrish further says that to maintain peace & to prevent any imminent danger to human life and public/ private property, restrictions have been imposed in Gund Khwaja Qasim and Kanterbough of Tehsil Singhpora, Pattan including the stipulations/ restrictions.

Meanwhile, the DM has also



directed not to allow any assembly or congregation(s) of four or more persons in these areas on 25 & 26 September.

"No person, other than a member of armed Force/Police/ Magistrate or a public servant duly authorized and on duty, shall carry in public fire arms or an article capable of being used as weapon of offence in these areas," reads the order.

"Besides above restrictions,

no person shall use loudspeakers or any other amplifying sound for making a speech or any announcement for any other purpose whether from a moving vehicle or otherwise except with prior permission on 25 and 26 September 2022," it adds.

According to the order, SDM Pattan has been directed to deploy duty magistrates at appropriate locations in the area on

## Mayor, Deputy Mayor Of BJP Ruled JMC Resign

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** In a sudden development, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) mayor Chander Mohan Gupta and his deputy Purnima Sharma on Saturday submitted their resignations to focus on strengthening the BJP to have the "first Dogra chief minister" in the Union Territory.

The resignations came following a meeting of BJP corporators and senior leaders chaired by party's Jammu and Kashmir unit president Ravinder Raina here.

Gupta said they decided to resign keeping in mind the next Assembly elections and the target of 50-plus seats set by the party to have the "first Dogra chief minister" in J and K.

"BJP is the world's largest political party and has expanded to every nook and corner of J-K. Since the Assembly elections are taking place, we have set a target to form the next government after the abrogation of Article 370 (in August 2019).

"Every BJP worker has to work hard to create history by having the first Dogra chief minister," he told reporters after putting up his papers.

The Assembly elections will be held in Jammu and Kashmir after the final electoral roll is published, which is scheduled to take place on November 25. The erstwhile state has been with out an Assembly since 2018. The Centre had on August 5, 2019, ended Jammu and Kashmir's special status and downgraded it to a Union territory.

The opposition corporators termed the resignations of Gupta and Sharma as their "victory" and said their long pending demand was fulfilled.

"The entire opposition was demanding the resignation of

the mayor and deputy mayor for the past several years because of their failure to run the JMC smoothly," corporator Gaurav Gupta, a former member of the Congress, said.

He said the BJP-led corporation failed to live up to the expectations of the people due to "inefficiency" of the mayor and his team.

"Both of them were facing strong resentment even from BJP corporators and their sudden resignation was the outcome of internal bickering within the party," he claimed.

Expressing similar views, independent corporators Sobat Ali and Amit Gupta demanded free and fair elections for the post of the mayor and the deputy mayor as per the rules.

Talking about his resignation, Chander Mohan Gupta said he has no greed for any post and would fulfill the assigned responsibilities anywhere in Jammu and Kashmir with "dedication and devotion".

Expressing satisfaction over the functioning of the JMC under his mayorship, he said a number of developmental projects were completed and many more are nearing completion.

"The work on many languishing projects like artificial pondage (lake) in Tawi river is going on in full swing and will be completed on time," Gupta said.

Earlier, J-K BJP chief Raina said both Gupta and Sharma resigned voluntarily and expressed their desire to work for strengthening the party.

He said the meeting lauded the role of the two during the past four years, especially in implementation of developmental works under the Jammu Smart City projects.

"The party will decide the name of the next mayor and the deputy mayor in consultation

with the corporators," Raina told reporters after the joint meeting of the party corporators and leaders.

A BJP leader said a meeting of the corporators and senior leaders has been convened at the party headquarters on Sunday to reach a consensus on the name of the new mayor and the deputy mayor.

BJP national general secretary and in-charge J and K Tarun Chugh is also attending the meeting, he said, adding the names of the new mayor and the deputy mayor are likely to be announced on Sunday evening.

Gupta and Sharma took over their respective posts on November 15, 2018, after the BJP swept the prestigious JMC, winning 43 out of the 75 wards. The urban local bodies elections were held in four phases from October 8-16 in 2018 after a gap of 13 years.

The leader said the BJP had initially decided to change the mayor and his deputy after they complete their half terms. However, due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, the party decided to continue with both of them, he added.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be on a three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from September 30 where he is planned to pay obeisance to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, address two rallies and review developmental activities, party leaders said on Saturday.

J-K BJP general secretary and former minister Sunil Sharma told a press conference here that the visit should not be linked to yet-to-be announced Assembly polls, even though a senior leader said on the condition of anonymity the "rallies will be the beginning of the BJP's election campaign".

## Govt Trucks To Ferry Tribal Families For Seasonal Migration

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The district authority in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban has banned foot movement of nomadic families with their livestock in an effort to ensure hassle-free vehicular traffic on the strategic 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway, officials said on Saturday.

However, the authorities will make available 50 trucks to transport the tribal families returning to Jammu from the highland pastures of Kashmir, they said.

Quoting a recent order by Ramban District Magistrate Mussarat Islam, the officials said Sub-divisional Magistrate Banihal Zahir Abbas had been appointed as nodal officer to oversee the migration plan.

The nodal officer will be assisted by the district's Assistant Regional Transport Officer Samrinder Singh and Manager, Road Transport Corporation,



Rajesh, the district magistrate said in the order. Their mobile numbers been designated as helpline numbers.

The order bans foot movement of the nomadic families and their livestock on the highway, the district's only all-weather road linking Kashmir to the rest of India.

Every year, lakhs of people from nomadic tribes, mainly the Gujjars and Bakerwals, migrate to the Valley when temperatures soar in the plains of

Jammu in April-May before returning ahead of the onset of winter.

The Union Territory's tribal affairs department, for the first time this May, provided trucks to transport the families and their livestock from various districts in Jammu to the highland pastures of Kashmir.

