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GOVT'S INVESTMENT PUSH

# **I&K Pumped Rs 83 Cr Into Two Companies, Corporation: CAG**

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Government's commit-Kashmir Governments commit-ment to rejuvenate businesses in 'Naya Kashmir' through mul-tiple efforts has proved a reality as the Union Territory adminis-tration invested Rs \$3.27 crore in two companies and one cor-poration and had total invest-ment of Rs 162.39 crore as on 31 March 2072! arch 2021, These details were revealed

by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report that was tabled in the month of August

and had pointed out numerous factors in the disbursement of Union Territory Finances. "Erstwhile State Government

had cumulative investment of Rs 4,617.16 crore in 38 Companies (Rs 4,148.83 crore), three Statutory Corporations (Rs 374.34 crore), eight Co-operative Institutions/ Local Bodies (Rs 47.83 crore), two operative Institutions', Local Bodies (Rs 47.83 crore), two Burdles (Rs 47.83 crore) and two Joint Stock Companies (Rs 0.34 crore) ending 30 October 2019 which had not been divided between Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union



Territory of Ladakh," it said, The report said that Rs 32.50 crore were granted to J&K State

Road Transport Corporation Limited which already had out-standing loans of Rs 406.73 crore.

"During the year ended 31 March 2021, the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir disbursed Loans and Advances of Rs 61,64 crore and recovered loans and advances amounting to Rs 1,93 crore. Out of total loans of Rs 61,64 crore disbursed during 2020-21, a loan of Rs 32,50 crore was grant-end to J&K State Road Transport Corporation Limited which already had outstanding loans of Rs 40,673 crore," reads the data. These facts were emerging from CAC's 2nd report of the year 2022 for J&K tidled, Audit

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Union Territory Finances for the year ended 31 March 2021, Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The report also found that during 2020-21, the balance under Reserve Funds of UT Jammu and Kashmir was Rs 771.13 crore. "There was also a cumulative aggregate balance in Reserve Funds at the end of 30 October 2019 amounting to Rs 2,806 crore which was yet to Rs 2,806 crore which was yet to be bifurcated between the two Union Territories | More on P10

### India, China **Agree To Hold Next Round** Of Talks Soon



Press Trust Of India

Press Trust Of India and China agreed on Friday to hold the next round of military-level talks at an early date to resolve the remaining issues in eastern Ladakh and create conditions for the restoration of normaky in the biateral ties, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, It was the only decision taken at a meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on the India-China Border Affairs as there was no breakthrough to resolve the issues at the key friction points of Demchok and Depsang.

psang. The MEA said the two sides

Depsaig.

The MEA said the two sides agreed to continue discussions through diplomatic and military channels to resolve the remaining issues. "It the earliest" so as to create conditions for the restoration of normaley in the bilateral relations.

"To achieve the objective of resolution of remaining issues along the LAC in the Western Sector in accordance with the existing bilateral agreements and protocols, they agreed to the Senior Commanders meeting at an early date," the MEA said in a statement.

Though the two sides disengaged from Patrolling Point 15 (PP-15) last month, there has been no progress on resolving the standoff in the Demchok and Depsaing regions.

The MEA said | More on PIO

# EID-E-MILAD **Devout Throng Hazratbal Shrine On Friday Following**

Srinagar: For the first time in the last three years, tens of thousands of devotees from across Kashmir Valley converged at the revered Hazrartsal shrine here on Friday following Eld-e-Milad-un-Nabi, the day when Prophet Mulammad (pbuli) was born.

The number swelled as the day progressed and a sea of devotees was seen at the shrine and its adjacent sprawling lawns

otees was seen at the shrine and its adjacent sprawling lawns along the banks of Dal Lake especially during Zuhr prayers. It was the largest gathering at Hazzarbal after the 2019 disruption after abrogation of Article 370 and subsequent year long

curbs followed by nearly two years of Covid-19 lockdown.
Devout, many of them women, could be seen in tears while having the glimpse of holy relic after every obligatory prayer.
The other shrines across the Valley also witnessed huge gatherings. The congregational prayers were held at many shrines including Khiram Sirhama Anantnag, Asarisharif Kalashpora, Jenab Sahab Soura, Pinjoora Shopian, Seer Hamadan, Kaba Marg Qaimoh and Aham Sharief Bandipora in north Rashmir where massive gathering of devotees was witnessed.
Meanwhile, authorities had

Meanwhile, authorities had made special | More on P10



## "We Want Normal Relations With Pak, But...": Centre

New Delhi: India on Friday said that it favoured normal relations with Pakistan pro-vided the atmosphere should be conductive and free from

terrorism.

During a weekly presset.

Ministry of External Affairs
Spokesperson Arindam
Bagchi said. We want normal relations with Pakistan,
is a statement that we have always said. But it has to be in an atmosphere that is conductive and free from terrorism. I withink that nart is nertry well-think that nart is nertry wellthink that part is pretty well-known. I really don't need to

get into details."

Commenting on a question about Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi slamming Pakistan for speaking on the Kashmir issue at the CICA summit, Mr Bagchl said that her interpention has been made public and he worlt make any further comment on that as India has made its position clear on terrorism enanating from Pakistan.

Yesterday during the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) summit, MoS | More on PIO

# Presence Of Brown Bears In **Human Habitations Sparks Alarm**

Devotees raise their hands in supplication as the unseen cleric of Hazratbal Shrine displays a relic believed to be

from beard of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) on Friday following Eid-e-Milad. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Srinagar: The wildlife experts have raised alarm bells over common sightings of brown bears in the human habitations

bears in the human habitations according to them such happenings occur due to rapid urbanisation. The spotting of critically endangered Himalayan brown bears in parts of Kashmir in the human habitations has delighted wildlife experts who say it indicates the rising population of the rare species. However, they blamed the rapid development and increased tourism activities in high altitudes for the presence of brown bears in

NUMEROUS BEARS STARTED RELYING ON TRASH AND FOOD WASTE generated by humans at campsites, hotels, and restaurants for sustenance."

the human habitations.

The brown bear is the biggest animal in Kashnuir and an adult weighs more than 2.5 quintals. It is found at an altitude of 2,000 to 2,500 metres mostly above the tree line, its species are found across the world, but its Himalayan counterpart in the northern mountainous areas of India and Pakistan, is critically

6 LAST YEAR, TWO SUCH ANIMALS WERE SIGHTED IN **DUMAIL** area of Baltal near Amarnath cave shrine, besides three were sighted in Drass sector of the Ladakh region."

Wildlife conserva-tionists in Kashmir have noted increas-ing sightings and spread of the brown bear in the last two to three years in a few of its habi-tats includ-ing the hills of Sonamarg, D r a s s , Panjal range and Gurez area of | More on P10

#### HIGHWAY HICCUPS

## 80K Fruit Laden Trucks Given Passage Till Oct 12: Pole

Says Kashmir Produced 21 Lakh Metric Tonnes Of Apples This Year

Agencies

Kupwara: Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, P K Pole on Friday said the bumper applic crop this year affected the smooth passage to the fruit-laden trucks along Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, saying that Kashmir produced 21 lakh metric tonnes of apples this year. Talkling to reporters on the sidelines of a function in



Langate, Pole said the apple crop usually remained in be-tween 17 to 18 lakh tonnes, however, this year it crossed 21

lakh metric tonnes.

He added that due to the bumper crop this year, the fruit-laden trucks | More on P10

'Keep Improving Highway For Smooth Traffic'

he Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday impressed upon the traffic authorities to keep improving the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway for smooth movement of traffic round the clock. Mehta passed these directions while chairing a meeting that was attended by Principal Secretary, PWD: IG Traffic; Deputy Commissioners of | More on PID

#### Snake Snotted At HM Shah's Residence

nion Home Minister Amit Shah's inion Home Minister Amit Shah's residence on Thursday had a reptile visitor, a five-foot-long checkered keelback, commonly known as Asiatic water smake. Security personnel signified the non-venomous snake near the guard room and informed Wildliffe 50S, an NGO working for wildliffe protection and conservation.

A two-member team from the NGO rescued the distressed snake that had rescued the distressed snake that had taken shelter between wooden panels. "On Thursday morning, security personnel were shocked to stamble upon a checkered keelback snake on the premises of the Union Home Minister Amit Shalf's bungalow in New Delhi, On spotting the reptile near the guard room, they immediately

#### Six New Corona Cases In J&K

nmu and Kashmir on Friday corded 06 fresh Covid cases

ammu and Kashmir on Friday recorded (of fresh Cowlid cases, taking the number of infected persons to 479/241, while no fatality was reported due to the virus in the last 24 hours, officials said.

Of the new cases, 00 were from the lammu division and 06 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, Officials said. There are 44 active cases in the union territory while the number of recoveries so far has been 474412, officials said.

OI Covid-19 patients recovered today, 00 from Jammu division and 03 from Kashmir division, they said.

#### **PDD** Worker **Electrocuted To Death**

Н

Power Development
Department (PDD) daily
wager died of electrocution in
khurhant Willage of Rajouri district this
aftermoon, officials said.
News agency GNS quoting officials
reported that one Harjit Singh son
of Jaghat Ram, resident of Khurhani
received a high voltage joit while
repairing an electric wire in his native
village. The individual, they said, was
evacuated to a nearby hospital from
where the doctors referred him to
GMC Jammu where he was however
declared as brought dead on arrival. Power Developm declared as brought dead on arrival A police official has in the meantime confirmed about the death of the individual in the incident. Pertinently the deceased said to be serving in the PDD | More on P10

#### PDP Gen Secretary's Son Joins Azad

Coples Democratic Party
(PDP) General Secretary, GN
Lone Hanjura's son, Advocate
Muzaffar Nabil Lone has joined
Democratic Azad Party (DAP).
Advocate Muzaffar joined the party in
Srinagar after holding deliberations
with DAP chief Ohulam Nabil Azad.
Advocate Muzaffar said that the
deliberations were already going
on and yesterday he met Azad at a
guest house in Srinagar and formally
joined the party. oined the party.

"I have been associated with politics for a long time. I don't have any rift with PDP or my family, but ideological differences compelled me to join DAP as I believe that only Azad sahab has the capability to fill the present political vacuum in Jammu and Kashmir," he added. (KNO)

#### Man Arrested For **Killing His Son**

man was arrested for allo mark was arrested for allegedly murdering his 25-day-old son in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The accused, Mohd Suleiman,

rice accused, whore suements had allegedly thrown his son into a gorge in his son into a gorge in his sagote-Argi village on Wednesday evening, causing his instant death, a police official said. He said police registered a murder case against the accused who was finally americal on Thursday exemple.

finally arrested on Thursday evening timally arrested on intursical evening.
"The questioning of the accused is
going on," the official said. However,
he said preliminary investigations
suggest that the accused was planning
to marry for the second time and was
not happy with the birth of the child.

#### Truck Mows Down Traffic Policeman



A traffic policeman was crushed to death by a truck in a hit and run accident in Udhampur district of the Jammu region, reports said Friday. The policeman identified as Mohan Lal was manning Gamai Naka in the district on Thursday night when a truck ran over him, reports said. The injured policeman was removed to the hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him dead. The driver, reports said, fled from the scene after crushing the policeman to death. | More on PIO



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# SpaceX Capsule Leaves Space Station, **To Bring 4 Astronauts Back To Earth**

Reuters

The fourth long-duration astronaut team launched by SpaceX to the Internations Space Station (ISS) for NASA departed the orbiting outpost on Friday to begin their flight back to Earth, capping a science mission of nearly six months.

The SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule carrying three US NASA astronauts and an Italian crewmate from the European Space Agency undocked from the ISS at 12:05 p.m. EDT (1605 GMT) to embark on a return flight expected to last nearly five hours.

Live video showing the capsule drifting away from the station as the two vehicles soared high over the North Atlantic was shown on a NASA webcast of the undocking.

Mostrier belingsted white, and

shown on a NASA webcast of the undocking. Wearing helmeted white-and-black spacesuits, the four astro-

black spacesuits, the four astro-nauts were seen strapped into the crew cabin shortly before the spacecraft separated from the station, orbiting some 250 miles (400 km) above Earth. A series of several brief rock-et thrusts then autonomously pushed the capsule safely clear of the ISS and lowered its orbit to line up the capsule for later at-mospheric re-entry and splash-down.

down.
If all goes smoothly, the Crew
Dragon, dubbed Freedom, will
parachute into the sea off the
Atlantic coast of Florida at 4:55
p.m. (2055 GMT)
The Freedom crew, Americans



Miss whice-andits, the four astroseen strapped into
shortly before the
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tion - a Russian cosmonaut, a Japanese astronaut and two

tion - a Russian cosmonaut, a Japanese astronaut and two NASA crewmates, including the first Native American woman sent to orbit. Crew-5 is remaining on ISS for now with two other Russians and a third American who shared a Soyuz flight to the ISS in Septem-ber. One of those cosmonauts, Sergey Prokopyev, assumed ISS command from Cristoferetti of the European Space Agency be-fore Crew-4's departure. ISS, spanning the length of a

tore Crew-4's departure.

ISS, spanning the length of a football field, has been continuously occupied since 2000, operated by a US-Russian-led partnership that includes Canada, Japan and 11 European countries.

#### Airtel Introduces 'Always On' IoT Connectivity Solution



uomestic market.

The 'Always On' solution contains dual profile MZM (machine to machine) eSim, which allows an IoT device to stay connected to a mobile network from different Mobile Network Operators in the eSIM, an 'ESIM' is a SIM card that is embedded in a mobile device and can connect you to any operator that offers eSIM services.

"Our erect."

eSIM services.
"Our strengths in the network, modern and GSMA compliant platform offering real-time access to data and flexibility to integrate the solution with custom APIs will make Airtel Business standout in the market?" said Aire.

Business.

Moreover, the 'Always On' solution is best suited for vehicle tracking provides, and manufacturers and any use-cases where equipment work in remote locations requiring universal connective, according to the company.

Airrel is kooking to acquire market leadership in this segment in the next few years, the company added, india was the fastest-growing Internet of Things (OT) module market with more than 264 per cent growth in the second quarter of this year, a report showed last month.

showed last month

Although growing on a lower base, the growth in IoT modules in India

# 5.3 Bn Phones To Be Dumped In 2022, But Only Few Will Be Disposed: Report

Press Trust Of India

Roughly 5.3 billion mobile or smartphones

Roughly 5.3 billion mobile or smartphones will drop out of use this year, and only a small number of them will be disposed off properly, according to a report.

Brussels-based Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Forum conducted surveys to understand why so many house-holds and businesses fall to bring electronic gadgets in for repart or recycling. The surveys show that, of the 8,775 European households across five European Union countries Portugal, Netherlands, Italy, Romania and Slovenia and a separate UK survey, the average household contains 74 e-products such as phones, Lotter is producted to the surveys and the products of the surveys of the sur

9 of them unused but working and 4 broken.

Stacked flat atop one anoth-

ing and 4 broken.

Stacked flat atop one another at an average depth of 9 mm
that many disused phones would rise roughly 50,000 km - 120 times higher than the International Space Station; one-eighth of the
way to the Moon, according to a statement.
Further, despite their valuable gold, copper, silver, palladium and other recyclable
components, experts expect a majority will
disappear into drawers, closets, cupboards or
garages, or be tossed into waste bins bound
for landfills or incineration.

The top five hoarded small electrical and
electronic equipments in Europe are small
consumer electronics and accessories (headphones, remote controls, etc.), small household equipment (clocks, irons, etc.).

These also include small information
technology equipment (external hard

These also include small information technology equipment (external hard drives, routers, keyboards, mice, etc.), mobile and smart-phones and small equipment for food preparation (toasters, food processing, grills, etc.).

"We focussed this year on small e-waste items because it is very easy for them to accumulate unused and unnoticed in house-

holds, or to be tossed into the ordinary gar-bage bin," said Pascal Leroy, Director General of the WEEF Forum, the organisation behind International E-Waste Day.
"People tend not to realise that all these secondary interpretations in the property of the

"People tend not to realise that all these seemingly insignificant items have a lot of value, and together at a global level repre-sent massive volumes," Leroy said.

The report says LED lamps rank top of the list of products most likely to be trashed. According to the survey results, share of hoarded small kitchen and household equip-



ment, laptops and tablets of the total stock of those products in households country-wise is: Italy (29 per cent, 3 The Netherlands (17 per cent), UK (14 per cent), Slowenia (12 per cent), UK (14 per cent) and Portugal (8 per cent). The surveys were conducted from June to September, 2022, by the members of the WEEE Forum and the results were consultated by the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme.

"The producer responsibility organisations in the WEEE Forum that manage the collection of e-waste are constantly working to make the proper disposal of small e-waste simple and convenient for users and households," said Leroy.

"Providing collection boxes in supermarkets, pick up of small broken appliances upon delivery of new ones and offering PO Boxes to return small e-waste are just 500 Boxes to return 500 Boxes 500 Bo

# **Twitter To Soon Allow Users Ability To Control Who Can Tag** Them In Tweets



Twitter is working on a new feature that will allow users to control who can mention them in their tweets, not let-

platform.

App researcher Jane Manchun Wong first spotted the test version of the feature, saying Twitter is working on letting you control who can mention you on Twitter".

Twitter privacy designer Dominic Camozzi confirmed that the feature is in the works but later deleted the tweet.

The feature will let you control who can mention you, like

people you follow, everyone, or no one at all. The feature will prevent Twitter users from bullying or harassment.

them in their tweets, not letting anyone to tag or mention your Twitter handle with their posts unless you want them to. The feature, when it arrives, will make a fundamental shift weet-by-Tweet basis. A This in how people mention and tag nothers with their posts on the platform.

