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## Directorate Of Health Service Kashmir

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Subject: Final Seniority List of Health Educators 2210-Med of Divisional Cadre

### CIRCULAR

Whereas, on the basis of information received from concerned Chief Medical Officers / controlling officers, the 1<sup>st</sup> tentative seniority list of Health Educators (2210-Med) Divisional Cadre was circulated vide this office No:Est/II/NG/102-II/Sen H Edu/6311-6341 dated 15.10.2022 for information of all concerned through their controlling officers / DDO's with the remarks that objections if any with regard to particulars shown against each should reach to this Directorate through their controlling officers within 07 days from the date of issuance of the circular.

Whereas, the said seniority list was published in daily news paper Mission Kashmir dated 22.10.2022 & was also made available in official website of this Directorate www.dhskashmir.org.in.

Whereas, some representations have been received from concerned Health Educators through CMO Baramulla, CMO Ganderbal & CMO Srinagar for inclusion their named in the seniority list of Health Educators and after scrutinizing their documents they have been included in the seniority list at appropriate place / serial.

Now therefore, Final seniority list of Health Educators 2210 Divisional Cadre is hereby prepared / circulated amongst all concerned through their controlling officer for information. The seniority list is also available on the official website of this Directorate www.dhskashmir.org.in

S.No	Name of the Employee	Date of Birth	Date of 1st Apptt.	Date of Prom. as Health Educator	Place of posting
1	Gh. Rasool Kumar	25/03/1966	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO Pulwama
2	Manzoor Ahmad Bhat	08/03/1967	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Pampora
3	Ab. Rashid Thoker	14/03/1967	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Tral
4	Ab. Rashid Bhat	28/08/1967	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Bajawra
5	Fayaz Ahmad Shah	01/04/1968	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	Zone Batamalo
6	Liyaqat Ali Burza	16/06/1969	24/2/1994	20/12/2007	CMO Budgam
7	Parvaiz Ahmad Pandith	01/11/1969	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Ganderbal
8	Mehraj-Ud-Din Bhat	08/12/1969	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	Zone Batamalo
9	Mushtaq Ahmad Shah	01/12/1971	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Pulwama
10	Mohd Yaseen Shah	01/04/1972	24/02/1994	20/12/2007	Zone Batamalo
11	Showkat Saleem Bukhari	27/11/1968	25/02/1994	20/12/2007	PHC, Anigam

12	Mohd Amin Malik	08/11/1963	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	D.H.Pora
13	Bashir Ahmad Thapoo	01/06/1965	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	Zone S.R Gung
14	Parvaiz Ahmad Sheikh	10/10/1968	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Hajan
15	Raja Mushtaq	02/03/1969	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Mattan
16	Mohd Abass Wani	29/12/1969	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	D.H.Pora
17	Naseer Ahmad Mughal	03/02/1971	26/02/1994	20/12/2007	Zone S.R Gung
18	Mohd Yousuf Khanday	20/04/1964	28/02/1994	20/12/2007	D.H.Pora
19	Aijaz Rashid	24/09/1964	28/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Pattan
20	Mohd Mushtaq Bhat	15/10/1971	28/02/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Sogam
21	Bilal Ahmad Dar	02/03/1972	28/02/1994	20/12/2007	PHC, Sharkwara
22	Mohd Sayeed Mughal	27/04/1970	01/03/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Tangdar.
23	Gh. Rasool Dobi	01/01/1967	03/03/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Langat.
24	Mohd Amin Malik S/o: M. Akram Malik	26/06/1964	23/03/1994	20/12/2007	Bl. Shopian
25	Mohd Amin Malik S/O: M. Yousuf	01/05/1967	23/3/1994	20/12/2007	BMO, Trehgam.
26	Shafiq Ahmad Bhat	15/04/1968	24/02/1994	07/01/2008	Pulwama
27	Gh. Hyder	17-12-1962	19-11-1981	20-03-2009	Block Kangan
28	Bilal Ahmad Bhat	28-02-1965	03-07-1984	20-03-2009	Block Kangan
29	Gull Mohd. Sheikh	20-03-1970	09-11-1991	20-03-2009	
30	Abdul Hameed Wali	01.03.1968	24.02.1994	20.03.2009	Gousia Hospital Srinagar
31	Mohd Ashraf Mir	01.01.1968	18.02.1998	20.03.2009	Block Wakura
32	Bashir Ah. Thoker	11.11.1968		20.03.2009	Bl. Larnoo
33	Mehraj ud Din	01.03.1963	02.05.1985	30-04-2010	BMO Ganderbal
34	Saima Rasool	09-10-1980	10-11-2010	10-11-2010	PHC Litter
35	Feroz Ah. Yattoo	10-12-1975	15-01-2011	15-01-2011	PHC Sursyar
36	Manzoor Ah. Rather	10-06-1968	28-07-1993	13-10-2011	Bandipora
37	Bashir Ah. Wani	10-12-1969	21-06-1985	12-04-2012	Sopore Bla
38	Saddiq Hussain Mangryal	05-08-1963	11-09-1989	12-04-2012	Boniyar Bla
39	Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Bhat	01-03-1968	19-11-1993	20-09-2012	Block Mattan Antg.
40	Iftikhar Ah. Chikan	30-10-1968	20-06-1997	20-09-2012	Block Achabal Antg.
41	Owais Ahmad Rather	13-05-1964	20-09-2012	20-09-2012	Bl. Pattan
42	Neelofar Jan	13-07-1969	26-02-1992 (Adhoc)	12-10-2012 (Reg. as H/Edu)	PHC Kakpora Pul
43	Munira Maqbool	06-02-1965	24-10-1992	12-10-2012	Block Shangus Antg
44	Hameeda Akhter	04-04-1963	29-04-1994 (Adhoc)	11-01-2013 (Reg. as H/Edu)	Bl. Hajin
45	Iftikhar Ah. Mir	30-11-1975	19-02-2013	19-02-2013	Block Kupwara
46	Rifat Shafi	29.10.1970	1.08.1993 (Adhoc)	20.03.2013 (Reg. as H/Edu)	Bl. Chattergam
47	Parveiz Ahmad Mir	26-12-1966	17-04-1993 (Adhoc)	23-04-2013 (Reg. as H/Edu)	SHC Anipal Pul
48	Aijaz Ahmad Magray	11-04-1981	15-05-2013	15-05-2013	Block Kupwara
49	Naseem Fatima	25-11-1977	18-01-2014	18-01-2014	Bl. Chadoora
50	Gh. Rasool Mir	08-12-1969	08-12-1980	06-03-2014	Bl. Magam
51	Mohd. Ramzan Bhat	15-12-1962	25-06-1981	06-03-2014	Sopore Bla

52	Gh. Hyder	08-04-1965	28-10-1983	06-03-2014	PHC Narwara Sgr
53	M. Ashraf Sheikh	01-04-1963	06-11-1983	06-03-2014	Block Zachaldara
54	Ab. Majid Sheikh	01-10-1964	01-12-1983	06-03-2014	Block Kupwara
55	Mohd. Abas Dar	03-03-1965	12-11-1985	06-03-2014	Pattan Bla
56	Bashir Ahmad Sofi	14-10-1967	15-09-1986	06-03-2014	Boniyar Bla
57	Fayaz Ah. Bhat	08-04-1964	11-09-1989	06-03-2014	Gousia Hospital
58	Farooq Ahmad Wani	29.08.1965	11-09-1989	06.03.2014	Bl. Chadoora
59	Magsood Ah. Bijard	15-03-1968	11-09-1989	06.03.2014	PHC Bemina
60	Mohd. Aslam Band	25-03-1969	11-09-1989	06-03-2014	Bl. Chadoora
61	Farooq Ahmad Mir	01.12.1969	28.05.1993	06.03.2014	Block Sopore
62	Irshad Ahmad Parray	01.03.1975	28.05.1993	06.03.2014	Block Sheeri
63	Ab Rashid Hajam	01.01.1968	24.07.1994	06.03.2014	Block Sopore
64	Tahira Bano	01.03.1979	14.03.1997	06.03.2014	Block Rohama
65	Showket Ahmad B hat	25.10.1983	20-05-2014	20-05-2014	PHC Wadwan
66	Ab. Rashid Reshi	01-03-1973	24-10-2014	24-10-2014	Tangmarg Bla
67	Fareeda Koul	04.04.1966	21.07.2015	21.07.2015	CMO Sgr
68	Dilnaz Akhter	15.06.1966	21.07.2015	21.07.2015	PHC.Zadibal.
69	Waseem ul Farooq	29-11-1987	24-08-2016	24-08-2016	BMO Qaimoh
70	Zahid Hassan Dar	10-03-1991	24-08-2016	24-08-2016	PHC Kalaroos
71	Rubeena Jan	12.02.1978	27.11.2017	27.11.2017	Bl. Larnoo
72	Mohd. Younis Sheikh	02.03.1990	01.02.2018	01.02.2018	Bl. Beerwah

**Note: The seniority list is subject to the conditions that all the Health Educators are initially appointed by the competent authority.**

No: Est-II/NG/102-II/7207-25  
Dated 11-11-2022

DIPK-13261/22

Sd/-  
(Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather)  
Director Health Services Kashmir  
Kashmir

### IANs

There are about 2.2 billion people globally with near or distant vision impairment, according to a 2021 report by the World Health Organisation (WHO). India is the second-most populous country in the world and home to over 20 per cent of the world's blind population. Addressing visual impairment is a major health issue across the globe, and while a number of factors are responsible for poor vision, including age, genetics, and the environment, everyday habits are just as important. There are indications that daily habits can affect a person's eyesight and develop into further complications if not addressed in time.

### What are these habits?

**Too much screen time:** Working for long hours, especially on a computer has become a reality for many people around the world. The pandemic and the work-from-home culture meant that people have to work virtually for long hours every day. Such a lifestyle can inevitably cause significant strain on your eyes and lead to eye-related problems if not properly checked. A condition often associated with this is "screen-sight-ness" or computer vision syndrome. The 20-20-20 technique is a simple yet effective way to take frequent breaks to reduce the stress on your due to extended use of digital devices. Spend

**Lack of sleep,** especially when it happens on a regular basis, can have many negative effects on our health, both short-term and long-term, including a weakened immune system, weight gain, heart disease, high blood pressure, mood changes, and memory issues

at least 20 seconds every 20 minutes looking at something 20 feet away.

**Eating eye health-deficient diet:** Including foods containing omega-3 fatty acids, zinc, vitamins C and E, and dark leafy greens, nuts, eggs, oranges, and seafood can help maintain eye health.

**Not resting enough:** Lack of sleep, especially when it happens on a regular basis, can have many negative effects on our health, both short-term and long-term, including a weakened immune system, weight gain, heart disease, high blood pressure, mood changes, and memory issues. It also affects the health of our eyes signifi-

cantly. Not resting enough can manifest in bloodshot eyes, dark circles, blurred vision, dry eyes, and other conditions. According to research, the eyes need about 7 to 9 hours of good sleep daily to replenish themselves and function well.

Rubbing your eyes all day can also cause some damage to your sight. Rubbing the eyes can break blood vessels present under your eyelids. When the eyes are irritated, instead of rubbing the eyes, try applying a cold compress instead.

Not wearing sunglasses can also have harmful effects on your eyes. Our eyes are vulnerable to ultraviolet rays and weather elements which can affect the health of our vision in numerous ways. Wearing the right sunglasses on a regular basis can prevent the development of macular degeneration or cataracts. Beyond that, sunglasses also help protect against dry-eye syndrome by blocking the wind and dust that could gain access to your eyes.

Staying dehydrated. Water is essential for the body to help maintain hydration. Our eyes rely on water to help keep them lubricated in the form of tears. It is quite normal for dust, dirt, and other debris present in the air to sneak into our eyes. In the absence of moisture, one may develop dry, red, or puffy eyes. Thus, it is important to stay hydrated by consuming plenty of water every day.

Moreover, regular eye check-ups are essential for the timely identification and treatment of visual ailments.

## Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag HQ Awantipora

### GIST

### GIST for E-NIT S. No. 45/MIDA of 2022-23

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir e-tenders in single cover system are invited from reputed and experienced Registered Electrical/Mechanical contractors/ Workshop holders /Firms whose registration are valid in terms of standing rules with sufficient experience and financial resources dealing with below mentioned works and other similar works of the same capacity or higher for the following work: -

S. No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Cost of Tender Documents	Earnest Money	Time for completion	Major Head
1	2	3	4	5	7	8
1.	Rewinding of bore well submersible motor 8.5 HP ritting including replacement of damaged 10 sq mm submersible cable at T/W Station Kuchipora	0.2707 lacs	50/=	550/=	07 days	M&R

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site ([tenders.gov.in](http://tenders.gov.in)) as per the dates shown below:-

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
1	Publishing date of NIT	11	11	2022	04:00 PM
2	Download start date	11	11	2022	04:00 PM
3	Bid submission start date	11	11	2022	04:00 PM
4	Bid submission end date	16	11	2022	04:00 PM
5	Bid opening date	17	11	2022	11:00 AM or any date convenient to Depty

All the terms and conditions will remain same as laid down in e-Nit & PWD form No.25-double.

No.MIDA/ 2724-28  
Dated:- 11.11.2022

DIPK-13320/22

Sd /=  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag  
HQ Awantipora

## J&K Softball Association

Affiliated with Softball Association of India

Ref. No: JKSA/605/2022

DATED: 11/11/2022

District Srinagar Softball Championship which was earlier scheduled to be held from 11 to 12 November, 2022 due to unsatisfactory condition of ground has been now rescheduled from 13th & 14th November, 2022 at Gindun Stadium, Rajbagh, Srinagar. All schools, Colleges & Registered Clubs are requested to confirm their entries on 12th November, 2022 from 3 PM to 6 PM AT Gindun Stadium, Rajbagh, Srinagar. Onspot Registration will not be accepted. The championship is being organized by District Srinagar Softball Association under the aegis of J&K Soft Ball Association.

(Waseem Raja Khan)  
General Secretary  
J&K Softball Association

mko

## تعزیتی بیان

جوں و کشمیریکا پیمپلاز یونین کا ایک تعزیتی اجلاس منعقد ہوا جس میں ریاضینسٹر جنرل فیجر جناب عشرت احمد زرگری اہلہ کی اچانک انتقال پر گہرے رنج و غم کا اظہار کیا۔ مشفق احمد ملک کے ایک بیان کے مطابق جموں و کشمیریکا پیمپلاز یونین کا ایک تہذیبی اجلاس منعقد ہوا جس میں اس بات پر سب کا اتفاق تھا ہمارے ہر دل عزیز محترم عشرت احمد زر صاحب کے ساتھ اس غم میں برابر کے شریک ہیں اور اللہ تعالیٰ سے دعا کی گئی مرحومہ کو جنت الفردوس میں اعلیٰ مقام عطا کرے اور لواحقین خاص کر محترم عشرت احمد زر گروہیہ صدمہ عظیم برداشت کرنے کی قوت واستقامت دے اور باقی خاندان کے لواحقین کو اللہ تعالیٰ صبر جمیل عطا کرے آمین

دیکھ کی اس گھڑی میں آپ کے لیے سکون اور نعت کی خواہش کرتا ہوں

منجانب۔

پریذینٹ مشفق احمد ملک

جموں و کشمیریکا پیمپلاز یونین

adl ko





## Annual Urs Of Dastgeer Sahib (RA) Concludes

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The annual Urs of Hazrat Sheikh Syed Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA) popularly known as Dastgeer Sahib concluded on Friday.

Thousands of devotees thronged the shrine of Sufi saint Sheikh Syed Abdul Qadir Jee-lani (RA) at Khanyar to have a glimpse of the holy relic. Emotional scenes were witnessed on the occasion. Devotees had come from different parts of the Kashmir Valley.

Outside the shrine, the local and non-local business establishments had installed their carts and were seen selling traditional snacks.

Authorities had made all necessary arrangements for the convenience of devotees including transportation, sanitation, drinking water and street lights.

Pertinently, the actual shrine of the revered saint is located at Baghdad in Iraq. Even though the saint has never visited Kashmir, he is highly revered Kashmiris.