This reduced their travel time from 20-30 days to one to two days, while also helping in smooth traffic management, especially on the highway.

## Reasi Bans Bovine Transportation Without Permission

Observer News Service

**REASI:** The district administration here on Saturday issued a regulatory order prohibiting transportation of bovines with certain exceptions.

An order issued here stated that "To prevent bovine animal smuggling in Reasi District, I, Abdul Star, JKAS, Additional District Magistrate, Reasi in exercise of powers vested in me under section 144 Cr.PC do hereby prohibit the transportation of bovine animals except If required to be transported along with movement of "Dera" by Scheduled Tribe community, every application shall be verified by the Tehsildar concerned who will certify number of animals that the applicant possesses and is desirous of transporting.

Verification shall also be sought about the particulars of the applicants from the Senior Superintendent of Police. On the basis of certificate provided by the Tehsildar and verification by Senior Superintendent of Police, Additional District Magistrate (Additional Deputy Commissioner) Reasi shall give written permission to the applicant to carry the exact number of animals that he possesses.

In case of transportation for commercial/dairy purpose, the applicant shall apply to this office along with written permit from District Magistrate of the district of his/her residence, a copy of police verification report by Senior Superintendent of Police of district of his/her residence and certificate by

Chief Animal Husbandry Officer of his/her district to the effect that he has a dairy and capacity to house the number of animals that he is transporting.

On the production of these documents the Additional District Magistrate (Additional Deputy Commissioner) Reasi shall obtain verification from the Senior Superintendent of Police, Reasi and thereafter get animals checked from Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Reasi. Only after receiving these documents Additional District Magistrate (Additional Deputy Commissioner) Reasi shall issue the permission to transport bovine animals. He shall also ensure that permission is given only for pregnant/lactating cattle.

Every permission given by the Additional District Magistrate (Additional Deputy Commissioner), Reasi shall be valid only for 3 days and shall bear a stamp to the effect. Every permission in connection with Nomad's Dera shifting, alongwith carrying any animal in a goods vehicle shall be accorded in favour of Nomad families strictly as per the terms & conditions to be complied by Notification - SRO 447 dated 12-07-2019 issued by Principal Secretary to Government, Transport Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Srinagar. This order shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of 2 months unless rescinded earlier. This order shall not apply in case of Govt. agencies that take the cattle for Departmental purpose"

## UP Man Arrested For Kneading Flour Dough With Feet In Budgam

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Police on Saturday arrested a lotus stem fritters/tea stall vendor after a video went viral showing him making unhealthy food items (Nadur Munji) by kneading the flour dough with feet in Central Kashmir's Budgam district.

In a handout, the police said that, Budgam Police swung into action by arresting a lotus stem fritters/tea stall vendor after a video went viral showing him making unhealthy food items (Nadur Munji) by kneading the flour dough with feet. The unit was sealed soon after the video surfaced on social media. The arrested person involved in the act has been identified as Imran Hussain Halwayi son of

Mehboob Hussain Halwayi resident of Rehadu Uttar Pradesh, at present Imran Hotel Ompora Budgam.

The police spokesman further stated that in this regard Case FIR number 334/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Budgam and investigation into the matter is going on.

Community members have applauded the efforts made by the Police to nab such persons for unhygienic way of kneading the dough and to sell the contaminated food items to general public. Our consistent actions shall assure community members that Police has resolved to act tough against individuals involved in any kind of criminal activities, reads the statement.

## Secretary Planning Reviews Progress Of MPLAD Scheme In J&K UT

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Secretary, Planning Development and Monitoring Department, Dr. Raghu Langer on Saturday took a review meeting with all Nodal Deputy Commissioners regarding Physical and Financial Progress of 16th and 17th Lok Sabha, Member Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme.

While welcoming the officers, the Secretary apprised the participants that monitoring of MPLADS has to be made a regular phenomenon and accordingly all the Nodal District Authorities i.e. DDC Jammu/Udhampur/Anantnag/Baramulla/Srinagar; implementing MPLADS were directed to immediately reconcile the latest physical/financial status under the scheme and forward the same to the Administrative Department. During the review Secretary PD&MD pointed out that 16th Lok Sabha MPLADS accounts ought to be closed as per the ensuing guidelines of MPLADS on priority; and all Chief Planning Officers were directed to ensure compliance and submission of the Utilisation Certificates.

DG, PMCE Division of Planning Department, Shahzada Bilal Ahmad apprised the chair that under 17th Lok Sabha a total of 480 works have been sanctioned in J&K till date, against which 247 works stand completed and 233 no of works are in progress. Further, UC's of Rs 1823 lakhs stand submitted to Gol against total

releases of Rs 3300 lakhs. All officers were directed by the Chair that time lines should be fixed for ongoing works and a meeting scheduled immediately with all concerned line departments for expediting the implementation of works.

It was also impressed upon all the Nodal District Authorities to share the list (District-wise and Sector-wise) of all ongoing works with MPLADS Section of Planning Dev. and Monitoring Department on priority. Nodal District Authorities for Jammu/Udhampur/Anantnag & Srinagar Lok Sabha Constituencies were directed to settle all bottlenecks with the line agencies while implementing MPLADS on ground and Nodal District Authority Baramulla LS Constituency was directed to review the scheme on priority to clear the mismatch/ discrepancy of sanctioned works and completed works between Nodal District and Implementing Districts.

The objective of the MPLAD scheme is to enable the MP's to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs to be taken up in their constituencies. 15% of the MP-LADS entitlement is to be recommended every year for works in areas inhabited by SC Population and 7.5% for areas inhabited by ST Population. The entitlement of each MP per annum under the scheme is Rs 5 crores.