App researcher Jane Manchun Wong first sported the test weeping of the first source of the first source

select followers.
Before you post on Twitter,
you'll now see an option to
share your Iweet with either
your circle or your fuil followers list. Circles can contain up
to 150 people, and you can adjust who's in and who's out at
any time.
"Don't worry, no one will be
notified of any changes you
make to your circle," said Twitter.

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# **Police Arrests Two Extortionists**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday said that it arrested two extortionists along with a toy pistol, Dagger and other valuable items in Lal Bazaar area of Srinagar district. In a statement, the police said that yesterday, information was received by Lalbazar police station from one complainant namely Syed Abbas Hussain son Syed Showkat

Observer News Service spokesman, On the basis of this information case FIR no spokesman, On the basis of this information case FIR no 64/2022 U/S 365, 392 IPC, 7/25 I.A act was registered at police station Lalbazar and investigation was set into motion. For speedy investigation a special team under the supervision of SDPO Hazatabla Azhar Rashid, SHO Lal Bazaar was constituted. The police team with the help of technical and human sources were able to zero down both police station from one complianant namely Syed Abbas thussain son Syed Showkat Hussain son Syed Showkat Hussain resident of Bagwan-pora Lalbazar that during the interviewing night of 11/12 month of the accused namely Arsalan unknown persons boarding a Manzoor Dar son of Manzoor Cz (2022, he was intercepted at Molvi stop Lalbazar by two unknown persons boarding a hashir par son of Bashir Ah-Alto car and one of them was having a pistoj/dagger and the unknown persons threatened the complainant and bar resident of Awantahon kim to Nalabal area and the unknown persons threatened the complainant and bar resident of Awantahon having a pistoj/dagger and the unknown persons threatened the complainant and the relief to zero down both the accused involved in this the accused involved in this characteristic and provide the accused namely Arsalan dar president of Awantahon the accused namely Arsalan de th

## DPS Declared 1st Among 'Best Schools Of Srinagar'



ceremony was held on October 11 at The Leela Ambience, Gurugram. The school scored the most in all the distinct parameters for the award including environment-friend-finess, blended learning excellence, design thinking extellence, design thinking available and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the entire staff and parents of the support of the

## **KU's Herbarium Declared** 3rd Largest In North-Western Himalayas



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Having 6,000 specimens present in it, the herbarium of Centre for Bio-diversity and Taxonomy in diversity and Taxonomy in the Department of Botany at Kashmir University has been declared as 3rd largest in North-western Himalayas by New York-based Interna-tional Bureau for Plant Tax-onomy and Nomenclature under the acronym KASH.

onomy and Nomenclature under the acronym KASH. Akhtar H Malik, Curator of the Herbarium, said, "KASH is, acronym of our herbarium and this year, we have crossed the mileage of sixty thousand spicemen, which have been collected by different scientists and botanists from last 60 years from far-off areas of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh." "It is plant heritage of both

"It is plant heritage of both Union Territories and there are some herbarium speci-mens in the world, which specimens (KNO)

are more than 400-year-old and in our herbarium, there are some specimens, which have been collected by Brit-ish botanists, which are isn botanists, which are more than one century old," he said.

he said.

He said that any person, who is interested in the plant wealth of the area, can come to the herbarium and see these specimens. "There are around 1-2 thousand specimens, which are endangered and these specimens can prove a last resort for their restoration." Akhtar said.

said.

He said that this herhari-um was started with just 500 specimens in 1975 and every year more and more speci-mens are added to it and this year they have reached to 60,000 specimens.

He further said that in the coming five years, they are expecting to cross one lakh



PEOPLE THRONG STREET FOOD stalls outside Hazratbal Shrine on Friday following

#### Gang Of Women Thieves Busted. Three Held

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and
Kashmir Police on Friday
said that it has busted a gang
of women thieves by arresting three accused in Central
Kashmir's Srinagar district.
A police Station Soura received an application from
Showkat Ahmed Misger SJo
Late Mobd Amin RJo Ellahi
bagh Buchpora Soura stating therein that he along
with his wife were traveling
from Rajbagh to Soura in a
local bus. During the trip
three unknown masked

local bus. During the trip
three unknown masked
women were also travelling in the same bus. After
deboarding the bus his
wife found one gold bangle
missing."
The spokesman said that
upon this case FIR No 57/22
ujs 379 IPC was registered
in Police Station Soura and
investigation was taken up.
During investigation three
suspects namely Kulsooma
r/o Noorbagh, Rubina r/o
Narbal were apprehended
and put to questioning.

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## 7500 Capsules Of Spasmo-Proxyvon Seized At Srinagar Airport

Observer News Service

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: On receiving authentic inputs that anti-social elements responsible for drug menace in the valley are exploring alternate modes of supply, are now resorting to air lifting of such intoxicating drugs, a team of Drug Control Officers of Srinagar and Budgam constituted by the Deputy Drug Controller Kashmir. Nighat Jabeen conducted surprise raid at Airport cargo logistic space of the airport authority of Srinagar, Kashmir.

On the occasion, the team seized 7500 capsules of Spanserized 7500 capsules of Spanserized 7500 capsules of Spansulfactured by WACKHARDT limited, plot no 87A, silver industrial estate Bhimpora Nani Deman-396210 in presence of Manager of Airport Cargo logistic space.

The particulars of consignee

sale of this drug has to be maintained by preserving the prescription for record and also maintain records of sale in the shape of cash memo & credit memo.

Of late, it has been observed that this drug among several other drugs like Alprazolam, clonazepam, tramadol, ketamine, LSD etc are being used by adolescents for addiction purposes.

The above exercise was a conditionated effort with the support of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and Police authorities. The consignment was being imported into the UT through mis-representation as the outer cover of the parcel mentioned that it contains nebulisers.

The master mind of the drug vndicate namely Bilal Ahmad

imited, plot no 87A, silver industrial estate Bhimpora Nani Deman-396201 in presence of Manager of Airport Cargo logistic space.

The particulars of consignee and consigner mentioned on the consignment are Interio Health-consignment are Interio Health-consignment are Interio Health-consignment are Interio Health-consignment with the Cargo Manager of Airport Cargo logistic space.

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#### DIAL-EMMA

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213



FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

2479488,49222267 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +919484100200

#### **AIRPORTS**

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

12:18

4:23

6:06

7:25

#### RAILWAYS

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



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



#### This Day In History

- 533 Byzantine General Belisarius makes his formal entry
- into Carthage, having conquered it from the Vandals 1522 Emperor Karel I names Hernán Cortés governor of
- 1552 Khanate of Kazan is conquered by troops of Ivan
- 1756 Saxon army surrenders to Prussia
- 1815 Napoleon Bonaparte arrives on island of St Helena to begin his exile 1842 Karl Marx becomes editor-in-chief of Rheinische
- 1888 German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche decides to write his autobiography "Ecce Homo" on his 44th
- birthday 1904 The Russians are driven back by the Japanese in Japanese (16,000) and Russians
- 1914 Battle of Warsaw, begins (ends Oct 21) 1924 US President Calvin Coolidge declares Statue of Liberty a national monument
- 1932 Tata Airlines (later to become Air India) makes its
- 1940 Heavy German air raid on London, 400 killed 1941 Hideki Tojo appointed Prime Minister of Imperial
- 1946 St Louis Cards beat Boston Red Sox, 4 games to 3 in

- 1946 3 t.003 Series 1948 China's Red army occupies Chinchov 1949 Administration of territory of Manipur taken over
- 1949 Tripura accedes to Indian union
- 1949 Inpura accedes to Indian union
  1951 First synthesis of an oral contraceptive
  (norethindrone) made by Luis E. Miramontes under
  direction of Carl Djerassi and George Rosenkranz at
  Mexican drug company Syntex
  1958 Tunisia drops diplomatic relations with Egypt

#### From KO Archives

#### Matric Exams Postponed: Teachers Threaten To Sabotage Govt Move

Observer News Service

SRINASAR: The Jammu and Nashim Boati of School Bacaston BUSE, this evening amnoprocess of the School to postpore the earnin valors of Unit data social feet the day for pergrated that she had been been the service of Unit data so social feet the day for perpendiction failed branche the trinks readed by the leathers become of the earnination duty,
The Boand authorities while amount of the transfer on post-pone three-earninations and
that the first data effect would be acted not served.

Easiler representations of the Teachers Forum and Lectures Association high engineering the control of the transfer of the Commissioner Society (Southon and the Discribe Education Dedder Minister of State of Southon Mannard Sharef Tring.

Social Confidence of Social Vallence of Social Confidence of the Commissioner Social Confidence of the Commissioner Social Vallence of Social Confidence of State of Social Confidence of Social Con

should accept all their demands in black and white before they would call off their strike. The Government today showed willingness to in-solve the crisis by assuring braichers that their genuine demands will be fulfilled at the earliest just sources said, the teachers remained adamant saying that their past experience has been bitter. The promises made with them in

adamant saying that their past expenience has been better. The promises made with them in past had been below as Government during bestandered mis relicionship, the description of the past had been below as Government during the meeting. The representations of the Covernment during them that had been as the close of the covernment that the excitant involves the control of the covernment of the covernment

students for the vasted.

The statements and their the government is pursuing a policy of delaying tactics and is trying troublifysome dearenable of the Forum. But this time teaches community will not comprise conarty of its demand, the statement added.

Statement condements the regis attitude of government and made it clear that Teaches Forum will boycot it he house economistors of this hand this clear as well. If the Government gone alread with the examination pro-ess all the exholes in the valley will be locked add the statement good fails the boycot of learners and appetited the proposed and statement and problems of the proposed and substitutions.

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# **Unipolar World Order Not Acceptable:** Khamenei



Tehran: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei Friday said the unipolar world order in which one or two states impose their will on other

order in which one or two states impose their will on other countries is no longer accepted. "The political map of the world is changing." Ayatollah Rhamenei told Iranian officials and guests of World Muslim Unity Conference in Tehran on Friday.

The issue of being in a unipolar world where "one or two countries forcing other states and nations has lost its legitimacy," he said, adding, "Nations have been awakened. The unipolar world order is no longer accepted and is gradually losing its legitimacy," In a unipolar system, he maintained, arrogant powers such as the U.S. would design their own schemes and dictate them to other countries such as

their own schemes and dictate them to other countries such as Iraq, Syria, Iran, or Lebanon. The people of the world are awakening to the truth of those powers and are opposed to one or two states bullying others

New Delhi: Indian authorities are in close touch with local authorities in Australia and with the family of the student who was stabbed multiple times in Sydney and have requested expediting travel documents and visa for his family members to travel to Australia.

"We've knowledge of the incident, As per our information, he's in hospital and under treatment. Our High Commission

ment. Our High Commission in Canberra and Consulate in Sydney are in close touch with

Australia: Indian Student Pursuing PhD Stabbed To Death

into obedience, he said.

Ayatollah also said Islamic
unity means being united in
safeguarding the interests of
the Islamic Ummah across the
world.

world.
"Unity means being united in protecting the interests of the Islamic Ummah (community)." he said.
It also does not mean geographical unity, he maintained, as some Arab countries tried og et united in the 1960s and 1970s. 'This is impossible." "We should first detect the interests of the Muslim Ummah. Then, nations should come to an

interests of the Muslim Ummah. Then, nations should come to an agreement on that and see what the Ummah needs at the time; they should seel to whom they should be foes, fand) with whom friends, and how they should ergage in friendship." Unity means implementing "Joint actions against the plots of the Arrogance," he added. The annual conference marks Islamic Unity Week which coincides with the birth annuversary of Prophet Mohammad (Pbuh).

ested and is in the custody of Australian Police.

went surgery. Garg remains in a "serious but stable condition,"

"serious but stable condition," as per the media report. Following the incident, the North Shore Police Area Command detectives formed Strike Force Prosy to investigate the incident. Later, a search warrant was executed on a home on the Pacific Highway at Greenwich at about 3.40 pm on October 9.

**GYANVAPI CASE** 

# **Varanasi Court Rejects Plea For Carbon Dating Of 'Shivling'**



VARANASI: A Varanasi court on VANAVAS: A Varianas court of friday rejected a plea for carbon dating of the 'shivling' claimed to have been found inside Gyanvapi mosque premises, government counsel Rana Sanjiv Singh said. District Judge AK Vistwesha turned down the Hindu petitiontigation and carbon dating of the 'shivling', citing Supreme Court directives for its safe keeping so

anectives for its safe keeping so that no tampering can be done, After completion of hearing of the Hindu side and the mosque committee on Tuesday, the dis-trict court had decided to pro-nounce its werdict on October 1.4

Four of the five Hindu sought carbon dating of the 'Shiv-ling' found during acourt-mandated videography survey of the mosque premises close to the 'wazookhana", a small reservoir used by Mus lim devotees to perform ritual ablu-tions before offering the namaz. The mosque committee had opposed the demand for carbon dating.

# **Pakistan Not Mentioned In US National Security Strategy 2022**



Agenceis

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, once considered the key allies of Washington, are not even men-tioned in the US National Secu-nity Strategy 2022, which iden-tifies China as "America's most consequential geopolitical chal-lense".

arrested and is in the custody of the Australian Police.

The Indian mission in Australia is providing consular assistance to Garg, who is in "serious but stable" condition after undergoing surgery at a local hospital.

"The Indian Consulare in Sydney has provided consular assistance to the individual," the Australian High Commission in New Delhi said adding that it is sassisting with the facilitation of visa for a family member of the injured student.

The accused Daniel Norwood was arrested and taken to Chatswood Police Station where he was charged with one count of attempted murder, reported local media outlet The Australia Today. Quoting local media reports the outlet said that the incident occurred around 10,30 pm on Drottober 6, when Garg was walking along the Pacific Highway on his way back to his residence. Carg suffered multiple stabbing injunies on his face, chest and abdomen. A nearby resident took Garg to Royal North Shore Hospital where he underwent surgery, Garg remains in a serious but stable condition." lenge".
The 48-page document does The 48-page document does mention terrorism and other geo-strategic threats in the South and Central Asian region, but unlike the recent past, it does not name Pakistan as an ally needed to tackle those threats, Dawn news reported.

Pakistan was also absent from the 2021 strategy paper.

In Washington, the omission is seen as reflecting a mutual desire to build a separate US relationship with Pakistan.

Islamabad has long complained that the US views Pakistan only as a tool to counter threats from Afghanistan and

other nations, Dawn reported, In recent statements, both the US and Pakistani officials emphasised the need to de-link Pakistan from both Afghanistan and India and give it the separate identity it deserves as a nuclear state of more than 220 million people.

eople. The US officials have also ac-

The US officials have also ac-knowledged Palistant's desire to maintain its close ties with China and that's why it's not seen as an ally in the US strategy to counter China's influence in the region, Dawn reported. Russia is mentioned as the second major threat to US global interests after China and is con-demned for unleashing a "brutal and unprovoked war" on Ukraine.

demnee for timeasting a "ortical and unprovoked war" on Ulraine. Russia and China are the only two nations that have their own chapters in the document. The two-fold strategy under-lines pandemics, climate change, inflation, and economic insecu-rity as, as big a threat to US in-

terests as growing competition with major powers like China

"If we lose the time this de-cade, we will not be able to keep pace with most notably the climate crisis," the document

climate crisis," the document warns.
Saudi Arabia's absence from the document followed the king-dom-led oil carrel's decision to stash production by two million barrels a day, causing an increase in the alteady-high gas prices in the US, Dawn reported.
"We are re-calmating the re-lationship with Saudi Arabia, and this is a relationship that has exhibited over decades," US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivantol reporters: in Washington when asked to explain the absence. President joe Biden was 'doing so with the purpose of looking so with the purpose of looking out for US interests and values as we think about the future of the US-Saudi relationship', Sullivan added.

# One Year After Elections, Iragi Lawmakers Name New President And PM

ate on 13 October, the Iraqi ate on 13 October, the Iraqi parliament named Kurdsh politician Abdullatif Rashid as President of the Republic of Iraq, putting an end to 12 months of political deadlock and street chaos since last October's ballots. Föllowing his election. Rashid immediately named the Coordination Framework (CF) rominee, Mosammed Shia a-Sudani, as PrimMinister. The CF is an ad-hoc group of Shia parties that came together

of Staia parties that came together earlier this year to confront the for-mer biggest bloc in parliament: the Sadrist Movement, led by influen-tial cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. Sudani's nomination to the pre-

an initiative by the leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), Masoud Barzani, to withdraw the candidacy of Rebar Almed and support Rashid. Rashid received 162 votes, while his opponent, former president Barham Salih, received 59 votes. The position of president in larga is largely ocerenonial and base been traditionally held by a Kurd. Sudam, meanwhile, said in a tweet after being named prime minister: I promise the Iraqi people that I will meet their expectations by presenting the cabinet

tions by presenting the cabinet formation as soon as possible, and that it will be a strong government capable of building the country, serving citizens, maintaining se-curity and stability, and building



mier post by the CF in late July led mier post by the CF in Iale July led Sadrists to take over parliament and the federal supreme court, a situation that devolved into vio-lent clashes and Sadr's minth life-time retirement from political life-time retirement from political firer mire rockets landed around Begithada's Green Zone district, leaving at least 10 injuned. British-educated Rashid, 78s as the Iraqi minister of water resources from 2003-2010. He rose to prominence among the 40 candidates for president thanks to

balanced international relations." Sudani has 30 days to form a cabinet and present it to parlia-ment for approval. Despite a commanding victory at the polls last October, for over

at the polls last October, for over-eight months the Sadrist Move-ment failed to form a "majority government" with their Kurdish and Sunti allies, eventually forfeit-ing all of their seats in partiament. Since then, Sadrists had been teeling unures and violence on the streets, demanding the dissolu-tion of parliament and yet another round of anticipated elections.