## KU Ranks 110 In South Asia In QS Asia University Rankings

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir has been ranked 110 in Southern Asia in the QS Asia University Rankings 2023 that feature 760 Asian universities.

Published on November 8, the QS University Rankings evaluate the Asian varsities on the basis of 11 key parameters including Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation, Faculty/Student Ratio, International Research Network, Citations Per-Paper, Papers-Per Faculty, Staff with PhD, Proportion of International Faculty, Proportion of International Students, Proportion of Inbound Exchange Students, and Proportion of Outbound Exchange Students.

In the category of Overall Rank, the University features in the range of 451-500 and has performed among the top 60% in the Asia University Rankings.

“At score of 91 (out of 100) regionally, the ‘Staff with PhD’ indicator is the strongest one for the University of Kashmir, Srinagar,” the ‘Ranks By Indicator’ of the QS Asia University Rankings 2023 edition shows.

The University has also performed well in indicators like

Citations Per-Paper (18.5) and Papers Per-Faculty (14.7).

The QS Southern Asia Ranking of 110 the University of Kashmir adds to the varsity’s distinguished credentials of featuring among top 100 universities in the country—at rank 53—in the all-India ranking of universities under the Union Education Ministry’s National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF-2022) and also the award of A+ grade with CGPA of 3.31 to the University by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

Universities figuring in the country among top 100 under NIRF qualified to apply for QS ranking assessment.

Complementing all the stakeholders including faculty, non-teaching staff and students for the QS ranking, KU Vice Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan said the University has fared well despite the massive disruptions caused to the education sector by the Covid19 pandemic.

She said while the University’s score in key indicators like Staff with PhD and Employer Reputation is quite good, the University has set in motion several measures to score better in other indicators.



Thousands of devotees pray outside Dastgeer Sahib (R.A) shrine on Friday following the Urs. KO Photo Abid Bhat.

## Traffic Police Issues Advisory In View Of Apni Party Rally

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In view of the rally being organized by “Apni Party” at S.K Stadium Sonwar on 12th November 2022, The Traffic Police Srinagar has issued a traffic advisory in this regard.

The participants in the rally have been advised to adopt the following traffic diversions in view of the large number of vehicles expected to enter Srinagar City from various routes towards the venue.

The rally bound vehicles travelling from South Kashmir (Anantnag, Pulwama, Awantipora, Shopian) shall adopt Panthachowk – Athwajan – Batwara Route for reaching the venue. Cut off for such vehicles will be at Kendriya Vidyalaya Shivpora Srinagar

Parking has been made available inside Kendriya

Vidyalaya School.

Other private and commercial vehicles, travelling towards Srinagar have been told to adopt Panthachowk-Nowgam-Sanath Nagar route.

Rally bound vehicles from Budgam shall adopt Hyderpora – Rambagh – Tulsibagh - Pr.Convent route. Cut off for such vehicles will be at Presentation Convent School.

Parking arrangements are at Gindun Park Rajbagh, Institute of Hotel Management Rajbagh, Horticulture Department Rajbagh and along Jehlum Bund Rajbagh.

The Rally bound vehicles from North Kashmir shall adopt HMT- Bemina Bypass – Tengpora – Hyderpora – Rambagh – Tulsibagh – Pr. Convent route. Cut off for such vehicles will be at Presentation Convent School.

Parking at Gindun Park/Institute of Hotel Manage-

ment/ Horticulture Department Rajbagh and along Jehlum Bund Rajbagh.

Rally bound vehicles from Srinagar shall utilize the designated parking lots at Astro Turf, TRC parking and Indoor Stadium Poloview.

Rally bound vehicles from Bandipora/Ganderbal shall adopt foreshore road. The cut off for such vehicles shall be at Lalit Crossing.

Parking arrangements have been made at Zabarwan Park and Private parking near Lalit Ghat.

All the rally bound vehicles are advised to adopt the same route for the return journey to reach their respective destinations.

The general Public has been advised to avoid unnecessary travel towards Lalchowk, Dalgate, Rajbagh and Sonwar on 12th Nov from 09:00 A.M till 05:00 P.M.

## 2 KU Faculty Members Awarded At ‘Kashmir Expo-2022’

Observer News Service

Srinagar: J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday presented awards to two faculty members of the Kashmir University for their startups. The awards by the J&K Science Technology and Innovation Council (JKSTIC) were presented to Dr Manzoor A Mir, Head, Department of Bio-resources and Dr Bilal A Malik from the Institute of Technology Zakura Campus during the concluding ceremony of the three-day ‘Kashmir Expo Startups for Livelihood’ event at the SKICC here, where the LG was the Chief Guest, said a varsity spokesman.

Dr Manzoor was awarded for his startup in the services sector regarding breast cancer awareness, screening and early detection while Dr Bilal A Malik was felicitated for his startup on starch-free rice cooker.

KU Vice-Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan, who shared the

dais at the concluding ceremony, said in her separate message to the aspiring innovators that the University is working to put in place all requisite infrastructure and facilities to create an enabling ecosystem for innovations and startups.

She said the University is on job to consolidate the human resource and infrastructure in all its centres involved in innovations and incubations to encourage young students and faculty members to become a part of the Union government’s flagship ‘Standup India, Startup India’ initiative of driving the country’s discernible economic growth story with startup ventures.

“I urge the aspiring innovators from the student community, including our girl students, to come forward with their innovative ideas to create their own startup ventures,” she said, congratulating Dr Manzoor and Dr Bilal for bagging the awards.

## With Views In Millions, Teen Gamer Is New Internet Sensation in Kashmir

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Once scolded by parents and relatives for spending too much time playing games, Mesum Abbas, a class ninth student from old city’s Hassanabad locality has become one of the most popular Kashmiri Gamers.

Mesum Abbas, 15, packages his gaming videos and uploads them on YouTube. He recently revealed his face

after being invited by a popular Radio Jockey on his show.

Some of his videos have gained millions of views on the popular video streaming platform YouTube.

“I upload videos of the popular game free fire. Back in 2017, I was scolded for playing games but things changed later on. During the Covid-19 lockdown, my family supported me and eventually I started uploading his gaming videos on YouTube,”

Mesum said.

On being asked if he has a message for his fellow Kashmiri teenagers, he said education is the most important thing.

“No matter what you want to do, it is important for everybody among us to study, prioritize education over other things” Mesum said.

About his future plans, he says that he wants to develop a Kashmiri centric game in the future.

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

### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311




### RAILWAYS

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

### HIGHWAY STATUS



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

 HIJRI CALENDAR 16 Rabi ul Sani 1444	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	5:36
	ZUHR	12:14
	ASR	3:51
	Magrib	5:31
	ISHA	7: 53

## This Day In History

- 1918 - Russia cancels Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 1921 - US, France, Japan & British Empire sign a Pacific Treaty
- 1956 - US Supreme Court rules race separation on buses in Alabama unconstitutional
- 1979 - Ronald Reagan in New York announces his candidacy for US President
- 1980 - US spacecraft Voyager 1 sends back 1st close-up pictures of Saturn
- 1982 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial opened in Washington D.C., featuring the names of over 58,000 US soldiers who were killed or missing in the Vietnam War
- 1986 - NASA launches space vehicle S-199
- 1986 - US President Reagan confesses weapon sales to Iran
- 1990 - Saudis ask US for rights to bid on SPR (Strategic Petroleum Reserve) crude
- 1993 - Pakistani minister of Foreign affairs Faruk Laghari elected president
- 1994 - Sweden agrees to join European Union
- 2001 - Doha Round: The World Trade Organization ends a four-day ministerial conference in Doha, Qatar.
- 2001 - War on Terrorism: In the first such act since World War II, US President
- George W. Bush signs an executive order allowing military tribunals against foreigners suspected of connections to terrorist acts or planned acts on the United States.
- 2001 - US President George W. Bush orders that the Strategic Petroleum Reserve be filled to capacity over the next few years

## From KO Archives

## Bulldozers Demolish Structures Inside Last Monarchical Resort

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Was it message that Farooq Abdullah wanted to send across to his cabinet colleagues that nothing can deter him from taking a stern action against any one of them or did it speak of the growing schisms in the Abdullah cabinet when speeding bulldozers demolished a newly constructed building in Karan Mahal here today.

Ajat Shatru son of former Sadri-Riyast, Dr. Karan Singh and a cabinet colleague of Dr.Farooq Abdullah tearing apart the ban imposed on the construction of any structures in the green belt area had constructed a building inside the Taleh Manzil estate the last legacy of the Dogra rule in Kashmir. Giving credence to the belief that Abdullah government writ does not run even in the cabinet, the Information Minister had refused to take cognizance of the notifications served on him by the Lake and Water Ways Development organization.

Adding to the belief that New Delhi has asked Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah to tighten noose around his cabinet members after action against the business concerns of the Urban Development Minister, Molvi Iftikhar Ansari, and the Minister for information is second. Rumours are rife that Abdullah is looking for alibi's to throw out some of his cabinet colleagues who in future dispensation may not suit his political requirements.

The operation to demolish the 'illegal' structure inside the minister's estate was conducted jointly by the three departments of Housing and Urban Development Ministry, Srinagar Municipality, Lakes and Water Ways Development Authority (LWWDA) and Srinagar Development Authority here today.

The entire single-storey structure was bulldozed by the employees of the three departments, which are under the total control of Iftikhar Hussain Ansari. Following resistance by the employees and the guards posted at Ajat Shatru's estate yesterday a posse of police men accompanied the demolishing squad.

Iftikhar, it is learnt, was in constant touch with the three officers of three departments, who were supervising the demolition today. He was also reportedly in touch with IG Police, Kashmir range to prevent any possible clash between the police and the guards posted at the estate.

The Vice Chairman of LAWDA when contacted claimed that the Sports Minister had violated SR0-109 of J&K Government. The area of construction, the Vice Chairman said, falls under green belt and violated the norms for the preservation of the lake Dal. Secondly the single storey house was constructed without any permission from the Srinagar Municipal Committee. Thirdly the area also falls under Srinagar's master plan.

(Kashmir Observer, November 12, 1998)

**The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
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## Gyanvapi Case: SC Extends Protection Of 'Shivling' Area Inside Mosque



Agencies

The Supreme Court on Friday extended the interim order granting protection of the area where a 'shivling' was claimed to have been found inside the premises of the Gyanvapi mosque. A bench comprising Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, Justice Surya Kant and Justice PS Narasimha extended the May 17 order until further orders.

The bench allowed the Hindu parties to move an application before the Varanasi district judge for consolidation of all the lawsuit filed on the Gyanvapi row. It also directed the Hindu parties to file their replies within three weeks on the appeal filed by the management committee of the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid challenging the Allahabad High Court order on the appointment of a survey commissioner.

The mosque is located close to the iconic Kashi Vishwanath temple. In May, the SC had directed the district magistrate of

Varanasi to ensure protection of the area inside the Gyanvapi complex where a 'shivling' is said to have been found during a survey and allowed Muslims to offer namaz and perform religious observances.

The videography survey of the mosque complex was ordered by the Varanasi court in response to pleas by five Hindu women seeking permission to perform daily worship of deities Shringar Gauri, Lord Ganesha, Lord Hanuman and Nandi whose idols are located on the outer wall of the Gyanvapi mosque.

The mosque committee rejected 'shivling' claims and said that the structure was in fact a fountain. The Gyanvapi mosque management committee (Anjuman Intezamia Masjid) said the mosque is a Waqf property and questioned the maintainability of the plea. On September 12, the Varanasi district court dismissed the Masjid committee's plea, and held the petition is maintainable.

-with PTI inputs

## 6 Rajiv Gandhi Killers Freed By Supreme Court

Agencies

The assassination was carried out by members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan armed separatist group that was defeated in 2009 following a brutal decades-long civil war on the island.

India's Supreme Court on Friday said the convicts were being released based on their "satisfactory conduct" in prison and that they had served more than 30 years of jail time.

The six – three of whom had been condemned to death before their sentences were commuted in 2014 – are the last still in prison for the assassination.

"I am very happy... I am very thankful to each and everybody," Nalini Sriharan, one of the two on parole, told broadcaster CNN News18.

The "last 32 years have been a struggle", she added.

She and her husband – another of the convicts ordered released by the court – were both initially condemned to death.

Earlier this year, the court ordered the release of A G Perarivalan, another convict in the case who had been initially sentenced to hang, citing good conduct.

Gandhi became India's youngest prime minister after his mother and predecessor



Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards in 1984.

The family's Congress party dominated Indian politics for decades and Rajiv's widow Sonia remains the most powerful figure in the organisation, while their son Rahul is seen as current Prime Minister Narendra Modi's main political opponent.

Rajiv Gandhi's killing was largely seen as a response to his move to send Indian forces to Sri Lanka in 1987 to disarm the Tamil rebels.

India later withdrew its troops after losing more than 1,000 of them in fights with the rebels.

The release of the convicts has been the subject of much debate in India, and Congress condemned the court decision as "totally unacceptable" and "completely erroneous".

"It is most unfortunate that

the Supreme Court has not acted in consonance with the spirit of India on this issue," the party said, tweeting a statement by senior member Jairam Ramesh.

But India has a significant Tamil population of its own, and state governments in Tamil Nadu have repeatedly called for the convicts to be freed.

Earlier this year, current Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin tweeted a picture of him hugging Perarivalan in Chennai after his release.

Gandhi's son has over the years spoken about how he and his sister Priyanka had forgiven their father's killers.

"We were very upset and hurt and for many years we were quite angry," the Indian Express newspaper quoted Rahul as saying in 2018. But they had since forgiven them, he said, "in fact, completely".

## Cong Fumes After Rajiv Killers Set Free, Says Don't Agree With Sonia Gandhi

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Congress on Friday termed "totally unacceptable and completely erroneous" the Supreme Court order directing the premature release of the six remaining convicts serving life sentence in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, and said the apex court has not acted in consonance with the spirit of India.

The Congress also said it disagreed with its former chief Sonia Gandhi, whose appeal helped in the commutation of death sentence of convict Nalini Sriharan, asserting that she was entitled to her personal views but the party's stand had been consistent on this over the years.

The party said it intended to take "all available remedies, be it review or any other form of legal redress". Several Congress office-bearers attacked the Modi government over the issue with Rajya Sabha MP

Randeep Surjewala asking whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government support the release of terrorists and will they get the court verdict reviewed.

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the premature release of six convicts, including Nalini Sriharan and R P Ravichandran, serving life sentence in the case. A bench of Justices B R Gavai and B V Nagarathna said the judgement of the top court in the case of A G Perarivalan, one of the convicts in the case, is equally applicable in their matter.

Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters here, Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi said the Supreme Court's decision ordering the release of six of the convicts has shocked the nation's conscience and has invited serious concern and criticism from all sides of the political spectrum.

Asked about the statements of forgiveness by Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gan-

dhi and Priyanka Gandhi in the past, Singhvi said the party's stance has been the same despite the statements of the Gandhi family as it considers this an "institutional matter".

"It is a matter for example where my views are same as that of the central government. So this is not politics. Certainly Mrs Sonia Gandhi above all is entitled to her personal views but with greatest respect the party does not agree with that view and has never agreed with that view and has made its view consistently clear and we stand by that view because according to us the sovereignty, integrity and identity of the nation is involved in a prime minister's assassination, sitting or former," he said.

"Continuity is involved and that is why the central government never agreed with the state government in this regard, previous central governments and this central government," he added.

## Israel's President To Ask Netanyahu To Form New Government

Press Trust of India

**JERUSALEM:** Israeli President Isaac Herzog announced on Friday that he will assign the task to form a new government to former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu following consultations with leaders of all the political parties that have been elected to Parliament in November 1 elections, a move likely to end the political impasse in the country.

The announcement was made after Herzog held discussions with the political parties over three days, starting Wednesday when he received the final poll results from the Chairman of the Central Elections Committee.

"In sum, 64 members of Knesset recommended to the President that he assign the task of forming a government to Likud Chairman Benjamin Netanyahu MK (Member of Knesset). Twenty-eight MKs recommended Yesh Atid Chairman Yair Lapid MK, and four factions, representing 28 members of Knesset, decided to abstain from making any recommendation," a statement from the Presidency said.