# Rain Woes Mount In Delhi, More Showers Likely

Press Trust of India

**New Delhi:** Rains lashed Delhi for the third consecutive day on Saturday with the incessant downpour worsening the woes due to water-logging, while the weather-man predicted more showers over the next two days.

Traffic snarls were seen in many parts of the city with several key road stretches dotted with puddles.

The Safdarjung Observatory, Delhi's primary weather station, gauged 6 mm of rainfall after 8.30 am on Saturday.

The national capital witnessed a sharp drop in mercury as the maximum temperature settled at 27.2 degrees Celsius, seven notches below the normal.

The minimum temperature settled at 22.6 degrees Celsius, one notch above the normal.

The weather department had issued a "yellow alert" for Saturday as well, cautioning people about moderate rain at most places in Delhi with heavy rains at a couple of locations.

Traffic snarls were reported from different parts of the national capital. The Delhi Traffic Police advised commuters to plan their journey accordingly.

It tweeted, "As per IMD report, light to moderate intensity rain would occur over Delhi and adjoining areas. Commuters are advised to plan their journey accordingly."

"Traffic is heavy on Road No 51 in the carriageway from Majlis Park towards Azadpur due to pothole. Kindly avoid the stretch," it said in another tweet.

Traffic is heavy on Rohtak Road in the carriageway from Mundka towards Rajdhani Park Metro Station. Kindly avoid the stretch, it tweeted.

In another tweet, it said traffic is heavy on Nangloi Najafgarh Road in the

carriageway from Najafgarh towards Nangloi due to pothole near Banke Bihari Sweets and asked commuters to avoid the stretch.

According to the traffic helpline, 16 calls related to traffic jams, three related to waterlogging and five related to tree falling were received during the day.

Traffic is affected on Dhansa and Bahadur Garh Stand, Najafgarh due to waterlogging and potholes at Phirni Road. Kindly avoid the stretch, the traffic police said.

Some commuters posted on social media that the traffic was heavy in Azadpur area of northwest Delhi The Timarpur area in north Delhi was been affected by the traffic.

One of the users said the traffic was heavy in Libaspur underpass towards Samaypur Badli.

There were reports of trees falling in Arvindo Marg near Adhchini red light and near Mahipalpur towards Chhattarpur.

The traffic police helpline on Friday had received 19 calls regarding traffic congestion, 11 regarding waterlogging and 22 due to fallen trees.

While on Thursday, it had received 23 calls related to traffic jams, seven regarding waterlogging and two related to the uprooting of trees from different parts of the national capital.

"Generally cloudy sky with light rainfall is expected in the national capital in the next two days," a bulletin issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

According to the weather department, light to moderate intensity rain occurred over and in the adjoining areas of entire Delhi and NCR (Hindon AF Station, Ghaziabad, Indirapuram, Chhapraula, Noida, Dadri, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Faridabad, Manesar, Ballabhgarh).

The relative humidity at 5.30 pm was recorded at 100 per cent, as per data shared by the IMD.



Four women trainees of IIFL Retail Associate Training Centre, Kupwara were successfully placed for jobs in Srinagar during their Industry Visit on 15 September 2022.

## Two-Day Regional Conference On Contemporary Judicial Developments Begins In Srinagar

Press Trust of India

**Srinagar:** A two-day regional conference on contemporary judicial developments and strengthening justice through law and technology commenced here on Saturday.

The conference at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre was inaugurated by Supreme Court judge Justice A S Oka in the presence of Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, an official spokesman said.

The regional conference is being organised by the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and hosted by the High Court of J-K and Ladakh and the Jammu and Kashmir Judicial Academy, he said.

The inaugural session was also attended by several judges of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh high courts and judicial officers, the spokesman said.

In his inaugural address, Justice Oka said the members of the judiciary are answerable to the common people.

He impressed upon the judges to ensure that they function in



a transparent way and advised them to be accept constructive criticism for ensuring productivity and efficiency.

In his welcome address, Justice Mithal said, "To rise to the practically achievable heights, it is requisite that we make progress by leaps and bounds."

"It would be possible to do so only if we all join our heads together, put our best foot forward and devote our time and energy," he said.

Justice Mithal also stressed the need to apply technological advancements in earnest and reap its dividends. On the occasion, a newsletter was released which highlighted the accomplishments and endeavours of the High Court of J-K and Ladakh and all institutions under its umbrella for the period January 2021 to August 2022.

The first day of the two-day north zone regional conference witnessed three technical sessions.

CHANDIGARH UNIVERSITY VIDEO CASE

## Army Man Held From Arunachal Pradesh, Fourth Arrest In Case



Press Trust of India

**Chandigarh:** The Punjab Police on Saturday said it has arrested an Army man in connection with the Chandigarh University case, in which it was alleged that a hostel inmate recorded several objectionable videos of girl students in the common washroom.

Punjab Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said Sanjeev Singh was nabbed from Arunachal Pradesh.

He will be produced before a Mohali court.

"Crucial breakthrough in the #ChandigarhUniversity case with the assistance of the #Army, #Assam & #Arunachal Pradesh Police. Accused Army personnel Sanjeev Singh arrested from Sela Pass, Arunachal Pradesh. Transit remand obtained from Ld CJM Bomidila for production before Mohali court," the DGP tweeted.

An Army official in Delhi said the Indian Army practices zero tolerance of such acts and will continue to provide all assistance for early conclusion of investigation.

"During the ongoing investigations by Punjab Police in a sensitive case, it has revealed that a serving Army soldier is likely to have been involved in acts chargeable under sections of the IPC and IT Act.

"Immediately on receipt of information from the police authorities, all possible assistance was extended to Punjab and Arunachal Pradesh Police to arrest the soldier and hand over his custody for further investigations," the Army official said.

DGP Yadav said the accused Army personnel was suspected of blackmailing the accused woman student.