## 3 Sikh Recruits Appeal To Wear Turbans, Beards In **US Marine Corps: Report**

Washington: Three prospec-tive Sikh Marine recruits have made an emergency appeal in the US federal court that they are allowed to attend the basic training of the elite forces without having to remove their religiously mandated uncut hair, beards, and turbans, ac-cording to media reports.

hair, beards, and turbans, ac-ording to media reports. Judges at the District of Columbia's Court of Appeals heard arguments by the tito of recruits — Aekash Singh, Jaski-rat Singh, and Mikap Singh Chahal on Tuesday who is in a lawsuit against Marine Corps Commandant David H Berger. They appealed to the US Court of Appeals for the DC Cir-cuit in September after a lower-

Court of Appeals for the DC Cir-cuit in September after a lower-court judge denied their request for a preliminary injunction that would have allowed the men to enter Marine Corps Basic Train-ing with their articles of faith, the Marine Times reported. The Marines have said that the enforcement of the Corps' rules is pressay to maintain unifor-

enrorement of the cops rules is necessary to maintain uniformity for the national interest.

Brian Springer, a Justice Department lawyer representing the Marine Corps, said the "country's chief expeditionary force" has the right to insist on greater uniformity among secretics during basic training recruits during basic training.

Countering the statement, Judge Patricia Millett, said that the argument "makes no sense, because nobody during boot camp is going out as an expeditionary force." In the Sikh redigion, it is mandatory for the make adherents to not trim their hair and beard along with keeping kanga (wooden comb), kirpan (small sword), kara (seeb bracelet), and a white cotton undergamment (kachera). The Marine Corps has fought against the recruits' wishes saying that it is imperative statement of the same and have one identity. The Plaintiffs are seeking extraordinary relief and the alteration of long-standing Marine Corps training policies." Brain Springer, an attorney for the defeat glowernment was quote das saying by Military.com. "It is perverse to claim that respecting the individual desires of Marines' to have full-body tattoos ... is consistent with the Marine Corps image, but that respecting (the four Sikhs') desires of Marines' to have full-body tattoos ... is consistent with the service," read the original complaint filed in April, which included a fourth recruit who is no longer attached to the case, the report said.

# in Camberra and Consulate in Camberra and Consulate in Sydney are in close touch with local authorities. We're in contact with the family, "Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said during a weekly media briefing here today. Bagchi said that some of officials from India laad met the injured student in the hospital in Sydney and 'we have extended our consular services." "We have also come to know that a suspect was taken into custody. Australian authorities will give you more details on the investigation. Our expectation is that it's seen seriously and action taken against the perpetrators," the spokesperson said. The 28-year-old student, Shubham Garg who hails from Agra and is pursuing his dectorate in Mechanical engineering from the University of NSW, was reportedly stabbed multiple times in Mechanical engineering from the University of NSW, was reportedly stabbed multiple times in Jones and Parkey Sydney's Artamen by 27-year-old Daniel Norwood, who according local media reports has been

# Sex, Money, Betrayal: Odisha Blackmailer's 'Rags-To-Riches' Story

Agences

Bhubaneswar: Halling from a poor family in Kalahandi district, once dubbed as the hunger zone of Odisha, Archana Mag now owns a palatial house with imported interior decorations, luxury cars, four high-breed dogs and a white horse. The rags to riches story of Archana, who was arrested last week on the charge of extortion, was so intriguing that an Odia filmmaker has planned to make a movie on her life.

In the police records, however, the 26-year-old woman is a blackmaier who alleged yet extorted maken and film producers with threats of making public photos and film producers with threats of making public photos and videos of their intimate moments.

eir intimate moments. Born in Lanjigarh in Kalahandi,



Archana was brought up in Kes-inga, a nondescript town in the same district, where her mother was working, before she came to Bhubaneswar in 2015.

Police sources said that Archana initially worked for a private secu-

rity firm and later joined a beauty vorking in the beauty parlour. Jagabandhu operated a used car

snowrom and knew monec peo-ple like politicians, builders, busi-nessmen and others. His and Arch-ana's photographs with influential persons including some MLAs have gone viral on social media creating a statestide by a and cov.

gone viral on social media creating a statewide hue and cry.
Archana also befriended rich and influential people and is alleged to have provided them with company of women. Police claimed that she then took infimate pictures of these powerful persons and later blackmailed them for money.

In a compliant made at Nayapally police station, a film producer alleged that Archana demanded 3 crore from him after showing him his photos with other gifts.

She was arrested on October 6 on the basis of another complaint by a gift who accused Archana of

by a girl who accused Archana of using her in this racket,

# Ex DU Prof Cleared of Maoist Links

Nagpur: The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court on Fri-day acquitted former Delhi Uni-versity professor C N Saibaba in an alleged Maoist links case, and ordered his immediate release from gill. A division bench of justice Rohit December 11 Bernam Jensen of the

A division bench of Justice Rohit Deo and Anil Pansare allowed the appeal filed by ON Saibaba challenging a 2017 order of the trial court convicting him and sentencing him to life imprisonment. GN Saibaba, who is wheel-chair-bound due to a physical disability, is currently lodged at the Nagpur central prison. The bench also allowed the appeal of five other convicts in the case and acquitted them. One of the five died pending hearing of the appeal.

hearing of the appeal.



The bench directed for the convicts to be released forthwith in any other case.

# No Action Against Senior **Bureaucrats Involved In Corruption: Mufti**

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Low-rank officers are fired without any investiga-tion, while no action has been

tion, while no action has been taken against senior bureaucrats involved in corruption in Jammu and Kashmir, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti charged on Friday. Her remarks came after the Jammu and Kashmir government ordered premature retirement of 36 police personnel for their alleged involvement in corruption, lack of performance and anti-social activities.

corruption, lack of performance and anti-social activities.

"Odd that LG admin hasn't taken action against senior burtaken action against senior burtaken action against senior burtaken post 2019 a new ecosystem of officers have emerged who are amassing millions without any accountability while low rank officers are fired without any investigation," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minster wrote on Twitter.

Meanwhile, Mufti told reporters in Handwara in Kupwara district of north Kashmir that it was "totally wrong and an injustice" to fire employees without any investigation.

"So much corruption is going on in J-K by senior babus, but there is no accountability. The recruitments of SIs or FAA or in Jal Board had to be cancelled ause there was corruption because there was corruption. No one was punished, but these low-rank officials have been fired without any investigation or courts. No one thinks about their families. This is wrong, injustice is going on here," she allaged.

injustice is going on here," she alleged.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief, while referring to

(PDP) chief, while referring to the administration's decision of allowing sale of beer at depart-mental stores, said her party will not allow it.

The unemploying ment in Jam-mu and Kashmir is the highest in the country. They cannot pro-vide employment to the youth, and if recruitment takes place, there is so much corrustion that

and if recruitment takes place, there is so much corruption that the process has to scrapped later. "But, now, they want to hand alcohol bottles to the youth. They want to sell alcohol in general stores so that God forbid, our kids become addicts. This is totally wrong. We will raise our voice against it and will not allow it." She said,

#### Replacement Of Fossil Fuel With Renewable Energy Needs Perpetual Investment: US Expert

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The replacement of fos-sil fuel with renewable energy not only needs perpetual investment but also change in the investment decisions, US-based expert Prof John H Perkins said on Friday. He was speaking at the Prof David Pimentel Memorial Lec-ture durine the aponion the

He was speaking at the Prot David Pinnentel Memorial Lec-ture during the ongoing three-day Indian Ecology International Conference on "such city and cultural innovations for resilient agri-food systems", being hosted by Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Tech-nology (SKUAST)-Jamuni, here. He was also of the opinion that the consequences of climate change will result in decline of food production resulting in high prices, malpurition and famine. During the second day of the international conference, three keynote sessions on the themes - Agriculture and Forestry on Path Towards Carbon Neutral-ity. Public Health, Food Security and Safety, Genetics Innovations

and Safety: Genetics Innovation and safety; centeres innovations for Climate resilient Agri-food systems — were held in which speakers from across the world deliberated on different topics. Dr Alice C Hughes from Hong

Kong discussed exploring synergies between biodiversity and carbon across scale.

Dr Virender Pal Singh said there is a need to have a fresh look at the research, teaching and extension protocol and develop new ones to suit the current needs. He also said a global bionergy research support facility needs to be established.

Dr Swoyambhu Man Amatya from Nepal said South Asian countries should take a lead role in identifying carbon neutral agro-forestry practices and implement them as appropriate. He also said international commitment needs to be fulfilled in case of agro forestry programmes.

Dr Pratap Singh Birthal. Dr Purnima Menon and Dr Shannon Olsson, speaking during the third keynote session, said nutritional security should be the top most priority of every nation.

Dr Menon said millets can play a vital role in addressing mainting nor production of the prod

Dr Menon said millets can play a vital role in addressing malnu-trition problems but it should be done along with cereals and not

in isolation. Prof Matin Qaim from Univ sity of Bonn, Germany deliberat-ed on actual and potential effects of genetically modified crops.

## Addl Economic Advisor Dr. Ashwani Visits PIB, CBC Jammu

Reviews Progress Of 'Swachhta Campaign 2.0'

Observer News Service

IAMMU: Additional Economic Advisor, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Dr. Ashwini Friday visited Press Information Bureau, Jammu and Central Bureau of Communication, Jammu to re-view the progress of 'Swachhta Campaign 2.0'.

Campaign 2.0'.

During his visit, Dr. Ashwini identified various items those are to be condemned and auc-

tioned so as to free up extra space in the office premises un-der the campaign. He also inspected the prem-ises of Radio Colony and idenises of Radio Colony and iden-tified areas that will be cleaned under Swachhta 2.0. Joint Direc-tor CRC, Chulam Abbas and As-sistant Director, PIB Jammu, Ay-ushi Puri welcomed Dr Ashwini Kumar during his visit to PIB, CBC Jammu who was accompa-Rumar during his visit to PIB CBC Jammu who was accompa-nied by DDG AIR and Doordar-shan, J Ravikantha.

# **Army Inducts High Mobility Troop Carrier** For Ladakh Ops



NEW DELHI: The Fire and Fury corps of the Indian Army on Friday inducted indigen ous high mobility troop car-rier and 4x4 Quick Reaction Force Vehicles for operations in the Ladakh sector, Army of-feits confirmed.

ficials confirmed.

According to the officials, these vehicles have been

tor firms.

Tire and Fury Corps inArmy ducts indigenous high mobilindigeity troop carrier, 4x4 Quickpo careaction Force Vehicles,
action #QRFV ex @BibaratForget.dr.
Fire and Fury Corps tweeted.
The Army had announced
the induction of the 4x4
ficials, Quick Reaction Force vehicles
been on October 6.

# Union Minister Takes Stock Of **Healthcare Facilities In Reasi**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: As part of a public outreach programme, Union Min-ister of state for health Bharati Pravin Pawar on Friday took stock of healthcare facilities in Reasi

of healthcare facilities in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmit. Pawar said the government is committed to develop Jammu and Kashmir and numerous innovative steps are being ini-tated in this regard which are yielding tangible results. Bharati inspected district hospital Reasi and stressed on institutional deliveries and Ay-ushman Bharat Health Scheme benefits for the common masses.

benefits for the common masses

During the inspection, Director ealth, Saleem-ul-Rehman gave detailed powerpoint presen-tion of various facilities avail-ble at district hospital and other

health institutions of the district, an official spokesman said.

He said the minister was briefed about the health indicators, details of the OPDs, IPDs, status of the major operations conducted, details of the benselfs recorded under Authorsham constructions and major operations are distributed series under the construction of the constructio efits provided under Ayushman Bharat and status of oxygen generation plants in the district.

The minister also inspected the blood bank, new emergency room, ICU, CT Scan, Dialysis Centre and Audiometry Room and interacted with staff members and patients, the spokesman said.

After the interaction, the min-

After the inspection, the min-After the inspection, the min-ister also inaugurated an exhi-bition of the General Zorawar Singh Memorial Trust at the district auditorium complex. The Minister also inspected various stalls setup by differ-

some agricultural implements and tricycles were also distributed to the specially abled persons, the spokesman said.

The Minister also interacted with the beneficiaries of different schemes and emphasized upon the officers to make sincere and dedicated efforts towards taking the benefits of all government schemes to the targeted sections of the society. all government schemes to the targeted sections of the society

targeted sections of the society
Later on, Bharati Pawar inter
acted with the District Develop
ment Council and took a review
meeting with the officers o
various departments of Reas
district, the spokesman said.

# Vaccinate Children Against HPV To **Prevent Cancers: DAK Urges Parents**

SRINAGAR: With the approval SRINACAR: With the approval of India's first indigenously developed Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday urged parents to get their children vaccinated against HPV oprevent several types of cancers: "We have an amazing opportunity to prevent certain types of cancers in future generations through HPV vaccination," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan. "According to a Swedish

"According to a Swedish study, HPV vaccine was found study, HPV Vaccine was found to prevent 90 percent of cervi-cal cancers," he said. Dr Hassan said since the in-troduction of HPV vaccine, countries like US, UK and Aus-

"However, it remains the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in low and middle income countries," he said.
According to WHO, India accounts for about a 5TH of global burden for cervical cancer, witnessing 123,000 cases and around 6,700 deaths every year. The DAK President said about 70 to 80 percent of coropharyngeal cancers, which mostly occur in men, are linked to HPV infection. In a study published in "Nat Pool of the State of HPV vaccine would increase in the risk of subsequent head and neck cancers." Use of HPV vaccine would prevent a lot of these cancers and save lives," he said.

Dr Nisar said both boys and concerns and save lives," he said.

The risk results of the same than the sam Oncology", it was found that people who were detected to have oral HPV had a sevenfold increase in the risk of subsequent head and neck cancers.

"Use of HPV vaccine would prevent a lot of these cancers and save lives," he said.

Dr Nisar said both boys and girls from the age of 9-14 years of importance of vaccine," he added.

# Pakistani Drone Shot Down Along Border In Punjab

GURDASPUR: Border Security Force (BSF) troops shot down a drone that entered India in Punjab's Gurdaspur sector from the Pakistan side on the Interna-tional Border in the early hours

tional Border in the early hours of Friday.

A senior BSF officer said that the drone was spotted at 4.25 am by BSF troops on patrolling duty. They immediately opened fire and it was shot down.

According to the BSF official, a massive search operation has been launched in the area to determine whether the drone has dropped whether the drone has dropped.

massive search operation has been bunched in the area to determine whether the drone has dropped any consignment in the area.

A search operation is underway under the supervision of BSF DIG. It is suspected that the drone was carrying a consignment from Pakistan.

Brave jawans of BSF spotted a drone coming from Pakistan side. As soon as it entered India, jawans fired 17 rounds of bullets at it. One of the blades of the drone was damaged. The entire area is being searched. The drone was damaged. The entire area is being searched. The drone was damaged. The entire area is being searched. The drone the supervision of the blades of the part of the drone was damaged. The entire area is being searched. The drone the supervision of the drone was damaged. The entire area is being searched, in the past nine months, security forces have observed the Illegal entry of 191 drones into Indian territory from neighbouring Pakistan, raising major concerns in terms of internal security in the country.

The central government re-

in terms of internal security in the country.

The central government recently shared the input from the security forces deployed at the India-Pakistan brider to maintain such illegal attempts from the Pakistan side.

Of the 191 drones observed, 171 entered into Indian territory through the India-Pakistan.

Of the 191 drones observed, 171 entered into Indian territory through the India-Pakistan border along the Punjab sector while 20 were seen in the Jammu sector, a document accessed by the ANI mentions.

As per the document, the "UAV (Umanuned Aerial Vehicle) observation in Indo-Pak border was seen in Punjab and Jammu frontier with effect from January 1, 2022, to Spetember 30, 2022".

frontier with effect from January 1, 2022, to Spetember 30, 2022". The documents further reval that most of these drones or IAVs managed to flee while a total of seven have been shot down by the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel, who are deployed along the India-Pakistan border to keep a tab on such illegal activities being orchestrated by Pakistan's Inter-



Services Intelligence.
Among seven drones shot down this year between January 1 to September 15 were observed in Punjab's Amritsar, Ferozpur and Abohar regions.
Officials in the BSF told ANI that drones are being used by

Pakistan and Punjab from Pakistan Pakis

ics across the international border in Jammu and Punjab from Pakistan.

The increased drone activity across the border was brought to the notice of Home Minister Amit Sbah in the security review meeting in Srinagar recently with top security and intelligence chiefs in attendance. While BSF, which mans the international border with Pakistan in the Jammu sector, believes that it has been able to repel drones carrying arms, ammunition and explosives from Pakistan, the state police and the intelligence agencies differ the intelligence age

The security forces have seized various AK series assault rifles, pistols, MP4 carbines, carbine magazines, high explosive grandes as well as narcotics which were transported into Indian territory from Pakistan from the drones shot down so far. As per security agencies, BSF intelligence inputs and Jammu and Kashmir Police officials, the drones are also used to drop packets of Afghan heroin for financing terror operations in the Valley and Punjab. It is learnt that the group The security forces ha

It is learnt that the group behind the transportation of

behind the transportation of weapons, explosives and drugs is Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba and other terror outfits which have camps across the International Boundary and are backed by ISI.