"Following the consultations, Office of the President Director-General Eyal Shviki phoned



Benjamin Netanyahu MK's chief of staff, Tzachi Braverman, and requested to invite Benjamin Netanyahu MK to receive from the President the role of forming a government on Sunday (13 November 2022)," it added.

Netanyahu will have to form the government in 28 days from the day he is handed over the mandate by the President. If an extension is required, the President has the legal authority to grant an extension of up to fourteen additional days.

Besides Netanyahu's Likud party, he received the backing of the right wing bloc including, Shas, United Torah Judaism, Religious Zionism, Jewish Power and Noam. Caretaker Prime Minister Yair Lapid's name was recommended by his Yesh Atid party and the Labour party.

National Unity, Yisrael Beiteinu, United Arab List (Ra'am) and Hadash-Ta'al decided not to recommend any name to be tasked with the responsibility.

## BJP, AAP Field Many Turncoats In Gujarat; Congress Prefers Loyalists

Press Trust of India

**AHMEDABAD:** Ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have rewarded several leaders, who quit rival political parties and joined them, by offering tickets to them to contest the upcoming Assembly polls in Gujarat, while Congress has preferred to field party loyalists, including 21 sitting MLAs.

The BJP, opposition Congress and the Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP have so far declared candidates for 160, 89 and 174 seats, respectively, for the election to the 182-member Assembly to be held in two phases on December 1 and 5.

According to the BJP's list of 160 candidates it released on yesterday, out of 20 MLAs who resigned from the Congress after winning the 2017 Assembly elections, the ruling party has fielded nine. It has also given a ticket to former Congress working president Hardik Patel.

However, the BJP is yet to decide on the fate of former Congress MLAs Alpesh Thakor and Bhavesh Katara as it has so far not named candidates for the seats they represented.

Not just those MLAs who resigned as Congress legislators in the last five years, but also those who had resigned before 2017 have found a place on the

BJP's list. Some of these former MLAs are Raghavji Patel (Jamnagar Rural) and Balwantsinh Rajput (Sidhpur).

Mr Rajput had resigned in July 2017 ahead of the Rajya Sabha election and went on to contest the polls on BJP ticket.

Patel was expelled from the Congress for voting against the party mandate in the Rajya Sabha election. He was defeated in the 2017 Assembly election, but won the byelection in 2019 after the then sitting Congress MLA from Jamnagar rural seat, Vallabh Dharaviya, resigned and joined the BJP.

No leader from rival political parties who joined the Congress in the recent past has figured in the list of 89 candidates released by the 'grand old party' so far. Congress's state party chief Jagdish Thakor said party workers will be the first choice.

"Our first choice is our workers. Those workers who have strengthened the Congress to challenge the BJP, despite being victimised by the ruling party, will be the first choice. If other leaders from any other party joins the Congress, they will not be given the ticket, irrespective of how big the leader is," he told reporters.

Mr Thakor added that there was nothing surprising in former Congress leaders being fielded by the BJP in the 2022 polls.

## NEWS MAKERS

### Delhi Police Arrests Man Who Was Declared "Dead" 24 Years Ago

**DELHI:** The Delhi Police has arrested a man who was declared dead in official documents 24 years ago.

As the man, wanted in a theft case in 1991, was declared 'dead' in all official papers, the Delhi Police stopped looking for him 24 years ago.

However, the Bawana police was recently tipped off about the accused and Delhi Police later worked on the lead to arrest him.

After his arrest, the Delhi Police informed that a case of theft was registered against the accused in 1991 and the matter was in court. However, he was declared 'dead' in official documents submitted in court in 1998.

The city police said he forged the documents and went into hiding. He was on the run for the next 24 years.

Accepting that the accused was dead, the court left his file pending. It remained pending till he was finally arrested. Speaking on the case, DCP Outer-North District Devesh Kumar Mahla said the police are questioning the accused for leads on the person who faked his papers. (AGENCIES)

## 'Religious Tattoo' Found Unfit For Central Forces, Man Approaches Court

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** A man who was declared unfit for recruitment in Central Armed Police Forces, National Investigation Agency (NIA) and other forces for having a "religious tattoo" on the dorsum of his right hand has approached the Delhi High Court challenging the authorities' decision.

The counsel for the authorities opposed the plea saying that the right arm is the saluting hand and this tattoo was not permissible under the relevant guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The court, which was told by the petitioner that he was willing to remove the tattoo by a minor laser surgery, noted the detailed medical examination and the review medical examination showed there were no other defects found in him.

It disposed of the petition by giving liberty to the man to appear before the new medical board constituted by the authorities after removal of the tattoo.

"Keeping in view the aforesaid position as well as in the interest

of justice, we hereby dispose of the present petition by giving liberty to the petitioner to appear before the freshly constituted medical board of the respondents after two weeks from today after having the tattoo in the dorsum of the right hand removed," the court said.

"...in case the petitioner is found fit by the said medical board, the respondents shall further process the selection of petitioner for the post in question in accordance with law," a bench of Justices Suresh Kumar Kait and Saurabh Banerjee said in its order.

The petitioner submitted that he was found unfit in the detailed medical examination held on September 28 and thereafter, in review medical examination on September 29 for the post of constable (general duty) in Central Armed Police Forces, NIA, SSF and Rifleman GD in Assam Rifles Examination, 2021 on the ground that he has a religious tattoo marks on the dorsum of right hand which was not permissible.

He sought quashing of the results of the two examinations and that he be appointed to the post.

## Billionaire Gautam Adani Lands In The Middle Of India-China Fight In Sri Lanka

Agencies

A small group of fishermen ply the shallow coastal water along Pooneryn in northern Sri Lanka, an impoverished, remote area within striking distance of India's southern tip. It's where Gautam Adani -- who is Asia's richest man and has vaulted ahead of Jeff Bezos this year -- plans to build renewable power plants, thrusting him into the heart of an international political clash.

With Sri Lanka in the throes of its worst economic crisis since its independence from Britain in 1948, India is reengaging and attempting to tilt the balance in a strategic tussle with China on the island, a pivotal battleground because it lies on key global shipping lanes and plays into India's fear of encirclement from its Asian rival.

At the forefront of those efforts is Mr Adani, who is a long-time supporter of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and has been accused by some Sri Lankan lawmakers of signing opaque port and energy deals closely tied to India's interests, something his group has always denied, saying the invest-



ments meet Sri Lanka's needs.

Sitting atop a \$137 billion wealth pile, Mr Adani controls a sprawling empire that spans ports, coal plants, power generation and distribution.

While he derives the vast majority of his fortune from India, Gautam Adani has gradually made more overseas deals and told shareholders in July that he seeks a "broader expansion" beyond India's borders with "several" foreign governments approaching his conglomerate to develop their infrastructure.

Those moves and Mr Adani's perceived closeness to Prime Minister Modi's administration have spurred suggestions the tycoon

could be the cash cow for India's pushback against China, whose Belt and Road infrastructure drive is intended to increase Beijing's influence in strategic countries and on the global stage.

"In countries that the Indian government has better relations than the Chinese government, Adani could find success," said Akhil Ramesh, a resident fellow at the Pacific Forum research institute in Honolulu.

While India lacks the financial firepower of its neighbor, Mr Adani's investments in countries such as Israel and Sri Lanka compete with Chinese state-owned firms.

And it's in Sri Lanka where that tension is playing out most acutely.

Mr Adani's investments there were described to Bloomberg News by multiple Indian and Sri Lankan officials as advancing Prime Minister Modi administration's objectives on the tear-drop shaped island, in much the same way that his businesses in ports, power and cement coincide with the government's economic priorities at home. Mr Adani has repeatedly denied that his firms receive special treatment from Prime Minister Modi's government.



## College Principal Faces Probe For Misbehavior

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The J&K Higher Education Department has attached the in-charge Principal Government Degree College (GDC) Pattan over serious allegations levelled against him for his misbehaviour at Cluster University Srinagar (CUS).

The attachment order was issued by the Principal Secretary Higher Education Department (HED) Rohit Kansal after a written complaint was submitted by the Cluster University Srinagar (CUS).

"With reference to the communications received from CUS, it is hereby ordered that Prof. Tariq Ashai in-charge Principal GDC Pattan is attached with the Administrative Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu, till outcome of the inquiry," the order reads.

An official told a local news agency KNO that Prof. Ashai was attached for physically assaulting Registrar CUS over some official issue in presence of Vice Chancellor CUS, Deans and other administrative staff members of the University.

"Prof Ashai had visited CUS in connection with some offi-

cial work and was seeking some documents. While discussing the matter, he lost his control and physically assaulted Registrar CUS," an official said.

He said the VC CUS who was present at the spot immediately wrote to LG office and HED following which Prof Ashai was attached with HED civil secretariat Jammu.

"The VC CUS took the matter seriously and submitted his complaint to HED. The Principal Secretary HED also took immediate action and ordered to attach Prof Ashai," the official said.

Meanwhile, in a separate order the HED has initiated an inquiry into the matter and sought a detailed report within 15 days.

As per the HED order, Additional Secretary HED Sushil Kumar Khajuria has been appointed as an inquiry officer to conduct detailed enquiry in the case of in-charge Principal GDC Pattan Prof. Tariq Ashai "with respect to serious allegations levelled against him."

"The inquiry officer shall submit the detailed report along-with specific recommendations in the matter within the period of 15 days to the Administrative Department," the order reads—(KNO)

## Terrorist Killed In Shopian Encounter: Police

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** Security forces on Friday shot dead a foreign terrorist of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in an encounter in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

A police spokesman said the security forces, acting on specific information generated by police regarding the presence of terrorist in the Kapren area of Shopian, launched a joint cordon and search operation.

"To avoid any civilian casualty or injury, the joint team of forces evacuated teachers and students from a nearby madrasa to safer places," he said.

The spokesman said as the search party approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding terrorist fired indiscriminately which was retaliated effectively leading to an encounter.

"In the ensuing encounter, one foreign terrorist, identified as Kamran Bhai @Hanees, linked with proscribed terror

outfit JeM was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of encounter," he said.

According to police records, the killed terrorist was categorised ultra and involved in several terror crime cases, including attacks on police and civilians.

"It is pertinent to mention here that the killed terrorist was active in Kulgam-Shopian area and was trying to revive the terror folds of JeM terror outfit by recruiting & motivating the gullible youth to join terror folds, besides planning to execute terror attacks," the spokesman said.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) of Kashmir Vijay Kumar congratulated the joint team of police and security forces for conducting the successful operation without any collateral damage.

He termed the operation a big success as a possible threat of fidayeen and other terrorist attacks were thwarted by his elimination.

## No Fuel For 2-Wheelers Sans Helmet In Doda

Observer News Service

**DODA:** Additional District Magistrate, Doda, by virtue of powers vested under Section 144 of Cr.PC on Friday ordered Petrol Pump station/ Filling station in the District not to sell fuel to any two wheeler rider who is without helmet.

The order stated that all Petrol Station owners shall install CCTV cameras in their fuel outlets which should clearly show the footage of the buyers. Any police officer posted as Station House

Officer; I/c Police Post; or of the rank of Dy. Superintendent of Police and above posted in

District Doda or any Executive Magistrate of 1st class shall be authorized to check the riders footage of the petrol stations and recommend defaulters to the District Magistrate.

The petrol stations selling fuel to such traffic rule violators shall be personally held responsible and shall proceed under law.

The Station House Officers of all Police Stations in District Doda shall cause the service of this order upon all petrol stations, under intimation to the District Magistrate.

Any violation of this order will be dealt in accordance with Section 188.

## People In J&K Now Getting Best Healthcare Facilities: LG

‘Consistent Efforts Being Made To Create Better Health Infra & Resources And Reaching Out To Every Citizen’



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Praising the leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Friday that consistent efforts are being made to create better health infra & resources and reaching out to every citizen of the Jammu and Kashmir with quality and affordable health care services.

"One drop of blood covers entire health universe and I am confident such deliberations will enable stakeholders to refine blood transfusion services in the country," the LG said.

He was addressing the 47th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Blood Transfusion & Immunohaematology—Transcon-2022 B, an official spokesperson said Friday. The three-day conference is being organised by ISBTI J&K Chapter and PG Department of Immunohaematology & Transfusion Medicine, Government Medical College, Jammu.

Observing that our ongoing health research is more

focused on reactionary treatment and share of diagnostic research is negligible, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that his administration has a huge responsibility to transform the ongoing medical research system and long term investment should be made for developing diagnostic kits.

"According to statistics, one out of every fourth person needs blood transfusion at some point in their life and in every two seconds someone in our country needs blood transfusion," Sinha said.

"There is no greater service to humanity than saving a precious life. We need to educate and encourage people for Voluntary blood donation," he added.

The spokesperson said that the LG spoke on the reforms introduced in J&K's health sector in the past three years and said that under the guidance of Prime Minister, consistent efforts are being made to create better health infrastructure, resources, and reaching out to every citizen of the UT with

quality and affordable health care services.

"Two AIIMS, two cancer institutes, seven new medical colleges, 15 new nursing colleges, and thousands of health and wellness centers, besides universal health insurance coverage for up to Rs. Five lakhs under the revolutionary Ayushman Bharat-SEHAT scheme and decentralized health system have ensured that the people of J&K who were deprived of basic health services for decades, now have easy access to the best health care facilities," Sinha added.

During the inaugural session, experts and eminent speakers gave their views on blood donation and blood transfusion. A souvenir of the Tanscon-2022 B was also released.

Earlier, the LG congratulated the organizers for bringing together Transfusion Medicine specialists, eminent faculty, experts, and multiple stakeholders from across the country to discuss current trends, recent advances, and future challenges in Transfusion Medicine.

**■ THERE IS NO GREATER SERVICE TO HUMANITY** than saving a precious life. We need to educate and encourage people for Voluntary blood donation"

## Centre Committed To Provide Foolproof Security To People: Union Minister

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Centre is committed to provide foolproof security to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and is trying hard to promote livelihood opportunities with a special focus on the needs of minorities, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Friday.

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office made the remarks during an interaction with National Commission for Minorities chairperson Iqbal Singh Lalpura, who called on him and discussed the status of security as well as education and employment opportunities for Hindus, including Kashmiri Pandits, and Sikhs living in the Union Territory, an official spokesman said.

Lalpura apprised Singh about some of the initiatives such as providing scholarship, training and extending loan facilities at affordable rates and organising Hunar Haat', an initiative to showcase and pro-



mote traditional and exquisite skills of master artisans.

He said the commission will grant more funds for the training of minorities in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The Centre is committed to provide foolproof security to all the people of Jammu and Kashmir and trying hard to promote livelihood opportunities with a special focus on the needs and requirements of minorities living there," the minister said.

He asked the commission to direct its focus to the preservation and enrichment of culture and language of the minorities.

Referring to the Pradhan

Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) scheme designed to address the development deficits of the identified minority concentrated areas, Singh said it would continue to support states and UTs in creating infrastructure to improve the quality of life of people and reduce imbalances.

Under PMJVK, 80 per cent of the resources are utilised for projects related to education, health and skill development, of which at least 33-40 per cent earmarked for creation of assets or facilities for women and girls.

Singh noted with satisfaction that under PMJVK, about 20 projects amounting to Rs 3.20 crore have been sanctioned for providing better health, education and other facilities to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He pointed out that under pre-matric and post-matric scholarships to the students of Jammu and Kashmir, around Rs 35 Crore has been sanctioned and more funds are in the offing, the spokesman said.

## Div Com Kashmir Reviews Progress Of SSCL Projects

Directs For Integration Of Departmental Development Projects With SSCL

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole reviewed the progress of work on various Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) Projects during a meeting held here on Friday.

The meeting was attended by CEO, SSCL; Officers of SSCL; Chief Engineers of R&B, I&FC, PHE, KPDCL and other officers.

At the outset, CEO SSCL Athar Amir gave a detailed presentation wherein he projected different issues pertaining to R&B, I&FC and Tourism departments.

Chinar Bagh and conservation of existing shrines, Raghunath temple etc.

On the occasion, Div Com directed concerned agencies to work in coordination to complete the pending work of projects in scheduled time.