He said based on forensic and digital evidence, a Mohali police team was dispatched to Arunachal Pradesh to arrest the accused.

Police also obtained a two-day transit remand of the accused from the court of chief judicial magistrate (CJM), Bomidila. "The guilty in this case will not be spared and justice will prevail," said the DGP.

Police had earlier arrested three people -- a girl student and two men -- from Himachal Pradesh.

Protests had rocked the university campus in Punjab's Mohali last week over allegations levelled by students that a hostel inmate recorded several objectionable videos of students in the common washroom.

Some students had even claimed that the videos were leaked. The university authorities, however, dismissed these allegations as "false and baseless".

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### HM Amit Shah

at 11 am on October 2.

Shah will pay obeisance at the revered shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi on October 1 before addressing the rally, said the leader quoted above on the condition of anonymity.

Talking about the rallies, Sharma said there are many expectations and hopes of people across Kashmir from the BJP and the Central government.

"Every person has faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government. To give that belief a shape, to fulfil those expectations, and to assess the developmental activities of the UT's LG administration, the Union Minister will arrive in J-K on September 30," he said.

He said people from across Kashmir, especially north Kashmir, will attend the rally. "People from south Kashmir will also attend it."

Sharma said the Union minister will speak about various developmental activities undertaken by the Centre. "He will also speak about new steps taken by the Centre on the developmental front," Sharma added.

The Union Home minister's visit will be a big step to strengthen the belief of the people in the BJP and the Central Government, the BJP leader said.

"It will be the Union home minister's direct dialogue with the people of Kashmir in the form of the rally," he added.

The BJP leader said there will be many other official engagements but refused to share the details.

"But, as far as the party programmes are concerned, delegations from across party lines, or even business leaders, intellectuals, can meet him. Party activities will be discussed with senior leaders as well," he said.

Asked if Shah will lay the foundation stone for the proposed cancer hospital in Eidgah area of the city here, Sharma said according to the information the party has, there is a session on developmental activities.

"Perhaps, the foundation of the cancer hospital will also be laid and other developmental activities will take place," he said.

While the party officially said the visit was not linked to the polls, the BJP leader quoted above without being named said, "Home Minister Shah's visit to address two mega public rallies will be the beginning of the BJP's election campaign from the Muslim majority districts."

"Both Rajouri and Baramulla are

home to a large population of Pahari-speaking people who have attached high hopes from the BJP for grant them scheduled tribe status," the leader told PTI.

He said the home minister will directly speak to the Pahari community.

He also said that after his public rally at Rajouri -- the hometown of J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina -- the home minister will return to Jammu the same day (October 1) and inaugurate the Jammu-Akhnor flyover along Jammu-Poonch national highway and several other projects.

He will chair a meeting of senior BJP leaders before leaving for Srinagar in the evening, the leader said.

The ongoing Special Summary Revision of electoral roll in Union Territory is scheduled to end on November 25 with the publication of final voter list.

### High Level

infiltration and law and order.

"He will also review developmental projects and meet officials from the civil administration," they said.

Sources said the security review is likely to take place at Raj Bhawan in Srinagar where J&K LG Manoj Sinha, J&K DGP Dilbagh Singh, ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, top officials of army, BSF, CRPF, intelligence and other security agencies will be present. "A separate review will be about developmental projects in J&K where heads of various departments will be present," they said.

On August 25, Shah chaired a security review meeting on J&K in New Delhi. The meeting was attended by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Army Chief Manoj Pandey, Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha and Research and Analysis Wing Chief Samant Goel. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General Kuldeep Singh, Border Security Force (BSF) chief Pankaj Singh and National Investigation Agency (NIA) Director General Dinkar Gupta also attended the meeting.

Earlier, Shah had held meetings in May and June where security preparations related to Amarnath Yatra were discussed. Post abrogation of article 370, the Home Minister has been personally reviewing security of J&K. He has already announced zero tolerance for militancy.

A BJP leader, privy to the Shah's J&K

visit, said that there was a possibility that the Home Minister may visit a few families of martyrs in Kashmir--(KNO)

### Two Migrant

Soon after the attack, police and central forces reached the spot and launched a search operation to nab the attackers.

### 2 J&K Youth

and Maruf Hussain (25), both residents of Poonch district in Jammu and Kashmir.

### Inter-Migration

admission and warrants action against the concerned."

"Besides, above, the migration shall be governed by the guidelines as envisaged in notification issued by the Director Academics of JKBOSE," it reads--(KNO)

### Wildlife Dept

identification of the leopard be ensured before it is hunted ensuring that no animal is hunted on account of mistaken identity. It should be also ensured that this permission is not misused by any organization or individual to avail the opportunity for hunting any other leopard in the area under the garb of this permission," it reads.

### CONTINUE FROM PAGE 3 Silk Industry Slows

to produce more cocoons," Yayat Khan, a farmer from North Kashmir's Baramulla told Kashmir Observer.

He further said the farmers don't have skills to produce quality cocoons in the Valley and that the Sericulture department needs to hold different workshops and awareness camps.

The experts attribute several factors for the decrease in production of cocoon cultivation in the UT.

Dr. Firdous Ahmad Malik, Assistant Professor at Sericulture college, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) told Kashmir Observer that shortage of quality mulberry leaves, less technical guidance required for farmers, less hybrid breed of silk worms are the main reasons for the decline in cocoon production, thus leading to less silk production.

"The cocoon productivity is of course less. The government needs to take immediate steps to address these issues, so that the silk industry will flourish," Dr. Malik said.

He further maintained that the Sericulture department needs to avoid procuring silkworm seeds from the other states and rather focus on procuring it within the Union Territory.

"For that, the farmers need to be trained and it needs immediate scientific intervention," he added.

Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, Director, Sericulture told Kashmir Observer that the mulberry trees were slaughtered by the people since the inception of militancy during early 1990s.

"There was enough plantation of mulberry trees in the rural area of Kashmir. However, people chopped-off these trees regularly resulting in decline in cocoon production," Qadri added.

Qadri however said the department is very keen to revive it and as a first step mass plantation of mulberry trees is being done in J&K.

"The government is also planting the trees in state land, where it is available and the trees are being distributed free of cost to the farmers," he said.

It may be noted that mulberry trees are the only source of food for silkworms. The Sericulture department provides silkworm seeds to the farmers, who then feed silkworms on mulberry leaves to make cocoons.

It takes silkworm 3-8 days to spin the silk cocoon measuring about 100 meters on an average. The silk is then extracted through industry processing to weave it into silk fabric. The entire process takes only 15-20 days.

The LG administration in the year 2021 took significant steps regarding the rearing process of cocoons, to boost silk production in the region.

According to a report, for the development of healthy silk two basic seed stations have been established at Udhampur and Mirgund in the outskirts of Srinagar.

According to the government, the sericulture department has 173 mulberry nurseries spread over an area of 963 acres, and 374 mulberry blocks over an area of 2215 acres spread across the UT.

"The nurseries are utilized for production of saplings/cuttings for further distribution amongst farmers to augment area under mulberry and mulberry blocks which serve as leaf reservoirs for the landless and marginal farmers," the department says.

The UT produces 800 metric ton of silk cocoons annually, out of which 50 percent come from the valley, while 50 percent comes from Jammu.

"Most of the cocoon production comes from the rural areas of the UT," Qadri added.

The farmers also export the raw cocoons to the other states of the country including Karnataka, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Qadri said the Sericulture department doesn't buy the silk from the farmer, rather they organise an auction market for buyers and the farmers.

"70 percent of cocoons are exported to other states while only 30 percent buyers are locals. The best quality cocoon gets good rates. Normally, one kilogram of best cocoons sells at Rs 1300- 1500," Qadri added.

### NIA Files Charges

Fighter and Martyr of J&K, who laid down his life for the independence of Jammu and Kashmir," the spokesperson said.

In one of such online interviews in context of abrogation of Article 370, the spokesperson said, Babu Singh had challenged and threatened the Government of India to desist from further breaking Jammu and Kashmir.

"The association of Babu Singh with Mohd. Hussain Khateeb and other cadres of HM outfit, operating from Pakistan has also been established in investigation. Anti-national and highly inflammatory content has been recovered by SIA form the mobile phone of Babu Singh which establishes his intention to damage and threaten the unity, integrity and sovereignty of India," the spokesperson said.

He further said that for all these acts, of omission and commission, offences under sections 13,16,17,18,20,38,39 & 40 of UA (P) Act 1967 have been attracted against Babu Singh and others.

### Woman Delivers

their support in ensuring that both Shaheena and her newborn reached the hospital in time.

"We were caught in traffic for over two hours and as the patient's condition deteriorated, we decided to go ahead with the delivery. Both the mother and the child are now admitted in the hospital and are stable," said the nursing orderly accompanying Shaheena from the sub-district hospital in Gool to Ramban.

Traffic department officials said the stones rolling off the hillock hampered traffic movement from both sides.

### Two Mortar

during cross-border shelling, which

was a routine affair before the renewed ceasefire between India and Pakistan in February last year.

### J&K Logs 16

So far 4785 people have succumbed to the virus and among them include 2352 from Jammu division and 2433 from the Valley.

Besides, they said, 21 Covid-19 patients recovered during the last 24 hours--six from Jammu division and 15 from Kashmir Valley. There are now 168 active cases-- 51 in Jammu and 117 in Kashmir.

### 2 Drug Peddlers

youths in the district, especially in Udhampur town, he said.

### Light To Moderate

above normal there, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at 10.8°C against 9.6°C on the previous night and it was 4.6°C above normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 14.6°C against 13.3°C the previous night and it was 5.0°C above normal for the place, he said.

World famous Gulmarg resort recorded a low of 8.0°C against 8.6°C on the previous night. It was 1.0°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at 12.3°C against 10.1°C on the previous night, the official said. It was 3.0°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

### SIA Searches

of the ways and means is to send consignments of heroin, brown sugar and other contraband substances worth lakhs of rupees and smuggle the same to valley," he added.

He further said that these consignments are being sold in markets or smuggled to other parts of the country for sale and proceeds of sale are being ploughed back or passed on to terror organizations to further terror and unlawful activities.

"During the searches, incriminating material including digital weighing machine, Cell phones, electronic gadgets, important documents, bank accounts, digital evidence and other incriminating material having a bearing on the investigation of the case were recovered and seized," the spokesperson said.

He further said that analysis of the data and evidence would follow and leads that would emerge would become the basis for further investigation.



# IND vs AUS 3rd T20I Preview: Focus On Bowlers As Teams Gear Up For Series Decider

Press Trust of India

**HYDERABAD:** India will be hoping their key bowlers, Harshal Patel and Yuzvendra Chahal, are back to their best when the hosts take on Australia in the series-deciding third T20 International in Hyderabad on Sunday.

India were able to plug the gaps in Nagpur to level the three-match series with a comprehensive win in the eight-over-a-side contest. But they will need their bowlers, especially Harshal and Chahal, to overcome their struggles ahead of the T20 World Cup.

India had got off to an electric start in the last game with Axar Patel bowling a fiery two-over spell that included a couple of wickets but they are struggling at the back end of the innings.

While Jasprit Bumrah is sure to carry the responsibility, senior seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar's poor show at the death overs is a real concern. He



struggled in the Asia Cup and in the opener against Australia.