The Home Ministry is learn to have directed the concerned agencies to find out a solution to stop drone activities and meanwhile security agencies and law enforcement forces are asked to keep a special watch on such movements.

# **People's Unity Crucial For Building India: Dr Farooq**

MUMBAI: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President and Member of Parliament from Srinagar Dr. Farooq Abdullah asked people to stand up against the divisive forces that are trying to weaken the courty from within.

This, he said while addressing an event to celebrate the '75th birthday of Nationalist Congress Parry (NCP) Jeader Chagan Bhujbal in Mumbai. The event was also attended by former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, NCP Supremo Sharad Thackeray, NCP Supremo Sharad Pawar and party leaders from Janata Dal (United) and DMK, an

Janata Dai (Onteet) and Diwn, and NC spokesperson said. Stressing on working towards ensuring unity in the country, Dr. Farooq said, "Our country is diverse, there is diversity of faiths, cultures and climates, What unites us is our faith. Re-

ligion doesn't divide people, it unites. We all together can build India by living with camaraderice." he said.

There are no external threats to the country, there are divisive forces within the country that are weakening it, he said adding, "We should stop seeing ourselves as Hindus, Muslims, and Sidhs, I'm an Indian Muslim. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, we have to unite this country, and that can only be achieved by living in friendship."

Meanwhile, the NC patron drove to Assar-e-Sharief Dargah Hazratbal, after he returned to Srinagar from Maharashtra earlier in the noon.

"He offered Congressional"

Srinagar from Maintenance and liter in the noon.

"He offered Congregational prayers at the revered shrine and prayed for lasting peace and prosperity in J&K, and the rest of the country. He also had a glimpse of Moi-e-Mukadas Sharif," the party probespora added.

RATLE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER PROJECT

# **ADC Kishtwar Holds Coordination Meet, Inspects Progress Of Work**

KISHTWAR: To ensure proper coordination of all stakeholdcoordination of all stakehold-ers and to review the progress of different Works under exe-cution on Ratle Hydro-Electric Power project and to listen to the grievances of labourers and project affected families, Additional Deputy Commis-sioner Kishtwar Kishori Lal Sharma, who is the Collec-tor and Nodal Officer for HEP Rattle, on Thursday chaired a Rattle, on Thursday chaired a coordination meeting of the

coordination meeting of the stakeholders. The meeting was attended by authorities of Rattle Hy-droelectric Power Corporation Limited (RHPCL), Mega En-gineering and Infrastructure Limited (MIEL) and represen-tatives of the Labour Unions. During the coordination

meeting, the project authorities apprised the ADC about the salient features of the project, designing and layout plan, timeline of different works, bottlenecks faced in smooth execution of works and progress of R&R Plan.

The issues raised by the project authorities included Problems faced during the execution of work near the habitation area of the project, dumping of excavated material, Transportation facilities demanded by the employees, Coordination between the labour unions and project authorities. After threadbare discussion, the ADC Kishtwar assured the Project authorities of extending all possible cooperation from Administration in the smooth execution of the Project in the project authorities of extending all possible cooperation from Administration in the smooth execution of the Project Directions were issued to

smooth execution of the Project, Directions were issued to



the precautionary measures, including minimum emission of dust during the execution work for the safety of the in-habitants of the area. Regarding the dumping of

muck and excavated material from the project, the executing

agency was directed to ensure strict implementation of NGT guidelines and guidelines is-sued by J&K Pollution Control Committee from time to time.

The Directions were also given to project authorities to workout proper plan for pro-viding transportation facilities

ensure the smooth flow of the workers. Besides, implementation and strict adherence to labour laws with special attention towards the working hours and working conditions of the workers/employees, basic facilities for workers/employees, including health, drinking water, accommodation etc was also stressed upon

ter, accommodation etc was also stressed upon. Several issues were raised by the labourer unions, which included recruitment of the locals in the project, transpor-tation (Pick and drop) facilities for the workers/employees, adjustment of unadjusted land losers in the project, proper Implementation of Labour

After giving patient hearing to the issues raised by the vari-ous labourer unions, the ADC

assured full cooperation of the district administration t the workers and issued direct the workers and issued direc-tions to the project authorities to adopt fair and transparent mode of recruitment in the project and to give priority to locals and land losers and im-plement the employment ratio of 80:20 in the project during the employment process.

the employment process.

The project authorities apprised that 170 land losers have been provided employment in the project till date and the rest will be adjusted in a phased manner.

and the rest will be adjusted in a phased manner.
Besides, it was informed that a proper plan for providing transportation facilities to the workers is being worked out. Further providing proper facilities to the workers and ensuring their safety is taken due care by the project authorities.

ADC visited the work site and took the appraisal of the prog-ress of different Works under execution and directed the execution agencies to expedite the pace of works besides stressed to strictly adhere to the timeline of these projects The ADC directed Tehsildar

The ADC directed Tehsildar Drabshalla to co-ordinate with the stakeholders to ensure the smooth execution of the project. The ADC also assured the Union leaders, PAFs and Land losers that such coordination meetings would be held from time to time in future with project authorities and other stakeholders for ensuring the project work is completed in a time bound manner and sort out the pending issues of laout the pending issues of la-bours and other stakeholders.

#### ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

# Awake From Slumber

The state of Jammu and Kashmir seems to be preordained for a catastrophe'. Making this alarming statement on the prevailing situation in the state is not being prophetic. It is not being critical. It is not being anti-establishment. It is not being premonitory. It is just giving an expression to a brain wave that has afflicted every denizen of this state, particularly the rural populace. The villagers all over the valley are confronted with a very serious problem of shortage of water for their fields.

The winter of 1999 as also of 2000 has been very dry. There have been scant snow-falls on the higher reaches and almost no snow in the valley. It is always the heavy snowfalls followed by heavy downpour during the months of March, April and May that have been the main source of irrigation to the fields.

Kashmir has long history of fam ines. Their cause has never been summer draughts. The cause for these draughts in the words of famous historian P.N.K.Bamzai "Owing to its isolated position it was difficult to obtain grains from other states of India and a failure of crops resulted in a prolonged famine". Besides this the cause of famine has been untimely rains, or melting down of huge glaciers and subsequent deluge and floods. But, it is unheard in the history of Kashmir that famine has been caused due to lack of waters.

In Kashmir thinking of no water is like reciting the verse, water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink. One could under-stand the cause of deluges and floods in the past. There were no organised water management departments during then. There were no scientific means available for channeling of the waters. But now for past fifty years, the task of water management has

been assigned to a full-fledged department. First, it was the Public Works Department (PWD) that Looked after this sector. But for a few decades a full-fledged Irrigation Depart-ment has been has been looking after the job. Hundreds of lakhs of rupees have been pumped into this department during past five decades to provide irrigation facilities to the arid lands. It is a million-dollar question with the analysts if the works executed by the Irrigation Department commensurate with the funds spent on the sector.

If an honest survey or study is conducted about the actual work done by the depart-ment and the funds spent by it, the picture that will emerge will be dismal and disap-pointing. It is not even ten per cent work that this department has done. Unlike in other states of India, the task before the state Irrigation Department was very easy. It had only to tap the water resources and channelize them in a more effective and profitable manner. It is true on papers the department has dug out legendary "Farhad streams" in the most arid and difficult areas. But in reality the department has so far failed even to channelize the gushing streams for irrigation purposes.

While Kashmir valley is confronted with worst ever situation due to shortage of water which could result in a famine, the government in general and the Irrigation Depart ment in particular are napping. It seems that the hoarse cries of the villagers are yet to awake the state government from its deep

The state Agriculture Department is yet to respond to this critical situation which can prove very ugly for a state already beset with worst ever-financial crunch. The reason for the state government's survival in office is the prevailing political uncertainty. But in the event of a famine-like situation, it would be difficult for it to survive if it does not address this problem in time. It should have set up a task force for dealing with this grave problem. It is time for the state gov-ernment to awake from its deep slumber and take appropriate remedial measure.

The article is an editorial from KO's archives and was originally published on August 8,2001

# Has PM Modi Resolved Kashmir?

It is clear that the Modi government has changed the game in Kashmir internally and, as a consequence, externally also

RIYAZ WANI

n the stump in Gujarat, prime minister Narendra Modi proudly declared that he has resolved the Ashmir issue. The PM added that he has resolved the Ashmir issue. The PM added that he has resolved the Ashmir issue. The PM added that he accomplished the feat by following in the footsteps of Sardar Patel, while taking an oblique dig at the first prime minister Jawahar Lal Netherland, and the first prime minister Jawahar Lal Netherland, bearing the issue to the United Nations. Pakistan in response "categorically rejected" the remarks made by the PM, calling on India to stop making "delusional statements about having resolved the dispute unliaterally," and asking the Indian leadership to "deliver on their committements to Kashmiris", The two statements differ in that

The two statements differ in that Modi's is supported by a profound change in the realities on the ground in Kashmir, whereas Pakistan's sounds like boilerplate.

like boilerplate.

Over three years after the withdrawal of Article 370 which granted Kashmir a special constitutional position within the Indian Union, the region has changed beyond recognition. Once vaunted separatist conglomerate Hurriyat Conference has become extinct. Many of the grouping's top leaders continue to be in Jail or are under house arrest. This has hobbled its capacity to organize any political activity.

under house arrest. This has nobled its capacity to organize any political activity.

But even if the separatist leaders were free - and some of them are free the situation would hardly be different. The government has outlawed any sign of separatist activity in whatever form and disproportionately raised the costs for any leader or an activist to go out and champion the cause.

There have also been far-reaching administrative and legal changes right from the domicile laws to new land laws. As a result, J8K citizenship and the buying of land have been thrown open to outsiders. The government has also overturned the Roshni Act whereby occupants of state land were allowed to own it against payment determined by the government. Scores of other laws have been extended to the former state that is adding the process of fundamentally altering the facts on the ground.

At the same time, the government has changed the electoral map of J8K



by creating District Development Councils, a third tier of the grass-roots democracy, whose members unlike in any other state in India are roots democracy, whose members unlike in any other state in India are being directly elected. The DDCs are expected to not only undermine the role of the gram sabhas and the Block Development Councils - the first and second tier of Panchayati Raj respectively - but also detract from the powers of the Assembly. The 14-member DDC headed by a chairperson is largely in charge of the district. Their decisions override those of a panch, sarpanch, and a BDC member. Similarly, a future Member of Assembly despite being a member of the DDC will have no role in the election or removal of its chairperson.

The only thing that remains constant from pre-August 5, 2019 when JRK's special status was revoked, is the militancy. It has gone on regardless of the fair-reaching changes that have overtaken Kashmir despite the killings of more than 500 militants over the last three years. And as long as the local recruitment continues as looks likely and the armed men continue to cross over from Pakistan the militance.

the last three years. And as long as the local recruitment continues as looks likely and the armed men continue to cross over from Pakistan, the militancy seems here to stay.

Going forward, the current situation is likely to linger on for a while. Though there is talk of an Assembly election being held later this year or early next year, nothing can be said with certainty. Until that time, the DDCs will serve as a replacement for the Assembly.

Similarly, the Centre is unlikely to restore the statehood of J&K. It seems to be subordinate to the cir-



WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR KASHMIR? The probability is that it will be more of the same. Even if the BJP loses power in the future, the Article 370 move remains a fait accompli. And if a large number of outsiders acquire citizenship and buy the land, as the new legal regime has made possible. J&K will be a different place a few years down the line

cumstances thrown up by a future elected UT government. The centre, as seems clear, doesn't want its decision to undo Article 370 to be in any way challenged by an Assembly dominated by the parties that have Kashmir as their core base.

The last three years have also shown that the world doesn't care about the withdrawal of Article 370. Even the concern about human rights in the months following the repeal of autonomy has abated. Kashmir is now more or less off the international radar. Similarly, while Pakistan may not have reconciled to the constitutional changes in Kashmir, it has now kind of gotten used to the new state of af-

fairs in the region, its protestations about India's actions in Kashmir haven't found adequate traction across the world, in fact, the US and Europe, which largely influence world opinion, have been barely responsive - their attention is now centered on the ongoing war in Ukraine.

What does the future hold for Kashmir? The probability is that it will be more of the same. Even if the BIP loses power in the future, the Article 370 move remains a fait accompil. And if a large number of outsiders acquire citizenship and buy the land, as the new legal regime has made possible, J8K will be a different place a few years down the line.

So, very little that we thought and understood about Kashmir before August 5, 2019, applies now. And if we continue to look at the situation through the same prism, there's no way we can understand what is happening in Naya Kashmir. The new Kashmir needs rethinking our decades-old understandings and narratives to make sense of it.

It is clear that the Modi government has changed the game in Kashmir, internally and, as a consequence, externally also, So, if the PM saxhmir neality in the former state bears him out.

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

#### T.C.A. Raghavan

s the war in Ukraine stretches into the eighth month, no clear end appears visible and the imponderables preponderate amidst an incremental, but perceptible, escalation. Controversial referendums, the Russian declaration of formal annexation of a chunk of Ukrainian territory, and the announcement of a partial mobilisation of its military reserve amidst what are clearly battlefield reversals of the Russian forces are in the news. The quality and the intensity of Ukrainian resistance are major contributory factors in the fog of war that Russia has bad to confront since February this year.

Western analysts almost unanimouslysee President Vladimir Putin as someone who is embattled and groping in the dark. His language and postures are interpreted as suggesting willingness to escalate to the nuclear weapon dimension. Historical parallels for Putin's mortivation in the current conflict are being hunted both deep in Isants history as equally in the more recent policies of the former Soviet Union. His rationales are largely understood in terms of how he situates himself in the longer span of Russian history.

Most Western commentary reads this s the war in Ukraine stretch-

sian history.

Most Western commentary reads this crisis as a replay of an older script — that crisis as a replay of an older script — that of Absolutism versus Democracy. In Russia, on the other hand, it is the West that is seen as the real contesting party rather than Ukraine and the contest is also framed in larger ideological terms. The substantive point is that there is not even a remotely workable proposal in sight to end or even reduce the intensity of the present conflict. All sides are, in effect, also trapped by the respective vocabularies and analyses they employ. To us on the outside, these are narcissisms

# An old script

The shadow of the Cuban missile crisis on Ukraine

The shadow of the Cuba that mirror and ricochet off one another. This fresh intensity to the conflict in Ukraine coincides with the 60th anniversary of what was possibly the closest point great power relations had come to breaking down in the post-World War II period. In October 1962, the discovery of nuclear missiles in Cuba by the United States of America initiated the crisis and it ended with the Soviets agreeing to withdraw them. In popular narratives, the entire high-tension-filled drama was compressed into a 13-day period in the second half of October 1962 till the final resolution of the stand-off. At the time, the outcome was considered with the content of the stand-off. At the time, the outcome woulkerpart, histared down his Soviet counterpart, histared down his the soviet counterpart was a final resolution that took into a cocunt the Cuban and Soviet perspectives appeared only gradually. A little over a year be-

move in the Us periphery. A more nuanced picture that took into account the
Cuban and Soviet perspectives appeared
only gradually. A little over a year before the discovery of the missiles, a Ussponsored military invasion of Cuba had
been defeated by the Cubans. This was
the Bay of Pigs covert operation of April
1961 to bring about regime change in
Cuba and reverse the revolution of 1958
which had brought Castro to power. The
US threat to Cuba was real. For the Soviets, defending their Cuban ally was also
about more than geopolitics. There was
a greater sense of socialist solidarity between the two than is generally conceded. The overall context to all this was a
new intensity to Cold War contestations

missile crisis on Ukraine

and rhetoric exemplified by the Berlin crisis of the second half of 1961 and the erection of the Berlin wall.

Both the Berlin wall.

Both the Cubans and the Soviets agreed that the Bay of Pigs humiliation notwithstanding. Us efforts to undermine a socialist regime in Cuba would continue unless its defensive capabilities were strengthened. Cubar's capability gap with the US was so overwhelming that the deployment of nuclear missiles was seen as the only way of effectively deterring another invasion. The additional advantage of missile deployment in Cuba for the Soviets was that it brought US territory into range. Existing US nuclear missiles in Turkey had underlined to the Soviets the need for some kind of equalizer via Cuba.

In retrospect, what stands out in the mass of historical material that emerged from the crisis is of both sides often groping in the dark about the other's intentions, having to make decisions on the basis of errant intelligence and re-lying more on ingrained prejudices and predispositions. The leadership on both sides were also often unable to prevent a number of near-miss-type situations in which tactical calls could have led to an unintended escalation and a nuclear exchange.

There were many takeaways from the

There were many takeaways from the crisis after it was finally resolved. The installation of a hotline between the US and Soviet presidents was one — the aim being to ensure that both sides com-municated directly and did not act on

the basis of conjecture and supposition alone. To a considerable extent, strategic arms control and the impulse to put some caps on nuclear weapons can also be traced back to the lessons learnt by both great powers from the Cuban crisis. Yet, perhaps most significant is the substance of the agreement reached to resolve the stand-off. The Soviet decision to withdraw the missiles was matched by a US commitment not to invade Cuba. A secret part of the agreement was also that the US would withdraw its missiles from Turkey within a timeframe. A largely hidden and underappreciated part of the story is the diplomatic heavylifting the Soviets had to do with Cuba to make it accept the agreement reached without any real consultation with it.