He directed concerned Chief Engineers to conduct site visits to take stock of works executed by respective departments and expedite the pace of works. He asked all departments to contact ADDCs for permission related to shifting of utilities or restoration works.

Moreover, Pole asked officers



The issues highlighted included left-out spaces under Flyovers, Development of Sonwar Junction, Realignment of Convent Road, Development of Boulevard Road Right Side footpath, construction of 2nd story of FC Building, Urban development of Nallah Mar Road, beautification of Flyover besides Jhelum River Front Development, Jhelum Water front development and ghats, renovation of

that all departmental development works should be integrated with SSCL. Besides, he asked them to conduct internal audits of parked and unspent funds and submit the action taken reports.

Also, Div Com stressed that drawings of projects should not be changed frequently and asked officers to contact third party for evaluation of drawings including NIT, Srinagar and Polytechnic colleges.

## Principal Secretary Jal Shakti Reviews Winter Preparedness

'Directs For A Comprehensive And Viable Winter Preparedness Mechanism'

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Principal Secretary Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra Friday chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the winter preparedness and logistics arrangements of the department across the districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

While chairing the meeting, Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers to adopt a proactive approach to address the needs and requirements of the people; especially those living in far-flung and snow-bound areas and directed them to ensure that there is no scarcity of drinking water during the winters and take proper steps for ahead in this regard so that all the issues are ironed out.

He directed the Chief Engineers to prepare a well thought out plan about the list of problems that may crop up in future so that most planned and appropriate measures are taken well in advance.

While taking stock of the implementation of the directions passed in the previous meetings, he asked the officers to closely monitor the winter preparations and directed them to work in a synchronized manner and put in dedicated efforts to avoid any inconvenience to the people of J&K by putting in place a much comprehensive and viable win-

ter preparedness mechanism.

Regarding the freezing of water sources during winters, he directed the officers to compile details of vulnerable areas based on past experience and take immediate measures as a first line of action and look out for solutions which are permanent in nature. He said that immediate measures have also to be taken where pipes are exposed and bursting occurs during freezing temperatures.

He said that an institutional mechanism should be developed so that an emerging problem is brought to the notice of the relevant authorities and prompt action is taken and we should have our resources readily available to address the same.

It was given out in the meeting that mapping of all vital installations and listing out all the locations of roads leading to water supply schemes and lift stations has been done. It was also given out that sufficient quantity of tankers is available across J&K. He directed the officers that monitoring and regulating use of water tankers should be carried out on a regular basis.

Principal Secretary further directed the officers to ensure power supply is available at all the required places and make alternate power supply in case of disruptions and fuel stocking is done well in advance.

## J&K First To Implement All Components Of NEP-2020: Kansal

‘Faculty Development Programmes To Include Overseas Trainings’

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Principal Secretary, Higher Education and Information, Rohit Kansal, today chaired the inaugural event of launch of Institutional Innovation Councils (IICs) in 54 Government Degree Colleges of J&K at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev, Government P G College for Women, Gandhi Nagar. The event, which was organized by Higher Education Department in collaboration with Ministry of Education (MoE), was aimed at establishing an ecosystem of innovations and start ups in tune with the guidelines of the National Education Policy 2020.

Addressing the inaugural function, Kansal, said that it is a matter of pride that J&K is among the first in the country to implement all the components of the National Educa-

tion Policy 2020. "We are probably the first in the country to implement not one but all the components of the NEP 2020. All our GDCs have today set up Institutional Innovation centres (IICs)-54 accredited GDCs have set up IICs in their colleges, the remaining 88 colleges will act as spokes of these IICs and will have the benefits of all the activities being conducted in these 54 colleges" Principal Secretary maintained. He said that all 142 GDCs are now the beneficiaries of an innovation ecosystem and will have the benefit and support of the innovation ecosystem of the National Ministry of Education. We as an innovation ecosystem are now plugged into Gol innovation ecosystem", he added.

He added that the newly launched IICs would help promote creativity and innovations and support incubation



of fresh ideas. They will also act as a catalyst for students to innovate as well as refine ideas that they already have," he asserted.

Kansal also stressed upon the quality enhancement of the education being offered in the colleges and need for accountability among the faculty. He also emphasized that focus should be on embedded skill

programmes that were relevant, employment oriented and affordable in order to create adequate job opportunities for the graduating students. He also announced that as part of the quality enhancement initiative, a new Faculty Development Policy had been formulated. Faculty members of Government Degree Colleges would not just be given capac-

ity building opportunities in various institutions in India but overseas too.

Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Dr. Bechan Lal, Special Secretary HED, Rakesh Badyal, Director Colleges J&K, Dr Yasmeen Ashai and other officers were also present on the occasion.

Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Professor Bechan Lal, who was guest of honour on the occasion, emphasized upon the need to promote innovation that shall play an instrumental role in building and streamlining of the startup ecosystem at an institutional level. Special Secretary, Higher Education Department talked about the Institutional Innovation Council and JKHEd innovation initiatives. He stated that IICs will promote innovation in the institutions through

multitudinous modes leading to an innovation Ecosystem in educational institutions. He stressed upon periodic workshops, seminars, trainings, interactions with the entrepreneurs, investors, professionals and guide and mentor budding entrepreneurs.

Earlier, Principal Padma Shri Padma Sachdev, Government PG College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Professor Minu Mahajan, emphasized that initiatives like these will encourage, inspire and nurture young minds and help transform their ideas into proto types

Assistant Innovation Director, Ministry of Education, Government of India, Dipan Sahu, who joined through virtual mode stated that Innovation initiatives will help in creating a vibrant Innovation Ecosystem and lead to Entrepreneurship support mechanism in Higher

Education Institutions which in turn will help in scouting ideas and pre-incubation.

The inaugural session was followed by a detailed technical session. The technical session was conducted by Professor Manish Arora, BHU, Professor Rohit Sharma, Punjab University, Prof Lalit Kumar, Hindu College, University of Delhi, Ms Salva Rani, Innovation Officer, Ministry of Education, Innovation Cell. The session was chaired by Dr. Yasmeen Ashai, Director Colleges, Higher Education Department, U.T of J&K. The concluding remarks were given by Dr Sarabjeet Singh, Higher Education Department. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Dr S P Saraswat, Nodal Principal, Jammu division.

The programme was web casted live through Facebook and other media.



ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Cry from the  
Kadals

Maryam Ali  
Amira Kadal

Bridging two of the city's busiest markets; beggars, peddlers and buses crowd the road. A place where the whole city can be found, it is not a place to hang around and chat. But in the lanes surrounded it people are interested to talk on the controversial guest control law.

In the quiet of riverside Bund walk, Showkat Shafi, lecturer of mass communications at Srinagar University, takes time to reflect on the law in a wider context.

"The Wazwan is impressed deep into the Kashmiri psyche. It is part of our inheritance from Central Asia. It will be very difficult to change this tradition. We are meat eaters here, Kashmiri men like meat and they like the Wazwan. This law needed a lot more paperwork. It will not be a ground reality, especially when the people who imposed the law are themselves the most extravagant, holding feasts which last for days," he said.

"I suppose the law is good for the poor people, those who can't afford it, but those who can should be able to celebrate, the limit for the number of people is very small. It should be risen," said Waseem Ahmed, a businessman, outside the lines of jewelers shops opposite Hanuman temple, where many go to buy wedding gold to compliment the feast.

"This law is right. It is foolish to spend so much money on food! Why waste your money on meat! I don't agree with dowry, but the gold jewellery around here is a more worthwhile way to spend money," said Badhir Ahmad, who is a follower of Jammāt-Islāmi.

Chatsa-Kadal

In the heart of downtown, this narrow wooden bridge is the ancient route that connected the two parts of old Srinagar.

"When the rich people throw lavish parties, the ordinary people benefit. Wazwan is an industry in itself, it employs not only Wazas, but tent-wallahs, decorators and many extra people," said Imtiaz Hussein, floricultural.

"Weddings are not a burden on the host.. One has to pay for enjoying this feast. No-one comes to a Wazwan without a gift or a wartav (cash)," said Abrar Ahmad, an engineer with the power development department.

Old Zero Bridge

Closed to traffic, people can now gather easily on zero bridge to discuss the latest news. The area is home to Hanjis and less affluent residents of Rajbagh - what do they think of the new guest control laws?

"The law is a futile exercise, no-one will co-operate. It will be dissolved soon. I am without a job, I cannot even think of marriage, let alone the celebrations," said Faiez Magray, an unemployed graduate.

"It's the mind set of the people that should be changed. It's the same stupidity that causes people to construct unnecessary mansions that causes them to have these huge feasts. The upper class needs to co-operate if the minds of the people are going to be changed. They influence the lower classes, who have an inferiority complex and want to copy them. People use religious justification for the Wazwan but actually to be so extravagant is against the Qu'ran. The buffet system is better, it is less wasteful..."said Rashid, who runs Filvid studios, nearby.

"I have seven daughters, seven daughters. I am not from a wealthy family and I could not afford to give them wedding feasts. Some of them have passed the age of marriage now; they are spinsters because I could not afford to spend the money on the feast. I really hope this law comes into practice now, and the rest of my daughters can marry easily," said Missra, a housewife, her eyes brimming with tears.

The article is from KO's archives and was originally published on 5 Feb, 2005



Lights, Camera, Violence!

The Language of Abuse  
and Hindi Cinema

What we watch  
says a lot about  
what we think  
and who we  
are. Three years  
after its release,  
Kabir Singh and  
its celebrated  
reception by  
audiences still  
strikes a chord of  
dread

Muskaan Chaudhary

Recently, a video of a young man hitting and abusing a school-going girl went viral on Kashmir's social media. The incident took place at KP road, Anantnag and soon after the boy was arrested by the police.

The incident was alarming in itself, yet, what was more jarring was the reactions it had invited. Surprisingly, some people assumed the duo to be romantically involved. There was no evidence of this from the video. Infact, the video was filled with violence with no semblance of sanity. However unsubstantiated or groundless such an assumption, it did expose a perception of man-woman relationships in our society which is predicated on normalised violence.

The power dynamics, performance and perception in conjugal or even non-conjugal romantic relationships is framed in a way that it not only allows violence but also normalises it. What has sanctioned these lopsided dynamics and who glorifies these? Perhaps the answer starts with patriarchy and the agents which legitimise it.

Popular culture is a site of this liaison. Movies, especially from Hindi Cinema, have been notorious in being complicit with the systems that promote social evils. Whether it is the famous Kuch Kuch Hota hai which glorifies a mainstream understanding of femininity or Padmavat which legitimises sati — we've all been fed with unethical, exclusionary and uncritical ideas.

This process of indoctrination is not explicit and is almost always clever. However, as a woman, it has become very easy to identify narratives that seek to harm me. This realisation is quite unsettling and presents itself in situations that were otherwise meant to be recreational.

After I first saw Kabir Singh (2019), Shahid Kapoor and Kiara Advani's apparently epic 'love' story that had audiences in an awed grip and social media in a frenzy. I remember being unable to put into words what exactly about the film that made me uncomfortable to the point of wanting to leave the theatre. After recently coming across the video in which a young man is being violent and abusive towards a girl in Anantnag, the same feeling came rushing back with force. The stance of the man looming over the girl as she stands quietly was so jarring yet so similar. I had seen it before, countless times on countless different screens. But the recall to Kabir Singh, perhaps courtesy of it being the most recent in a lineup of male chauvinist centric Bollywood films, was the strongest. Was it the gross portrayal of abuse and its consequences that gave rise to this feeling of frustration and discomfort? Yes, of course. However, more than that, it was the horrific realisation that this ridiculous amalgamation of the languages of domestic violence, substance abuse, and 'romance' is nothing new - neither in Bollywood or the communities that consume and celebrate its content. From the

motif of the hero grabbing the heroine's wrist, bangles breaking from the force of it to the narrative of the hero falling into frenzied love with the heroine at first sight and chasing after her despite constant rejections, stalking and harassment litters the landscape of Bollywood's romance flicks. Time after time, what are clearly acts of violence against women on screen are repackaged as declarations of passionate love without giving thought to the social ramifications of such a twisted reading of romance and desire.

The most widespread form of violence against women across the world is intimate partner violence perpetrated by either the husband or a male partner. According to statistics presented by UN Women for Asia and the Pacific, '33 per cent of partnered women aged 15-49 will experience physical and/or sexual violence from a current or former husband or male partner at least once in their lifetime'. The number of reports filed by women experiencing domestic abuse is already higher than the global average of 27% in countries across Asia, with India at 35%, without taking into account the fact that a large chunk of women do not report in fear of retaliation from the perpetrator, rejection by family and community, and victim blaming by society. Many excuse the violence as a consequence of drug and alcohol addiction, falling into the trap of believing that it is the substances that are corrupting an 'innocent' man. Others are shamed into hiding the abuse and many more are trapped due to economic factors, especially those

with young children to support. The consequences of this can be deadly, with deaths of women at the hands of male partners numbering in tens of thousands across Asia every year.

Keeping the aforementioned context in mind, Bollywood's association of violence with passion and love becomes even more heinous. What makes Kabir Singh and its success especially offensive is the timing of its release. With an emerging group of creators embracing the 'concept' of activism, making films on all sorts of issues such as destigmatising menstrual health (Padman, 2018) and consent (Pink, 2016), the arrival of Kabir Singh is less of a step back than it is a reinforcing of the

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Bollywood status quo. The ultimate macho genius hero, who performs surgeries drunk and coked out, is the favourite of one and all, and has all his violent and abusive behaviour excused as courtesy of being a man. The pretty and subdued heroine who despairs but ultimately stands by the 'hero', follows him everywhere and is willingly marked as his property. At one point, the hero enters the heroine's classroom and stakes his claim on her. At another point, he slaps her and tells her that her identity is limited to being his woman. The most reaction this heroine is allowed to give to this is to blush with down cast eyes or cry to herself quietly.

While Shahid Kapoor's Kabir rages and shouts and expresses himself in all the ways one shouldn't, Kiara Advani's Preeti is deprived of even a single dialogue or action that is in service of her character and not the man's. Towards the end of this nearly three hours long drag of a film, I wondered what kind of a society can unironically hail this vile celebration of male entitlement as a great romance. The answer is as simple as it is hair raising - the kind that hates its women.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own  
and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance  
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# DIGITAL DANGERS

## Parenting In The Age Of Phones

Excerpted from 'Parenting in the Age of Anxiety: Raising Children in India in the 21st Century' (Aleph Book Company)

Abha Adams

If there is one thing that upsets me deeply, it's seeing babies and young children being given phones to play with. While working on this chapter I have been observing parents and children in public places more closely. This gesture by parents, of handing young children the phone, is tantamount to getting them addicted. I know this sounds over the top, but here's the thing — a

vast amount of research is available that is screaming out at us and I still see mums or maids, with prams, in the park, handing the phone to an eleven-month-old, while they have a natter themselves. It's everywhere, especially at busy public spaces — at airports, in hospital waiting rooms, shopping malls, you name it.

My husband had to physically hold me back at a recent visit to Apollo Hospital, where a three-year-old was obsessively banging the smart-

phone in the waiting area, presumably because the battery had died and she was throwing tantrums. You probably saw that funny old YouTube video of 2011, where a one-year-old is sitting in front of a fashion magazine, gamely touching and swiping the page with

“MY HUSBAND HAD TO PHYSICALLY HOLD ME BACK at a recent visit to Apollo Hospital, where a three-year-old was obsessively banging the smartphone in the waiting area, presumably because the battery had died and she was throwing tantrums.”

her fingers in an effort to get the images to move. At the time the iPad was relatively new and we were still really impressed at how quickly babies who could barely hold a crayon could master a touchscreen. The creator of the video wittingly titled it, 'A Magazine Is an iPad That Does Not Work'.

Phones and iPads have become pacifiers, a bit like what TV was to parents in the 1980s. Research suggests that technology is not the best early experience to fire the neurons. How much screen time should they have in the early years? Is the addictive nature troubling?

An article in India Today quotes from a 2018 study conducted by AIIMS and the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, according to which, every third child among the 7,000 students surveyed in Delhi's private schools suffer from obesity.