He was dropped for the second T20, perhaps, because

skipper Rohit Sharma felt he needed only four bowlers for the eight overs but Bhuvneshwar's form is worrisome.

Death overs specialist Harshal, who is returning from an injury, also hasn't inspired confidence and perhaps needs a

couple of matches more to find his rhythm.

The right-arm medium pacer, who relies on his variations

to be effective, has conceded 81 runs in his six overs at an economy rate of 13.50 and is the most expensive bowler in the series. He has struggled to get his lengths right, remaining wicketless.

In the batting department, the famed top order comprising Rohit, KL Rahul and Virat Kohli needs to be more consistent. The trio has not fired in unison for a while.

Suryakumar Yadav has also been patchy in the past few games with Hardik Pandya churning out match-winning performances.

Skipper Rohit would also like to give Axar, who is a like-to-like replacement for the injured Ravindra Jadeja, a go with the bat to see how the all-rounder performs in crunch situations. Additionally, he is the only left-hander in the side apart from Rishabh Pant.

The Australians, on the other hand, would also be concerned with their bowling.

After outplaying India in the first game, the Australians were at the receiving end in the second match, eventually losing by a massive six wickets. While Aaron Finch and Matthew Wade managed to put runs on the board, their bowling department failed miserably once again.

In the absence of the injured Nathan Ellis, pacers Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood and Daniel Sams leaked over 11 runs an over. All-rounder Cameron Green has also been expensive.

Wade has been brilliant with the willow but with a World Cup to defend in their backyard, the Australian team management would like the big-hitting Glenn Maxwell, who has scored just a run in two games, to pick up form.

Come Sunday, both teams will try to iron out the chinks in their armours and come on top, as a series win this close to World Cup will be a real moral booster.

## FIFA Appoints Sajid Dar As Mentor In Its Project



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** J&K's internationally recognized football coach Sajid Yousuf Dar has been appointed as a mentor by football's world governing body FIFA in its Coach Educator Development Pathway Project.

Twenty coaches from around the country have been selected to participate in the program, and Sajid is among five Coach Developers who will mentor the participating football coaches. FIFA's Coach Educator Development Pathway program is designed to develop the coaches' technical and soft skills, and starting on 20th August and will end on 5th November 2022.

The course has three modules: Online, eLearning, and Practical. FIFA is focussing on the devel-

opment of home grown coach educators which will eventually help Member Associations to develop more qualified coaches.

Having begun his coaching career in 2012, Sajid has previously worked as Head Coach for India's Senior Women's Football Team and the country's National Youth boys team. He is currently working as Kashmir University's football coach and helps All India Football Federation in various Coach Education Programs. Sajid is a AIFF D and AFC C Licence Coach Educator. He has also been upgraded as AFC B Licence Coach Educator.

Coordinator DPES University of Kashmir Dr Musavir congratulated Sajid for this achievement. He said the KU coach making his mark globally is a great honour for the University as well.

## LG's Rolling Trophy In Full Swing Across Kashmir



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Since LG's Rolling Trophy in Cricket was thrown open by Chief Secretary J&K Dr Arun Kumar Mehta at Sheri Kashmir International Cricket Stadium, Sonwar on Thursday, the formal tournament started at all the 186 sports zones of the region.

In Srinagar, eight Zonal Level Teams have been divided in two pools that will compete for the district title. Two venues have been set up one each at Government Degree College Bemina and Amar Singh College Srinagar. On the first day, four matches were played two each at the designated venues. The tournament at district level is being played on T20 pattern, and league cum knock out basis.

At Amar Singh College, Batamaloo locked horns with Nishat Zone. Nishat won the toss, batted first and posted a target of 155 runs for the loss of 7 wickets. Afnan made a quick 30 runs for Nishat. While chasing the score, Batamaloo were bundled out at 108 runs. Tariq Ahmad Bhat from Nishat Zone was adjudged man of the match who took 2 wickets and had scored 20.

At Degree College Bemina Playground Hawal faced off against Eidgah. Batting first Zone Hawal posted a target of 161 runs for Zone Eidgah who could manage to score 108 runs in reply. Mujtaba Rizvi of Hawal Zone was declared man of the match who scored a quick fire 31 runs by consuming 18 balls and also took 3 wickets to help Hawal Zone seal the win.

## Tears Flow As Curtain Comes Down On Federer's Glittering Career



Agencies

**LONDON:** Roger Federer's trophy-laden career ended with defeat on Friday, but for once the result hardly mattered as the Swiss maestro headed into retirement with tears in his eyes and cheers ringing in his ears.

With a sellout crowd of 17,500 at London's O2 Arena willing him on, the 20-time Grand Slam champion returned after more than a year away to play alongside Rafa Nadal, the Spaniard with whom he shared one of tennis's most captivating rivalries.

With the clock past midnight, Federer could have sealed victory in the Laver Cup doubles clash when he served at match point in a tense deciding tie-break, but it was not to be as Americans Jack Sock and Frances Tiafoe ripped up the script.

Sock thumped a forehand winner and sealed a 4-6 7-6 11-9 win for Team World. Federer produced moments of his trademark magic during a fiercely contested duel and kept his emotions in check.

But the tears flowed afterwards as Ellie Goulding sung while a montage of Federer's

feats was projected on the black court.

When he was hugged by wife, Mirka, children Leo, Lenny, Myla and Charlene, and his parents Lynette and Robert, there was hardly a dry eye in the house.

"We'll get through this somehow. It's been a wonderful day. I told the guys I'm happy, not sad," said Federer, who announced last week that this would be his final event after struggling to overcome a knee injury.

"I enjoyed tying my shoelaces one more time, everything was the last time," he added.