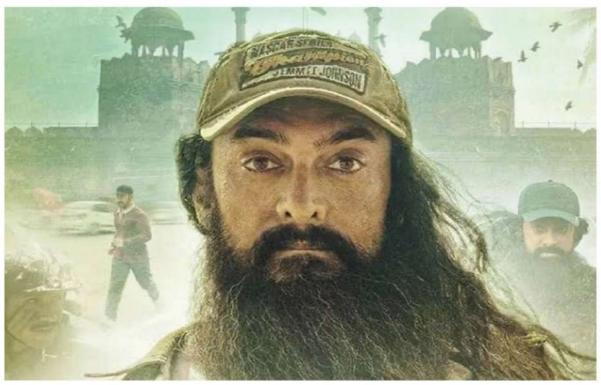
The larger point is that the agreement was cast in terms of geopolitical interest rather than in the normative projections of either side in the Free World vs Socialist Solidarity debate. Seeing the crisis for what it was, shorn of rhetorical or ideological flourishes, provided the way forward. In Ukraine today, we are yet to reach that stage. Only on doing so will a mutual adjustment be possible. In the West, such an idea is still an anathema as it amounts to appeasement — a bad word in its diplomatic lexicon. And yet, moving away from epochal and ideological narratives remains the only way moving away from epochal and ideo-logical narratives remains the only way

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 Telegraph In

The author is a former High Commissioner to Pakistan and Singapore



**MOVIE REVIEW** 



# **LAAL SINGH CHADDHA**

# Ableism, Masculinity And Nation

fter three decades of getting shut, a multiplex made its way into Srinagar's Sonwar area. The inaugural reremony closed with the screening of Laal Singh Chaddha, a movie that was to be Bollywood's messiah for commercial resurrection.

Laal Singh Chaddha is a 2022 Indian film

was to be Bollywood's messiah for commercial resurrection.

Laal Singh Chaddha is a 2022 Indian film directed by Advait Chandan. The film sets out by introducing the protagonist, a boy named Laal who needs leg braces to walk. He faces ableism-discrimination against disabled people- in school, both from the students and the administration. Even as his mother helps him build a resilient outlook on his condition, he continues to face sidelining. The film treats Laal's disablity as a shackle to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of. Instead of affirming the disabled protagonist's life and his rights to break out of the standard to a stable in the standard to a stable standard to standard the standard to serve as a spectacle of inspiration. The scene is shown as a breakthrough for him, symbolized by him running through sesame fields, saturated with color, like Moses running through the parted Red Sea. Laal says "After that day, I an everywhere." There is a horizon of expectation where the disabled boy lifes out of his bindings' and enters a life of possibility. His college coach closes the scene by remarking, "Is that a human or a rocket?" Therefater, in his adulthood, Laal is shown as expressing his masculinity through races, Le, through physical and muscular capacity. The film constructs his story such that the rejection he faces due to ableism as a boy is followed up by a recovery arc of masculinisation which culminates in the heterosexual family unit.

sexual family unit.

Ramaswamy, in her essay, Visualizing India's geo-body argues that when the nation is constructed as a motherly geo-body, the territory falls under the guardianship of her loyal sons, like all women are in a paternalistic world. Laal steps up into dominant masculinity through joining the army, sexual family unit

a masculinist institution. This not only makes him combatant but also heroic, he is shown to rescue his fellow fighters on the battlefield, saving the lives of other men defending the nation. Moreover, Rupa tells Lall he looks handsome in his army uniform. The aesthetic signifier gets attached to him for the first time in the film when he is in the most masculine garb imaginable. Ableism is an identicely that functions in

is in the most masculine garb imaginable. Ableism is an ideology that functions in tandem with capitalism and hence colonialism. This is not to say that there is a linear relationship between them but that the ideas that govern the three are the exact same: the commodification of the human body for capital ends. The nation-state is the colonial manifestation of this ideological triad. Laal instrumentalizes his body for the nation, steeping into dominant masculinity as a result.

# MASCULINISED INDIAN VS EMASCULATED PAKISTANI

PANISTANI
Mohammad, a Pakistani commander
Laal saves from the Kargil war is constructed in opposition to him. Laal is chivalrous
enough to carry the enemy to safety while
the latter tries to shoot him in the back,
Laal offers Mohammad a kulfi while he

the latter tries to shoot him in the back, Laal offers Mohammad a kulfi while he throws it away. Mohammad a kulfi while he throws it away. Mohammad is brought down from a position of aggressive masculinity to one of a person whose life falls apart after he loses his legs in the war. He is shown with diskweeled clothes and hair, drinking from a bottle, self defining as "still a cripple." While this Muslim enemy-of-the-nation is "brought down" to the level of a meaningless man, Laal is shown to travel around the world as a part of the Indian army, and is even awarded with a medal of valor for saving his comrades. Leaving Mohammad to die would have been con eat a choice in the film. By keeping him alive, he serves as a constant reminder of everything Laal remembers the promise he made to his friend Saala on the battlefield and goes to great lengths to fulfill that promise. Mohammad on the other hand becomes a homeless man without any valor to his

goes to great reigns to full mula promises a homeless man without any valor to his name. As opposed to Laal being fashioned out of his own intrinsic goodness as well as the support of those around him-his mother, Rupa, co-combatant Baala—Monammad is shown as a man who is disposable to his community. After settling down in India, he states, They (Pakistan) disowned the dead, let alone the living... there was no longer any need for us."

The idea here is that the Indian nation makes moral men and gives back to them, while Pakistan treats its fighters like chattel after reaching ideological ends.

As Mohammad gets a redemption arc through Laal's business ventures, he thanks Laal for saving him, not only physically but from the fate of those involved in the Taj

attack. He asks Lal why he never worships to which he replies, "Religion spreads ma-laria," an allusion to violence. The villatin-ization of religion in order to create peace is a typical secular-liberal argument that refuses to engage with the colonial his-tory of secularism itself, pitting a changing, secular self against the rigid, fundamental-ist other.

ist other. Mohammad says he was brought up with the belief that everyone there was an enemy and a disbeliever. But he met Laal which changed him, that he himself was a victim of "malaria," another allusion to extremism. Here we see an articulation of what was manifest visually all along. Mohammad says he plans to become someone who saves others from 'malaria' through

Manliness becomes the rhetoric of the nation in the film, becomes an epic of endurance through running, becomes a singular story of a man

schooling. The conversation of 'teaching' them 'there' about 'good friends here'
paints Pakistan as a land full of hatfull
people who don't know better than being
brainwashed into violent praxis. Mohammad subscribes to the idea that they then
require education about better ways of
being from one of them enlightened by a
dutful Indian man, Deepa Srinaws, in her
essay on the figure of the Muslim Other in
propular culture says that fits portrayal bas. essay on the figure of the Muslim Other in popular cultiver says that this portrayal has never been free from an underlying anxiety of belonging/ unbelonging to the idea of the nation. The Indian nation and its moral, dutiful citizen, Laal are both constructed through articulating what they aren't, Pak-istan and its violent, barbaric citizens.

MAN AS PROVIDER
Rupa's life moves from her father's abuse
due to monetary constraints to a gang
member Abba's abuse. As Rupa fails to
make the life she wants for herself and is
victimized by multiple men, Laal steps into
rescue her. He beals up any man who dares
to touch Rupa. He shows up whenever she
needs him with an uncanny foresight. Later
down the line, Laal tells her about his successful endeavors and how she doesn't have

to worry about money anymore. Not for a single moment does the film sit in the possibility that Rupa could provide for herself, not until the very end, Joane Nagel, in theorizing the construction of me in relation to the nation states that women are relegated to symbolic roles while men defend their honor, their homeland and their women. In Laafs journey as an army official and later as a businessman, Rupa becomes a beneficiary rather than an aventual swiner.

Lada's journey as at artify official and rater as a businessman, Rupa becomes a beneficiary rather than an agential subject. Rupa's later separation from Laal due to associations with Abbas, a murdered and gang member, only reinstates their roles with respect to the nation. Laal continues to be a nation wide spectacle of masculinity, this time by running for four years straight. Rupa, as a less threatening yet supportive role to nationalism, testifies against Abbas, the violent Muslim germ in the nation and gets him arrested.

As Laal and Rupa enter the family unit, the one thing Laal asks at the get go is if their kid is smart or 'like him'. Any deviation from being able-bodied is seen as regression. Rupa assures him that the kid is the smartest in his class.

ACHAND BHARAT

At the tail end of the film, as Rupa lies sick in her deathbed, Laal speaks of how watching the Himalayas glow and witnessing the sunset at Kanyakumari was what took away the fear he felt while in the army. The map of India is affirmed here - from Kashmir to Kanyakumari- a material reality to attach oneself to, to quell fear kamawawny articulates how patriotism requires persuasion and it happens most potently through the map. Rupa's fears are laid to rest through attaching herself to the map of a monolithic, stable entity of the nation, of an akhand bharat. The complexity of illness, death and separation are flattened through the mythos surrounding India as an absolute entity to look up to.

look up to.

This film visualizes the inseparability of nationalist and masculinist discourses, in nationalists and masculinist discourses, in the way they articulate each other. Manliness becomes the rhetoric of the nation in the film, becomes an epic of endurance through running, becomes a singular story of a man. Rupa and Lal's mother stay static in their roles and never shift from the margins into the center stage. However, the film moves Laal from disabled, subordinate masculinity into an abled, dominant masculinity characterized by muscularity, valor and patriotism. Views expressed in the article are the author's earn and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer.

adia Peerzada is a student of English | Creative Writing at Ashoka University

Laal tells this story later in his life. and follows up his recollection with, "You won't believe it, I run faster than the wind." Not only is a disabled person fixed to match an able bodied standard. but the expectation is to exceed the standard, to serve as a spectacle of inspiration

LAAL TELLS HER ABOUT HIS SUCCESSEUL endeavours and how she doesn't have to worry about money anymore. Not for a single moment does the film sit in the possibility that Rupa

could provide for herself, not

until the very end

# Fine Particle Pollution Linked Mortality In India May Be Lower Than Thought: Study

Press Trust Of India

Press Trust O'India

India may have a smaller impact on mortality than previously estimated, according to the first such study to cover the whole of the country. India has among the highest levels of air pollution in the world, with most people living in areas with fire particulate matter levels (PMZ.5) well above the safe limit by the World Health Organization (WHO). The findings of the Million Death study (MDS), published in the journal Ferifornmental Health Perspectives, linked concentrations of PMZ.5 derived from satellite-based measurements and

Invatumental Teas and Teaspeculine Intelections of PN2.5 derived from satellite-based measurements and deaths in over 7.400 small acase covering a total population of 6.8 million. The researchers quantified the relationship between PM2.5 exposures over several years to the subsequent mortality risk, focusing on the leading lallers everal years to the subsequent mortality. Their analyses adjusted for risk factors that make these diseases more common such as smoking, urban or rail residency, and education. Because these diseases and PM2.5 tend to clustered in the control of the control



ter in some areas but not others, they also adjusted for spatial clustering. Analysing over 200,000 deaths at ages 15 69 years, the researchers found a nine per cent excess risk in stroke deaths for every 10 micro-

grammes per cubic metre increase in

PM2.5 exposure.

However, there were no excess risks for respiratory or heart disease and for total mortality (after excluding the content of the content of

Study results were broadly similar in different age-groups and in areas with higher or lower use of house-hold solid fuel — which itself is the major contributor to PM2.5 exposure In contrast to these direct observa-tions, earlier estimates of air pollution deaths in India used complex models that assumed a much higher mortal-ity risks from PM.25 exposure, the researchers said. "Messuring the health effects of air pollution is complicated," said study lead author Professor Patrick Brown, from the University of Tromton In Canada.

author Professor Patrick Brown, from the University of Foronto in Canada. "There are so many things to tease out to establish if a relationship with deaths is true, or just noise in the data. Even the modest excess risks we found for stroke might reflect the uncertainty that is inherent in these types of epidemiological studies," Brown said.

types of epidemiological studies; Frown said.

The researchers noted that direct studies like the Million Death Study (MDS) are far preferable to extrapo-ching from models, many of which take reports from non-Indian settings and apply them to India.

Earlier models have probably over-stated the extent to which air pollu-tion kills adults in India, they said.

"Most existing studies on air quality and health are done in high-income countries, where PML2-6 exposures are far lower and disease patterns are substantially different than in low

and middle-income countries such as India," said study co-author Professor George D'Souza, Dean of St. John's Medical College, Bengalum, India. That needs to change," D'Souza said. The results are one of many insights being generated by MDS one of the largest studies of premature mortality in the world.

The study covering deaths from

the targest studies of premature mortality in the world.

The study, covering deaths from 2001 to 2014, is a long-running effort to better understand the causes of mortality in countries such as India, where the wast majority of people die at home without a death certificate.

Launched by Professor Prabhat Jha at Dalla Lana School of Public Health, The University of Toronto, it has helped governments and health providers to better allocate scarce public health funding.

Despite the good news, the researchers said there are many reasons to act on air pollution in India.

"PM2.5 may not be the big killer in India as has been touted, but action to reduce PM2.5 exposure is still necessary," said flha.

"Alle nodiurion wersons, child lune."

say," said fha.

"Air pollution worsens child lung health and lowers quality of life, and that is sufficient justification to act," he added.

## 'Links Between People Taking **Multiple Medications And** Dementia Diagnosis'

A study has provided an in-depth exploration of the depth exploration of the polypharmacy which involves a patient heles represented

Minks between evolving polyplarmacy which involves a patient being prescribed more than one drug at any given time and a demential diagnosis.

The study is the first to provide an ini-depth exploration of the links between evolving polyplarmacy — which involves a patient being prescribed more than one drug at any given time — and a demential diagnosis.

ALSO READ: Schizophrenia diagnosis.

ALSO READ: Schizophrenia might enhance dementia risk 2.5 times: Study Published in the Aging and Disease journal, it is based on an analysis of the records of more than \$3.000 demential patients in Walese between 1990 to 2015.

Experts in e-bealth used machine learning techniques to identify potentially damaging patterns in a patient's medicine usage, and how these patterns evolve in the run-upto diagnosis. They found that in the 20 years leading up to them being diagnosed, the proportion of patients talking three or more medications rose from 5.5% (for the period 16 to 20 years prior to diagnosis; to 82.16% among those less than five years from a diagnosis.

Researchers also found that is the development towards

those less than five years from a diagnosis. Researchers also found that as the development towards dementia progressed, the pat-terns of polypharmacy shifted from being clearly distinct to being more closely associated

with particular medical condi

tions.

And of those closest to their tions.

And of those closest to their diagnosis, almost two-thirds (66,55%) were found to be taking multiple medicines for a combination of respiratory or urinary infections, arthropathies and theumatism, and cardiovascular disease. A further 22% of patients were found to be taking medicines for infections, arthropathies and rheumatism, cardio-metabolic disease and depression.

The study was supported by the Health Data Research W. and conducted by an international team of researchers from the University of Plymouth, Aptuit (an Evotec company), Swansea University Medical School, and the University of Oxford.

Stramming Thou Professor

Strangming Zhou, Professor of e-Health at the University of Plymouth, led the study. He said: "Given the rise in dementar cases internationally, the need to understand how patterns of polypharmacy evolve before and after a dementia diagnosis are important for devising a safe treatment programme for each patient. Our aim in this study was to help doctors find ways to prescribe multiple items of dementia medication safely and without reducing their effectiveness. The use of machine learning has been vital in belping us understand how these patterns develop, and our hope is we can now use this knowledge to treat natients." now use this knowledge to treat patients."

# Smoking, Diabetes, Obesity **Bigger Risk Factors For Covid Death Than Heart Ailment: Study**

Press Trust Of India

Risk factors for cardiovas-cular disease such as obe-sative, smoking and diabetes, rather than preexisting heart dis-ease, are the main contributors to death and poor outcomes among critically ill COVID-19 patients, ac-cording to a study.

critically ill COVID-19 patients, ac-cording to a study.

Patients with cardiovascular disease were found to have close to a 30 per cent higher mortal-ity rate than critically ill COVID patients without the preexisting condition. However, when ad-justed for risk factors – including age, sex, race, smoking and others – that relationship was no longer statistically significant.

"The fact that the as-sociation between car-

significant.

"The fact that the association between cardiovascular disease and death was so heavily diminished when accounting for comorbidities suggests that cardiovascular tisk factors rather than preexisting heart disease are the main contributors to in-hospital death in patients with severe COVID-19; said senior author Salm Hayek.

The team, led by researchers at the University of Michigan in the US, analysed

outcomes for more than 5,100 patients admitted to intensive care units at 68 centers across the US with severe COVID between March and June of 2020.

Of those patients, 1,174 had either preexisting coronary artery disease, corgestive heart failure or attial fibrillation.

A text of 345 nor cent of pa

atnal librillation.

A total of 34.6 per cent of patients died within 28 days and nearly 18 per cent suffered a cardiovascular event, such as cardiac

nearly 18 per cent suffered a cardia-cinovascular event, such as cardia-arrest or myocarditis. Researchers say the association between such events and death did not differ between patients with and without precisiting heart disease. The study, published in the journal circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes, found that the presence of myocardial injury was associated with cardiovascular events and death, read prevesting heart disease. Myocardial injury was common among patients in the ICU, occur-ing in nearly half of patients or point measurements were nearly three times more likely to die than those without myocardial injury, the researchers said in a statement. While patients with severe COVID

commonly had signs of cardiac injury, our findings reinforce COV-ID-19 as a polmonary disease with multi-organ injury related to systemic inflammation; Hayek said. The evidence of heart damage that we frequently see in patients with severe COVID-19 is more likely a reflection of the severity of the illness and the stress it imparts on all organs, rather than the development of new complications or the exacerbation of preexisting heart disease, "he said.