Cases of mobile phone addiction among children who are beginning to show symptoms of health conditions are on the rise. Many of them are addicted to games such as PUBG. What parents don't understand is that children cannot buy mobile phones on their own. Why should parents give it to them? 'It is high time this was controlled', says Dr Saxena of AIIMS.

These are alarming statistics by themselves, and when exemplified by the case studies quoted at length in the piece, there is a genuine fear that this will only escalate. Take the example of four-year-old Rihaan, whose

restlessness was difficult to deal with and could only be managed with kiddie videos on his mother's smartphone. There were complaints from the teachers at his playschool that he was becoming increasingly aggressive unless he had a device to play with, and the principal advised the mother to consult a doctor. Rihaan had developed what doctors' call Screen Dependency Disorder, or SDD, a condition that needs medical intervention!

Sadly, Rihaan isn't an exception. Every day, doctors in the national capital get at least four to seven cases of children addicted to electronic screens. Of these cases, children in the age group of four to twelve years of age, more often than not, grow up to be obese, diabetic and/or suffer from sleep disorders, said doctors.

In another case study, the three-year-old child could not fall asleep

unless he had played games on his father's mobile phone. Initially, his mother thought he was suffering from insomnia and consulted a pediatrician at AIIMS. He was referred to a child psychologist who asked his parents to keep him away from phones and keep him busy with books and toys instead.

According to Dr Aruna Broota, a child psychologist based in Delhi, she sees at least four to seven children every day in the age group of four to twelve years who are addicted to electronic screens.

She believes the problem often begins at home.

'Why can't children be allowed to play and run around, even if within the confines of their homes? Rather than attend to them, the parents often take the easier option of handing them a mobile phone or a tablet', she points out.

...Studies have proved that children who engage in physical activities show better development of the brain than those who are home-bound and stationary. They stay more focused, develop stronger memories, and are less impulsive.

Excerpted with permission from 'Parenting in the Age of Anxiety: Raising Children in India in the 21st Century' by Abha Adams (Aleph Book Company)

“PHONES AND IPADS HAVE BECOME PACIFIERS, a bit like what TV was to parents in the 1980s. Research suggests that technology is not the best early experience to fire the neurons. How much screen time should they have in the early years? Is the addictive nature troubling?”

## Unpopular Opinion on E-Books

Firdous Ahmad Mala

THOUGH one cannot overlook the pleasure of having a book with physical pages in hand, one must acknowledge that the possibility of carrying a library with you wherever you go and that of affording books that only a few had access to is awesome and a dream-come-true feeling, to say the least. Gone are the days when to read a book one was sometimes required to travel thousands of miles to a library. Now, the same is available at clicks of fingers.

It should not take one long to understand that the conventional definition of a book is a bygone tale. Having a material existence is no longer a need when it comes to being a book. A book no longer requires to be between two physical covers, and yet it can be covered from cover to cover.

As per research published by Pew Research Center, "Thirty per cent of those who read e-content say they now spend more time reading, and owners of tablets and eBook readers particularly stand out as reading more now." They further noticed, "In a head-to-head competition, people prefer eBooks to printed books when they want speedy access and portability, but print wins



out when people are reading to children and sharing books with others."

If you own a Kindle or any other electronic book reader, you have the poten-

tial of owning not just books, but libraries. You have access to some of the rarest masterpieces that humankind has ever produced. It does not matter

whether you read on paper or on some device as long as one is inclined to reading. For J. K. Rowling, "We should be delighted people still want to read,

be it on a Kindle or a Nook or whatever the latest device is."

Those who remain rigid in the choice of printed books over the electronic ones fail to appreciate that it is the content and not the material that matters. In the words of Douglas Adams, "Lovers of print are simply confusing the plate for the food." One must not miss the forest for the trees. Jocularly, eBooks can help save some trees in the forest too.

It might astonish the readers that nowadays some books, magazines and newspapers are available only in the electronic version. It is somewhat tickling to imagine the fate of printed books had they come into existence only after the invention of eBooks. There would not have been very good reasons for choosing the print over the electronic. In the words of Mokokoma, "If eBook readers were invented before print books, the smell of ink would have been some people's only reason for not abandoning eBooks."

When it comes to reproducing copies similar to the actual one, eBooks are unbelievable. Remember that if you own a printed book, reproducing it is costly and difficult. If you have an eBook, you have not one but as many copies as you seek. You can gift your

eBook to a thousand people and not need a return. You can provide access to awesome stuff at no or low cost. You can lend a book without ever needing or losing your copy of the book. Those who have a craving for reading books; those who are bibliophiles know well that the problem is not the physical or virtual, the problem lies with passing the material for the content. In the words of Laszlo Krasznahorkai, "Devices are not dangerous for literature. People can be dangerous for literature. People, for example, who do not read."

Those who are or will be filled with the reminiscence of the feel, the smell and the pleasure of printed books will hopefully not regret the option of turning to eBooks for the pleasures—the ease of access, the availability and the benefit of being light on pocket—they offer. The print lover will soon be inclined towards the electronic love for the temptation is hard to resist. In the words of Craig Mod, "Nostalgia is very quickly replaced with convenience." With the advent of eBooks, one is no longer required to lick the tips of one's fingers to turn pages.

The author is Assistant Professor Government Degree College, Sopore



# 'Personalised Cell 'Editing' Used To Treat Cancer Patients For First Time'

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have, for the first time, used CRISPR technology to insert genes that allow immune cells to attack cancer cells, potentially leaving normal cells unharmed and increasing the effectiveness of immunotherapy.

The CRISPR gene editing technique has been previously used in humans to remove specific genes to allow the immune system to be more activated against cancer.

The research, published in the journal Nature, used CRISPR to not only take out specific genes, but also to insert new ones in immune cells efficiently redirecting them to recognise mutations in the patient's own cancer cells.

When infused back to patients, these CRISPR engineered immune cells preferentially traffic to the cancer and become the most represented immune cells there, the researchers said.

The human immune system has specific receptors on immune cells that can specifically recognise cancer cells and differentiate them from normal cells.

These are different for every patient, so finding an efficient way to isolate them and insert them back into immune cells to generate a personalised cell therapy to treat cancer is key to making the approach feasible on a large scale.

The researchers found an efficient way to isolate these immune receptors from patient's own blood.

After isolation, the immune receptors are used to redirect immune cells to recognise cancer using CRISPR gene editing.



“The human immune system has specific receptors on immune cells that can specifically recognise cancer cells and differentiate them from normal cells.

"This is a leap forward in developing a personalised treatment for cancer, where the isolation of immune receptors that specifically recognise mutations in the patient's own cancer are used to treat the cancer," said Antoni Ribas from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), US.

"The generation of a personalised cell treatment for cancer would not have been feasible without the newly developed ability to use the CRISPR technique to replace the immune receptors in clinical-grade cell preparations in a single step," said Ribas, corresponding author of the research paper.

The researchers report treating 16 patients with a variety of solid cancers including colon, breast and lung cancers.

The patients had immune cells isolated from their blood based on their binding to capture reagents that displayed up to 350 mutations from the patient's own cancer, for a total of over 5000 mutations being targeted across 34 flavours of HLA subtypes of the immune system.

The genes of the immune receptors that allowed the immune cells to specifically recognise the cancer mutations were then sequenced, totaling 175 newly isolated cancer-

specific immune receptors.

They were then inserted back into the patient's own immune cells using a one-step CRISPR editing, which included the knock-out of the existing immune cell receptors and knock-in of the immune receptors that could redirect those cells to specifically recognise mutations in their cancer.

Patients had the expected side effects from chemotherapy, and two patients had potential side effects from the gene edited cells, one with fevers and chills and the other with confusion, both recovering promptly, the researchers said.

## Google Confirms Bug In Fitbit App That Counts Inaccurate Calories

IAN S

Tech giant Google has confirmed a bug in the Fitbit app of the Pixel Watch that counts calories inaccurately.

According to 9to5Google, Pixel Watch users have noticed that calories counted on the Pixel Watch differ from those of other smartwatches or fitness trackers, such as the Galaxy Watch 5 or Apple Watch.

As smartwatches will never be 100 per cent accurate in terms of calorie counts, it was odd to notice Google's new smartwatch varying so much.

The folks over at Android Police discovered that, when compared to a Galaxy Watch 4, their Pixel Watch would count up to 50 per cent more calories burned.

Google has since confirmed to the outlet that this isn't meant to happen, and is instead a software glitch, reports 9to5Google.

The Pixel Watch calculates calories burned based on the users' heart rate, and activities, and compares that with their age, height, and weight, just like other smartwatches and fitness trackers.



Google also clarified that calorie counts during workouts are behaving as normal.

If there is a difference between the Pixel Watch and other devices in that regard and the user's data is accurate, the difference can be chalked up to the different algorithms that Fitbit uses versus the competition, said the report.

## ‘Repeat Covid-19 Infections Increase Organ Failure, Death Risk’

Press Trust Of India

Repeat infections with the SARS-CoV-2 virus may increase the risk of organ failure and death, according to a study which suggests that people should practice vigilance to reduce their chances of reinfection.

The research, published on Thursday in the journal Nature Medicine, found that repeat COVID-19 infections contribute significant additional risk of adverse health conditions in multiple organ systems.

Such outcomes include hospitalisation; disorders affecting the lungs, heart, brain, and the body's blood, musculoskeletal and gastrointestinal systems; and even death, the researchers said.

Reinfection also contributes to diabetes, kidney disease and mental health issues, they said.

"During the past few months, there's been an air of invincibility among people who have had COVID-19 or their vaccinations and boosters, and especially among people who have had an infection and also received vaccines; some people started to referring to these individuals as having a sort of superimmunity to the virus," said senior study author Ziyad Al-Aly, from Washington University School of Medicine, US.

"Without ambiguity, our research showed that getting an infection a second, third or fourth time contributes to additional health risks in the acute phase, meaning the first 30 days after infection, and in the months beyond, meaning the long COVID phase," Al-Aly said.

The study also indicated that the risk seems to increase with each infection.

"This means that even if

you have had two COVID-19 infections, it is better to avoid a third. And if you've had three infections, it's best to avoid the fourth," Al-Aly said.

Limiting exposure to the virus is especially important with new variants emerging, mutating and already causing an upswing in infections in some parts of the world.

"People should do their best to prevent repeat infections by



masking, for example, getting all of their eligible boosters, staying home when sick. Also, get a flu shot to prevent illness," Al-Aly said.

"We really need to do our best to reduce the chance we will have a twin-demic of both COVID-19 and the flu this winter season," he added.

The researchers analysed about 5.8 million de-identified medical records in a database maintained by the US Department of Veterans Affairs, country's largest integrated health-care system. Patients represented multiple ages, races and sexes.

They created a controlled data set of 5.3 million people who did not test positive for CO-

VID-19 infection from March 1, 2020, through April 6, 2022.

The researchers also compiled a control group of over 443,000 people who had tested positive for one COVID-19 infection, and another group of nearly 41,000 people who had two or more documented infections.

Of the latter group, most people had two or three infections, with a small number having had four infections and no one with

five or more infections, the researchers said.

Statistical modeling was used to examine the health risks of repeat COVID-19 infections within the first 30 days after contracting the virus and up to six months after, they said.

The study accounted for COVID-19 variants such as Delta, Omicron and BA.5. Negative outcomes occurred among the unvaccinated as well as those who had received shots prior to reinfection.

Overall, the researchers found that people with COVID-19 reinfections were twice as likely to die and three times more likely to be hospitalised than those with no reinfection.

## Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, J&K Lake Conservation & Management Authority, Dockyard Complex Ishber Nishat

Northern Foreshore Road Srinagar – 191121 Tel: 0091-1943591392 email:xenmechlida@gmail.com website: www.jklcma.in

Gist of Notice Inviting e-tender.

NIT No: MD/LCMA/TS /2022-23/1/e-tendering Dated: - 07.11.2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT of J&K, e-tenders in two (02) cover system are invited on Item rate basis from the OEM/Registered firms/agencies who:

- Have executed relevant jobs of installation/repairs/replacement jobs of aerators and HT substation with all allied components, voltage stabilizers and electric control units or partly/fully thereof.
- OR Have enough experience in the procurement and repairs of the electro-mechanical components like bore well/open well submersible pumping equipments including piping with fittings etc., HT substation with all allied works, Voltage stabilizers, and electric control units, etc or partly/fully thereof. The eligible bidders can participate for the following work: -

Name of Work	Estimated Cost (In lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	EMD (In lacs)	Completion Period (Days)	Position of funds
1	2	3	4	5	
Relocation/Upgradation of existing Aerators cum Fountains along with allied electrical works including Operation and maintenance (CMC) Contract for a period of Three (03) years at various sites inside Dal Lake.	96.70	3000	1.93	30	Under capex 2022-23

- Authorization conveyed Vide Vice Chairman J&K LCMA Order No: -130 of 2022, Dated: -14/09/2022, circulated vide letter No: -LCMA/5348-52, Dated: -14/09/2022
  - Technical Sanction: Accorded vide No: MED/K/TS/77 Dated: 16.09.2022, circulated vide letter No: MED/K/TS-475/2679-80 Dated: 16.09.2022
  - The eligible Bidders shall submit "Verifiable Documentary Proof" of having successfully executed the relevant jobs as mentioned at above 1 or 2. The work completion/ performance certificate from the end user of the rank not less than of Executive Engineer for same must be uploaded by the bidder. The work experience for works shall be as per PVC guidelines.
- Note: The eligible bidders shall have to submit the tender document fee and EMD as specified/mentioned with no exemption of any kind. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the below schedule:

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	07.11.2022
2.	Period of downloading of the bidding document	From 07.11.2022 (1800 HRS) to 27.11.2022 (14:00 HRS)
	Period of clarifications	For clarification, if any Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, LCMA be contacted from 09.11.2022 to 11.11.2022 on the telephone Nos: 0091-1943591392 or through e-mail: xenmechlida@gmail.com
3.	Date, Time, and place of pre-bid meeting	12.11.2022 from 11.00 Hrs to 1600 Hrs in the office of Executive Engineer Mechanical Division JK LCMA, Srinagar. The intending bidders can participate through online mode as well. However, the link shall be shared to those intending bidders who shall make a request through official mail 24 hrs before the start of pre-bid meeting
4.	Bid Submission Start Date	From 13.11.2022 (10.00 HRS)
5.	Bid Submission End Date	27.11.2022 (1400 HRS)
6.	Cost of Bidding Document	Rs. 3000/-
8.	Tender document fee to be deposited in	In the shape of e-challan as per the details given below: Executive Engineer Mechanical Division JK LCMA, Srinagar. Account No.: 0115010100000883 Name of Bank: J&K Bank Branch: Shalimar IFSC Code: JAKAOSALMAR The Authority reserves the right to cross check Genuity of the receipt of tender document fee.
9.	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.1.93 Lacs in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division J&K Lake Conservation & Management Authority, Srinagar from bank having branch in Srinagar.
10.	Date and time for opening of the Technical Bids online	28.11.2022 at 1400 HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division JKLCMA, Dockyard Nishat.
11.	Date & Time of opening of the Financial Bids (online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

DIPK-NB-4879/22

No: -MD/LCMA/TS – NIT 31/5047-56

Dated: 11.11.2022

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division, J&K LCMA,  
Srinagar



## Better Tax Collection To Help Meet FY23 Fiscal Deficit Target Of 6.4%: Report

Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** The Centre is likely to meet the key fiscal targets led by the deficit getting contained at the budgeted target of 6.4 per cent in the current financial year, mainly due to better tax collection, according to a report.

Bank of America Securities on Friday said the key risks to budgeted fiscal deficit include higher subsidies, lower divestment proceeds, excise duty cut on petrol and diesel. But the offsetting factors include better than estimated tax revenue buoyancy, higher nominal GDP growth, and lower capex loan to states, it said in a report.

Accordingly, the brokerage said it expects the government to meet the budgeted FY23 fiscal deficit target at 6.4 per cent of GDP despite upside risks.

The report also noted that it was expecting the government to undershoot the fiscal deficit target when the budget was presented at 6 per cent.