## England & Germany Both Beaten In UEFA Nations League

Agencies

**ROME:** It was a rough night for two teams expected to be World Cup contenders. England lost at Italy 1-0 and was relegated from the top tier of the Nations League, and Germany lost at home to Hungary by the same score.

Italy, which didn't qualify for the World Cup in Qatar, went ahead at the San Siro when Giacomo Raspadori controlled a ball over the top from Leonardo Bonucci and scored from the edge of the area in between several England defenders.

The goal of the night belonged to Hungary captain Adam Szalai, who scored with an audacious backheel flick 17 minutes in following a corner.

Hungary leads Group 3 with 10 points, followed by Italy (8), Germany (6) and England (2).

On Monday, Italy visits Hungary and England hosts Germany in the final round of group matches. The group winner books a spot at the finals in June.

Bosnia and Herzegovina was promoted to League A following a 1-0 win over regional rival Montenegro.

Unbeaten Georgia secured promotion from League C with



a 2-0 win over visiting North Macedonia. Estonia was pro-

moted from League D after beating Malta 2-1. (AP)

## 'I Don't Practice Too Much,' Says Dinesh Karthik



Press Trust of India

**NAGPUR:** Specific practice and not 'too much of it' helps Dinesh Karthik come up with the big hits in extreme pressure situations.

One such case was on Friday night when he smashed a six and four to seal the game for India after nine runs were needed off the last six balls.

Asked about his process, the designated finisher in the team said creating scenarios in the nets helps him perform in the middle.

"Over a period of time, I've been practising for this, I've been doing it for RCB now and I'm happy doing it here. So it's a consistent routine for a period of time.

"I do a lot of scenario practices and also Rahul (Dravid) bhai and Vikram (Rathour) bhai has been

accommodating of how I want to practice, what are the kinds of shots I want to practice.

"I have been very specific with it. I don't practice too much but I like to keep it as specific as possible," said Karthik after India levelled the series against Australia.

Karthik played ahead of Rishabh Pant in the opener but a truncated game allowed the management to accommodate both in the playing eleven for the second T20.

"All are aware of Rishabh Pant's quality as a batter. He would have been very useful in this game. Yes, he couldn't back right up to the end but we all know what quality he brings to the table. So I think I think India definitely made the right choice by playing Rishabh."

## Bangladesh, Ireland Qualify For Women's T20 WC



Press Trust of India

**ABU DHABI:** Bangladesh and Ireland have qualified for the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa after winning their respective semi-finals at the qualifying event in Abu Dhabi.

Bangladesh completed an 11-run win over Thailand and Ireland beat Zimbabwe by four runs in matches played at the Zayed Cricket Stadium on Friday to book their berths, joining Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies, who have already made it to the 10-team tournament.

Bangladesh captain Nigar Sultana Joty said: "We came here to

qualify for the T20 World Cup, and we did it! We have been playing together for so many years, this is our time to show the world how good we are, how much we have improved as a side."

Ireland captain Laura Delany said: "It (qualification) is massively important for the growth of the game in Ireland. We feel fortunate that Cricket Ireland have introduced full-time contracts and I think we are starting to see the benefit of that."

Papua New Guinea (PNG), Scotland, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States of America (USA) were the other teams to compete in the eight-team tournament.



## Spam Calls, Fraud Messages To End Soon: Telecom Minister Explains New Bill

Agenceis

New Delhi: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that the government through its Telecom Bill is aiming to bring in 'Light Touch' regulations for Over the Top (OTT) platforms. He also said that the reforms would help subscribers get relief from spam calls and messages.

While addressing a press conference, the Union Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics and Information Technology said that the bill will work as protection of the users.

"Wherever possible the regulation should have very effective means of achieving the objective. We have to make strict effective regulation wherever required, but rest in all the places there will be light touch and simple regulations, so nobody will have to face any hassle. This bill will work as protection of users," Mr Vaishnaw said.

The Union Minister further said that the draft telecom bill is currently under consultation with all the stakeholders and a final draft will be made based on the consultation.

"Apps like Facebook, WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal will come under the ambit of Telecom Bill. The draft bill includes OTT, Communication services as well in the definition of telecom services," Mr Vaishnaw said.

Apps like Whatsapp, Zoom, Skype, Facebook Messenger, Telegram, Microsoft Teams, and Google Duo which provide calling and messaging services may soon require licences to operate in India, according to the draft bill.

The Union Minister said that they are expecting the cyber frauds to come down after the bill is passed.

According to a report in The Hindu, Mr Vaishnaw said, "All of you know that there has been a rise in cases where people get a call saying I am calling from XYZ bank seeking financial details leading to fraud... or you get threats from unknown numbers... so, we have introduced a lot of

points for user protection and to prevent cyber fraud."

Speaking about calls on other platforms like WhatsApp and Zoom, the minister further said, "Whichever type of call it is, if someone is calling me, I have the right to know who is calling. This is a right that every user has and has been put in to the Act (new bill)."

The move could offer mobile phone users protection against spam calls and fraudulent messages.

"It will take at least 6-10 months before this bill becomes an Act. After the consultation process, we will prepare the final draft. Post that it will go to the Parliament for consideration and passing. We are expecting cyber frauds to come down after it becomes the law," said Minister.

The Union Minister said that Telecom is the entry point of Digital India and it will help in taking forward the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi step by step.

"Telecom is the entry point of the digital India. After that comes data protection. Followed by the Digital India Act. We have to take the vision of Prime Minister methodically step by step. The two most important points of the Telecom bill are consumer protection, and making sure that regulation is very clear in terms of who is doing what and who is affecting whose life," Mr Vaishnaw said.

"According to the draft bill, all the existing rules, regulations, exemptions, etc. will continue. There would be no retrospective amendment to the terms and conditions and all the existing licenses, existing registrations and existing spectrum will continue," Mr Vaishnaw further said.