The findings should not ministe the fact that patients with cardiovascular disease are still at risk for death due to COVID-19, as they have a high burden of risk factors of the disease, such as diabetes, hypertension and smoking, says or first author Alexi Vashidaer.

We are currently working on the countries the first processor of studies to forther defense groups of

or first author Alexi Vasbinder, co-first author Alexi Vasbinder, We are currently working on studies to further define groups of patients with COVID-19 at highest risk for severe outcomes, such as those with advanced heart failure or coronary artery disease, Vasbinder said.

Cardiovascular disease is a common condition among patients who suffer severe COVID illness, given its prevalence among older adults and associated chronic inflammation.

In the study, age, obesity and labetes were much stronger predictors of death due to COVID, the researchers added.

## 'Hot Flashes Can Be **Detrimental To Heart Besides** Being Uncomfortable'

A round 70% of women are thought to have hot flashes at some point throughout the menopause transition. Hot flashes have long been

out the menopause transition.

Hot flashes have long been recognised as having an impact on women's quality of life and mental health, but mounting evidence connects them to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease. Concerns regarding the connection between hot flashes and heart health will be highlighted in a presentation at The North American Menopause Society (NAMS) Annual Meeting in Atlanta. October 12–15.

The risk increases in middlied during the menopause transition when cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of mortality in women. Evidence associating hot flashes and the risk of heart disease has been found in large epidemiologic cohort studies, clinical investigations utilising physiologic measures of vasomotor symptoms, and other studies.

In particular, women who experience hot flashes more frequently have worsening profiles of cardiovascular risk factors, including hypertension (or cased blood pressure), insulin resistance (or diabetes), dyslip-demia, and a higher chance of underlying atherosclerosis. As women age, having more frequent or persistent hor flashes has been associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease-related events such as myocardial infarction and stocke.

myocardial infarction and stroke. More recent studies have

connected vasomotor symp-toms to markers of small artery disease in the brain as well as other measures of brain health.

The presentation, which will examine potential underlying physiological mechanisms ing physiological mechanisms that could connect vasomotor symptoms to cardiovascular risk as well as the clinical consequences of this work, will be led by Dr Rebecca Thurston from the University of Pittsburgh. e Oniversity of Pittsburgh. "Hot flashes are consider



to be symptoms that can affect one's quality of life, but not always their physical condition. Increasing evidence suggests that frequent or severe hot flashes may indicate women who are at an elevated risk of cardiovascular illness at midlife and beyond, contradicting this long-held conventional wisdom, according to Dr Thurston. According to Dr Faubion, medical director of NAMS, this presentation will highlight themost recent thinking regarding how women with a high burden of vasomotor symptoms may

of vasomotor symptoms may particularly benefit from targeted cardiovascular reduction initiatives as they age."





# SERVE

The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us 24/7 on smartphones in our pockets.

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# **US vs Saudi Over Oil Supply Cut, Riyadh Rejects Charges** Of Backing Russia



WASHINGTON: The United States and Saudi Arabia traded States and Saudu Arabia traded bitter barbs Thursday over last week's OPEC+ oil output cut, with Washington accusing Ri-yadh of knowingly boosting Russian interests. The Saudi-led OPEC+ cartel - which includes Russia -- an-

gered Washington by cutting production by two million bar-rels a day from November, add-ing further pressure on soaring

ing further pressure of a crude prices.

Saudi Arabia issued a rare press release on Thursday expressing "total rejection" of accusations it was "taking sides" as President Vladimir Putin's

cusations it was "taking sides" as President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine rages on. But White House spokesman John Kirby quickly fired back, saying that Riyadh knew the cut "would increase Russian revenues and blunt the effectiveness of sanctions".

The United States has vowed to The United States has vowed to ne-evaluate ties with the oil-rich kingdom since the cut, which was seen as a diplomatic slap in the face for President Joe Biden. Despite vowing to make the kingdom an international "pa-riah" following the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Biden travelled to Saudi Ara-

**Chandigarh Fair** 

CHANDIGARH: The Department

O'Handicrafts and Handloom (Kashmir is participating in the 25th edition of Cll Chandigarh Fair at Sector 17 in Chandigarh Fair at Sector 17 in Chandigarh Fom October 14-17.

The four-day fair which is hosting 10 concurrent expos, including Handicrafts/Handloom, home Decor, Realcon (Real Estate), Persona, Kitchen Central and International Arcade was today inaugurated by the Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit. The event is going to take place after a two year gap due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The fair is spread over 300 stalls displaying a variety of products from Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, West Bengal and

mir, Karnataka, West Bengal and Uttarakhand.

Handicrafts & Handloom

**Dept To Participate In CII** 

bia in July and met with Crown with the two greeting each other with a high-profile fist

other with a high-profile fist bump.

The OPEC supply cut decision was "moral and military support because it allows (Putin) to continue to fund his war-making machine," Kirby said, in unusually strong remarks.

It "certainly gave... Mr. Putin a sense of comfort."
Other OPEC+ nations "felt coerced to support Riyadh's direction," Kirby added, accusing Saudi Arabia of "twisting arms pet what they wanted."
The oil cut comes at a sensitive moment for Biden as the Democratic Party faces tricky midterm elections in November with rising consumer prices, es-

midterm elections in November with issing consumer prices, especially at the gas pump, a key concern for voters.

Asked about Riyadh's move, Biden told reporters in Ios Angeles: "We're about to talk to them."

Oil funds Russian war

In its press release, Saudi Arabia insisted that decisions by OPEC+ were taken "purely on economic considerations."

And it suggested that biden's administration had asked the carrel to delay any cuts until after Americans go to the polls on November 8.

There is a special focus on Kashmir Handicrafts and Hand-

loom in the event where the ar-tefacts from the pashmina fibre

teleacts from the pashmina fibre in eaquistile woven carpets and the indigenous embroiders styles as that of carpet, Crewel, Chain Stitch, are at display from Kashmir. Artisans from far and wide districts of the valley are participating in the exhibition. The aim of such departmental interventions is to display and exhibit the handicrafts and handloom products of Kashmir besides enabling the artisans to increase their market presence. The department is committed to holding such exhibitions in the major cities to provide marketing opportunities to the artisans and nanufacturest to dispose their

manufacturers to dispose their inventory which has piled up due to the COVID-19 pandemics.

# **WPI Inflation Eases** To 18-Month Low Of 10.7% In September

NEW DELHI: The wholesale price-based inflation declined to a 18-month low of 10.7 per cent in September, as prices of food, fuel and manufactured

cent in September, as prices of food, fuel and manufactured items softened.

Although the wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation declined for the fourth consecutive month, it continued to remain in double digit for the secutive month, it continued to remain in double digit for the 18th month since April 2021.

"Inflation in September, 2022 is primarily contributed by rise in prices of mineral oils, food articles, runde pertoleum & natural gas, chemicals & chemical products, basic metals, electricity, textiles etc. as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year," an official statement said.

The wholesale inflation was 12.41 per cent in August and 11.80 per cent in September last year. This year, WPI touched a record high of 15.88 per cent in May. Economists say the gradual month-on-month decline in WPI is mainly due to moderation in commodity prices and pegged inflation to come down further with overall recovery momentum and weaker outlook on commodity prices. Inflation in food articles in MyII is mainly due to moderation in commodity prices and pegged inflation to come down further with overall recovery momentum and weaker outlook on commodity prices. Inflation in food articles in August, However, inflation in vegetables rose to 39.66 per cent during the month under review, as against 22.29 per



cent in August. Acuit Ratings & Research, Chief Analytical Officer, Suman

Acuit Ratings & Research, Chief Analytical Officer, Suman Chowdhury said the share of food on a consolidated basis in WPI stands much lower at 24.3 per cent, as compared to 45.9 per cent weightage in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) construct, "Therefore, the impact of higher food prices continues to be modest in the WPI trajectory with inflation in food articles at 0.28 per cent only on a sequential basis," Chowdhury said.

In the fuel and power basket, inflation came in lower at 32.61 per cent in September, against 33.67 per cent in August. In manufactured products and oil seeds it was 6.34 per cent and (-) 16.55 per cent, respectively. "What is driving the downward trajectory in the WPI inflation is the moderation in the fuel prices and the sequential contraction in manufactured products inflation though it is

partly offset by the increase in power tariff in some regions.

partly offset by the increase in power tariff in some regions.

"This reflects the limited ability of producers to pass through higher input costs in the context of the global slowdown and the increase in interest rates," Chowdhury added.

The RBI mainly looks at retail inflation to frame monetary policy, Retail inflation remained above the Reserve Bank's upper loterance threshold of 6 per cent for the ninth month in a row and was at a 5-month high of 7.41 per cent in September, as per data released earlier this week.

"We expect the WPI trajectory to moderante further given the slowdown in the overall recovery momentum and the weaker outlook on commodity prices. Over the next few months, the headine rate inflation is likely to start mirroring such a trend but that process may be gradual given the uptick in supply-driven food inflation," Chowdhury added.

## World Dangerously Close To Recession, Warns World **Bank President**

NEW YORK: World Bank President David Malpass, on Thursday, warned that the global economy is "dangerously close" to a recession and called for targeted support for the poor.

"The growth rate, we have lowered our 2023 growth forecast from three per cent to 1.9 per cent for global growth. That is dangerously close to a world recession, and that is, a world recession could happen under certain circumstances." Malpass told reporters on the sidelines of

certain circumstances, "Malpass told reporters on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

All of the problems that people have taken note of, the inflation problem, the interest rate rises, and the cutoff of capital flows to the developing world his the poor hard, be

capital flows to the developing world hits the poor hard, he said, adding that's a huge challenge for the bank. "We are focused on helping people get ahead in developing countries, and right now there have been reversals. The countries, of course, are all different. So, we will have a discussion today of certain countries. So, it is not monolithic at all," Malpass said.

Some countries, he said, have



advocated for countries that when—as they address the crisis that they try to have targeted re-sponses. That means support for the poor; that means interven-tions that are targeted; and also,

the poor, that measurements in the top the top

ent. So, we will have a discussion today of certain countries. So, it is not monolithic at all."

So, it is not monolithic at all."

Some countries, he said, have stready on that. We've set up set and point where they don't have to keep raising. Some countries have done one kind of subsidy versus another kind of subsidy versus another kind of subsidy. "And so, fiscal policies are different throughout. And also, very importantly, some countries are commodity producers and some are commodity producers and some are commodity buyers. And so, we have, in general.

# **Exports Rise 4.82% To USD 35.45 Billion In September**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The country's exports rose by 4.82 per cent to USD 35.45 billion in September, even as the trade deficit widened to USD 25.71 billion, according to the data released by the commerce ministry on Friday.

In its preliminary data, which was released in the lirst week of this month, the ministry stated that the country's merchandise exports contracted by 3.52 per

September.
According to the data re-leased on Friday, imports during the month under re-view increased by 8.66 per cent to USD 61.61 billion. The trade deficit in September 2021 was USD 22,47 billion.

During April-September 2022, exports recorded a growth of USD 16.96 billion to USD 231.88 billion. Im-ports rose by 38.55 per cent to USD 380.34 billion, while the trade deficit widened to USD 148.46 billion against



USD 76.25 billion in Septem-

USD 76.25 billion in September 2021, the data showed.
Exports of key sectors such as engineering, RMG (ready-made garments) of all textiles, plastic, cashew and carpet recorded negative growth in September this year.
Exports of engineering goods dipped by 10.85 per cent to USD 8.4 billion in September, Similarly, the ex-

ceuticals, chemicals, and rice have recorded positive growth during the month. At imports front, inbound shipments of oil dipped by 5.38 per cent to USD 15.9 bil-lion. Similarly, gold imports

lion. Similarly, gold imports contracted by 24.62 per cent to USD 3.9 billion. Coal, coke and briquettes imports rose by 60.82 per cent to USD 3.5 billion in

cent to USD 8.4 billion in september. Similarly, the export of RMG of all textiles deport of RMG of all textiles decined by 18 per cent to USD 15.0 billion. Shipments of plastics decreased by 12.2 per cent to USD 15.0 billion. Shipments of plastics decreased by 12.2 per cent to USD 15.0 billion in September. Publication of the products of RMG and that the estimated value of services export for September 2022 is USD 25.65 billion. However, exports of gems and jewelley, petroleum products, leather, pharma-

## India To Be Among Fastest Growing Economies Despite Global Challenges: RBI Guv

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: India is expected to be among the fastest growing major economies this fiscal, geopolitical turbulence not-withstanding. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das opined at last month's meeting of the rate setting panel MPC while going with the majority to raise the reportate by 50 basis points to tame inflation.

On Sentember 30 the six-

inflation.

On September 30, the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by Das, had raised the short-term lending rate for the third consecutive by 50 basis points to take the repo rate to 5.9 per cent. In May, the repo rate was hiked by 40 basis points.

Except for Ashima Goyal, who favoured a 35 basis points hike, the other five members had votered for 50 basis points rease in

ed for 50 basis points increase in the repo rate.

As per the minutes of the MPC meeting released by the RBI on Friday, Governor Dashad said that economic activity was steadily improving, though there were mixed signals.

"While high frequency indicators are showing continued momentum in activity, global factors are putting pressure on



external demand.
"The growth projection of 7.0
per cent for 2022-23, therefore,
carries risks which are broadly
balanced. Whatever be the unfolding scenario, India is ex-pected to be among the fastest growing major economies in the world," the minutes quoted him

RBI Deputy Governor and MPC Member Michael De-babrata Patra had stressed that monetary policy has to perform the role of nominal anchor for

the other five members had voted for 50 basis points increase in the reporate.

As per the minutes of the RBI on Friday, Governor Das alhad said that economic activity was steadily improving, though there were mixed signals.

"While high frequency indicators are showing continued momentum in activity, elebel core inflation respectations in activity, elebel core inflation respectations in the properties of the results of th core inflation pressures ease, Patra said,

#### India Will Come Out Of Current Global Turmoil: FM

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has exuded confidence that India will come out of the current global turmoil and move on the path of sustainee recovery on the back of rapid digitisation

turmoil and move on the path of sustained recovery on the back of rapid digitisation and steps taken by the government.

She said India has been able to set up a global benchmark in digitisation in areas of payment, healthcare, education and regulatory compliances, and this is a confidence booster for the economy.

The economy and businesses are doing well because of steps taken by the government in last two years, Sitharaman told students of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies during an interactive session or Studies during an interactive session on India's unique Digital Public Goods on

Thursday.
"I would think that the economy's revival Twould think that the economy's review is on a sustained path, 'she said, adding that the government has taken on board the impact of the global turmoil on demand, ex-ports, and the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar. "There is a sense of confidence in India."

that we will go through this and we will be able to still perform. It's because of the way in which technology has been used for the public good," she said.

#### Rupee Closes At 82.19 Against US Dollar

Press Trust Of Ind

MUMBAI: The rupee reversed intra-day losses and closed 5 paise higher at 82.19 against the US dollar on Friday amid a fir greenback overseas and sliding crude oil

At the interbank foreign exchange market

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 82.25 and witnessed a high of 82.12 and a low of 82.43, it finally settled at 82.19 against the American currency, registering a rise of 5 paise over its previous close of 82.24, Gaurang Somaiya, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motial Oswal Financial Services, said, "We expect the USD/INR (Spot) to quote in the range of 82.10 and 82.6."

range of 82.10 and 82.6."

The dollar index, which gauges the green-back's strength against a basket of six currencies, advanced 0.56 per cent to 112.99.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.75 per cent to USD 93.86 per barrel.

On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex surged 684.64 points or 1.20 per cent to end at 57,919.97, while the broader NSE Nifty advanced 171.35 points or 1.01 per cent to 17,185.70.

Foreign Institutional Investors (Fils) remained net sellers in the capital markets as they offloaded shares worth Rs 1,011.23 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

#### 'Ethanol-Blended Petrol May Be Available From Dec Or Jan'

SHORT TAKES

Press Trust Of Indi

JAIPUR: Twenty per cent ethanol-blended petrol is likely to be available in the country from December or January, ahead of the April 2023 target, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Priday.

"We are constantly reviewing the ethanol production and to believe, 20 per cent blended fuel would come in the market in December or January ahead of April 2023 (target)," he told reporters here.

Citing the example of Brazil where flex-fuel vehicles are available and the consumer can take ethanol or petrol as per choice, he said that this will be the ultimate goal of the government. However, to reach that stage, certain technical aspects are there and work is going on. "We are going to hold a major meeting with automobile manufacturers on ethanol blending," he said.

India has advanced the target date for achieving 20 per cent ethanol-blending ip petrol by five years to 2025.

The minister also said that for the targeted 20 per cent ethanol bending in petrol by five years to 2025.

targeted 20 per cent blending of ethanol in petrol, the country will need a 1,000 core litre capacity.

#### Markets Rebound Sharply Amid Firm Global Trends

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty ended over 1 per cent higher on Friday, helped by heavy buying in Infosys and banking stocks amid a rally in global stock markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 684.64

stock markets.
The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 684.64 points or 1.20 per cent to settle at 57,919.97. Unring the day, it rallied 1,199.79 points or 2.09 per cent to 58,435.12. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty climbed 171.35 points or 1.01 per cent to end at 17,185.70. From the Sensex components, Infosys jumped nearly 4 per cent, followed by HDFC Bank, HDFC, HCL Technologies, Larsen & Toubro, KCIG Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance and State Bank of India. Among the laggards were Mahindra & Mahindra, Asian Paints, Reliance Industries, Wipro, Bharti Airtel and Power Grid. India's second largest IT services company Infosys on Thursday posted a better-than-expected 11 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 6,021 crore for the September quarter and announced buyback of shares worth Rs 9,300 crore.