However, as the year progressed, the outbreak of the Ukraine war started to exert meaningful pressure on global commodity prices, particularly food, fuel and fertilisers. This implied upside risks to the already-elevated subsidy bill, stressing revenue expenditure estimates, it added.

On the capital expenditure front, however, the report said that it sees some savings from the budget estimates due to lower-than-expected loans and advances to the states.



On the receipts side, the report said the revenue foregone due to the excise duty cut on petrol and diesel and potentially lower-than-planned divestment proceeds, further dimmed the fiscal outlook for the year.

Though in absolute terms, the fiscal gap will be turning out to be higher than budgeted, it said the number will be contained at or under the target given that the government has used up only 37.3 per cent of the full year borrowing target by September.

This is because in spite of the expenditure run rate being a shade higher than the median expenditure run rate which is typical of the first half, sharply higher tax revenues led to this outperformance, the report said.

Further, the brokerage projected the net tax revenue to exceed the budget estimate by Rs 1,15,000 crore while non-tax revenue may fall short by Rs 20,000 crore.

As per the report, on the expenditure side, the subsidy bill is expected to exceed the budget estimate by Rs 2,15,000 crore, and the capex falling short by Rs 80,000 crore mainly due to lower loans and advances to the states. This will lead to the total expenditure exceeding the budget estimate by Rs 1,35,000 crore, it added.

## Industrial Production Regains Momentum, Grows 3.1% In September



Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** India's industrial production expanded by 3.1 per cent in September, boosted by manufacturing, mining and power sectors, according to official data released on Friday.

Factory output had contracted by 0.7 per cent in the preceding month (August 2022). It grew by 2.2 per cent in July this year.

Factory output, measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), had expanded by 4.4 per cent in September 2021.

The manufacturing sector grew by 1.8 per cent in September 2022, compared to 4.3 per cent growth recorded in the year-ago period, as per the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

The power sector showed a growth of 11.6 per cent against a 0.9 per cent rise a year ago. The mining sector also witnessed a growth of 4.6 per cent in Sep-

tember 2022 compared to 8.6 per cent in the year-ago month.

During April-September this year, IIP rose 7 per cent against 23.8 per cent expansion in the same period of 2021-22.

Capital goods output, which is a barometer of investments, rose 10.3 per cent in September 2022 compared to 3.3 per cent growth in the corresponding month of the previous year.

The consumer durables segment declined 4.5 per cent from 1.6 per cent growth earlier.

The primary goods segment, which accounts for nearly 34 per cent of the index, expanded 9.3 per cent in September compared to 4.6 per cent growth in the year-ago period.

The ministry said the growth rates over the corresponding period of the previous year are to be interpreted considering the unusual circumstances on account of the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020.

## Moody's Cuts India's Growth Projection For 2022 To 7% On Global Slowdown, Rising Rates

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Moody's on Friday slashed India's GDP growth projection to 7 per cent for 2022, saying that global slowdown and high domestic interest rates would dampen economic momentum.

This is the second time in as many months that Moody's Investors Service has cut India's growth estimates for 2022. In September, it had cut projection for the year to 7.7 per cent from 8.8 per cent pegged in May.

"For India, the 2022 real GDP growth projections have been lowered to 7 per cent from 7.7 per cent. The downward revision assumes higher inflation, high interest rates and slowing global growth will dampen economic momentum by more than we had previously expected," said the Global Macro Outlook 2023-24.

Moody's expects growth to decelerate to 4.8 per cent in 2023 and then to rise to 6.4 per cent in 2024.

The Indian economy grew 8.5 per cent in 2021 calendar year, according to Moody's. As per official GDP estimates, the economy expanded 13.5 per cent in April-June 2022-23, higher than 4.10 per cent growth clocked in January-March. GDP figures for September quarter would be released at the end of this month.

Moody's said the weakening of the rupee and high oil prices



continue to exert upward pressures on inflation, which has remained above the RBI's tolerance level of 6 per cent for much of this year.

Retail inflation increased to 7.41 per cent in September, while wholesale inflation remained in double digit for the 18th straight month at 10.7 per cent.

The central bank has hiked interest rates by 190 basis points between May and September to 5.90 per cent to contain inflation.

Moody's expects the RBI to raise the repo rate by another 50 basis points or so as part of its objective to tame inflation and support the exchange rate.

Eventually, the RBI will likely shift from inflation management to growth considerations, provided that the rate increase has the desired effect of taming inflation, it said.

Moody's joins a host of agencies which have slashed

India's economic growth projections for current fiscal year (April-March) citing slowdown in global economy, Russia-Ukraine war, rising interest rates and inflation.

While the World Bank has revised down its growth estimate for India by 100 basis points to 6.5 per cent, IMF has trimmed it to 6.8 per cent from 7.4 per cent. The Asian Development Bank too has cut its projection to 7 per cent, from 7.5 per cent earlier.

S&P Global Ratings revised down its growth forecast to 7.3 per cent for current fiscal year from 8.7 per cent. The RBI expects economic growth at 7 per cent for this fiscal year.

Moody's said the underlying growth dynamics are fundamentally strong, boosted by a rebound in services activity. Government capital expenditure and manufacturing capacity utilization have also improved.

## India, US See Inflation Driven By External Factors A Challenge

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** India and the US on Friday expressed concern over high inflation which is being driven by external factors and has become a challenge for both the nations.

Speaking at the US-India Businesses and Investment Opportunities, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in India the inflation challenges are prompted more by external factors.

"So while the number today is in a manageable range, the challenges are largely due to the import of crude. About 85 per cent of all petro needs that we consume are imported...The external factors causing a stress on inflation is something that we have to be mindful of," the minister said during a question-answer session at the event.

Sitharaman further said both the Reserve Bank of India and the finance ministry are working together to tackle inflation.

Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen, who also addressed



the forum, said the global economic outlook at present is extremely challenging.

High inflation, she said, is a challenge that many advanced and developing countries face in common and central banks are trying to deal with the problems.

"In part this inflation reflects the spillover of Russia's brutal war in Ukraine, which is boosting energy and food prices and for many emerging markets that have found themselves with high debts and high interest rates, the cost of moving higher energy and food costs are the things that have made debt unsustainable for some of them."

"So I think that is some-

thing we will have to deal with something going forward," Yellen said.

Answering a question on investments in India, Sitharaman said the national investment pipeline and the national monetisation pipeline are expected to supplement one another.

Stressing that the monetisation activity is going at full speed, the minister said, "investment from our side on Rs 9,000 crore on infra projects is absolutely on course. The way we have opened FDI and FPIs, the ecosystem for investment in India to ensure favourable investment returns is all being worked in consultation with industry."

## 'Domestic Airlines Industry Likely To Report Rs 15,000-17,000 Cr Loss This Fiscal'

Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** The domestic airlines industry is projected to post a loss of Rs 15,000-17,000 crore in the current fiscal as their financial performance is likely to remain under pressure in the near term, a report said on Friday.

Credit rating agency ICRA said the recovery in domestic passenger traffic has been healthy but elevated Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices will continue to pose a major threat to earnings and the liquidity profile of the airlines in the near-to-medium term.

The domestic passenger traffic grew around 26 per cent year-on-year to about 114 lakh

provement in passenger traffic is expected in FY2023, the pace of recovery in the industry earnings will be sluggish and the industry is expected to incur a net loss of around Rs 150-170 billion owing to elevated costs.

"However, this will be notably lower compared to the estimated net loss in FY2022, primarily driven by a recovery in passenger traffic and lower interest burden, following the significant reduction in Air India Limited's debt before the divestment by the Government of India," ICRA said.

Further, it said the hardening of airfares driven by strong cost headwinds and a recent issue of supply disruptions for spares



in October.

In the year-ago period, the number was 90 lakh passengers.

However, the latest October figure remained 8 per cent lower when compared to the pre-pandemic traffic level, the rating agency said in a report.

ICRA has a negative outlook on the domestic aviation industry.

According to the report, the depreciation of the Indian rupee against the US dollar will have a major bearing on the airlines' cost structure.

The debt levels, including lease liabilities, are expected to be around Rs 1,00,000 crore in the ongoing financial year.

The airlines' efforts to maintain and/or grow their market share will limit their ability to expand margins in an elevated fuel cost environment, which will pose a serious challenge to the industry's earnings recovery in FY23, the report said.

"While a meaningful im-

provement in passenger traffic is expected in FY2023, the pace of recovery in the industry earnings will be sluggish and the industry is expected to incur a net loss of around Rs 150-170 billion owing to elevated costs.

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## Israel Setting Up Two Centres of Excellence In Jammu And Kashmir

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Israel is all set to open two agriculture Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Jammu and Kashmir as part of the Indo-Israel Agriculture Project (IIAP).

According to India Today report, the Agriculture Attache at the Embassy of Israel in India, Yair Eshel and Director of Agriculture Department in Jammu KK Sharma said that Israel will open two Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Jammu and Kashmir as part of the Indo-Israel Agriculture Project (IIAP).

The report said that Eshel visited the agricultural farms lying near the India-Pakistan border in Jammu on Friday. Later, he also

visited the Kashmir valley where he toured some agricultural farms.

The Israeli official was visiting the farms to shortlist the locations for the CoE. They will be opened both in the Jammu division and in the Kashmir valley, the report added.

Yair Eshel, as per the report said that, "Jammu and Kashmir has a lot of potential. We are ready to share our advanced technology with the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir." He added that the Israelis want a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir.

The director of Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural department, KK Sharma said, "We are elated that Israel will set up two CoE here."

## SHORT TAKES

### Ambani, Adani Among 13 Bidders For Future Retail

**NEW DELHI:** Firms run by billionaires Gautam Adani and Mukesh Ambani are among the 13 companies that have submitted initial bids to acquire Future Retail Ltd, a filing by the debt-laden company said.

Ambani's Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd, submitted the expression of interest (EoI) under insolvency proceedings initiated to recover dues Future Retail owes to lenders.

April Moon Retail Private Ltd, a joint venture between Adani Airport holdings and Fleming group, also submitted an EoI.

The deadline for submission of EoI ended on October 20, Future Retail, which was once the country's second-largest retailer, said in the stock exchange filing. Future Retail was dragged into bankruptcy proceedings by banks after it defaulted on loans and its lenders rejected a Rs 24,713-crore takeover of its assets by Reliance amid a legal challenge by Amazon.

Other entities that have submitted EoIs include Boomidala Enterprises Pvt Ltd, Capri Global Holdings Pvt Ltd, Shalimar Corporation Ltd, Nalwa Steel &amp; Power, United Biotech, WHSmith Travel, and United Biotech Pvt Ltd.

Consortium of B-Right Real Estate Ltd and Ayeekart Fintech Pvt Ltd, Dharampal Satyapal Ltd, Dickey Alternative Investment Trust (DAIT), Payard Investments Pvt Ltd and SNVK Hospitality and Management Pvt Ltd were other bidders. **PTI**

### 'Agricultural Farms Undergoing A Process Of Transformation'

**SRINAGAR:** The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Friday visited Vegetable farm Sumbal Bandipora to inspect the interventions by the department in different blocks of the farm. He also held interactions with the concerned technical experts.

Expressing his views, the Director said that for more than two years the departmental farms are undergoing a process of transformation. He said these farms have to play a bigger role in coming days both in terms of catering the demand of farmers for different kinds of seeds besides to work as model centres for cultivation of different agricultural crops.

He said that amid climate change, declining land resources and due to the relevant challenges, agriculture operations need to be strategically diversified so that the impact could be minimized. He said the agriculture activities should be in a way that maximum output is received from minimum resources.

The Director said the vegetable farming is highly prone to losses as multiple factors like poor yield, inclement weather often plays spoilsport. In such a situation, better knowledge about vegetable cultivation and availability of quality inputs (plant material, seed) can significantly enable the farmers to undertake informed decisions and reap better profits. **ONS**

### Atal Dulloo Reviews Progress Of ASH&F Deptts

**JAMMU:** Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, Friday chaired a meeting at the Civil Secretariat to review progress made under UT CAPEX, NABARD, Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Deliverables 2022-23 being implemented by Animal, Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries (ASH&F) Departments.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Director, Animal Husbandry Jammu/Kashmir, Director Sheep Husbandry Jammu/Kashmir, Director Fisheries, Deputy Director (Planning) ASH&F, Deputy Director (Planning), Sheep Husbandry Jammu and Technical officers (ASH&F) while Kashmir based officers participated online. During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on physical and financial progress made by the line departments under CAPEX 2022-23 and CSS during the current financial year.

Atal Dulloo discussed activity wise capital expenditure of Animal, Sheep Husbandry, and Fisheries departments under these schemes in Jammu and Kashmir. He laid stress on realization of targets and spending the resources strictly under the budgetary provisions.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo impressed upon the officers to gear up the field functionaries so that substantial progress under UT CAPEX and other schemes can be achieved. **ONS**

### Embattled Crypto Exchange FTX Files For Bankruptcy

**NEW YORK:** Embattled cryptocurrency exchange FTX, short billions of dollars, is seeking bankruptcy protection following its collapse this week.

FTX and its CEO and founder Sam Bankman-Fried are under investigation by the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission to determine whether any criminal activity or securities offenses were committed. The person could not discuss details of the investigations publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The investigation is centering on the possibility that the firm may have used customers' deposits to fund bets at Bankman-Fried's hedge fund, Alameda Research. In traditional markets, brokers are expected to separate client funds from other company assets. Violations can be punished by regulators.

FTX had agreed earlier this week to sell itself to bigger rival Binance after experiencing the cryptocurrency equivalent of a bank run. Customers fled the exchange after becoming concerned about whether FTX had sufficient capital.

The crypto world had hoped that Binance, the world's largest crypto exchange, might be able to rescue FTX and its depositors. However, after Binance had a chance to look at the books of FTX, it became clear that the smaller exchange's problems were too big to solve. **AP**

### Rupee Gains 62 Paise To Close At 80.78 Against USD

**MUMBAI:** The rupee appreciated by 62 paise to close at 80.78 against the US dollar on Friday, as moderating US inflation data coupled with a fall in the dollar index boosted investor sentiments.

Forex traders said positive domestic equities and sustained foreign fund inflows also supported the local unit.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic currency opened at 80.76 and touched an intra-day high of 80.58 and a low of 80.99 against the greenback.

The local unit finally settled at 80.78, registering a rise of 62 paise over its previous close of 81.40. The rupee has now appreciated for five straight sessions.

"The Indian rupee appreciated on weak US Dollar and positive domestic markets. Sustained FII inflows also supported Rupee," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. However, a surge in crude oil prices capped sharp gains.

US inflation and core inflation declined to 7.7 per cent and 6.3 per cent in October from 8.2 per cent and 6.6 per cent in September, respectively, amid hopes that inflation may have peaked and Fed will not raise rates aggressively, Choudhary added. "We expect Rupee to trade with a positive bias on rise in risk appetite in global markets and weakness in the greenback," Choudhary said. **PTI**



# Chinese Incursions Into India Strategically Planned, Coordinated Expansionist Strategy' To Gain Permanent Control Of Disputed Border Areas: Study

Press Trust of India

**New York:** Chinese infringements into the Aksai Chin region are not random, independent events but are part of a strategically planned and coordinated expansionist strategy to gain permanent control of the disputed border area, according to a study on Chinese border incursions into India by a team of international experts.

The study 'Rising tension in the Himalayas: a Geospatial Analysis of Chinese Border Incursions into India' by Northwestern University, Technical University of Delft in the Netherlands and the Netherlands Defence Academy presented a geospatial analysis of the incursions, using an original dataset that covers the past 15 years.

We find that the conflict can be separated into two independent conflicts, west and east, centered around the major contested areas of Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh. Building on insights from game theory, we conclude that the Chinese incursions in the west are strategically planned and aim for a permanent control, or at least a clearer status quo of the contested areas, the study said released on Thursday said.

For the study, the team defined an 'incursion' as any movement of Chinese troops across the border by foot or in vehicles into areas that are internationally accepted as India's territory. Then, they plotted each location on a map, identifying 13 hotspots where incursions happen most frequently.

In the 15-year dataset, the researchers noted an average of 7.8 incursions per year even though the Indian government's estimates are much higher.