In his presentation, Mr Vaishnaw said, "Currently India has three laws. Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1932 and Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950. These laws require to change now as the technology has changed considerably and need a modern law. We need a specific legal framework for Spectrum, Right of Way, Insolvency, etc."

## Many Buildings Inaccessible For Differently Abled Despite Laws: Justice Chandrachud

Agenceis

New Delhi: Supreme Court judge Justice DY Chandrachud while speaking at an event today said that despite laws mandating disability-friendly infrastructure, public transport, Govt and private buildings, hospitals, libraries, parks and many other spaces continued to be inaccessible for Person with Disabilities.

Justice DY Chandrachud remarks came while speaking at Third Professor Shannad Basheer Memorial Lecture'. He was addressing the topic "Making Disability Rights Real: Addressing Accessibility and More".

Justice Chandrachud said despite laws mandating disability-friendly infrastructure, public transport and many other spaces continued to be inaccessible for PwDs.

Justice Chandrachud also remarked that some entities do not even pretend to comply with such laws, while others comply with them only with a view of getting their building and occupancy permits.

Justice Chandrachud pointed out that he has noticed that some ramps are so steep that an able-bodied person cannot walk down without falling over, let alone a person who uses a wheelchair. "This is just the tip of an enormous iceberg of problems with the implementation of disabilities-friendly policies," he said.

Abidi once requested professor Stephen Hawking, who once visited India to deliver a lecture, to help in the disability rights movement. Professor Hawking declined but informed him that he was going to visit Qutub Minar and other monuments in Delhi.

Abidi and his colleagues approached the ASI and requested them to install ramps at these historic sites that were on Prof Hawking's agenda. ASI has built ramps overnight and installed them at all monuments.



THIS IS JUST THE TIP OF AN ENORMOUS iceberg of problems with the implementation of disabilities-friendly policies."

Prof Hawking and his spouse visited Qutub Minar and made a wish for the ramps to stay even after they leave. Justice Chandrachud stressed that Governmental or private entities must ensure that laws and policies are being complied with.

Justice Chandrachud also spoke about the movie titled 'Margarita with a Straw', where the character Laila is a young student who has cerebral palsy.

In the movie, Laila's band participated in a music event and was declared a winner but the happiness was short-lived when the judge of the competition shared that they awarded Laila's band first place because Laila, a disabled person, wrote the lyrics. Laila was unhappy as he felt that the judge pities her and that the award is a consequence of her pity feeling.

Justice Chandrachud referred to this as a story for every judge in the country and said that "when we do justice to the disabled, we do justice not out of pity but justice in recognising their rights under the law and the constitution."

People with disabilities are required to be treated as equals.

Justice DY Chandrachud remarked that someone born with a disability or becomes disabled later in life as disabilities can be of many forms, they can be physical, mental, intellectual or learning-based.

He also pointed out some disabilities are invisible and many chronic illnesses are also disabilities.

Justice DY Chandrachud also pointed out that there is a tendency for people to view disabled people as being very different from able-bodied people.

Justice DY Chandrachud also commented that the stereotypes that disabled people are burdensome or are defenceless victims also prevail in society and the differences between able-bodied people and people with disabilities give rise to immense stigmas in society.

Justice Chandrachud also spoke about discrimination against disabled people and remarked that these harmful stereotypes have a pernicious effect on disabled people and hinder access to educational spaces, public spaces, employment opportunities as well as free and full participation in society.

## Did Jamia Deny Admission To PhD Programmes After Selection

Agenceis

New Delhi: Several students have allegedly been denied admission in various PhD programmes at Jamia Millia Islamia citing the non-availability of supervisors despite their names being mentioned in the list of selected candidates. However, the administration has claimed that no students have been denied admission and every name mentioned in the "final list" was allotted a seat.

The students have claimed that there are around 80 PhD candidates across programmes who have been "denied" seats despite having all the documents and clearing written as well as the interview rounds. The problem has been reported in several departments, including the Department of Mathematics, Department of Mass Communication, Department of Geography, and Department of Psychology.

The students said their names appeared in the list of the selected candidates for the PhD programmes which is still up on the website. However, when they reached their respected dean's offices, they were told that they are not selected.

"Our whole year has been wasted. Many of us left our jobs when we saw the list. Now we are knocking on the doors of officials. They are not listening to us," a PhD student, who did not wish to be named, said. The 26-year-old student wants to pursue PhD from the Geography Department of the university. The candidate left his full-time job in Rajasthan and shifted to Delhi when he got to know that he has been selected for PhD programme at Jamia

Millia Islamia.

"The admission was already conducted late due to Covid. Now they abruptly denied us admission without any proper reason. They told us that there are no supervisors available for our topic. But before the interview round, we were asked to submit our research synopsis proposal. They knew our topics in advance but why then we were selected?" the student asked.

Meanwhile, the administration said that the lists based on which the students are making claims were "provisional ones" and admissions were done on the basis of final lists.

PTI checked the official website for a "final list" of selected candidates for the PhD programme in the Department of Geography, but it did not have any. It only has a list of "selected candidates" dated August 11, which mentions that 20 students have been "provisionally" selected.

The notice mentions that the students have a three-day window to submit documents from August 24 to 26. "The following candidates (have been) provisionally selected for admission to PhD programme in the Department of Geography.

The selected candidates are required to report in the office of the Dean, Faculty Of Natural Sciences from 24.08.2022 to 26.08.2022 for verification/submission of documents and to collect Offer Letter," the notice read. However, the students said they were later informed that the submission of the documents have been postponed and would be now done from September 7 to September 9. These dates were changed as well.



Quick eats for busy people

Bun Maska

& Chai

Chicken Crispy Burger

JK BANK LAWNS, NEAR GHAT 6, BOULEVARD-SRINAGAR