In Asia, markets in Seoul, Tokyo, Shang-hai and Hong Kong ended higher.

#### 'Air India In Talks With Aircraft Makers To Buy Planes'

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Air India is in discussions with aircraft manufacturers for acquiring planes as the Tata group-owned airline plans to expand its fleet by three times compared to the current size, a senior executive said

to the current size, a senior executive on Friday.

Air India Chief Financial Officer Vinod Hejmadi also said the airline is currently in the "taxiing phase" and it will take two years before it takes off, consolidates and enters the growth mode.

Since taking over Air India in January this year, Tatas have unveiled a comprehensive transformation plan for reviving the loss-making airline. The plan focuses on five factors — industry leadership, robust operations, commercial efficiency, industry lead-talent and exceptional customer.

best-talent and exceptional customer experience.
"In the Air India transformation journey, we are looking for, in the next five years, 30 per cent market share and we are planning to grow our aircraft fleet three times of what we currently have... We are looking forward to ensuring that we add on capacity for growth (and) discussions (with aircraft manufacturers) are going on to acquire fleet." turers) are going on to acquire fleet," Hejmadi said.

# Delhi Professor Poses As Lt Governor, Recommends Sister For Job, Caught

New Delhi: Delhi Police has booked an assistant pro sor of Guru Gobind Si Indraprastha University allegedly recommending his sister's name for a teacher by posing as Lt Governor VK Saxena, the LG secretariat said on Friday.

A call recommending appointment of a particular

pointment of a particular candidate in the university's

pointment of a particular candidate in the university's English department was made to GGSU vice chancellor Mahesh Verma on September 30 by an unidentified person impersonating the LG, it said in a statement.

The VC contacted the LG sectariat to ascertain the veracity of the call. He found that no such call was made following which the matter was reported to the police. An FIR was repistered for impersonation at the Dwalfar police station on October 2, it said.

The recruitment exercise was fater cancelled.

"During investigation, the accused was identified as an assistant professor in the Economics department who had made the call, posing as the LG, for appointment of his sister in the English department of the statement said.

From the call detail record

From the call detail record (CDR) of the vice chancel-lor's landline number, it was

revealed that the call was made from a United Kingdom-based number, it said. Upon investigation, it was further established that the

opon investigation, it was further established that the UK number was also used to call mobile numbers of the assistant professor's sister and father, it said. The duo gave up the name of the accused during questioning. The accused had gone to the UK on September 27. A look out circular (LOC) has been initiated against him and a probe is on, it said. In its initial enquiry, the university also found the involvement of some other officials in the case and suitable action against them has been initiated, the statement said. It has also been found that he accused is in UK without the mandatory prior permission.

the accused is in UK without the mandatory prior permission of the competent authority and a show cause notice has also been issued to him by the university, it said.

The LG has taken an extremely serious view of the matter and emphasized that it has never been his style of functioning to make calls or entertain any request whatsoever that involved out-of-turn favours, benefits or unethical

ever that involved out-of-turn favours, benefits or unethical practices, said the statement. He also cautioned all con-cerned to strictly check with his secretariat in case of any such calls or messages re-ceived by them, it added.



# **Supreme Court Shreds Ekta Kapoor For "Polluting Minds Of Young Generation"**



Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court today came down heavily on producer Ekta Kapoor over "ob-jectionable content" in her web

producer lista Kapoor over "on-jectionable content" in her web series "XXX", saying she was pol-luting the minds of the young generation of this country.

The top count was hearing a plea filed by Ekta Kapoor chal-lenging the arrest warrants is-sued against her for allegedly insulting soldiers and hurting the sentiments of their families in the web series aired on her OTT platform ALTBalaji.

"Something has to be done. You are polluting the minds of the young generation of this country. It is available to all, OTT (Over the Top) content its available to all, What kind of choice are you providing to the people?... on the ontrary you are polluting the minds. of youngsters," a bench

of Justices Ajay Rastogi and CT Ravikumar said.

The court made the observation after senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Ekta Kapoor, submitted that a petition has been filed before the Patna high court but there is no hope the matter will be listed for hearing soon.

He said the top court had earlier granted protection to Ekta Kapoor in a similar matter.

Mr Rohatgi said the content is subscription based and that there is freedom of choice in this country.

there is freedom of choice in this country. The court, which stopped short of imposing costs, then wondered what kind of choice is being given to people. "Everythine you travel to this court... we don't appreciate this. We will put a cost on you for filing such a petition. Mr Rohatgi please convey this to your

client. Just because you can afford and hire the services of good lawyers....this court is not for those who have voices. This court works for those who don't have voices...ft these people who have all kinds of facilities, if they cannot get justice that think of the situation of this common man. We have seen then think of the situation of this common man. We have seen then think of the situation of this common man who have seen the natter pending and suggested a local lawyer may be put to work to know about the status of hearing in the high court. Attral court in Bihar's Begusarai had issued the warrant on a complaint ologed by Shambhu Kumar, an ex-serviceman.

Mr Kumar, in his complaint of 2020, alleged series 'XXX' (Season-2) Featured several objectionable scenes related to a soldier's wife.

## Cartel Of Politicians, Bureaucrats **Extorting Illegal Levy On Coal** Transport In Chhattisgarh: ED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: A day after ar-resting a senior iAS officer, the Enforcement Directorate on Friday claimed a "massive scam" is taking place in coal transportation in chinattisgam under which a "cartel" of poli-ticians, officers and others is allegedly running a "paral-lel system of extorting ille-gal levy" which is generating about Rs 2-3 crore daily. The federal probe agency arrested IAS officer Sameer Vishnoi and two others on Thursday after conducting multiple raids in the central Indian state early this week. A court in state capital Raipur sent them to ED custody till October 21. The ED said Vishnoi, an IAS

The ED said Vishnoi, an IAS officer of the 2009 batch, and his wife were found in posses-sion of Rs 47 lakh of "unac-counted" cash and 4 kg gold

jewellery,
The money laundering investigation was launched after the ED took cognisance of a Income Tax Department complaint.

complaint.

In a statement, the ED said the case pertains to "a massive scam in which il-legal levy of Rs 25 per tonne is being extorted from every tonne of coal transported in Chhattisgarh by a cartel involving senior bureaucrats, businessmen, politicians and middlemen."

It is estimated that around

"It is estimated that around

Tk is estimated that around Re 2-3 crore was generated on adally basis," the Eb said. The statement said the main kingpin of this scam is Suryakant Tiwari (stated to be absconding) and his associates, who entered into a criminal conspiracy to run a parallel system of extorting illegal levy on coal and were doing illegal and unaccounted cash movement."

comp inegal and unaccounted cash movement."

The ED said the "proceeds of crime" were being used by the accused for investing in benami assets, bribing of-ficials to influence senior of-ficers and also used "by or on behalf of" political executives

to spot these animals but now they also commonly found near the hur

to spot these animals but now they are also commonly found near the human habitations.

Aaliya Mir, Project Head, Wildlife SOS, said that the rapid development of the area and increased tourism has significantly disrupted the habitat of the Himalayan brown bear, forcing the animal to venture close to the human habitation for survival.

"Numerous bears started relying on trash and food waste generated by humans at campsites, hotels, and restaurants for sustenance," she said.

Aliya, while citting destruction of its habitat due to massive construction, increased military and noma fooprint, besides trekking destinations, said that such animals have been seen in residential areas for the last few years now.

She said that there have been frequent sightings of the brown bears in the cropland, market places, hotel premises, security camps, and residential areas.

Mir further said that "the more we

dential areas.
Mir further said that "the more we interfere with the habitat of these animals, the more it will come down to the residential areas. The survival of the brown bear depends on the availability of suitable habitat, food, and water in the sanctuary."

80K Fruit
faced some difficulties on Srinagar-Jammu National Highway as people harvested the apple here in bulk.
He also said that till the 12th of this month, around 80,000 fruit-1aden rucks crossed via national highway while some of them were diverted through Mughal road.
"There is smooth passage of trucks along the national highway now and at least 1,500 fruit-laden trucks are plying per day," he said.

of the state.

It said the agency was investigating 'the entire gamut of this conspiracy including the main kingpin, the role of senior officials who facilitated this scam with impunity and the beneficiaries of the illegal proceeds of crime".

The agency said it has seized "unaccounted" cash amounting to Rs 4.5 crore, gold jewellery, bullion and other valuables worth around 8x 2 crore during the raids.

Talking about the alleged modus operating for the carter, the ED said the "externion" of illegal coal levy became rampant when the director, Geology and Mining, Department, issued a notification on July 15, 2020 which modified the earlier online process of e-permit for transporting the coal from mines to users into issuance of manual MOC (no objection certificate). The ED alleged 'mo SOP (standard operating procedure) was circulated in this regard".

It said a coal delivery order (CDO) was issued in favour of the buyer by the mining company and the buyers were

It said a coal delivery order (CDO) was issued in favour of the buyer by the mining company and the buyers were required to deposit an EMD of 8s 500 per metric tonnes with the mining company and were also required to lift the coal within 45 days.

The new notification forced the notific score of the policy companies.

were also required to lift the coal within 45 days.

The new notification forced the mining companies to apply to the mining officer) DDM for NOC for issuance of e-permit. Without NOC, the e-permit for transportation of the coal cannot be issued by the mining officer leading to the non-execution of CDO (issued by the mining company after auction).

"If CDO is not executed within 45 days, it lapses and EMD paid by the buyer at the rate of Rs 500 per tonne is forfeited by the mining company. Thus, it is the buyer of the coal (normally steel plants) captive power plant owners) whose supply of coal is disrupted and his EMD is forfeited, if NOC is delayed or denied," it alleged.

#### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### J&K Pumped Rs 83 Cr

till 31 March 2021," it read

till 31 March 2021," it read.
The report said that an amount of Rs 6,714,34 crore was incurred under 53 schemes/ Sub Heads in 16 Grants without Budgetary Provisions which needs to be regularized. However, the report also revealed that "entire budget provision of Rs 18,134,91 crore under 25 Grants involving 139 number of schemes remained unutilised during the year resulting in denial of intended benefits to the general public".

It also noted that there were huge savings of Rs 100 crore and above by the departments under Capital Section in 25 grants amounting to Rs 31,92759 crore. "Out of 35 grants, in 34 grants the utilization ranged between 20 per cent and 83 per cent. In the remaining one grant there was over utilization of 11 per cent resulting in excess over provisions during 2020-21," CAG noted.

The report also said that as on 31

noted.

The report also said that as on 31 March 2021, of the total equity capital of Rs 5,073.32 crore in Power Sector PSUS, Rs 2595.54 crore (51.12 per cent) was contributed by the GoJ&K. Further, the total equity investment in 36 PSUs of sectors other than Power Sector was Rs 996.10 crore, The good comment had also advance loans of Rs143.772 crore to PSUs functioning in other than the power sector.

NS143/12 Crore to PSUS functioning in other than the power sector. "Budgetary assistance of Rs 3,151.70 crore was received by PSUs from the GoJ&K during 2020-21; CAG added. The report further said that the market value of starses of J&K Bank Limited was Rs 1,901.35 crore as on 31 March 2011, second of Rs 881.95. March 2021 as compared to Rs 881.83 crore as on 31 March 2020.

#### India, China Agree

the two sides reviewed the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector of the India-China border areas.

in the Western Sector of the India-china border areas.

Eastern Ladakh is officially referred to as the Western Sector.

India and China held a high-level multary dialogue on July 71 that lasted for nearly 12 hours and a half.

In line with a decision taken at the meeting, the two sides carried out disengagement from Patrolling Point 15 in the Cogra-Hotsprings area last month.

the last meeting of WMCC in May, they welcomed the disengagement in the area of Gogra-Hot Springs (PP-15) that was carried out in a phased,

coordinated and verified manner between September 8-12," the MEA said.
"They noted that these steps reflected the understandings between External Affairs Minister and Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister, including at their recent meeting in Balin july," it added.
India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquillity along the LAC are key for the overall development of the bilateral ties.
The castern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas. Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers and heavy weaponry.

Meaponsy.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process last year on the north and south banks.

last year on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra

area.

The disengagement in the Pangong lake area took place in February last year, while the withdrawal of troops and equipment from Patrolling Point 17(A) in Gogra took place in August last year.

#### **Devout Throng**

Devout I Inrong
arrangements to facilitate movement of devotees to the shrine. Besides
transport, arrangements of power,
drinking water, medical aid camps and
sanitation were made for the convenience of people.
Senior Superintendent of Police
(SSP). Striagar, Rakesh Balwal said
that special security and traffic ararangements were put in place by the
authorities today to ensure peaceful
culmination of special prayers.

authorities today to ensure peaceful culmination of special prayers. All the arrangements including traf-fic route plan, security plan, medical camps and others were made while the public cooperation has helped to ensure smooth passage to the devo-tees and culmination of special con-preparational prayers.

reses and culmination of special congregational prayers.

Meanwhile, in a tweet. Srinagar police said, "Approximately one lakh devotees attended Friday afternoon prayers in Hazrarbal Dargah on 'Friday following Eid-Milad-un-Nabi. The day is being observed peacefully with full religious ferour at Dargah. Exhaustive Security and traffic arrangements are in place."

Several seminars and Seerat Conferences were also organized across the Valley while the Islamic clerics threw light on the teachings

of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) during

Meanwhile a big Milad procession was taken out from Mirgund which culminated at Imambargah Budgam.

#### We Want Normal

Lekhi slammed Pakistan and said that Islamabad has misused the plat-form for propagating its false and ma-licious propaganda against India and advised the neighbouring country to set its house in order instead of lectur-ing the global community. "It is unfortunate that Pakistan has chosen to once azuin misuse the CICA

ing the global community.

"It is unfortunate that Pakistan has chosen to once again misuse the CICA platform to propagate false and malicious propaganda against my country and distract from the theme and focus of today's discussions and cooperation among the member states. The union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been and will remain an integral part of India. Pakistan has no locus standing to comment on India's internal affairs. "MoS Lekhi said at the CICA Summit in Astana.

"Pakistan's remarks today constitute gioss interference in India's internal affairs, sovereignty, and territorial integrity which is inconsistent with the CICA declaration on the principles guiding relations between the CICA member states of September 1999," she added.

Underlining that Pakistan remains the clobal escentine of terrogism Mes

member states of September 1999," she added.
Underlining that Pakistan remains the global epicentre of terrorism, Ms Lekhi said it should cease cross-border terrorism against India.
"Pakistan is the global epicentre of terrorism and continues to be the source of terrorism and continues to be the source of terrorist activities including in India. Pakistan continues to make no investment in human development but provides their resources for creating and sustaining the infrastructure of terrorism, she said.
"Pakistan must immediately cease anti-India cross-border terrorism and shut down its infrastructure of terrorism, it will do well to stop the grave and persistent human rights violations in Pakistan-occupied Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh (PolKL), refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of PolKL, and vacate the Indian territories that are under its illegal and forcible occupation", the minister added.

Earlier, while addressing the sixth

aduct.

Earlier, while addressing the sixth
CICA summit, Pakistan's PM mentioned Jammu and Kashmir and said
that the onus remains on India to take necessary steps to engage towaresult-oriented solutions.

The 6th Summit meeting The 6th Summit meeting of the Conference of Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) is being held at Astana. As one of the founding members of CICA, India has supported CICA's initiatives and participated in various CICA activities.

initiatives and participated in various CICA activities.
India has close and friendly ties with Kazakhstan underpinned by cultural and historical linkages, Ms Lekhi's visit comes at an opportune time as two countries observe the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic ties. The visit will further reinforce the momentum in India's bilateral relations with countries in the region.
CICA is a multi-national forum for enhancing cooperation toward promoting peace, security, and stability in Asia.
It is a forum based on the recogni-

In Asia.

It is a forum based on the recogni-tion that there is a close link between peace, security, and stability in Asia and the rest of the world.

#### Presence Of Brown

Bandipora district.
A wildlife official told a local news agency(NO) that such animals have been found in large numbers in the human habitation for many years, which is an alarming situation.
'Last year, two such animals were sighted in Dumail area of Baltal near Amarnath case shrine, besides three

signtee in Dumai area of batta hear Amarnath cave shrine, besides three were sighted in Drass sector of the Ladakh region," he said. He added that earlier, two bears were sighted in Pahalgam while re-ports about the presence of the animal are also being received from other ar-eas as well.

The number of these animals was

"The number of these animals was very good even before, but the presence of the animal in human habitation was rarely observed."
Recently, the official said that the bear was also spotted in Shahgund village of the Bandipora district. However, the wildlife department successfully managed to catch the animal. Also, several critically-endangered Himalayan Brown Bears were sighted in Gurez Telsia.

Himalayan Brown Bears were sighted in Gurez Tehisi. He said brown bears were sighted in Khandya 'illage of Gurez while another similar bear was seen crossing he Kishangang dam site. The wildlife official believes that the latest sighting indicates the population of the endangered animal is increasing in JBA.

easing in J&K. He said that his team had to trek a

Anantnag and Ramban; SP National ighway and RO, NHAI besides other oncerned officers, an official spokes-

**Keep Improving** 

**80K Fruit** 

The Chief Secretary, he said, urged upon the officers to weed out any of the possibility that is hindering the smooth movement of traffic on the highway.

Mehta, he said, also enquired from them about the status of the implementation of previous directions is swelf from time to time.