The India-China border dispute



covers the 3,488-km-long Line of Actual Control. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of southern Tibet while India contests it. Aksai Chin is a vast area in Ladakh which is currently under Chinese occupation.

According to Indian government data in 2019, the Chinese Army transgressed into Indian territory 1,025 times between 2016 and 2018. Then Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik told the Lok Sabha in November 2019 that the number of transgressions by the Chinese Army in 2016 was 273 which rose to 426 in 2017. The number of such cases reported in 2018 was 326.

The study's authors are Jan-Tino Brethouwer and Robbert Fokink of the Technical University of Delft, Delft Institute of Applied Mathematics in Netherlands, Kevin Greene of Princeton University's School of Public and

International Affairs, Roy Lindelauf of Netherlands Defence Academy, Faculty of Military Sciences in Breda, Netherlands, Caroline Tornquist of Dartmouth College's Department of Computer Science and V.S. Subrahmanian of Northwestern University's Department of Computer Science and Buffett Institute for Global Affairs in Evanston, US.

A press release from Northwestern said that the authors assembled a new dataset, compiling information about Chinese incursions into India from 2006 to 2020 and used game theory and statistical methods to analyse the data.

The researchers found that conflicts can be separated into two distinct sectors: west/middle (the Aksai Chin region) and east (the Arunachal Pradesh region).

Chinese incursions across India's west and central borders are not independent, random incidents that

happen by mistake, the release said.

While the researchers learned that the number of incursions are generally increasing over time, they concluded that conflicts in the east and middle sectors are part of a coordinated expansionist strategy, it said.

Subrahmanian, the study's senior author and the Walter P. Murphy Professor of Computer Science at Northwestern's McCormick School of Engineering and a Buffett Faculty Fellow at Northwestern's Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, said that by studying the number of incursions that occurred in the west and middle sectors over time, it became obvious, statistically, that these incursions are not random. The probability of randomness is very low, which suggests to us that it's a coordinated effort.

When we looked at the eastern

sector, however, there is much weaker evidence for coordination. Settling border disputes in specific areas could be an important first step in a step-by-step resolution of the entire conflict, Subrahmanian said.

Knowing there are more incursions in the western sector is not a surprise, Subrahmanian said. Aksai Chin is a strategic area that China wants to develop, so it's very critical to them. It's a vital passageway between China and the Chinese autonomous regions of Tibet and Xinjiang.

The study, which notes the June 2020 Galwan clash that killed 20 Indian soldiers and an unknown number of Chinese soldiers, said that reports of Chinese incursions into Indian territory are now a frequent occurrence.

This rising tension between the world's most populous countries poses risks for global security and the world economy. The militarisation of the region has a negative ecological impact, it said.

India and China are locked in a lingering border row in eastern Ladakh for over 29 months. The bilateral relationship came under severe strain following the deadly clash in Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh.

The militaries of the two sides disengaged from a number of friction points following a series of diplomatic and military talks.

However, there has been no progress yet on resolving the standoff in the Demchok and Depsang regions.

India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquillity along the LAC are prerequisite for the overall development of the bilateral ties.

The study said that States respond not only to the actions directed toward

them, but also respond to the actions directed within their alliance and rivalry networks.

India's participation in the Quad, the security dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia, may serve as a trigger for Chinese activity along the China India border. China, on the other hand, is involved in co-operative activities with Pakistan, and is ready to step in the void that is left behind after the retreat of the western powers in Afghanistan.

China's foreign policy has become increasingly aggressive, stepping up its military exercises around Taiwan and extending its presence in the South China Sea. To counter China's expansive policies, Australia, the UK, and the USA have entered a partnership and one option for India is to align itself with the AUKUS countries, it said.

The study said that India and China remain at a constant state of high alertness and there are no signs that this situation will improve in the near future but a resolution of the conflict would be of great benefit for international security, the world economy, and for the preservation of the unique ecology of the Himalayas.

In a previous paper published by Nature Humanities and Social Sciences Communications in 2021, Subrahmanian and his collaborators studied when incursions are most likely to occur and found that China attacks when it feels most vulnerable.

We found an uptick in incursions when China is experiencing economic stress, such as low consumer confidence, Subrahmanian said. We also see upticks when India gets closer to the United States.

## 3rd Round Of Seat Allocation For Undergraduate Admission In Delhi University On Sunday

Press Trust of India

**New Delhi:** Delhi University (DU) will declare the third round of seat allocation for undergraduate admission on Sunday, Registrar Vikas Gupta said.

In the third round of the common seat allocation system (CSAS), admission will be done to all supernumerary quotas including extracurricular activities (ECA), sports, CW (children and widows of armed forces), and Kashmiri Migrants, along with regular admissions.

The third round of seat allocation was scheduled to begin on Thursday but the university announced on Wednesday that it had been rescheduled. Now the round will begin at 5 pm on Sunday and will conclude on November 20.



The registrar also announced that the first spot allocation round for undergraduate programmes will begin on November 20 with the university announcing the number of vacant seats.

A senior university official said the rescheduling was done as the varsity needed some time to prepare the list for admission for all supernumerary seats like

those under economically weaker sections (EWS) and sports categories.

The third CSAS allocation list will be declared on Sunday. The candidates would be given a two-day window from November 14 to 15 to accept the allocated seat.

The college would verify and approve the online application from November 14 to 16.

The last date for online payment of admission fees by the candidates would be November 17.

After the conclusion of the third round, the university would open an upgrade window for only supernumerary seats and Christian candidates for St Stephen's College and Jesus and Mary College (JMC) from November 18 to November 19.

"Candidates who would have chosen to take admission in any of the supernumerary quota and wish to opt for an upgrade in the subsequent round of that particular supernumerary quota can do so from 10 am Friday (November 18) to 4:59 pm Saturday. Such candidates will be considered for an upgrade in the supernumerary quota only," the registrar said.

## Hate Speeches: SC Discharges Uttarakhand Govt, Dgp From List Of Parties In Contempt Plea

Press Trust of India

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Friday discharged the Uttarakhand government and the police chief from a list of parties in a contempt plea filed by activist Tushar Gandhi pertaining to alleged inaction in cases of hate speeches made at religious assemblies in Haridwar in the state and the national capital last year.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice Hima Kohli took note of the submissions of the Uttarakhand government that a plea related to the hate speeches made at Haridwar is pending before another bench and hence it cannot be continued here.

"The state of Uttarakhand and the Director General of Police of the state are accordingly

discharged," the bench said.

It, however, asked the Delhi Police to file its response on action taken in the hate speeches made here within two weeks.

At the outset, Deputy Advocate General for Uttarakhand, Jatinder Kumar Sethi, informed the bench that two other benches presided over by justices K M Joseph and Ajay Rastogi are also dealing with similar issues and the present PIL of Gandhi is also sent to one of the benches.

Sethi said the state police had not only filed five FIRs in the hate speech related cases but had also filed charge sheet against the accused who were now facing trial.

He said the Uttarakhand Police had filed a detailed status report in matters pending before another bench and that

court was satisfied with its action, but Gandhi had now filed contempt petition before this court without referring to that matter.

The CJ-led bench noted the submissions and discharged the state and its police chief from the list of parties of the contempt plea. The top court was hearing the contempt petition alleging inaction by Uttarakhand and the Delhi Police in alleged hate speech cases.

The contempt petition was filed seeking punishment for the police chief of Delhi and Uttarakhand for their alleged inaction in the cases in violation of the apex court judgment in the Tehseen Poonawala case. The top court had laid down guidelines as to what action needed to be taken in hate crimes including mob lynching.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Govt Will Support

start-ups has been strengthened, and in just 8 years, India has established 75,000 start-ups with 50% of them established in Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities providing direct employment to 4 lakh youth.

"We are third in start-up ecosystems globally. In last 2 years, 107 unicorns worth more than \$340 billion have been established in the country. Today one out of 10 new unicorns in the world, is being established in India," he said.

Nothing that youth has always been integral part of evolving technology, the LG observed that the potential ideas and new start-ups will contribute not only to economic growth and productive diversification, but also to sustainable and inclusive development.

"Technological progress is growing at an exponential rate and the adoption time for commercialized technologies has been considerably reduced. This is having a direct impact on the society and business ecosystem. Whether its businesses or educational institutions, they have to innovate and adopt new technologies to stay relevant in the future," the LG said.

"In this Amrit Kaal Khand, it is the collective responsibility of all of us to fully support the enterprise and determination of our youth, our entrepreneurs in the making of a self-reliant Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

The LG said that Jammu and Kashmir which at present is among the topmost Union Territories (UT) in start-ups has the potential of becoming among the topmost in states and Union Territories in the area because of its young talents.

The LG complimented the Department of Science and Technology for organizing the three-day "Kashmir Expo - Start up for Livelihood" and congratulated all stakeholders associated with this event.

He also appreciated two innovative products- Saffron Sowing Machine and Seed Sowing Machine from NIT

Srinagar and stressed on the necessity of having excellent coordination between the industry, academia and society for the success of both the products.

Highlighting the immense potential for start-ups in rural sector, the LG said that in the last two-three years, many youths of Jammu Kashmir have implemented impressive ideas such as the apple grading machine, strawberry plucker etc. and successfully used them in agriculture, horticulture sectors.

He further said that 15 youths from each panchayat were provided support for becoming entrepreneurs and 20 youths were given skill development opportunities during the recently concluded Back-to-Village program this month.

Secretary, Department of Biotechnology Dr Rajesh S. Gokhale highlighted the significance of the Kashmir Expo in providing a platform for the youth to develop their ideas into start-ups.

Saurabh Bhagat, Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Science & Technology Department, informed that the Department is supporting more than 120 research projects across different Universities and Colleges of J&K.

"We are also providing scholarships and seed money for nurturing innovation, he added.

### 'Govt Working

"J&K will progress, when our farmers prosper", Sinha said while addressing a huge gathering here.

"Dr Mangala Rai-led Apex Committee on Agriculture provides a comprehensive solution for upliftment of the farming community. We are making efforts to implement the suggestions with the necessary institutional mechanism and support," he said.

The committee headed by former Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Dr Mangala Rai was reported to have

presented the ideas for holistic development of Agriculture and allied sectors in the union territory and transformative change in farmer's income.

"Our farmers are a symbol of hard work and dignity. An enlightened society should ensure justice to the community, which is playing a vital role in serving and nurturing humanity," the Lt Governor added.

He threw light on the life and sacrifice of Baba Jitto, saying that the supreme sacrifice made by Baba Jitto is exemplary for each one of us to emulate.

"It is heartening to see that this year's Mela is being organised on a larger scale to encourage tourism in the region and to showcase the life and philosophy of Baba Jitto," Sinha said.

"We must focus on community driven development. Locals, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) members and other stakeholders of the society should come together to create an institutional mechanism to improve the facilities for devotees visiting this historical Mela," he said.

He also underlined the importance of government-public partnerships in the development process.

LG said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the masses a resolution to restore the pride of Indian heritage and culture.

"The golden opportunity of the next 25 years is before us. Our youth must contribute to strengthen social and cultural unity for rapid development," he added.

### Govt Employees

"Notwithstanding, these clear and elaborate instructions on the subject, it has been observed that a sizable number of employees continue to draw their salaries without marking daily attendance, a matter which has been viewed seriously by the authorities," the circular reads, adding, "It is accordingly enjoined upon all Administrative Secretaries/ HoDs/Managing Directors of PSUs/Corporations/Institutions as

also all the Drawing and Disbursing Officers to strictly adhere to the instructions and furnish daily Action Taken Report in this regard to the General Administration Department on email....."

Further, it said, a list of defaulting DDOs who draw salaries of employees without satisfactory biometric attendance shall be furnished to the GAD in the first week of December next by all departments.

### We Have To

thousands of lives to some slogans. We cannot afford to lose even one more life to such slogans," he said in an apparent reference to the separatist wave in Jammu and Kashmir in the 1990s.

"When I was here (as chief minister), we were doing both things. Security forces were fighting the terrorists but we saved hundreds of youths and brought them back into the mainstream. No effort is being made in that direction now.

"You cannot just go on killing. That way we will kill the entire youth. In our families, our children sometimes do not listen to us. We ask his friend or teacher to make him understand and bring him back on track," he added.

### Govt Puts The

Executive Engineers. While reviewing the strategy and plan chalked out by the Power Department in Kashmir, the spokesperson said that the Div Com exhorted officers to meticulously manage demand of electricity as the supply will not get enhanced.

Pole, he said, also stated that there shall be a 25% increase in demand of electricity during winters so it is imperative to take requisite measures to ensure availability of electricity.

"Also, he directed for implementing the power Amnesty scheme strictly to achieve the set target within the shortest span of time. He stressed on seizure of crude electric appliances from markets and action against theft

of power," the spokesperson said.

Pole, he said, underlined the involvement of the community in stopping misuse of electricity and discouraging use of crude gadgets like heaters.

The Div Com, the spokesperson said, directed concerned officers to ensure a sufficient quantity of buffer stock of transformers, wires, poles and oil at workshops.

Besides, Pole, he said, exhorted for augmentation and improvement of workshops, hiring of cranes and vehicles for transportation of damaged and repairs of DTs.

Regarding the complaints projected on social media about power cuts, the spokesperson said that Div Com advised DCs and Power Department to constitute media teams to present factual status of situation through social media so that no one spreads misinformation by unfounded claims on the SM platform.

"He asked for publication of power schedule, conducting IEC campaign publication of a checklist for field staff to avoid tragedy during maintenance works and completion of 100% branch cutting," he added.

### SC Dismisses J&K's

vigilant. Don't compel us to say things about food and industry department. The health of citizens is in their hands. They don't perform duties at all. They can't play with the lives of citizens. It is their duty to check and verify things," the bench observed.

The top court was hearing a plea filed by the Jammu and Kashmir administration challenging the March 3, 2021, order of the high court which had dismissed its plea against the NHRC order.

Ten children died in Ramnagar tehsil of Udhampur in December 2019 and January 2020 due to consumption of spurious cough syrup.

The NHRC found procedural lapses on the part of the Drugs Department.

The Commission held Jammu and Kashmir vicariously liable for the lapses on part of the department and

recommended compensation of Rs 3 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased.

### Mercury Falls

and it was 3.4°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at minus 0.6°C against 3.0°C on the previous night, the official said. It was 1.9°C below normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 10.6°C against 14.2°C on the previous night. It was 3.6°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 4.6°C (0.6°C above normal), Batote 6.8°C (1.9°C below normal), Katra 10.4°C (below normal by 1.4°C) and Bhadarwah 1.7°C (below normal by 2.1°C).

In the Kargil area of Ladakh, he said, mercury settled at minus 4.3°C, Leh saw a low of minus 7.8°C and Drass, the world's second coldest place after Siberia, recorded a minimum of minus 8.8°C.

The weather department has forecast mainly dry weather on till Sunday and scattered light rain or snow (upper reaches) and thunders on November 13 and 14. (GNS)

### 4 OGWs Held

Ahmed Kumar, a resident of Tral-e-Payeen, are the other two held in the case.

During preliminary investigation, it was found that the militant associates were in touch with LeT terrorist commander Babar alias Samama (a resident of PoK).

They were also planning to plant IEDs (improvised explosive devices) in Tral area with the intend to cause damage to police and security forces, the spokesman said.

He added that they were also involved in transportation of arms and ammunition and other logistic support to active terrorists of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

A case has been registered and further investigation has been set in motion, the spokesman added.