"Dr Mehta took cognizance of the issues including blacktopping of potholed portion of the road, removal of muck, designating the truck holding areas, completion of tunnels and use of

alternative link of Jawahar Tunnel and

alternative link of Jawahar Funnet and Mughal Road, "the spokesperson said. The Chief Secretary, he said, also underscored the need of drawing a mechanism to get the chronically slow moving vehicles off the road besides

mechanism to get the curonically slow moving wellicles off the road besides taking appropriate action against them. Mehta, he sald, asked them to put a check on the overloading in trucks and make sure that no such vehicle is allowed to move ahead thereby creating hiccups for others.

"The Chief Secretary also emphasized on clearing the muck, black topping of the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earlier the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earlier the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earlier the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earlier Concept for the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earlier complete Secretary was assured by the traffic and NHAI that after the implementation of all these instructions the traffic on the road would be smooth and congestion free.

Snake Snotted

#### **Snake Spotted**

Snake Spotted

alerted Wildlife SOS on its 24x7
helpline number 987196335.

"Geared with rescue equipment, a
two-member rescue team rushed to
the snake's aid, Meanwhile, the snake
had made its way inside a gap between the wooden panels around the
guard room," Wildlife SOS said.
Checkered keelback is found predominantly in water bodies such as
lakes, rivers and ponds, drains, agricultural lands, wells etc. The species
is protected under Schedule II of the
Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

"We are grateful to the security
personnel working in the Union
Home Minister's residence for alerting Wildlife SOS to this emergency.
This shows a high level of compassion
on their part and sets an example for
others to follow. Often the plight of
urban wildlife is dismissed because
people consider them to be a nuisance
and they are often met with hostility,"
Kartick Satyanarayan, Co-founder and
CEO, Wildlife SOS said.

Over 70 snakes were rescued from
tifferent narts of Delbi during the

Over 70 snakes were rescued from different parts of Delhi during the

#### Truck Mows

Meanwhile, Police have taken cog-izance of the incident and launched a unt to trace the erring driver.

#### **PDD Worker**

for the last twenty years is survived by four daughters.

GAR | SATURDAY | 15.10.2022

ASHMIR OBSERVER $^{\!\scriptscriptstyle{f M}}$ 

2023 ODI WC: **BCCI Could Lose** Rs 955 Crore

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The BCCI could lose around Rs 955 crore (USD 116 million) if the central government sticks to its decision to levy 21.84 percent tax surcharge on ICC's broadcast revenue from the 2023 ODI World Cup, according to a Board report.

India is to host next year's 50-over showpiece in October-November.

Tax surcharge refers to "an additional charge, fee, or tax that is added to the cost of a good or service beyond the initially quoted price". A surcharge is often added to the cost of a good or service beyond the initially quoted price. "A surcharge is often added to the cost and is not included in the stated price of the good or service.

As per ICC norm, the host nation is required to get tax exemption from the government for hosting tournaments organised by the global body.

Since India's tax rules don't allow such exemptions, the BCCI has already lost close to Rs 193 crore (USD 2.5, million), as the government didn't exempt tax surcharge for hosting the 2016 ICC. T20 World Cup. The BCCI is still fighting that case in the ICC inburnal. According to the BCCI document shared with the sate bodies, the adverse impact on

the Board's revenue from the ICC if a 21.84 percent tax is paid, would be USD 116.47 million. It is understood that the BCC is still trying to negotiate and bring down the tax surcharge percentage to 10.92 percent from the existing demand of 21.84.

If the BCC can reduce the tax surcharge to 10.92 percent, Then the revenue loss would be around Rs 430 crore (USD 52.23 million).

The BCC is currently working with the Ministry of Finance, Government of India and have represented against this 20% (exc. clading surcharges) tax order at the very highest level and are hopeful that a 10% (extituding surcharges) tax order would be forthcoming shortly.

Tit is to be noted that any

charges) tax order would be forthcoming shortly. "It is to be noted that any tax cost incurred by the ICC for the 2023 event in India will be adjusted with the BC-Cl's share of revenue from the ICC," the report further stated. The BCCl's share from the ICCs' central revenue pool for the tenure 2016 to 2023 is USD 405 million (RS 3336 crore approximately). The ICC is expecting USD 533.29 million (Rs 4400 crores approx) from the broadcasting revenue of the 2023 event in India.

T20 WORLD CUP

**Picked As Bumrah** Replacement

SHAMI as Jasprit Bumrah's replacement in India's ICC Men's T20 World Cup squad. Shami

has reached Australia and will link up with the squad in Brisbane ahead of the warm-up matches."

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The BCCI on Friday NEW DELHE The BCCI on Friday named seasoned pacer Mohammed Shami as injured Jaspit Burnarh's replacement in the Indian team for the upcoming 120 World Cup in Australia.

"The All-Indian Senior Selection Committee has named Mohammed Shami as Jaspit Burnarh's replacement in India's ICC Men's T20 World Cup squad Shami has

T20 World Cup squad, Shami has reached Australia and will link up with the squad in Brisbane ahead

of the warm-up matches,' BCCI secretary Jay Shah was quoted in

secretary Jay Shah was quoted in a press release. That Shami would replace Bumrah in the main squad was reported by PTI last mount. Mothammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur have been named as backups and will travel to Australia shortly. The tournament will be held from October 16 to Numember 13.

November 13,
Burniah has been ruled out of competitive cricket for an indefinite period due to stress related

injury on his back. Shami had last played in T20 Internationals during the last edition of the ICC T20 World Cup

in the UAE.

He was supposed to play in the six T20Is at home against Australia and South Africa but tested positive for CIVID-19 and had to remain in isolation. On return he had to prove his fitness before NCA approved his trip to

Australia, Shami has played 17 T20Is and has taken 18 wickets.

# Nobody Spoke A **Word Against Ganguly: Arun Dhumal**

Press Trust of India

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: BCCTs outgoing treasurer and next IPL Chairman Arun Dhumal on Friday cleared the air over Sourav Ganguly not getting another term as board president, saying "nobody spoke a word" against the former India captain.

The next set of BCCI office bearers have filed their nomination and will be elected unopposed on October 18.

World Cup winner Roger Binny will replace Ganguly as the president, Jay Shah will remain the secretary. Rajeev Shuklawill get another term as vice-president, Ashish Shelar will be new treasurer and Devalif Saikia the new joint secretary. Spealing to PTI, Dhumal said Ganguly was party to all the decisions made before the nominations were filed.

There has been no BCCI president who has served for more than three years in independent India. All this media speculation about Dada being told or a few members were against him, they are all baseless, "Dhumal said.

Nobody spoke a word against him. All the Board against him. All the Board

"Nobody spoke a word against him. All the Board against nim. All the Board members were extremely happy and satisfied with the entire team and how BCCI was run in the last three years de-spite the challenges posed by COVID-19.

"Dada has had a very dis tinguished career as an India captain, one of the best ever leaders. As an administrator he took the entire team along and we worked as one team," he added.

e added. Dhumal also went on to say Dhumal also went on to say that he would not have been part of the new team had Ganguly accepted the IPL chairmanship, Ganguly did not take the offer and now Dhumal will replace Brijesh Patel as the next IPL chairman.



"Dada was there along with Roger and the new set of people who went to file the nomination. Everything was discussed and Dada was also spoken to, the was offered IPL chairmanship, else Roger would never have had a chance, he is 67 (age limit being 70).

"He has been a World Cup winner for us that was the view of the house, If Dada accepted IPL chairmanship, I would have been out. And I would have been own and addition keeping in mind the ODI World Cup at home next year," said Dhumal.



# **Kashmiri Willow To** Feature In T20 World Cup

SRINAGAR: The demand for Kash-min bats have increased in inter-national markets after two inter-national market players from Oman-played with them in the T20 World Cup last year, Now, four players from UAE have got Kashmiri willow for the T20 World Cup 2022 sched-uled to be held in Australia from October 16.

uled to be held in Australia from Crober 16.

As per the news agency KNO, people who are associated with this industry said they are happy that more countries have started using Rashmiri bats and expect more teams to procure the bats. They said that there are around 400 bat manufacturing units in the Industrial area from Sangam to

Awantipora in southern Kashmir and a bat of one unit has reached the international stage. Favzul Kabira 29 year old MBA pass out from Istamic University of Science and Technology Awantipora who is pursuing PfD from a university in Canada, said that after hetci: efforts, a few players of Oman agreed to play with their bats. The bats were manufactured at GR8 sports industry in Halmulla Sangam are at Ohantinag. Kabir, who is owner of unit, said that his late father started the unit in 1974 said demand for Kashmiri bats have increased in international markets

al markets

"We have already sent consignment to around one dozen coun-tries and many orders are also in a new beginning for us and we are hopeful very soon that famous in-ternational players will play with

hopeful very soon that famous in-ternational players will play with our bats.

"We are hopeful that Kashmiri bats will emerge as an alternative to English willow bats as we are the only ones who can produce these hats at much less rate than what English willow costs," he said.

"Now, we are preparing bats here only and now our own manu-facturing has reached the interna-tional stage as four players fixe them." he said. "Now our aim is that prolific players like Virat Kohli, Babar Azam and oth-ers should play with our Kashmir res should play with our Kashmir ers should play with our Kashmir made bats," (KNO)

## **IKSC Wins Gold At SKOCH Awards 2022**

JAMMU: The SKOCH State Award of Best Governance for Award of Best Governance for the year 2022 was announced on Friday in which essential de-partments from various States / UTs were present from all across

uts were present from an across the country.
Sameer Kochar, Chairman SKOCH Group, honoured Secretary JRK Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, for bagging Gold category awards in the field of Sports & Youth Services.
The efforts made by JRSC recognised by the jury were

wouth Services.
The efforts made by JKSC recognised by the jury were mainly on My Youth My Pride special activities wherein the Council has been able to engage yout his noports especially in tribal, sensitive and rural areas by providing ample opportunities and infrastructural facilities of playing sports.

Secretary JRM Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, has made a significant contribution towards the promotion of sports and was recognised with a SKOCH Award for her services and contributions, stated Dr. Gursharan, Managing Director, while amouncing the awards. Secretary Wouth Services & Sports, Sartmad Haffz expressing satisfaction over the achievements of the JKSC, has congratulated the Secretary JKSC and entire staff for this award and thanked LG Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta for their support to the sports in JRK.

According to Nuzhat Gul, the impetts given by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi and LG Manoj Sinha to the sports



infrastructure, sports person and vision of creating positive sports ecosystem has paid off. Jakk Government is leaving no stone unturned for engagement of youth in postine direction. Activities like sports community is coming forward in sports programs, and drug campaigns, Fit India and other programs being organised under Azadi ka Amrut Mahautsaw. We are committed along with Youth Services and Sports as well as the committed along with Youth Services and Sports as well as the spear them for achieving the Larget of 35 lakh youth engagement in sports this financial year, said Ms Gul.

India Governance Forum in its twentieth year, is the oldest Governance Leadership Summit. Its recommendations have had a profound policy impact across the center and state governments.

With these awards SKOCH Organization brings together an ecosystem of academic, industry, economists, policy industry, economists, policy industry, economists, policy in accepts.



# NEYMAR Faces 5-Year Jail Term In Fraud Trial

MADRID: Brazil forward Neymar will stand trial next week on fraud and corruption charges over his transfer to Barcelona from Santos in 2013 and the complainant, Bra-zilian investment firm DIS, said on Thursday it was demanding a five-

year jail term.
Along with Neymar, the defendants in the trial being brought by Spanish prosecutors, which begins in Barcelona on Monday, are his parents, the two clubs, former Barca presidents Josep Maria Bar-

tomeu and Sandro Rosell, and ex-Santos president Odlino Rodrigues. The case stems from a com-plaint by DIS, which owned 40% of the rights to Neymar when he was at Santos. The company argues that it lost out on its rightful cut from the transfer because the true value of the deal was understated. Neymar, who is a key member of the Brazil team that will be heading to the World Cup in Qatar next morth, has denied the allega-tions but lost an appeal in Spain's High Court in 2017, which paved the way for the trial.

Baker McKenzie, who will be defending Neymar and his family in the trial, told Reuters they will argue that the Spanish courts "lack

argue that the Spanish courts "lack jurisdiction to prosecute the Poyemar family" since the transfer involved Brazilian nationals in Brazil. Spanish prosecutors want a two-year prison term for Neymand the payment of a 10 million euros (\$9.78 million) fine plus and an \$4 million euros fine for Barcelona.

DIS is also requesting jail terms for Rosell and Bartomeu, and a to-

ral fine of 149 million euros fine for

tal fine of 149 million euros fine for the defendants.

DIS acquired 40% of Neymar's rights when he was aged 17 in exchange for two million euros. It argues that the player's sale to Barcelona was well below his real

Barcelona was went below his lead market value.

Barca said at the time of Ney-mar's move that the transfer figure was 571 million euros, of which 40 million was paid to Neymar's Fundo.

family.
DIS received a 40 percent share of the remaining 17.1 million that was paid to Santos.

# Kerala Fisherman Wins ₹70 Lakh Lottery Hours **After Getting Bank Notice**



Kollam, Kerala: Barely hours after he received an attachment notice from a bank in respect of his house for default on loan repayment, a fish seller from Kerlawas able to heave a sigh of relief as he won the ₹ 70 labh Alschayal ottery of the sate government. Pookunju, on October 12, began his day as usual and while on the way to collect the fisht which sells during the day, he bought an Akshaya lottery ticket which had a first prize of ₹ 70 lakh. When he returned home in the afternoon, he got to know that the bank had sent a notice of artehment in respect of his house as he had been unable to pay back a loan amount of around ₹ 9 lakh, be told a television channel. "We were in despair after we received the notice from the bank. We did not know what to do. Whether to sell our property, We have two children, a boy and girl, who are studying," his wife told the channel. "Besides the bank loan, my Kollam, Kerala: Barely hours af

fe told the channel. "Besides the bank loan, my

father had raked up a debt of around ₹ 5 lakh buying tickets," Pookunju said.

But fate smiled upon the family at the right moment as wit in hours of receiving the notice, when the winning number of the lottery was announced, he was the winner of the ₹ 70 lakh first price.

was the winner of the ₹70 lakh first prize.

"He did not believe me when I told him we had won. He initially said it was not at all possible. Then he kept checking and re-checking the ticket number and the result. He just could not believe we had won, "she told the channel.

She also said that just a day before that he missed winning at ₹ 5,000 prize by two numbers and she had told him to buy another ticket on the next day and

other ticket on the next day and that he will win, "He had not believed me then,"

The had not be needed in a use, she said with a beaming smile. Their son, who is studying, told the channel that he never believed in buying lottery tickets and bought it sometimes to help out those selling the same.

# For iPhones Without **Chargers, Apple Fined \$20** Million In This Country



Brasilia: A Brazilian judge fined Apple \$20 million Thursday for selling iPhones without char-gers, calling it an "abusive prac-tice" that forces customers to

tice ministry slapped a separate fine of nearly \$2.5 million on Ap-ple in September over the same issue and barred the US tech giant from selling its iPbone 12

The new fine — 100 million reais — was awarded by a Sao Paulo civil court judge as damages in a lawsuit filed by the Brazilian Consumers' Association.

zilian Consumers' Association.
Apple stopped including outlet chargers with new iPhones in
October 2020, saying it wanted
to help reduce electronics waste.
But the move effectively

equires consumers to pur-ase a second product in or-r for the first to work," Judge ramuru Afonso Francisco

rote in his ruling. He ordered the California

company to supply chargers to all consumers in Brazil who bought iPhone models 12 or 13 in the past two years, and begin including them with all new purchases.

Apple is also facing charger-re-lated headaches across the pond. Last week, the European Parliament passed a law re-quiring all smartphones, tab-lets and cameras to use USB-C ports as the single charger standard from late 2024, which

will force Apple phone designs.

# **India Test Fires Ballistic** Missile From Nuke Submarine INS Arihant

New Delhi; India's strategic strike submarine INS Arihant carried out successful launch of a ballistic missile on Friday, the defence ministry said.

The missile was tested to a predetermined range and it impacted the target area in the Bay of Bengal with high accuracy, validating all operational and technological parameters, it said.

The successful user training

launch of the SLBM (submarine launched ballistic missife) by INS Arihant is significant to proceed to the submarine significant to proceed to the submarine significant to proceed the submarine sub

# Should Muslim Women Wear Bikini If Not Hijab, Asks Asaduddin Owaisi

All India Majlis-e-Intehadul Muslimeen (AlMM) chief And Hyderabad MP Asadud-din Owaisi suggir to Inova if Mus-lim wear should wear bidin if not hijab. His comments came after the Supreme Court delivered a spikt verdict on the ban on hijabis in Sia-natalici's educational institutions.

nataka's educational institutions. Addressing a gathering on Thursday evening, the MP claimed that nobody is forcing Muslim women to wear hijab. He sought to know if Sikh people can wear a hurbor. Designing sayment across to known I star people can wear a cross and Hindus vibudhi, why can't Muslim girls wear hijab in schools. "If not hijab, should Muslim girls wear a bikin!? If you want, you can wear it," he said.

Asaduddin Owaisi claimed that a ban on hijab will send a wrong message to girls from Sikh, Chris-tian, and Hindu communities that than, and hindu communities man Muslims are lesser citizens. "Why are you bent upon finishing off our religion, culture and beard." he asked. He claimed that wear-ing hijab comes under freedom of religion, and said if such freedom exists, students will learn from

tutional right of people to wear what they want. "If you come to Hyderabad, you will see the most ryote and, you will see the motorious drivers are our sister I ask my driver to be careful, they ride pillion with them outorcycles, they will unde stand if anyone can force them do anything," the MP said.