# T20 World Cup: England & Pakistan's Road To The Finals & Head To Head



## Press Trust of India

### England's Road To The Finals:

- 1) England vs Afghanistan (ENG win by five wickets)
- 2) Ireland vs England (IRE won by five runs via DLS method)
- 3) England vs Australia (Match abandoned due to rain)
- 4) England vs New Zealand (ENG won by 20 runs)
- 5) England vs Sri Lanka (ENG won by four wickets)
- 6) India vs England (2nd semi-final, ENG won by 10 wickets)

### Pakistan's Road To The Finals:

- 1) Pakistan vs India (PAK lost by four wickets)
- 2) Zimbabwe vs Pakistan - (PAK lost by one run)
- 3) Netherlands v Pakistan (PAK won by six wickets)
- 4) Pakistan v South Africa (PAK won by 33 runs (D/L Method)
- 5) Pakistan v Bangladesh (PAK won by five wickets.
- 6) New Zealand v Pakistan: (PAK won by 7 wickets)

## HEAD TO HEAD

Following are some England-Pakistan head-to-head stats in white-ball cricket ahead of their T20 World Cup final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

- ▶ England and Pakistan will meet in a World Cup final again after 30 years.
- ▶ At the same venue of MCG, Pakistan had won their only ODI World Cup, defeating England by 22 runs in 1992.
- ▶ There are more striking similarities with the 1992 World Cup. Thirty years ago too, Pakistan had beaten New Zealand en route to the final.
- ▶ In the T20 World Cup, England and Pakistan have met twice so far with the former winning on both occasions, by six wickets in 2010 and by 48 runs in 2009.
- ▶ In the ODI World Cup, Pakistan have a better head-to-head record of 5-4 from 10 matches. One match was a no result.
- ▶ Both Pakistan and England suffered setbacks in the Super 12 stage. Pakistan lost to Zimbabwe, England to Ireland.
- ▶ On head-to-head, England lead 18-9

versus Pakistan, while one match ended in no result.

- ▶ In the two T20 World Cup meetings, England hold a 2-0 advantage. At the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground, both sides have never won a T20I match.
- ▶ In T20Is, Pakistan's highest total versus England is 232 and lowest is 89. England's best against Pakistan is 221 and lowest is 135.
- ▶ Skipper Babar Azam (560) has most T20I runs for Pakistan against England with his 110 not out from 66 balls at Karachi in September this year being his highest against the Three Lions.
- ▶ Haris Rauf has the most wickets (14) for Pakistan against England. For the Englishmen, Graeme Swann and Adil Rashid lead the tally with 17 wickets each.
- ▶ The Pakistani opening duo of Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan have the highest partnership runs in a career. The duo have scored 2509 runs from 51 innings, ahead of the Indian openers Rohit Sharma/KL Rahul (1897) from 42 innings.



## England & Pakistan Could Be Crowned Joint T20 World Cup Winners, Here's How

### Press Trust of India

**MELBOURNE:** England and Pakistan could share the T20 World Cup trophy as rain threatens to play spoilsport in the summit clash on Sunday as well as the reserve day at the MCG here.

Currently there is a 95 per cent chance of rain in Melbourne on Sunday, with up to 25mm predicted to fall.

"Very high (near 100%) chance of showers. The chance of a thunderstorm, possibly severe, with heavy falls possible," a report in 'ESPNCricinfo' quoted the Bureau of Meteorology as saying.

Unfortunately, the forecast for Monday -- the designated reserve day -- is similar with 95 per cent chance of rain and falls between 5 and 10mm.

Tournament rules for the final state that at least 10 overs a side are needed to constitute a knockout stage match.

If rain prevents play on both days then England and Pakistan will be forced to share the trophy.

"The first priority will be to complete a shortened match on Sunday if required, meaning the overs will be reduced before the reserve day is activated," the report said.

"If the game has started on Sunday but can't be completed then it will resume on the reserve day from the position it was halted. Once the toss has taken place, the game is consid-

ered live." The match is scheduled to start at 7pm local time and if no play is possible, the game will spill over to the reserve day on Monday, when play would start at 3pm local time.

"If the reserve day is allocated, every effort will be made to complete the match on the scheduled day with any necessary reduction in overs taking place and only if the minimum number of overs necessary to constitute a match cannot be bowled on the scheduled day will the match be completed on the reserve day," the playing conditions read.

"If the match has started on the scheduled day and overs are subsequently reduced following an interruption but no further play is possible, the match will resume on the reserve day at the point where the last ball was played." Previously, the 2019 ODI World Cup semifinal between India and New Zealand was played across two days due to rain. The 2002 Champions Trophy final between India and Sri Lanka was also washed out. According to the then playing conditions, a new game was started on the reserve day but it was abandoned too.

Three group stage games at the MCG were were abandoned without a ball being bowled due to wet weather, while one was curtailed.

## Laxman Appointed India Head Coach For NZ, Dravid Rested



### Agencies

Team India head coach Rahul Dravid has been rested for the upcoming New Zealand tour, giving the coach's reigns to VVS Laxman on Friday. Dravid will resume his coaching duties after the New Zealand tour. The Indian team will tour Bangladesh following the Kiwi tour according to sources.

The Men in Blue will play Bangladesh on December 4 in the first of three One-Day Internationals after having played New Zealand on November 30 in the final ODI of the tour. The first of a three-match T20I series on India's tour of New Zealand will take place there on Friday.

Laxman, who oversees the National Cricket Academy, has served as India's coach for brief periods, including earlier this year's travels to Ireland and Zimbabwe and the most recent home ODI series against South Africa. He also oversaw the India Under-19 team, which triumphed in the ODI World Cup in February. Along with giving the coaching staff a holiday, India has also rested senior batsmen Virat Kohli and KL Rahul as well as regular captain Rohit Sharma. (ANI)

## 5th Annual Kids Sports Meet From November 20

### Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** J&K Hissaini Sports Club is organising the 5th Edition of Annual Kids Sports Meet from November 20 at Srinagar.

Secretary J&K Hissaini Sports Club Ahsan Ali while giving details about this unique event said they are expecting 1000 school going kindergarten kids to partici-

pate in this mega event with some colourful activities like Simple Race, Sack Race, Spoon Lemon Race, Balloon Burst Race & Tug of War will be held during the three-day meet at Srinagar.

Venue for the said meet will be decided in the official meet. Sponsors are asked to contact club treasurer Vilayat Hussain at 9419466424.

## Kapil Dev Calls Men In Blue "Chokers" After T20 WC Exit



### Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Legendary all-rounder Kapil Dev has labelled the current Indian team as "chokers" after its elimination from the T20 World Cup following a 10-wicket drubbing by England in the second semifinal in Adelaide. The heavy defeat on Thursday marked India's fifth knockout loss in the last six World Cups.

"I will not go into the details and slam them because these are the same players who have gotten us a lot of respect in the past but yes, we can call them chokers. That's okay. There is no denying it -- after coming so close, they choke," Kapil told ABP News.

The 1983 World Cup-winning skipper, however, said fans should not be too critical of the team's performance in the semifinals.

"I agree, India played bad cricket, but we cannot be overly critical based on just one game."

"See, now that the match is over, it is unfair that we should come down this hard on the Indian team. Yes, they did not play well and criticism is justified. But as far as today's match, all we can say is that England read the pitch better and played better cricket."

Kapil said the youngsters must come forward now and take the team to the top. "I would say that the team needs to look ahead. It's time for the

younger players to come forward and take charge." India last won an ICC tournament in 2013 when they beat England to claim the Champions Trophy. Since then, they have qualified for the knockout stages of the 2014 T20 World Cup (final), 2015 ODI World Cup (semifinal), 2016 T20 World Cup (semifinal), 2017 Champions Trophy (final), 2019 ODI World Cup (semifinal), 2021 World Test Championship Final, the 2022 T20 World Cup (semifinal), but lost all of them.

England completely outplayed India by reaching the target of 169 in just 16 overs with opener Alex Hales and captain Jos Buttler slamming unbeaten half-centuries.

## T20 World Cup 2022 Player Of The Tournament Shortlist Revealed



### Agencies

**DUBAI:** Team India's star batters Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav have been shortlisted for the Player of the Tournament in the ongoing T20 World Cup 2022 along with seven more players, International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on Friday.

Many games at the T20 World Cup in Australia have come down to the wire, with some outstanding performances from teams and players alike. After a rollercoaster journey, Pakistan and England have

advanced to the championship game, which will be played on November 13 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Nine exceptional performers have been nominated for the Player of the Tournament shortlist, with all of them impressing and winning matches for their sides. Players from England and Pakistan dominate the shortlist, with three nominees from the Three Lions while two make the cut from the Men in Green.

Two players from India and one each from Zimbabwe and

Sri Lanka also make the list of nominees, with the fans getting the chance to vote and decide the winner.

### Here are all the players shortlisted:

Virat Kohli (India)  
Suryakumar Yadav (India)  
Shadab Khan (Pakistan)  
Shaheen Afridi (Pakistan)  
Sam Curran (England)  
Jos Buttler (England)  
Alex Hales (England)  
Sikandar Raza (Zimbabwe)  
Wanindu Hasaranga (Sri Lanka)

## Dutch World Cup Players To Meet Migrant Workers In Qatar

### Agencies

**THE HAGUE:** The Dutch World Cup squad will meet a group of migrant workers in Qatar after a training session there ahead of the team's first match as part of the Dutch soccer federation's push to promote human rights at the tournament.

The Royal Dutch Soccer Association announced the plan Thursday night, on the eve of coach Louis van Gaal announcing his final squad on Friday.

"First of all, we are going to Qatar to become world champions, but of course we look beyond football," Van Gaal said in a statement.

He said that, as a team, "we find it important to meet the people involved. We therefore invite them to our training to give

soccer at the World Cup, despite concerns over attitudes towards LGBTQ fans and the treatment of migrant workers. The Dutch federation said it organized the meeting with 20 workers together with FIFA and a labor union.

Under heavy international scrutiny, Qatar has enacted a number of labor reforms in recent years that have been praised by Equidem and other rights groups. But advocates say abuses are still widespread and that workers have few avenues for redress.

Qatari officials accuse critics of ignoring the reforms and applying double-standards to the first Arab or Muslim nation to host the tournament.

The Netherlands, three times a World Cup runner-up, opens its campaign in Qatar against



them a nice memory as well." The announcement came days after FIFA urged teams to focus on

Senegal on Nov. 21. Van Gaal's team also plays Ecuador and the host nation in the group stage.

## Argentina Announces Squad For 2022 FIFA World Cup

### Agencies

Argentina were due to unveil their World Cup roster on November 14. But Lionel Scaloni has already decided on his choice of player to lead Argentina to their third World Cup in Qatar.

Argentina were close to securing the coveted showpiece during the 2014 World Cup, but a goal in extra time by Mario Gotze shattered their dream. Ever since the two time world champions have established togetherness and drive since Lionel Scaloni took over as national team coach and showed commitment in every match, with Lionel Messi being the orchestra of the nation.

He steered them to their first-ever Copa America in 2021 and the Finalissima 2022 trophy.

Argentina are in a tricky group involving Robert Lewandowski, Poland, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico.

The South American titans

quest against Saudi Arabia on November 22.

### Argentina:

Goalkeepers: Emiliano Martinez (Asotn Villa) Geronimo Rulli (Villarreal), Franco Armani (River Plate).

Defenders: Nahule Molina (Atletico Madrid), Gonzalo Montiel (Sevilla), Cristian Romero (Tottenham), German Pezzella (Real Betis), Nicolas Otamendi (Benfica), Lisandro Martinez (Manchester United), Marcos Acuna (Sevilla), Nicolas Tagliafico (Lyon), Juan Foyth (Villarreal).

Midfielders: Rodrigo de Paul (Atletico Madrid), Leandro Paredes (Juventus), Alexis mac Allister (Brighton), Guido Rodriguez (Real Betis), Alejandro Gomez (Sevilla), Enzo Fernandez (Benfica), Exequiel Palacios (Bayer Leverkusen).

Forwards: Angel di Maria (Juventus), Lautaro Martinez (Inter Milan), Juilan Alvarez (Manchester City), Nicolas Gonaza-



will play a friendly against the UAE before heading to Qatar to commence their World Cup

les (Fiorentina), Joaquin Correa (Inter Milan), Paulo Dybala (AS Roma), Lionel Messi (PSG).



## Fed Up Young Climate Activists: "Adults Aren't Listening"

Agenceis

The climate change generation is saying officials are talking too much, listening too little and acting even less. And they are fed up.

Instead of talking about how to solve the climate crisis, they negotiate about how to continue polluting, said Mitzy Violeta, a 23-year old indigenous activist from Mexico. Youth movements are realising the solution isn't going to be in international gatherings, like the one taking place in Egypt.

We're upset with the inaction that's being done, said Jasmine Wynn, 18, of the environmental group Treeage.

With decades of warmer and extreme weather ahead of them, young climate activists envision a future that has them frustrated and anxious, according to more than 130 activists questioned by The Associated Press.

Most of them said they think their strikes and protests are effective. But lately in high-profile, attention-grabbing actions, a handful of activists have gone beyond skipping school to targeting art work, tires and fossil fuel depots.

Experts and funders expect these in-your-face actions to escalate.

They will do whatever is non-violently necessary. They're on fire, said Margaret Klein Salamon, a clinical psychologist who runs the Climate Emergency Fund that financially backs

some of the in-your-face protest events. They're so passionate. Some of that comes from youth, sure. But it is powered by reality, by having a sort of confrontation with the truth.

At one of the more traditional protests in New York City in September, 14-year-old Truly Hort said she was scared about the future: I've always had all these dreams, and now I'm like God, I can't do that.

The trouble, she said, is that leaders talk about what they hope to do, but it's not a lot of people taking action.

Also mentioning her anxiety at the same protest 16-year-old Lucia Dec-Prat said, it's one thing to worry about the future and it's another to get out there and do something about it.

But protesting only does so much, Dec-Prat said: I honestly feel that adults aren't listening.

Governments and international organisations are advancing too slowly to fight climate change, many of those interviewed said about climate conferences. A vast majority of activists asked agreed with Greta Thunberg's characterisation of climate negotiations as all talk and no action, or blah blah blah, as the Swedish activist put it in a speech last year.

So rather than just making noise to contribute to the blah blah blah, make noise for action. I think that has to be the critical thing," said 25-year-old Jevanic Henry of St. Lucia in the Caribbean. We are driving action.

## Word Populaton Will Reach 8 Bilion In Our More Days - UN



Agenceis

The United Nations estimated on Monday that the world's population will reach 8 billion on Nov. 15 and that India will replace China as the world's most populous nation next year.

In a report released on World Population Day, the U.N. also said global population growth fell below 1 per cent in 2020 for the first time since 1950.

According to the latest U.N. projections, the world's population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030. That number will jump to 9.7 billion in 2050 and a peak of around 10.4 billion during the 2080s. It is forecast to remain at that level until 2100.

The report says more than half the projected increase in population up to 2050 will be concentrated in just eight countries: Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India,

Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Tanzania.

The report, "World Population Prospects 2022," puts the world's population at 7.942 billion now and forecasts it will reach 8 billion in mid-November.

John Wilmoth, director of the U.N. Population Division, said at a news conference to release the date when the U.N.'s projection line crosses 8 billion is Nov. 15.

## Twitter Reinstates "Official" Account Tag As \$8 Blue-Tick Option Vanishes



Agenceis

Twitter Inc said on Friday it had reinstated the "official" badge given to some accounts, days after removing it, while several users reported the new \$8 subscription option for the blue verification tick had disappeared.

The move follows an upsurge in fake accounts on the platform after new boss Elon Musk allowed users to pay \$8 for the coveted blue tick that was previously reserved for verified accounts of politicians, actors and other major personalities.

Fake accounts of several big brands have popped up with the blue tick, including Musk's Tesla and SpaceX as well as Eli Lilly and Co, Nestle and Lockheed Martin.

"To combat impersonation, we've added an 'Official' label to some accounts," Twitter's support account, which has the "official" tag, tweeted on Friday. Elon Musk on Wednesday tweeted he had "killed" the new label,

just hours after rolling it out.

Meanwhile, a number of users said the option to sign up for Twitter Blue, the \$8 subscription service that comes with blue tick verification, had disappeared.

Twitter did not reply to a request for comment on that.

"Checked with Twitter's API (application programming interface) and the in-app purchase for Twitter Blue Verified is no longer listed for production," app researcher Jane Manchun Wong said in a tweet.

Elon Musk had said on Sunday that Twitter users engaging in impersonation without clearly specifying it as a "parody" account will be permanently suspended without a warning.

While some had disclosed it was a parody account in their description, several other fake brand accounts including that of Nintendo and BP were suspended.

Earlier in the day, Mr Musk said his companies will be well-positioned in 2023 despite the possibility of a tough economy.

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